

P.O. Box 997 Sayreville, New Jersey 08871 Phone: 732-525-5200 Fax: 732-727-5769



Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

#### Talk Sup Week 39 Review and Preview

June 19, 2023



Good morning and happy Juneteenth and belated Father's Day! We hope you had a relaxing holiday weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup. This will be the last one of the 2022-23 school year. Please remember that we will dismiss students early today, Monday, June 19th, and tomorrow, Tuesday, June 20th. Please also remember that the last day of school for students will be

tomorrow, Tuesday, June 20th, while the last day for 10-month instructional

staff will be Wednesday, June 21st.



As we put the finishing touches on yet another challenging but productive school year and begin the long process of preparing for the 2023-24 school year, we would like to take the time to express to our staff and parents our sincere gratitude for EVERYTHING you did to either directly or indirectly promote the most positive outcomes for the children in Sayreville. Please understand that the Sayreville Board of Education, Administration, and I deeply appreciate and fiercely admire all that you do for our students. We know all too well how hard you work and how much you sacrifice every day for our children. In fact, not a day goes by in which I do not count my blessings and

feel forever grateful to have the privilege of serving this district and working alongside our staff and parents to make a difference in the precious lives of our students.

That said, the end of a school year is also a time for us to say goodbye. For those members of our staff who will be pressing on through the summer, we thank you in advance for extending learning and for helping us

prepare for 2023-24. For those of you that will be leaving and returning in September, we wish you a relaxing and rejuvenating summer break, and anxiously await your safe return to us. Finally, for those who will be leaving us for one reason or another, please know the indelible impact you have made on all of us, and how grateful we are to you for the service you have provided to our district and most importantly, our students. Please remember that goodbyes are not forever, nor are they the end. They simply mean, we'll miss you until we see you again.





This week both the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony, and the Class of 2023 Graduation Commencement Ceremony will take place in Bomber Stadium at 6 pm on Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> respectively. There will be no capacity limits unless inclement weather forces them into the gymnasium, which according to the latest weather forecasts, appears to be likely for Tuesday. If that is the case, because the

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ceremonies will then take place in the gymnasium, <u>two</u> people per student will be allowed to spectate in the gym while all other guests will be permitted to view the simulcast of it in the cafeteria, auditorium, or remotely elsewhere.



Large pocketbooks and/or bags may not accompany visitors into the building or event. Small clutch bags/wristlets are permissible. Medical bags and Infant Diaper Bags will be allowed. We reserve the right to search any bag prior to entering the building or event even those that have been listed as approved. We thank you for your cooperation.



In addition, in accordance with our school security policy and procedures, <u>air horns</u> and <u>bags</u>, including <u>pocketbooks</u>, are <u>prohibited</u> from being brought into the stadium or gym. The only exception to this will be parents of infants and toddlers who may need a bag to care for their children, and elderly and/or medically fragile guests that may need to have with them vital healthcare items. In such cases, these bags should be clear or see-through. Lastly, pocketbooks that can be held in the palm of a hand or wristlets will be permitted. Sayreville Police officers and district campus security monitors, who will be equipped with metal detection wands, will be stationed at each gate to screen spectators and enforce these procedures.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, here is what you missed. Gianna Pesci, from Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) and Morgan Koonce from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing their respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Reports. During Gianna's report, she introduced Sean Burns, who will serve as next year's high school Student Council Representative. After that, the BOE thanked Gianna and Morgan for their outstanding service and dedication to Sayreville Board of Education and their respective schools and presented each with a plaque as a

token of their gratitude and appreciation. Next, Mr. Esposito expressed his opening remarks, as did Mrs. Bloom, who also shared some district highlights.

