

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education Meeting  
August 31, 2023-6:00 PM  
Robert McKeveny Board/Training Room

BOE Present

Deborah Corsner, Cara Lajewski, Matthew Lando, Denise Lorenzetti, Joseph McNamara, Erica Sinicropi  
BOE Absent

Anthony Ferrara, Michael Mirras

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni

Joseph McNamara called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum of the Board of Education was present; the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Hearings

2023-2024 Seneca Falls Central School District Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct policy is to be reviewed annually by the Board of Education. Student handbooks and employee handbooks address the code of conduct and DASA. The handbooks explain the procedure. A message was sent in ParentSquare on August 25, 2023.

2023-2024 Seneca Falls Central School District Safety Plan

The District Safety Plan (public) must be updated, if necessary, and reviewed annually by the Board of Education. The District Safety Plan was reviewed by the leadership team before being brought to the Board. The district follows a NYSED template for the plan. General edits have been made to the plan (e.g.: names updated due to resignations, retirements, etc.). The plan has been on the school website for the required thirty days.

Melissa Brand Brown was present to address the Board of Education. Some of Melissa's concerns and suggestions were as follows:

- Allowing for mental health absences
- Personnel must report student suicide risk
- Annual training for personnel to recognize suicide risk
- Policies and programming regarding suicide risk
- Student education
- Banning mobile devices during the day.
- Would like to see suicide line on the back of students ID badges.

Approval of Agenda

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addendums as listed.

Add under XI. Consent Agenda

A. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. SFEA Resignation

- c. Name: Kimberly Stevers  
Position: School Counselor  
Effective: the end of the day on September 26, 2023

3. Civil Service Appointments

- b. Name: Ashley Bergin  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

4. Substitute Appointments

- d. Name: Joseph Ponzi  
Position: Per Diem Building Substitute Teacher (SFMS)  
NYS Certification: Uncertified

E. Transportation Request(s)

Correction to Hourly Rate under XI. Consent Agenda:

3. Civil Service Appointments

m. Name: Itasha Williams-Hourly Rate-\$15.50 (not \$15.25)

Add under XIII. New Business

A. MOA

SFEA MOA- Additional Instructional Assignments Gr. 6-12

I. Section V. Combined Athletics-Geneva-Cheerleading

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend  
Board of Education Minutes  
August 3, 2023

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated August 3, 2023.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

August 17, 2023 Special Meeting

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education Special Meeting minutes dated

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Report  
None at this time

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report  
None at this time

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

Public Comment

The Seneca Falls Board of Education welcomes public comment. Speakers may comment on matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than three (3) minutes. Public comments will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated. In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored.

Persons addressing the Board of Education during public comment should not expect to engage in discussion with the Board. The Board will not permit any comments involving specific individual personnel or students.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be referred to the Superintendent. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

Committee Reports  
Policy Committee

Information  
Warrants

05/01/2023 – 05/31/2023

Warrant #1(CM) \$ 900.00

06/01/2023 – 06/30/2023

Warrant #97 (A) \$ 18635.41

Warrant #98 (A) \$583,753.77

Warrant #101(A) \$ 27,651.48

Warrant #102(A) \$ 19,533.41

Warrant #103(A) \$ 545,430.79

Warrant #106(A)	\$ 60,444.12
Warrant #39 (C)	\$ 15.72
Warrant #40 (C)	\$ 20,340.14
Warrant #41 (C)	\$ 5,560.22
Warrant #42 (C)	\$ 8,710.71
Warrant #43 (C)	\$ 2,837.88
Warrant #43 (C)	\$ 33.30
Warrant #36 (F)	\$ 11,818.04
Warrant #37 (F)	\$ 1,599.22
Warrant #38 (F)	\$ 1,460.83
Warrant #39 (F)	\$ 6,790.00
Warrant #40 (F)	\$ 85,464.61
Warrant #41 (F)	\$ 4,850.00
Warrant #2(CM)	\$ 8,475.00
Warrant #3(CM)	\$ 100.00

#### Business Administrator

James Bruni reviewed the federal and grant usage for the 2022-2023 school year.

#### Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed informed the Board that opening day was a success. Four members came to the opening. Dr. Reed received a positive response from 65% of the faculty and staff. Faculty and staff took part in DEI and Restorative Practice training.

#### BOE President Report

Joseph McNamara discussed the process of appointing someone to the vacant BOE seat. The Board President also asked for input in appointing the seat. The Board President also discussed with the Board if anyone was interested in voting on behalf of the district for the NYSSBA proposed resolutions for the annual convention.

#### BOE Member Comments

Erica Sinicropi inquired about how often faculty and staff DASA training is done. She would like to see the faculty and staff to be supported in a way so they are equipped to handle DASA situations.

Joseph McNamara suggested that a survey be sent out to students. Other school district have had good results.

Denise Lorenzetti asked is counseling is available in schools. Dr. Reed explained that yes, counseling is available. The district works closely with the Seneca County Mental Health Department. The district has received grants to expand resources for schools.

#### Important Dates to Remember

Sept. 5, 6 & 7, 2023-1/2 days for FK and ECS.

Sept. 12, 2023-Facilities Committee Mtg.

Sept. 14, 2023-BOE Retreat

Sept. 19, 2023-4 County SBA Board of Directors Meeting

Sept. 21, 2023-BOE Meeting-Introduction of new employees and tenure recognition

#### Consent Agenda

#### Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

#### SFEA Resignation

Name: Carolyn Herrling

Position: Special Education Teacher

Effective: the end of the day on September 8, 2023

Name: Collin Hould

Position: Technology Teacher

Effective: the end of the day on September 22, 2023

Name: Kimberly Stevers

Position: School Counselor

Effective: the end of the day on September 26, 2023

#### SFSSA Resignation

Name: Frank Crummer

Position: Cleaner

Effective: July 8, 2023

Name: Heather Stevens

Position: Bus Monitor

Effective: the end of the day on August 31, 2023

Name: Kathryn Morreale

Position: Teacher Aide

Effective: June 30, 2023

Appointments  
Professional Appointments

The Board of Education of the Seneca Falls Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Dr. Michelle Reed, Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints (Probation dates are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law sections 2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.)

Name: Christine Petrocci

Position: Elementary Education Teacher (Math AIS)

Certification: Nursery, Kindergarten, Gr. 1-6

Tenure: n/a

Effective date: 08/30/2023

Probation: n/a (1-year grant funded position)

Base Salary: \$48,372

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following annual appointment(s) for the 2023-2024 school year.

Position	Employee	Stipend
HS Fall Play Director	Nicholas Bessette	\$1,647.00

Civil Service Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following civil service position(s) (All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared).

Name: Deborah Beeching

Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide

Effective: 08/30/2023

Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024

Hours/day: 6.0

Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Ashley Bergen

Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide

Effective: 08/30/2023

Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024

Hours/day: 6.0

Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Lora Bennett

Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide

Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Virginia Brady  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Ashley Granger  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Sharon McBride  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Sarah Salerno  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Stephen Tillinghast  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 08/30/2023  
Probationary Period: 08/30/2023 through 08/29/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Stephen Tillinghast  
Civil Service Position: Bus Monitor  
Effective: 09/05/2023  
Probationary Period: 09/01/2023 through 08/31/2024  
Hours/day: 2.0  
Hourly Rate: \$15.38

Name: Danielle Harko  
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide  
Effective: 09/02/2023  
Probationary Period: 09/02/2023 through 09/01/2024  
Hours/day: 6.0  
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

Name: Danielle Harko  
Civil Service Position: Bus Monitor

Effective: 09/02/2023  
Probationary Period: 09/02/2023 through 09/01/2024  
Hours/day: 2.0  
Hourly Rate: \$15.38

