

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
December 14, 2023-6:00 PM
Robert McKeveny Board/Training Room

BOE Present

Deborah Corsner, Anthony Ferrara, Matthew Lando, Cara Lajewski, Denise Lorenzetti, Joseph McNamara, Michael Mirras, Erica Sinicropi and Heather Zellers

BOE Absent

None

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni, Karissa Blamble, Kevin Korzeniewski, Deena Swenson and students:
Ymani Harris, Stephanie Mirras and Tyler Beach

Joseph McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum of the Board of Education was present; the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approval of Agenda

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the agenda as listed.

ADD under VI. Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

- B. MA Students-Costa Rica Trip
- D. Karissa Blamble-CSE Presentation

ADD under VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. SFEA Resignation-Extra-Curricular Position

- a. Name: Jordan Rector
Position: HS Musical Vocal Director
Effective: on 12/11/2023

B. Appointments

2. 2023-2024 Annual Appointments

| Position | Employee | Stipend |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>HS. Musical Vocal Director</u> | <u>Mariah Schrader</u> | <u>\$658.00</u> |

4. Coaching Appointments

| Sport/Position | Employee | Stipend |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Girls Basketball -Modified Coach</u> | <u>Nathan Rarick</u> | <u>\$2,211.99</u> |
| <u>Girls Basketball –Non-Paid Assistant</u> | <u>Michael Miller</u> | <u>n/a</u> |

5. Civil Service Appointments

- a. Name: Dyan Kenkel
Civil Service Position: Bus Driver Trainee

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend
Board of Education Minutes
November 30, 2023

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated November 30, 2023.

Erica Sinicropi made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

December 12, 2023
Capital Project Referendum

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated December 12, 2023 Capital Project Referendum.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Report
October 2023

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the following Treasurer's Report for October 2023.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report

None at this time

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

Peter Perine

Retirement Recognition

Dr. Reed reported that Peter Perine was unable to attend the meeting to be recognized for his years of service to the district. Pete was hired as a Pre-1st Grade teacher in 1997. He then moved to Grade 2 in 1998. Peter remained in that position until he moved to 6th grade at the Seneca Falls Middle School. He remained in that position until July of 2003 when he took a Teaching Assistant position. Pete also coached tennis for many years (2004 to 2019).

MA Students

Costa Rica Trip

Kevin Korzeniewski introduced the MA students to the board. The three students were present to share their Costa Rica trip experience.

Ymani Harris reported Costa Rica helped her engage in experiences she never thought she would be comfortable doing. Ymani engaged in many activities she was anxious about, but looking back, Ymani is very happy she did. Ymani felt positively supported by every chaperone that made her feel a lot better. As someone with a fear of heights, Ymani was definitely feeling some conflict about what she could bring herself to do. Ymani was highly encouraged but never felt forced into anything, which ultimately made the experience much more comfortable.

Though Ymani decided not to participate in zip lining, she had a fun time laughing with Señora about everyone being rained on. Ymani was nervous about the hanging bridges but brought myself to do it and had great time. Ymani also enjoyed other activities

Stephanie Mirras reported that many students were nervous about the food in Costa Rica. There were so many options for students to pick from, fresh salads, fruits and juices. Everyone was super accommodating to students who were gluten free-allergies, etc. Some of the foods the students ate were Gallo Pinto (rice with beans). Arroz con Pollo (rice with chicken), Pork with Yucca Mash, Fruta Fresca (fresh fruit) and Jugos Frescos (fresh juices).

Tyler Beach reported that the baby turtles hatching was the most memorable part of the trip for him. It was a once in a lifetime experience. Helping baby turtles get into the ocean has been a dream of his for as long as he can remember. By aiding the local lifeguard staff, a few students helped to increase the longevity of the species. It was a very rare opportunity because it did not align with any of the student's schedules. Kevin Korzeniewski said that the students were told that the hatching would happen the next day. Many students were in their room. About 5 or 6 students were in the pool when they were told the turtles were hatching so they were able to partake in moving the turtles to the ocean.

The students were asked: "what is some advice for students on future trips?" The top answers were step out of your comfort zone; eat everything or at least try it; put your phones away and lastly, be friends with everyone.

The students were also asked what the top 5 activities were according to them: zip lining in the Rainforest; Jaco Beach Resort and the turtle release; fun without phones; the hot springs and horseback riding.

Judy Wentzel

Young Women & Resistance Training Program

Judy Wentzel was present with a proposal for the Board of Education. Judy is proposing a resistance-training program for individuals who use the pronouns she/her/hers and they/them in grades 9-12.

Program would run for 12 weeks. There would be 90-minute sessions once a week.

The program will educate participants on the benefits of exercise/resistance training & misconceptions/myths; major muscle groups and movements & exercise; and resistance training progression & workout planning/design.

Throughout all points of the program, intentional activities will be implemented to foster inclusiveness, build community and psychological safety.

The program will present an opportunity to address current local health issues, positively impact the well-being of young women and build community.

The Board of Education will review the proposal.

Karissa Blamble
SFCSD School Counseling Plan

Karissa Blamble, Director of special Programs, was present to speak to the board regarding the School Counseling Plan.

