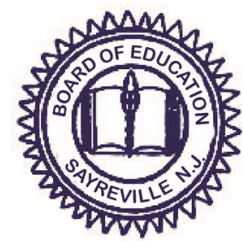




Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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



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Mr. David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

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

Talk Sup Week 12 Review and Preview

November 27, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a most relaxing and enjoyable holiday weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup*, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that next **Monday, December 4th**, we will **dismiss students early** so that our staff can participate in professional development.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, November 21st, 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 and Board of Education recognized and honored the SWMHS Girls Soccer Team for their GMC White Division Championship, and the SWMHS Girls Cross Country Team for their GMC Gold Division Championship.



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 the 2024 New Jersey High Impact Tutoring Grant in the amount of \$230,000; approved a request for vendor proposals for a portion of the grant in accordance with Public Schools Contracts Law; and approved a contract with CDW-G for the tutoring software/licensing GoGuardian TutorMe program to provide tutoring services to students in grades 6-8 at the Sayreville Middle School and grades 9-12 at SWMHS in the amount of \$83,500.00 with a start date of January 1, 2024. Likewise, the BOE accepted the 2024 Middle Grades Career Awareness and Exploration Grant in the amount of \$73,065. It also approved an agreement for services with *ParentSquare Inc.*, an expansive broadcast communication system, in the amount of \$32,512.50, for the term of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, with a one-time onboarding cost of \$3,150. In addition, the BOE approved a contract with Swing Education, Inc. to provide staffing for supplemental substitute teachers at the regularly approved district substitute rates plus an additional 30% administrative fee in an amount not to exceed \$38,000.00 for the term of November 27, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Lastly, the board of Education rescinded the previously awarded bid for the Site Development Project for the new transportation complex to James R. Ientile, Inc. in the amount \$5,634,645.00 for the base bid; and approved the return of those funds to Capital Reserve in the amount of \$5,634,645.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved several revised curriculum guides. To review them, click [here](#). Additionally, it approved new C.A.F.E (Cancer Awareness

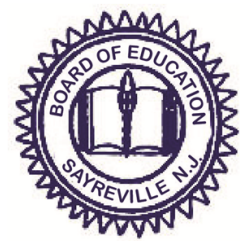
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Fundraising Events) and Good Deeds Foundation clubs at the high school under the advisement of Ms. Casella and Ms. Pataky respectfully. On the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the appointment of Lori Ann Dobrzynski by the Borough of Sayreville Mayor and Council to serve as a Trustee for the Sayreville Public Library for a one-year term (2024). It also approved the [2023-27 Vision 2030 Strategic Action Plan](#) for a second reading and adoption. To review the 2023-27 Vision 2030 Strategic Action Plan, click on it. In addition, the Board approved the abolishment of several BOE policies and regulations. Likewise, it approved several new and revised BOE [policies](#) and [regulations](#) for a first reading. To read them, click on each.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirement of Suzanne Grover, Teacher at the Arleth School, effective October 1, 2024. It also 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 approved Career and Technical Education stipend positions for the 2023-24 school year.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, several residents, particularly from the Laurel Park section of Sayreville, expressed concern regarding the potential construction of the transportation complex off of Cheesequake Road, which was agreed upon by the Borough via a Borough Council resolution and a signed Memorandum of Understanding during the spring of 2022. In addition, a parent expressed his concerns about the district's policy of not providing children who live in more than one residence in Sayreville two different buses, and asked the Board to make an exception for students who live in shared custody households.

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, Mr. Fernandez for the last Student Achievement Committee Meeting, and Mrs. Napolitano for the last Governance Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association. Mr. Fernandez did the same regarding the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club, as did Mrs. Napolitano for the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey.

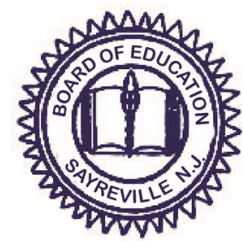
The next meeting will take place on **December 19, 2023**. During it, the district will present the 2024-25 Proposed Food Services Budget. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **Friday, November 15th**. A complete copy of the **November 20th** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next regular business meeting on **December 19, 2023**.



