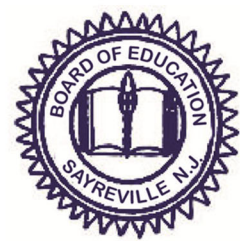




# Sayreville Public Schools

## Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997  
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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent  
Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

### Talk Sup Week 7 Review and Preview

October 23, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a most relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup*, my weekly newsletter.

**Attention parents!** Please remember that on **October 20<sup>th</sup>**, the carryover for **Free and Reduced Lunch** status from the 2022-23 school year expired. Therefore, if you have not already completed and submitted your application for this year, please do so **immediately** by clicking [here](#) to complete the online application, or by requesting a paper application from the main office at your child(ren)'s school. If you are not sure whether you applied this year or to check on your child(ren)'s Free and Reduced Lunch status, log into Oncourse Connect and click on "Student Information." Both the status and any lunch debt balance will be populated in the column to the right.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, here is what you missed. Sean Burns from Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) and Ashten Poandl from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing their respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Reports. Next, Mrs. Bloom expressed her opening

remarks, as did Mrs. Pieloch, who also shared a few district highlights. During the presentation portion of the meeting, the district presented the annual State of the Schools Address, which featured a presentation by Kean University on the district's new 2023-27 Vision 2030 Strategic Action Plan, which they facilitated the collaborative development of. After that, as part of the State of the Schools Address, the district reviewed the 2022-23 District Goals, as well as an introduction of the 2023-24 District Goals and the 2023-24 Budget Development Calendar. To see the 2023 State of the Schools Presentation, click [here](#). To review the 2023-27 Vision 2030 Strategic Action Plan Presentation by Kean University, click [here](#).



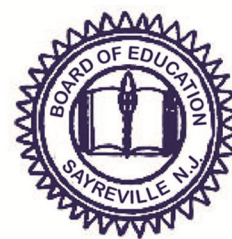
The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click [here](#). To see the Agenda Addendum, click [here](#). To see all attachments, click [here](#). To view the video of the meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board of Education accepted a generous donation from Deborah Stolte for Bombers Beyond, in the amount of \$100; and a G. Vallette Clarinet, valued at \$1,500, to be used in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Music Department, by Ed Szeliga, in honor of his father, Joseph T. Szeliga. It also accepted an award from GrowNJKids valued at \$136,950 for professional development services, coaching, and classroom essential subscriptions for 49 preschool classrooms and teachers from Tools of the Mind. In addition, the BOE approved a professional services agreement with Teaching Strategies Gold for Early Childhood Teachers, which included

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instructional coaching, online assessment portfolios, and other forms of professional development in the amount of \$22,188.35 to be paid using funds from the ARP-ESSER-Accelerated Learning Coach and Educator Support Grant. Furthermore, the Board approved the submission of the Division of Early Childhood Services, Annual Preschool Operational Plan Update and Projected School Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. Lastly, it approved the purchase of the technology items, particularly staff laptops and student Chromebooks, from CDW Government in the amount of \$423,475.

On the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the [2023-24 School District Goals](#) and the [2024-25 Budget Development Calendar](#). To see each, click on them. It also approved the [2023-27 Vision 2030 Strategic Action Plan](#) for a first reading, and a resolution thanking all the school district community members for their outstanding service in collaboratively developing it. To review the 2023-27 Vision 2030 Strategic Action Plan, click on it.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. In addition, the BOE appointed high school coaches for the winter and spring seasons, as well as an advisor for the fall drama and spring musical at the high school. It also appointed teachers for the general education and special education Literacy and Math Academies, Tier 3 Intervention Services, and English as a Second Language Tutorial Services for 2023-2024 school year. Finally, the Board appointed high school College and Career Group Facilitators for 2023-24 school year.

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

The next meeting will take place on **November 21, 2023**. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**. A complete copy of the **October 17<sup>th</sup>** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next regular business meeting on **November 21, 2023**.



Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive and fun week of learning last week. Last Wednesday, the high school counseling office took almost forty students to the Career Council National Hispanic College Fair at Woodbridge High School. The fair included sixty representatives from colleges, universities, and technical and trade schools. The students were able to meet with admissions officers and financial aid advisors. They were provided with information about the schools, the financial aid process, and college life.

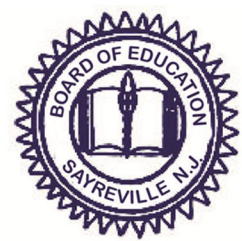
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Last Thursday, students in the Humanities/Social Studies classes were visited by state and local legislators during the annual Legislator Day. If you are unfamiliar with Legislator Day, it is an activity unique to Sayreville that gives our high school students an opportunity to meet their local legislators to learn more about state and local government public service and civics. This year, Mrs. Bloom from the Board of Education, as well as Mrs. Roberts and Mr. Conti from the Sayreville Borough Council, participated. However, students were thrilled by the return visit by Craig Coughlin, Speaker of the New Jersey Assembly. This is the second time in as many weeks that Speaker Coughlin has visited our students, as During National