NYSED amended the school counseling regulations in an effort to help increase opportunities for all students to be successful. School districts are required to have a school counseling plan. The requirement for schools to have a counseling plan was implemented in 2018. The plan is reviewed annually. Once Board approved, the plan is placed on the school district website for that school year.

Academic Development -implement strategies and activities to support and maximize each student's ability to learn.

Career Development - programs to provide the foundation for the acquisition of skills, attitudes and knowledge that enable students to make a successful transition from school to the world of work, and from job to job across the lifespan.

Personal/Social Development -programs to provide the foundation for personal and social growth as students' progress through school and into adulthood.

Public Comment

The Seneca Falls Board of Education welcomes public comment. Speakers may comment on matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than three (3) minutes. Public comments will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated. In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored.

Persons addressing the Board of Education during public comment should not expect to engage in discussion with the Board. The Board will not permit any comments involving specific individual personnel or students.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be referred to the Superintendent. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

Committee Reports
Audit Committee

James Bruni gave the report for the committee. The committee met on Monday, December 11, 2023. The Extra-Classroom Audit ending June 2023 had two findings. First, an employee was paid out of an extra classroom fund. It was recommended all payments of this nature made to employees be processed through payroll. In addition, the club that requested the services should reimburse the District for these costs.

The second finding was that there was not a separate set of books is not being maintained by the Student Treasurer. We recommend the Student Treasurer together with the Faculty Advisor maintain a separate set of books to be reconciled with those maintained by the Central Treasurer.

Facilities Committee

Michael Mirras reported that the committee had met on Monday, December 7, 2023. Arcadis Architects, land Surveyors gave a presentation on electric buses. Arcadis is doing a survey. There will be no cost to the district as the survey is paid for by a grant (NYSERDA). Alternate buses to start being purchased by 2027 with zero emissions fleet by 2035. The committee's recommendation is for the district to participate and move forward with the study.

Michael Mirras reported that the next meeting is December 20, 2023 with the engineers.

Health Insurance Committee

Matthew Lando reported that the committee had their first meeting of 2023-2024. Percentages are considered tentative based on a FLASHP gain or loss to be determined in February 2024. Currently there is an estimated \$5 million dollar increase in benefits for the 2024-2025 school year. Rally (rewards program for those enrolled in a health blue plan) will be phased out in 2024. A new platform that will be replacing it.

Scholarship Committee

Denise Lorenzetti reported that the committee met on December 7. The 2023 RMD is \$19,476. The 31 recipients of the Fredenburgh Scholarship will receive an additional one-time payment in December 2023 of \$630. The total additional amount to be disbursed is \$19,530, \$54 over the RMD. The Board will vote on this later on in the meeting.

Information Warrants

11/01/2023 -11/30/2023

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Warrant A (37) | \$ 45,587.76 |
| Warrant A (43) | \$789,996.22 |
| Warrant A (44) | \$ 10,730.00 |
| Warrant A (46) | \$689,704.57 |
| Warrant C (16) | \$ 819.21 |
| Warrant C (17) | \$ 5,772.47 |
| Warrant F (18) | \$ 4,302.00 |
| Warrant F (19) | \$ 11,428.78 |

Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported on the following:

The Capital Project referendum passed. There was a nice article in the Finger Lakes Times the next day. The newly formed Student Advisory Committee on December 12. The committee is comprised of juniors and seniors. The committee will meet monthly. Stephanie Mirras is the student liaison with the Board. Holiday break is next week for students 10 month employees.

Server work will be done by Edu-tech on December 27, 2023. 12 month employees will not have access to server or the internet.

Important Dates to Remember

December 19, 2023-Policy Committee Meeting

Dec. 22, 2023 – January 3, 2024-Winter Recess-10 month employees

Dec. 22, 2023, Dec. 25, 2023 and Jan. 1, 2024-12 month employees off

January 4, 2024 BOE Meeting

January 15, 2024-Martin Luther King Day

January 18, 2024- SF Middle School Roundtable

January 23-26, 2024-Regents Examinations

Consent Agenda

Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

SFEA Resignation

Extra-Curricular Position

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following

Extra-Curricular position resignation:

Name: Jordan Rector

Position: Musical Vocal Director

Effective: 12/11/2023

SFSSA-Retirement

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following

resignation for purposes of retirement, and grants them any and all applicable benefits per the current Seneca Falls Support Staff Association Collective Bargaining Agreement:

Name: Nancy Sweeney

Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide

Effective: 12/31/2023

Appointments

Professional Appointments

None at this time

2023-2024 Annual Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves following annual appointments for the 2023-2024 school year.

| Position | Employee | Stipend |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Extra-Curricular Treasurer | Nicholas Hebert | \$1,141.00 |
| Performing Arts Business Advisor | Nicholas Hebert | \$305.00 |
| HS. Musical Vocal Director | Mariah Schrader | \$658.00 |

Coaching Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following 2023-2024 coaching position(s)

| Sport/Position | Employee | Stipend |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Girls Basketball -Modified Coach | Nathan Rarick | \$2,211.99 |
| Girls Basketball –Non-Paid Assistant | Michael Miller | n/a |

Civil Service Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following civil service position(s) (All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared).