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Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive and fun week of learning last week. Students and staff at each school across the district took the time to celebrate what they were thankful for during this holiday season. At the high school, the Counseling Department took seniors to the 25th Annual Malcolm Benard Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) College Fair, which is a non-profit, volunteer organization

that partners with community and state agencies to introduce a multitude of services to students eager to learn about higher education opportunities from college admissions representatives



from the campuses of historically black colleges and universities. The students, who were able to meet with admission representatives from over 45 schools, walked away with multiple acceptances from universities. In addition, students in



Mr. Veres Biology classes constructed DNA models and demonstrated DNA replication by showing the replicated DNA molecules with their original and new



strands. Likewise, students in Ms. Benoy's Chemistry classes had a blast during their titration labs as they learned the quantitative chemical analysis required to determine the concentration of analytes. Advanced Placement (AP) Art History students took a step back in time with their visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Lastly, Jasmine Patrick and Ace Devine from the SWMHS Theatre Society attended a rehearsal session for the New York City Ballet *Nutcracker*

at Lincoln Center in New York City where they had an incredible time learning about sound, lighting, and set production.



At the upper elementary school, students in Miss Gallagher's class created thank you cards for armed services members currently stationed in Mexico. In addition, students in Mrs. Lawrence's, Miss Lorenzon's and Mrs. Connors' 5th grade classes participated in a "Balloons

Over Samsel Parade," where among other things, they learned about the history of the parade in language arts and then designed and constructed their own balloons during STEAM.

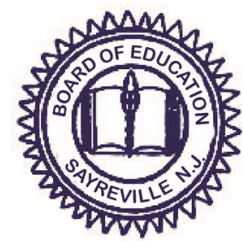


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Similarly, students in Ms. Critelli's and Ms. Esteban's 3rd Grade class at the Eisenhower School created their own digital Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade with animation. Additionally, Megaman visited the students to spread his very



important message of making good decisions, having a positive



attitude, and being kind to others.

At the Truman School, students and staff celebrated the 50th day of school in style. Likewise, in Project Before, at the Selover School, students and staff rocked out singing and dancing with the world-famous children's entertainer and musician Mr. Ray. In addition, students played Pin the Tail on the Turkey, read Thanksgiving stories, and made pumpkin Play-Doh.



This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We commend and thank David Kuo from the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center for the very generous donation of a dual/teaching microscope that will be used in AP Biology classes at the high school. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!

In athletics, we congratulate Jillian McGarry, SWMHS Girls Soccer Team Head Coach for being selected as the Greater Middlesex Conference White Division Coach of the Year. Likewise, we congratulate Joseph Pastva, SWMHS Girls Cross Country Team Head Coach for being named the GMC Gold Division Coach of the Year. 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](#).

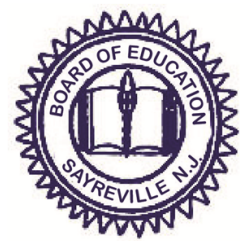
As per the [2023-24 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, on **Tuesday, December 19th**, there will be a **Board of Education Business Meeting** in the **Samsel Upper Elementary**

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School Board Meeting Room. Please remember that we will **dismiss students early** next **Monday, December 4th** so that our staff can participate in professional development. Likewise, we will also **dismiss students and staff early** on **Friday, December 22nd** so that they can get a head start on the holiday weekend. Furthermore, please remember that our **schools will be closed from Monday, December 25th through Monday, January 1st** for the winter holiday recess. Additionally, please remember that the **1st Trimester Marking Period** for students in **grades K-5** will **end on December 8th** and that **Report Cards** for those students will be issued and **viewable in Oncourse Connect on December 15th**. Similarly, **2nd Marking Period Progress Reports** for students in **grades 6-12** will be issued on **December 19th**.

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