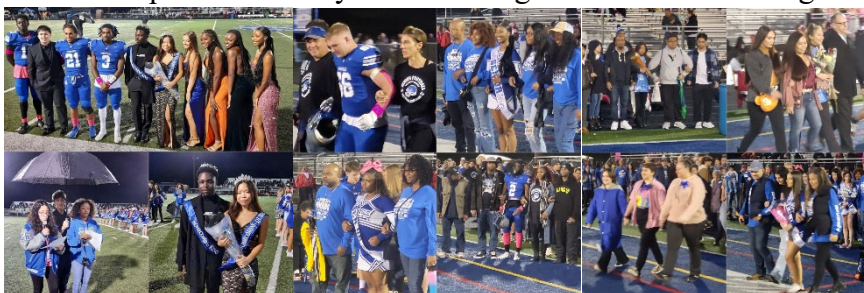
School Food Service Week two weeks ago, he visited the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) with the Joseph Atchison, Assistant Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, to view lunch and say a few words about the new things the state is doing for public school food service. We commend and thank Mr. Howard, Supervisor of Humanities/Social Studies Instruction, for coordinating Legislator Day for our high school students, along with Mr. Ballard and several other teachers at the high school for their willingness to participate.



Last Friday afternoon, high school staff and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students recognized and celebrated all fall sports teams during an abbreviated indoor Fall Pep Rally. As is always the case, the rally featured a musical performance by the Marching Band, and a



choreographed cheer by the Bombers Cheer Squad. Later that evening the Sayreville community celebrated Homecoming and Senior Night in Bomber Stadium. The highlight of the evening was a dramatic 22-20 win by the Bombers Football Team over Woodbridge High School. However, the evening also featured another wonderful performance by the Marching Band and an amazing demonstration of spirit, along with an



exceptionally choreographed half-time performance, by the Cheer Team and the incredible cheer team alumni that joined them. We commend and thank Ms. Badami, the high school administration, and all our wonderful coaches and advisors for making the evening so entertaining and such a

wonderful memory for all who participated and attended.

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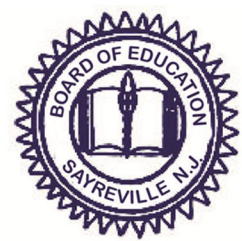




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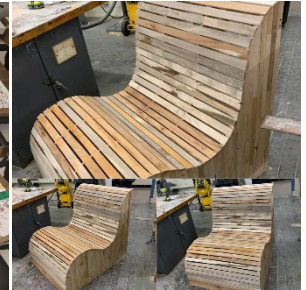


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In other happenings at the high school, students in the American Sign Language class had a blast learning new signs during their remote world language learning lab class. Likewise, students in Ms. Charmello's Studio Art class showed off their amazing artwork,



while students in Mr. Gliddon's Woodshop class, particularly Jessica Sass, showcased their carpentry skills



when making lounging chairs using repurposed wood from pallets. In addition, staff, parents, and community members had a blast during the Theatre Societies interactive Murder Mystery Dinner. Move over *Tina and Tony's Wedding*. 😊 Likewise, students had a great time watching Hocus Pocus



while drinking hot chocolate and eating freshly popped popcorn out on the football field during Movie Night.



At the upper elementary school, students had fun feeding the Candy Monster with their candy donations, which will be given to families in need during Halloween. At the Arleth School, students showed off their orange attire to unite for kindness, inclusion, and acceptance. Likewise, at the Truman School, staff and students wore pink to demonstrate their support for Breast Cancer



Awareness. Finally, in Project Before at the Selover School, after reading "Leaf Man," Ms. Susan's class collected leaves to form their own leaf



people, which was the basis of a ChatterPix movie that they made to share each leaf person's activities. In addition, students had a ball picking pumpkins in the patch created by the wonderful Project Before PTO.

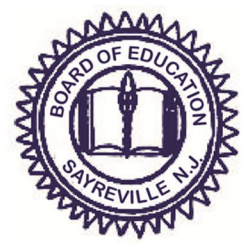
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This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We commend and congratulate SWMHS senior Jonathan (JD) Magaw, who was recently selected to be on the National Leo Club Program Advisory Panel for Constitutional Area (CA). Therefore, he will be representing Leos in all the United States and surrounding countries that makes up all of Constitutional Area I in the Lions Club International. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, as mentioned above, the SWMHS Football Team defeated Woodridge High School in thrilling fashion to end their regular season with a record of 7-2.

The SWMHS Boys Soccer Team defeated Noor-ul-Iman HS last week to improve its season record to 8-4-4. The SWMHS Girls Tennis Team earned its seventh win and ended its match play season last week with a victory over Woodbridge HS. The SWMHS Field Hockey Team also concluded its



season by defeating North Plainfield HS to win its fourth game of the season.



The SWMHS Girls and Boys Cross Country continued to impress during the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Championships last weekend at Thompson Park in Monroe. In fact, the Girls Team won the GMC Gold Division. Senior Crystal Margotta ran to a 4<sup>th</sup> Place finish while Junior Molly Logan took 9<sup>th</sup> Place. Likewise, the Sayreville Middle School Cross Country Girls and Boys Teams also competed well at the GMC Championships. For instance, ten runners received top 50 medals in their respective races. The girls team finished 6<sup>th</sup>

overall with two top ten finishers, while the boys team finished 8<sup>th</sup> overall. 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 hard work, dedication, and the way they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules by visiting the Athletics page of our website or by clicking [here](#).



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 wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe

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