The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click <a href="here">here</a>. To see the Agenda Addendum, click <a href=here</a>. To see all attachments, click <a href=here</a>. To view the video of the meeting, click <a href=here</a>. Among many other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE approved of the district to transfer a maximum of \$5,000,000 of unanticipated revenue and/or unexpended line-item appropriation anticipated at year end into its Capital Reserve Account, \$2,000,000 into its Maintenance Reserve Account, and \$250,000 into its Emergency Reserve Account. In addition, the Board of Education approved the generous donations of \$1,500 from Tiffany Shuler, to be used for improvements of the Sayreville War Memorial High School Gymnasium floor; \$1,000 from the Attix Family to be used for the purpose of generating more student interest in instrumental music; and a piano and related delivery services, valued at \$6,500, from the Jakubik family, for the Sayreville War Memorial High School Music Department. The Board also approved professional services contracts with Kean University for Leadership Development Training and for the development a new 2023-27 Strategic Plan; as well as an agreement for professional services with EdConnective for Virtual Instructional Coaching services in the amount of \$78,000, to be paid using funds from the ARP-ESSR-Accelerated Learning Coach and



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Educator Support Grant; and the purchase of curriculum-based technology software subscription/licensing items for the period of September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 from Age of Learning in the amount of \$67,725. Likewise, it approved contracts with Direct Flooring for the replacement flooring in classrooms 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11 at Jesse Selover School for the amount of \$84,910.31 to be paid using funds from Preschool Expansion Aid; and for the replacement flooring in the library at Truman School for the amount of \$55,617.36; along with contracts with Crossroads Pavement Maintenance LLC for the repaving project at the Jesse Selover School in the amount of \$255,875; and for the repaving, wall repair, and a new path addition at the Arleth School in the amount of \$33,417. Furthermore, it approved a contract with Tri-State Folding Partitions, Inc. for the installation of a replacement gym partition door at Eisenhower School for \$89,465. Finally, the BOE awarded Apex Enterprises of Union, Inc. the bid for the Window Replacement and Interior Renovations at Multiple Schools Referendum Project, in the amount of \$5,643,000, to be paid for through Referendum funding.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the Board approved the 2023-24 Marking Period Calendars for students in grades K-5 and 6-12. It also approved the long-term suspension of a student. Among other motions, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved new and revised Sayreville Board of Education Policies and Regulations for a First Reading (Policies/Regulations) and Second Reading and Adoption (Policies/Regulations). Likewise, the Board approved a revision to the 2023-24 School District Calendar, which essentially changes the early dismissal date in May 2024 to May 20<sup>th</sup> and includes additional language regarding unused hazardous weather days. To see it, click here. Lastly, the BOE approved an Assistant Superintendent of Special Education Curriculum and Instruction job description. To review it, click here.

Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education appointed new certificated staff, including administrators, and non-certificated staff for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years. The Board also approved the transfer of certificated and non-certificated staff members, including administrators, for the 2023-24 school year. In addition, the BOE approved the employment renewal of Secretaries and Clerks, Bus Drivers and Bus Aides, Campus Security Monitors, and Cafeteria Workers and Manager/Cooks. Likewise, it approved the renewal and salary increase of the central administration and all non-collective bargaining unit affiliated employees. Furthermore, it approved the employment renewal of all Teamsters non-certificated staff members. Lastly, the Board appointed coaches for the Winter and Spring Season with their stipends, along with advisors and their stipends for the 2023-24 school year.

During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Ms. Pabon reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mrs. Pieloch for the last Personnel Committee Meeting, Mrs. Napolitano for the last Governance Committee Meeting, and Mr. Fernandez for the last Student Achievement Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association, as did Mr. Fernandez regarding the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club, and Mrs. Napolitano about the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey.



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The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. A complete copy of the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of our website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on July 25, 2021.





This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We congratulate and commend SWMHS student and performer Ryan Yuhas for winning the Papermill Playhouse Rising Stars Award for his recent

performance in the SWMHS Theatre Society production of *The Little Mermaid*. Ryan is a true star among us!

We also commend Ms. Mojzsis and her Advanced Placement (AP) Art and Art Workshop classes for the self-portraits that they recently produced. They are all future Picassos! Finally, we congratulate Truman School 1<sup>st</sup> grader Amelia Zampella for being selected as Principal for the Day. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!





Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students had a ton of fun learning last week. Across the district, our staff members were thrilled to reacquaint with

the seniors in the Class of 2023 who will be graduating this Tuesday in our very popular Parade of Graduates activity in which the students

visit their elementary schools, the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), and the middle school to express their gratitude to their former teachers and administrators. Likewise, their former teachers and administrators get the chance to congratulate them and wish them well.





