

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Public was informed to submit comments prior to the meeting to the Board Clerk's email as the meeting was held virtually. The Board Members were present in the high school library.

**Date of Meeting:** September 21, 2021

**Kind of Meeting:** Special Meeting (For completion of September 14, 2021 agenda)

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

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

**Members Present:** Dawn Miller, Anthony Nicotera, Ronald Critelli, Jim Dever, Judy Kentile, Todd Nelson, and Mike Sacco.

**Administrators Present:** Ronald Wheelock, Superintendent of Schools;  
and Charles Cowen, Business Administrator.

**Others Present:** None as meeting was held virtually.

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

**Presentation(s)** – Mr. Wheelock, Superintendent

The purpose of this meeting was to attend to the September 14, 2021 agenda that was not addressed due to the meeting being interrupted. Mr. Wheelock shared a Board meeting is a meeting held in public, but is not a public meeting. It is a meeting for the Board to conduct the business of the school. He reviewed that the public comment period at Board meetings, while not required, are simply a time for the public to share any comments or concerns to the Board. It is not a public dialog. Mr. Wheelock asked the public to follow the chain of command to address any questions that people are seeking an answer to and to direct them to the appropriate staff that can provide such answers or direction. The public is welcome to speak and share a comment with a limit of 5 minutes. The public to be heard is just that, to speak and let the board know of a concern. During that time the board is only listening. Decisions and topics may sometimes need to be reviewed and investigated before an answer can be given. The topic of facial mask wearing was put into effect September 2, 2021 by the new governor giving the NYS Department of Health a directive to make that decision. The NYS Department of Health did just that; all schools must wear a facial mask.

Our goal is to keep all schools open for in-person schooling. Today, three more new positive cases of COVID in the middle school were reported. Mr. Wheelock shared information in regards to quarantine.

- Close contact with a positive individual is considered to be 15 minutes over a 24-hour period which is reason to quarantine.
- In a classroom if you wear a mask and are 3' apart there is no need to quarantine.
- If you feel sick or show any symptoms of COVID, please stay home and consider getting tested.

**Public to be Heard** – There was none.

**Students to be Heard** – There was none.

**Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports** – There was none.

**Superintendent's Report** – Mr. Wheelock

1. Opening Enrollment as of September 7, 2021 was 943 total students attending Sauquoit Valley School District. This is up from last year which was 916.
2. SBI General Membership Meeting, Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Oneida BOCES. Topic: **COVID 19 Federal Funding: Challenges & Opportunities**
3. Mark your calendars if you are interested in a flu shot. Walgreen's has offered to distribute the flu vaccine at a flu clinic here in the elementary building on September 29, 2021. Board members are welcome to get the shot as well.

**Old Business** – There was none.

**New Business** – Mrs. Miller stated that she will read motions 9.1 to 9.24 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.

Mr. Nicotera wanted clarification as to 9.17 is regards to seniority, which Mr. Wheelock answered.

Mr. Nelson asked to pull 9.19.

**Resolution No. 15** made by Mr. Nicotera, and seconded by Mr. Dever

- to accept the resignation of Brian Campbell as substitute school counselor effective August 18, 2021.
- to appoint Katrina Scalzo as a District/Building Long-Term Substitute

Teacher, effective September 7, 2021 and be continuous through June 24, 2022.

- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Heather Wentrick to the position of bus driver contingent upon completion of all Article 19A DMV Regulations effective September 14, 2021 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence September 14, 2021 and to expire April 11, 2022.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Amber Gould to the position of bus driver contingent upon completion of all Article 19A DMV Regulations effective September 9, 2021 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence September 9, 2021 and to expire April 6, 2022.
- to appoint Edward Ryan as a mentor teacher to Gabriella Duell for the 2021-22 academic year.
- to appoint Melissa Leone as a lead teacher to Laura Tartaglia for the 2021-22 academic year.
- to appoint Tiffany Lupia as a lead teacher to Alysia Hladik for the 2021-22 academic year.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Marissa Rice to the 10-month position of teacher-aide effective September 7, 2021 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on September 7, 2021 and to expire on April 10, 2022.
- to appoint Stephanie Roberts as a teacher aide effective September 8, 2021, pending Civil Service approval.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Tyler Matteson to the 12-month position of laborer effective September 8, 2021 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on September 8, 2021 and to expire on April 5, 2022.
- to appoint Kathleen Courtney as a per diem teacher aide effective September 15, 2021.