Name: Dyan Kenkel

Civil Service Position: Bus Driver Trainee

Effective: 12/14/2023

Probationary Period: n/a

Hours/day: n/a

Hourly Rate: \$21.00

Substitute Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following substitute position(s) (All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared).

Name: Gavin Rhinehart

Position: Substitute Teacher (Gr. K-8) and Teaching Assistant (Gr. K-8)

NYSED Certification: Uncertified

Effective: 12/15/2023

Name: Faith Rhinehart

Position: Substitute Teacher (Gr. K-5), Teaching Assistant (Gr. K-5) and Tutor (Gr. K-5)

NYSED Certification: Uncertified

Effective: 12/15/2023

Name: Michael Bogart

Position: Substitute Teacher (Gr. K-5)

NYSED Certification: Uncertified

Effective: 12/15/2023

Probationary to Permanent

None at this time.

CSE Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE minutes:

11/07/2023, 11/13/2023, 11/14/2023, 11/15/2023, 11/16/2023, 11/17/2023, 11/20//2023, 11/21/2023, 11/27/2023, 11/29/2023

Gifts and Donations
None at this time

Transportation Requests
None at this time

Extra-Classroom Account
MS Drama Club Account

Upon the recommendation of the Administrator of Business & Operations, the Board of Education approves creating a new extra-classroom account - MS (Middle School) Drama Club Account

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business
None at this time

New Business
Agreements and/or Contracts

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following contracts and/or agreements between the Seneca Falls Central School District and the presented:

Northeast College of Health Sciences Agreement (Principle of Human Anatomy & Physiology-4 Credit Course)

Crossroads Consulting Services Contract (Rising Star Leadership Development Process)

Youth Voices Center, Inc. Agreement (Power of Peace Program for students)

Family Counseling Service of the Finger Lakes, Inc. Agreement (On-Site Therapist-grant funded)

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Girls Lacrosse
Romulus CSD-2024

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to Whereas the Seneca Falls Central School District and Romulus Central School District have met to ascertain the advantages of combining sports teams; and

Whereas Seneca Falls Central School District and Romulus Central School District have agreed on terms for combining modified girls and varsity girls lacrosse;

Be it therefore resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve up to ten (10) Romulus students total participate in the district modified girls and varsity girl's lacrosse program;

Be it further resolved that the Seneca Falls Central School District will be the host school, following the Seneca Falls Central School District coach's salary schedule and coaches handbook; and

Be it further resolved, that the students from each district will follow their own schools' code of conduct; and

Be it further resolved, that all of the costs associated with the modified girls and varsity girls lacrosse program for the spring of 2024 (such as supplies, field maintenance, officials, salaries, and transportation) will be based on a percentage of the athletes that participate from Seneca Falls CSD and Romulus CSD, and will be billed to Romulus Central School District.

Michael Mirras made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Fredenburgh 2023 RMD
(Required Minimum Distribution)

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to Upon the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, the Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education approves the additional distribution of \$19,530.00 to meet the 2023 RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) for the Harry S. Fredenburgh Trust Fund.

Michael Mirras made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Course Approvals

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the following courses for 2024-2025 as listed:

| | | |
|--|--|---------------|
| <u>Biology Anatomy/Physiology (03053)</u> Science Depart. | Prerequisite: HS Biology 4 credits Northeast College Lab experiences at The Carl Lab NE College | Pd. By school |
|--|--|---------------|

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| <u>Introduction the Mental Health Fields</u> FACS Depart. | No prerequisite ½-year course 3 College Credits Nazareth University | Pd. By grant |
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| <u>Digital Media Production</u> Tech/Computer Science Depart. | Full year No prerequisite |
|--|------------------------------|

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|---|------------------------------|
| <u>Coding & Video Game Development</u> Tech/Computer Science Depart. | Full year No prerequisite |
|---|------------------------------|

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Michael Mirras.
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

2022-2023 Extra-Classroom Audit

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to accept the Extra-Classroom Audit and the corresponding Corrective Action Plan of the Seneca Falls Central School District for the year ended June 30, 2023, completed by Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co. LLP, as recommended by the Audit Committee.

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Budget Workshop
2024-2025 Initial Budget Assumptions
Dr. Reed and James Bruni

Dr. Reed and James Bruni reviewed with the Board the initial budget assumptions for the 2024-2025 school year.

Student Enrollment Projection-Using Survival Ratio calculations, the district is able to project potential trends. Enrollment is predicted to be 1131 students (in-district, removing UPK), a decrease of 14 students.
Employee salaries

Total employee benefits (health insurance, dental insurance, FICA/Social Security and retirements systems) -expected to increase 10.2%.

BOCES services –expected increase of 5%.Utilities-Expected increase of 12%.

Insurance (comprehensive and cyber)-expected increase of 7%.

Debt Service- no increase due to a bond that will be paid off (8.6% decrease).

Cumulative Budget Appropriation Changes-\$490,160.

Executive Session
Confidential Agreement

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:40 pm to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk

The regular meeting resumed at 7:47 pm

Adjourn

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Joseph McNamara