At the Truman School, students and staff celebrated Flag Day during a very

moving and special presentation featuring several active





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duty and veterans of the military. We commend and thank Ms. Stueber, Principal, and Ms. Greene, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, for planning and ordinating this event. Similarly, we thank and commend Sayreville American Legion Post 211, as well as Mr. Gautieri, Music Teacher, for making the ceremony so special and memorable for all in attendance, including me.



At SUES, 5th graders participated in their LEAD (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) Graduation/5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony. Likewise, this past week some of our

elementary schools and preschools celebrated the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and



4/5-year-old students respectively who will be moving up to the next building level next year. Our remaining schools will be doing so this week.



At the high school, students in Ms. DiPaolo's Human Anatomy class dissected fetal pigs. In addition, Students from Ms. Mojzsis's AP Art History class enjoyed a fantastic day of art and architecture at the Met



Cloisters. Overlooking the Hudson River in Northern Manhattan, the Met Cloisters is America's only museum dedicated exclusively to the art and architecture of the Middle Ages. Finally, some of our middle school and high school students and staff had a blast during a special field day.



In athletics, both the SWMHS/SMS Baseball and Softball Teams celebrated their Greater Middlesex County White Division Championship seasons during their respective

banquets this week. Win or lose, all our amazing student

athletes continued to compete fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their coaches for their



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hard work, dedication, and the way they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules and view all the action by watching them on the live streaming links posted on the Athletics page of our website or by clicking <u>here</u>.

As per the 2022-23 School District Calendar, which you can view by clicking on it, we will dismiss students early today, June 19<sup>th</sup>, and tomorrow. June 20<sup>th</sup>. Likewise, please remember that the last day of school for students will be tomorrow, June 20<sup>th</sup>, while the last day for 10-month instructional staff will be June 21<sup>st</sup>. Finally, please note that the end of the Grades K-5 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester and the Grades 6-12 4<sup>th</sup> Marking Period will be on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, Report Cards for all students will be issued on June 27<sup>th</sup>.



The Sayreville Board of Education will be once again offering subscription busing for the 2023-2024 school year for middle and high school students whose transportation is non-mandated. Non-mandated transportation applies to 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who live less than two miles (2.0) from the middle school, and 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who live less than two-and-a-half (2.5) miles from the high school as per N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 and

specified under the criteria of N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.4. "Distance shall be measured using the shortest route along public roadways or public walkways between the entrance of the student's residence nearest the public roadway or public walkway and the nearest public entrance of the school the student attends." Families who wish to participate in the subscription busing program must be registered in the district prior to applying.

Subscription busing applications will not be processed unless all fees and fines (ex. Food service account balances, book fines, Chromebook fines, etc.) are paid in full by June 30<sup>th</sup>. All applications are to be submitted by June 30, 2023. Applications will be reviewed, and seats will be granted based upon the distance from their home to their school, giving priority to those that live furthest from the school. Bus stops will be centrally located for all students, who will be assigned to the stop closest to their home. No changes or requests for additional stops will be accepted. The cost for subscription busing is \$550.00/per student, however, no fee is required for students who are eligible for free/reduced meals based on their free/reduced meal application for the 2023-2024 school year. Parents will be notified via email by July 15, 2023, if their student has been assigned a seat. To apply for a subscription bus seat, click here or go to the Transportation Page of the district website.

On January 30, 2023, the district officially opened registration for our free Full-Day Project Before Preschool and Kindergarten Programs. Therefore, parents of ALL eligible (must be 3 for preschool and 5 for kindergarten by September 30, 2023) preschool and kindergarten students are invited to visit our website in order to register via Oncourse Connect, our online registration software. The link to student registration will be clearly identified on our district website homepage (<a href="www.sayrevillek12.net">www.sayrevillek12.net</a>) as "Student Registration". Once on this registration page, you can obtain pertinent information regarding the registration of all students including preschool and kindergarten students, and you can begin completing the



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online registration application by clicking on one of the following links noted in the 2023-2024 Project Before and Kindergarten drop down menu: New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten or Returning Student Enrollment Update for students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year.

If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click **here** and submit an inquiry with **School Revenue Partners**. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our **buses**, click **here**.

Have a great day and wonderful last week of school!

Dr. Labbe