- to appoint Sarah Mineo as per diem substitute teacher effective September 15, 2021.
- to appoint Kayla Britell as per diem substitute teacher effective September 15, 2021.
- to appoint Alexander Gorgas as per diem substitute teacher effective September 15, 2021.
- to appoint Elizabeth Beswick as per diem substitute teacher effective September 15, 2021.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Cassandra Brooks to the position of custodian effective September 15, 2021.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Anthony Cardillo to the position of custodian/bus driver pending results of bus driving license.
- to approve the substitution rate of pay for bus drivers at \$17.08/hour.
- to approve combination between Sauquoit Valley Central School and Frankfort Central School in the sport of 8 person football team for the fall 2021 sport season.
- that the following people be appointed to athletic coaching positions for the 2021-22 school year contingent upon student athlete participation in each sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>NAME</b>
Cross Country	Volunteer	Steve Philpotts
Field Hockey	Volunteer	Fredric Orsino

- that the minutes of the August 17, 2021 meeting be approved.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor dated through September 2, 2021.

- 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 1401442, 1400206 and 103303 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.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Mr. Nelson asked if the Safety Plan included a safety action plan for our extra-curricular activities. Mr. Wheelock stated that Mr. Jones, Athletic Director has one in place for athletics and the other extra-curricular activities will be instructed to do the same. Mr. Nelson commended Mr. Jones and would like the other extracurricular groups to also have a plan and incorporate it into the Safety Plan.

**Resolution No. 16** made by Mr. Nelson, and seconded by Mr. Sacco

- to approve the district safety plan as presented on July 27, 2021.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

**Miscellaneous Topics** – Discussion on how to conduct future Board meetings occurred. Notice was placed on the buildings of tonight's virtual meeting and also placed in the Observer Dispatch. The meetings will be held in-person for the community to attend. In order to focus on the agenda and the work that needs to be addressed, all those who would like to speak can notify the board clerk, Marie Goodman along with the topic, prior to the meeting. She will make a list of those community members that would like to speak. They will have 5 minutes when the board president calls them up to the microphone. The Board recognizes the concern over having to wear face masks in school; however, stated that there is no need for further comment or discussion on this topic as. Rules for public comment are expected to be followed and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. If appropriate behavior and decorum cannot be maintained during in-person Board meetings, future meetings will be held virtually if not the board may decide to hold future meetings virtually. The Board has elected not to continue with the chat room feature for the remote viewing public; however, they may submit public comments to the Board Clerk at a time to be determined before the Board meeting. The second public to be heard will be discontinued.

Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator explained the process of deadline dates that will need board approval to go forward with the capital and lighting projects as the public vote is tentatively scheduled for December 8, 2021. Hopefully, if passed in December the roofing replacement can start the summer of 2022. Mr. Cowen explained that the debt the school is in will remain the same by taking on this capital project. We will have some old debt ending at the same time the new debt starts for this project. This helps to stabilize our taxes and our tax cap calculation each year. Mr. Wheelock stated that

information about the capital and lighting projects will be placed in the newsletter, possibly a separate mailing and a public hearing will take place for the community to attend and ask questions prior to the vote.

Ms. Kentile asked if the cameras on the football field were operating. Mr. Nelson stated that there is an operating glitch that the company is working on. Mr. Wheelock stated he will look into it.

**Public to Be Heard** – There was none.

### **Executive Session**

**Resolution No. 17** made by Mr. Nelson, and seconded by Mr. Nicotera, that the Board of Education go into executive session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of a particular employee and contractual negotiations for the teachers association.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

The executive session was declared over by Dawn Miller, Board President at 9:45 p.m.

**Resolution No. 18** made by Mr. Dever, and seconded by Mr. Sacco, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Goodman,  
District Clerk  
Board of Education