Name: Itasha Williams  
Civil Service Position: Cleaner (12-month position)  
Effective: 09/01/2023  
Probationary Period: 09/01/2023 through 08/31/2024  
Hours/day: 8.0  
Hourly Rate: \$15.50

Substitute Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following substitute position(s) (All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared):

Name: Brian Edwards  
Position: Per Diem Building Substitute Teacher (MA)  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 08/30/2023

Name: Albert A. Shaffer, Jr.  
Position: Per Diem Building Substitute Teacher (ECS)  
NYS Certification: Certified  
Effective: 08/30/2023

Name: Joseph Ponzi  
Position: Per Diem Building Substitute Teacher (SFMS)  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 08/30/2023

Name: Ananda Dumas  
Position: Substitute Teacher  
NYS Certification: Uncertified  
Effective: 09/05/2023

Name: Janelle Bradshaw  
Position: Substitute Teacher  
NYS Certification: Certified Gr. K-6 (Permanent Cert.) and SDA (Permanent Cert.)  
Effective: 09/05/2023

Annual list of Teacher Substitutes  
See attached list

Annual list of Support Staff Substitutes  
See attached list

Probationary to Permanent

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following probationary to permanent appointment.

Employee	Position	Permanent Effective Date
Anna LaRocca	Teacher Aide	09/06/2023
Brianna Jones	Teacher Aide	09/19/2023
Cassandra Shaffer	Cashier/FSH	09/09/2023
Ashley Helmicki	Cashier/FSH	09/19/2023

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE minutes:  
07/14/2023, 07/25/2023, 07/27/2023 (1), 07/27/2023 (2), 08/04/2023, 08/08/2023, 08/11/2023, 08/14/2023 (1), 08/14/2023 (2), 08/22/2023

#### Gifts and Donations

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following gift(s) or donation(s):

Donor	Amount	Account	Used for
Ohiopyle Prints, Inc.	\$3.71	A2020-450-04-0000	Supplies/materials for Gr. 9-12

#### Transportation Request(s)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following transportation request(s):

Student	Transportation Request
	Finger Lakes Christian School, 2291 Route 89, Seneca Falls, NY

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business  
Correction

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to correct the following stipends approved at the July 7, 2023 Re-  
Org meeting as presented.

#### MTSS (Multi-Tiered Support System)

##### c. Seneca Falls Middle School

Position	Employee	Stipend
MTSS Case Manager	Melissa Morrin	<del>\$920</del> <b>\$1,004</b>
MTSS Case Manager	Mary Lee	<del>\$920</del> <b>\$1,004</b>
MTSS Case Manager	Elizabeth Tanner	<del>\$920</del> <b>\$1,004</b>
MTSS Case Manager	Kristen Poole	<del>\$705</del> <b>\$843</b>

##### d. Mynderse Academy

Position	Employee	Stipend
MTSS Case Manager	Guy Turchetti	<del>\$705</del> <b>\$843</b>
MTSS Case Manager	Matthew Bienvenue	<del>\$705</del> <b>\$843</b>
MTSS Case Manager	Bethany Boyes	<del>\$705</del> <b>\$843</b>
MTSS Case Manager	Deena Swenson	<del>\$705</del> <b>\$843</b>

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Rescind Resignation

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to rescind the following resignation accepted at the August 3, 2023 meeting:

#### X. Consent Agenda

##### a. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

##### 2. SFSSA-Resignation

##### c. Name: Peter Eisenberg

Position: Bus Driver

Effective: 08/31/2023

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.  
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

New Business  
MOA

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the following SFEA MOAs as presented:  
SFEA MOA- Department Chair-Family & Consumer Science, Health and Business  
SFEA MOA-Additional Instructional Assignments Gr. 6-12

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.  
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Certification of Lead Evaluators

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to that by virtue of the fact of having participated in the Lead Evaluator Training provided by the NYS Education Department, WFL BOCES, Seneca Falls Central School District and the NYS Council of School Superintendents, which included the required components, the following people as listed are considered as Certified Lead Evaluators for the 2023-2024 School Year:

- Dr. Michelle Reed Principals
- James Bruni Principals
- Jodie Verkey Teachers
- Karissa Blamble Teachers
- Faith Lewis Teachers
- Breana Mullen Teachers
- Kevin Rhinehart Teachers
- Kevin Korzeniewski Teachers
- Amy Hibbard Teachers
- Janet Clendenen Teachers

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.  
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

District Code of Conduct  
(2023-2024)

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the District Code of Conduct as presented for the 2023-2024 school year.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

SFCSD Safety Plan

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Seneca Falls Central School District Safety Plan as presented.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Denise Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Surplus

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to dispose of following surplus items as listed through sale, donation, disposal or auction according to Board Policy #6900:

Seneca Falls Middle School Library Books

Elizabeth Cady Stanton School Library Books (1975-1995)

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Reclassify Civil Service Positions

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Administrator of Business & Operations, the Board of Education approve the reclassification of two (2) Building Maintenance Mechanics/School Bus Drivers to two (2) Building Maintenance Mechanics.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Establishment of the Barry Scutt Memorial Stage Crew Award



Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the establishment of the annual Barry Scutt Memorial Stage Crew Award with the following criteria:

- The amount of award is \$500
- The award will be given annually at high school graduation
- The donor will hold the money
- Criteria:
  - Graduating Senior
  - Member of the Drama Club Stage crew
  - Demonstrates good citizenship and strong sense of teamwork
  - Efforts contributed to the success of the Drama Club productions
  - Donors will make selection of recipient based on a list of eligible students who have filled out an application.
  - Donors will consider input from the Drama Club Director

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that whereas the Board of Education of the Seneca Falls Central School District (the "District") proposes to undertake a capital improvement project for the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Elementary School, the Frank Knight Elementary School and the Middle School which involves certain renovation, replacement and upgrade work at these facilities (hereinafter "the Project"); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, Article 8 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law and the regulations promulgated thereto at 6 NYCRR Part 617 (collectively referred to as "SEQRA"), the District has reviewed the scope of the Project and has further received and considered the advice of its architects and attorneys regarding the classification of the Project in accordance with the SEQRA; and

WHEREAS the District has determined that pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(2) and (10) of the SEQRA regulations, the Project collectively constitutes a Type II action exempt from SEQRA review since the Project involves the:

- (2) replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes; and/or
- (10) routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education of the Seneca Falls Central School District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above whereas clauses shall be deemed to have the same force and effect of each of the other clauses set forth herein.
2. The Project constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c) (2) and (10) of the SEQRA regulations in that such work constitutes "replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site... (including certain upgrades) and/or "routine activities of educational institutions" and, as such, no further review or action is need be undertaken by the District pursuant to SEQRA.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.  
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Section V. Combined Athletics  
Geneva Cheerleading

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that whereas the Seneca Falls Central School District and Geneva City School District have met to ascertain the advantages of combining sports teams; and

Whereas Seneca Falls Central School District and Geneva City School District have agreed on terms for combining Varsity Cheerleading;

Be it therefore resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve up to two (2) Seneca Falls Central School District students participate in the Geneva City School District Varsity Cheerleading program;

Be it further resolved that the Geneva City School District will be the host school, following the Geneva City School District coach's salary schedule and coaches handbook; and

Be it further resolved, that the students from each district will follow their own schools' code of conduct; and

Be it further resolved, that all of the costs associated with the Varsity Cheerleading program for the fall of 2023 (such as supplies, officials, salaries, and transportation) will be based on a percentage of the athletes that participate from Seneca Falls CSD and Geneva CSD, and will be billed to Seneca Falls Central School District.

Executive Session

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:10 pm to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.  
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk

The regular meeting resumed at 7:23 pm.

Adjourn

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.  
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Joseph McNamara, President