

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Public accessed the meeting live starting at 7:00 p.m. at <https://youtu.be/jzRoqG6lbh8> which was located on the school's website at www.svcasd.org.

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Presiding Officer: Mrs. Dawn Miller, President

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Miller at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Anthony Nicotera, Michele Brennan-Vuocolo, Ronald Critelli, James Dever, and Christine Weber-Mangini

Members Absent: Todd Nelson

Administrators Present: Ronald Wheelock, Superintendent of Schools
Patricia Service, Interim District Treasurer, and Brian Read

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

Pledge of Allegiance – The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Presentation –

1. **Finance** - Mr. Wheelock summarized the financial meeting that was held prior to this one. The financial status of the school is not good. The governor of the state has held 20% of the 2019/20 school funding and is planning on doing the same with 2020/21 school year funding which will leave the school in fiscal distress. Spending is frozen with exception to essential items and other avenues may need to be addressed to mitigate our funding deficit. The District used its reserve money to fund a portion of this year's budget and this money will not be available for the 2021-22 school year. We have amassed nearly \$60,000 for unexpected expenditures due to COVID-19. Board members have agreed to make 3 year plan with different scenarios to address our financial crisis.
2. **Athletics** – The Board was asked if they supported allowing fall athletics to take place at this time. Mr. Wheelock shared a number of concerns to be aware should we consider sports at this time. Concerns such as: a disconnect between the safety protocols during the school days for physical education, band and choir versus a more relaxed protocol for athletics; screening guidance during the school day is more stringent than what is required for athletics; we are adding another layer of exposure to our staff and students by introducing athletics at this time which could jeopardize the work that went into preparing for the reopening of school; additional strain on our cleaning staff to have to frequently clean and disinfect areas associated

with athletic use; more stringent protocols on mask wearing during the school day versus after school for athletics. Last May the District adopted a budget with some proposed program cuts (athletics, extra-curricular activities) but included them in the budget with the hopes that more Federal aid would be coming to the states. As of the date of this meeting, there has been no further federal monies forwarded to the states and New York state is withholding 20% of state aid from our last state aid payments in 2019-20 and threatening to withhold 20% of state aid into the 2020-21 school year. Mr. Wheelock shared that we need to consider the state of our finances when considering to go forward with athletics at this time as well. Many feel that students need that extra socialization and social-emotional activity. The social distance factor would be eliminated in many sports. There are different regulations coming forward and the language; "considered" or "should" leaves interpretation wide open to what is really required. Fall sports being an outdoor event makes it less contagious to others in the building. Board members like to still hold fall sports. The board members agreed to leave the decision as to which sports and at what levels to participate to the athletic director and administration.

Public to be Heard (comments from chat room) – Public had positive comments on keeping the athletic department running and would like to know as soon as a decision is made as to which sport will occur. Doug Jones, Athletic Director stated that a decision will be formulated sometime Thursday and Mr. Wheelock will send out a robo call.

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

Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports – There was none as Mr. Wheelock had already spoke above on the financial status.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wheelock read the open enrollment of students as of September 9, 2020.

He also informed every one of the free lunches to all 18 year old and younger students through December 2020.

The information for the SBI Membership Meetings are held in person and zoom. The schedule was sent out prior to tonight's meeting.

Old Business – There was none.

New Business

Mrs. Miller stated that action items 9.1 to 9.26 will be read as a consent motion and 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. 14 made by Mr. Nicotera, and seconded by Ms. Brennan-Vuocolo

- to appoint Douglas Judd as a long-term substitute teacher in middle school, Special Education Teacher, effective October 5, 2020 and be continuous through

January 14, 2021 or until classroom teacher returns from leave.

- to appoint Tyler Falcone as a long-term substitute teacher in elementary, 4th Grade Teacher, effective September 2, 2020 and be continuous through November 3, 2020 or until classroom teacher returns from leave.
- that Abraham (Bryan) Acee's probationary position as auto mechanic/bus driver be permanent effective September 9, 2020.
- that Mark Yerdon's probationary position as bus driver be permanent effective September 16, 2020.
- that Melissa Cain's probationary position as teacher aide be permanent effective September 16, 2020.
- appoint Emma Filipkowski as per diem substitute teacher.
- appoint Dennis Blazek as per diem substitute teacher.
- to appoint Peter Scialdone as a lead teacher for Natalie Powers for the 2020-21 academic year.
- to appoint Tammy Purrington as a lead teacher for Nicole Becker for the 2020-21 academic year.
- appoint Hollice Paciello as per diem substitute nurse.
- appoint Hollice Paciello as per diem substitute teacher.
- to accept the resignation of Nancy Chynoweth as school bus attendant effective August 31, 2020.
- to appoint Nancy Chynoweth as a substitute school bus attendant effective September 16, 2020.
- that the following volunteer coach be appointed contingent upon student athlete participation in the sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.

<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LEVEL</i>	<i>BOYS OR GIRLS</i>	<i>NAME</i>
Soccer	Asst. Varsity - Volunteer	Girls	Jeffrey Kuhn

- that Daniel Dygert be appointed as a boys' varsity soccer coach contingent upon student athlete participation in the sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.
- to appoint Jane Alamond to custodian/bus driver.
- to appoint Brian Callahan to custodian/bus driver.
- to accept a donation from the GE Foundation for \$1,000. Funds will be placed in the Expendable Trust Fund.
- that the district treasurer be authorized to make inter-appropriation fund transfers in the total amount of \$36,507.69 for the 2020-21 school year for the purchase of chrome books for the elementary level.
- that the minutes of the August 18, 2020 meeting be approved.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor dated through August 28, 2020.
- 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 1401445, 1401442, 1401453, 1401451, 1401095, 1401400, 1401398, 1401471, and 1401404 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education and agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students as recommended by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education.
- to accept the resignation of Meghan Roberts, varsity field hockey head coach effective September 15, 2020.
- that Alyssa Orsino be appointed girls' varsity field hockey coach for 2020-2021 school year effective September 16, 2020 contingent upon student athlete participation in the sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR, First Aid, and approval of coaching certifications.
- that Meghan Roberts be appointed girls' volunteer field hockey coach for 2020-2021 school year effective September 16, 2020 contingent upon student athlete participation in the sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR, First Aid, and approval of coaching certifications.
- to approve combination between Sauquoit Valley Central School and New Hartford Central School in the sport of girls gymnastics for the fall 2020 sport season.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Miscellaneous Topics Mr. Dever expressed his appreciation for everyone who was involved in the opening of the school. Mrs. Miller saw it first-hand how everything ran smoothly and thanks Mr. Wheelock and those in the district for working together, going above and beyond. Ms. Brennan-Vuocolo also wanted to thank those behind the scenes such as the custodial staff, food service and transportation personnel. She stated, "We are lucky to have such dedicated caring staff."

Public to Be Heard – Comments from the chat room referenced how volunteers, parents and boosters will assist in the athletics to help support the operations of holding the games. The senior class also had and wanted to present their ideas for the year. Mr. Wheelock stated that he did speak to a parent who wanted to present ideas and he suggested that the ideas and suggestions go through their advisor and Mr. Read, Principal. Mr. Wheelock stated that the school staff are willing to work with the students and families to make the senior class a special year for them.

Mr. Wheelock in ending; thanked everyone for their input and support.

Executive Session – There was none.

Resolution No. 15 made by Mrs. Weber-Mangini, and seconded by Mr. Nicotera that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Goodman
Board Clerk