

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Sauquoit, New York 13456

Public accessed the finance committee and regular meeting of the Board of Education live starting at 6:00 p.m. at <https://youtu.be/ZyX61qJHENA> which was on the school website at [www.svcasd.org](http://www.svcasd.org).

**Date of the Meeting:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular

**Presiding Officer:** Mrs. Dawn Miller, President

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Miller at 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Dawn Miller, Anthony Nicotera, Michele Brennan-Vuocolo, Ronald Critelli, James Dever, Todd Nelson, and Christine Weber-Mangini

**Administrators Present:** Ronald Wheelock, Superintendent of Schools  
Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator  
Brian Read, High School Principal  
Pete Madden, Middle School Principal  
Mark Putnam, Elementary Principal

**Others Present:** Staff, community members and Derick LaLonde (MORIC).

**Pledge of Allegiance** – The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Presentation(s)** – There was none.

**Public to be Heard** – There was none in the chat room.

**Students to be Heard** – There was none in the chat room.

**Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports** – The fall sports went off with no incidents of COVID. The winter sports playing indoors may have more challenges as spacing is a major concern. The Department of Health has different standards for everyday school spacing and after school sports. Doug Jones spoke that colleges may not be allowing outside groups to use their facilities. This impacts indoor track as they count on the use of college facilities. There are also different provisions for spectators for indoor events versus what was allowed for fall sports. Mr. Nelson asked if Sauquoit Valley had a sharing agreement with New Hartford for wrestling. He also stated that if any sport is eliminated due to budget, there should be some sort of social or physical activity for the students to better their emotional state. Mr. Wheelock agreed that there are mixed messages on rules and

there is an athletic meeting which he plans on attending in the hopes of getting some definite answers. Mr. Wheelock went on to inform that there is a scheduled musical which the students have been practicing for. Whether we will actually be able to conduct the performance in January with an audience is yet to be determined.

Mr. Nicotera noticed the great responsibility that has been shown by students, parents and spectators at the sporting events and around the school that he has seen. He noticed Doug Jones, Athletic Director present at all the games. The organization of the athletic games has been very well managed. He felt that since the fall sports ran smoothly it would be good to let the Athletic Director and Superintendent proceed with a plan that they feel can run without incident of COVID for the winter season. Others on the Board agreed. Mr. Wheelock thanked Mr. Nicotera for sharing his observation of the fall sports.

### **Superintendent's Report –**

1. There was an article in the Observer Dispatch whereby Oneida County government is in the process of signing an agreement with a vendor to install and stop-arm cameras on school buses. When the red light and arm are activated and a vehicle passes the bus, a picture of the license plate who was in violation will be captured. A local police agency will then take action. We have not been directly contacted on the process to proceed forward with carrying out this program.
2. The Free School Meals scheduled to end December 2020 is being offered free of charge through to the end of the academic year in June of 2021. Board members asked about which meals and who is sponsoring this? Mr. Wheelock stated he would get that information and relay it. Before the meeting was over: Mr. Wheelock stated that breakfast and lunch meals are being served. It is sponsored by the USDA.

**Old Business –** There was none.

### **New Business**

Mrs. Miller stated that action items 9.1 to 9.11 will be read as a consent motion and will take one vote. If there are any questions or comments, members can do so prior to vote or pull a motion for further discussion.

**Resolution No. 20** made by Mr. Nicotera, and seconded by Mrs. Weber-Mangini

- to accept the retirement of Betty Gillespie as custodian, with regret, effective December 31, 2020.
- to accept the resignation of Thomas Waldron as school bus driver effective September 2, 2020.
- to appoint Thomas Waldron as a substitute school bus driver effective October 28, 2020.
- that the following people be appointed to athletic coaching positions for the winter 2020-21 school year contingent upon student athlete participation in each sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications. Stipends are subject to change pending the duration of the season due to COVID-19.

NAME	SPORT
Scot Alsante	Basketball Varsity – Boys
Jeffrey Busch	Basketball Jr. Varsity - Boys
Devin Clive	Basketball Varsity - Girls
Todd Martin	Basketball Jr. Varsity - Girls
Darlene Philipotts	Volleyball Varsity - Girls
Scott Smith	Volleyball Jr. Varsity - Girls
Mike Eisinger	Volleyball Varsity - Boys
Cory Patterson	Volleyball Jr. Varsity - Boys
Brett Cardillo	Bowling Boys & Girls

- to adopt the revised Leave of Absence for Serious Health Conditions or Family Care; Policy 6030 as presented.
- to adopt the revised Leave for Cancer Screening; Policy 6038 as presented.
- to adopt the revised Leave of Absence for COVID-19 Qualifying Reasons: Policy 6304 as presented.
- that the minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting be approved.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills dated 10/15/2019 approved by the claims auditor.
- that the Board of Education upon completion of its review of the IEP in accordance with Section 200.4(d)(2) of the Regulations of the Commissioner agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students numbered; 1401275, 1400948, 1400944, 1400543, and 1400978 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education and agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students numbered 001401221 as recommended by the Committee on Pre-School Education.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to Oneida County Civil Service Rule XIV, Probationary Term, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Rebecca Evans as a school nurse effective October 29, 2020 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on October 29, 2020 and to expire on June 3, 2021.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

**Miscellaneous Topics** – Mr. Nicotera asked about the board policies and how they are put to the public and staff. Mr. Wheelock stated that they are placed on Sauquoit Valley Central School District's website. Mr. Nicotera also questioned the situation of employment with the nurses. He inquired if we could do something more with salary to encourage better retention. Mr. Wheelock stated that the nurse's rate of pay is established within the School Related Professional's contract and any adjustment to their pay scale would need to be negotiated. More talk of the athletics and how winter sports may proceed is continuing. When permanent information is given as to what sports will be permitted, Mr. Wheelock will share.

Pete Madden, Middle School Principal gave praise to the students, staff, cleaning crew and everyone working within the school for doing such a good job in keeping the school clean and running smoothly.

Mr. Nelson also questioned the status of regents. SED has not confirmed the status of still having or cancelling them this year.

**Public to Be Heard** – There was none in the chat room.

**Students to Be Heard** – There was none in the chat room.

**Executive Session** – There was none.

**Resolution No. 21** made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Ms. Brennan-Vuocolo that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Goodman  
Board Clerk