

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: January 16, 2024

Kind of Meeting: Budget Workshop & Regular

Presiding Officer: Mr. Nicotera, President called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Members Present: Anthony Nicotera, Judy Kentile, Cathy Pumilia, and Mike Sacco.

Members Absent: Patricia Collins, Ronald Critelli, and Lynn Weibel.

Administration Present: David Stayton, Superintendent
Charles Cowen, Business Administration

Others Present: Staff & community members signed in.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Budget Presentation(s): Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator reviewed the budget and options of how it would help the budget with an increase to the tax levy. The board members had mixed opinions. They all agreed that the expenses need to be reviewed line by line as it will be hard to present a 5.5% increase to the residents. Budget presentations and discussions will continue over the next several meetings.

Presentation: BOCES – Dr. Kilburn presented folders containing information on the programs and services that BOCES Educational Cooperative has to offer. These services and programs are at a rate whereby schools will get money back from the state. Dr. Kilburn invited everyone to several upcoming scheduled meetings such as the CTE and P-TECH open house on March 13 and BOCES' annual meeting on April 3rd. At the annual meeting, BOCES' budget will be discussed. She went on describing the connection BOCES has with Mohawk Valley Community College and what they have to offer to the students even those with disabilities. A topic of concern within the region is mental health. BOCES has expanded and is looking into how to help those in need. The goal is to support children and families in the schools in various ways so the students can go on to college or vocational jobs. Dr. Kilburn thanked everyone for their time. Mr. Nicotera thanked her.

Sub-Committee Reports –

Mr. Stayton reported:

- Facilities and Transportation has a February 6th meeting scheduled for 5 p.m.
- Curriculum and Instruction had a meeting on January 9th. All three principals, Tracy Facchini and Michele Babbie attended to discuss the Science of Reading, DIBELS, 3-8 assessments and the book Grading for Equity. Two principals were unable to attend tonight due to The Science of Reading workshop in the other end of the

building. Grading for Equity was discussed and the book was given to those board members who were interested in reading it.

- School Board Institute has meeting next week, January 25 at 6:30 p.m.
- Policy Committee is scheduled to meet January 30 at 5:30 p.m. right before the next board meeting.

Superintendent's Report

- The updated 2023-2024 SBI calendar was placed at each board member's seat.
- Josh from BOCES has taken measurements for banners and window decals. The Red Hawk mascot PR will include a new website containing a video created by BOCES and a news release to local media. This is all scheduled to be launched on February 1, 2024.
- Upcoming events: On January 17, Waterville Central School will be hosting a community presentation about vaping and other tobacco products. Parents and students were invited to attend. Sauquoit Valley is hosting an assembly on February 1 in the high school. The speaker is a female who lost her father from a distracted driver.

Old Business – There was none.

New Business - Mr. Nicotera stated that action 7.1 to 7.13 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.

Mr. Stayton took a moment to comment on Beth Thomas who will be retiring in the fall. She will be a great loss to the elementary school. We are very happy for her but sad to see her go. She is an anchor in the elementary teaching staff. She has touched many students.

Mr. Stayton reiterated what Mrs. Pirger stated about getting volunteers. At the end of this school year all the officers of the Sports Boosters will be retiring. Mrs. Kidder offered to be secretary and we need volunteers for that organization. If anyone is interested, please let him or the athletic department know.

Mr. Nicotera also commented on Mrs. Thomas' great impact she has shown to many students and how it is greatly appreciated. He then asked a question on why a bus driver/laborer resigned, if he was leaving for another district. Mr. Stayton answered, no it was for a better paying job.

Resolution No. 48: made by Mrs. Pumilia, and seconded by Ms. Kentile,

- to accept the resignation of Pablo Agosto Medina, school bus driver/laborer, effective January 22, 2024.
- 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 Stephen Christensen to the position of School Bus Attendant effective January 17, 2024. Pending fingerprint clearance.

- to accept Darlene Hutchinson's resignation as SADD advisor effective November 21, 2023.
- that the following people be appointed to athletic coaching positions for the spring 2023-24 school year contingent upon student athlete participation in each sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.

NAME	SPORT
Kory Lewandrowski	Varsity Baseball
Chris Hillman	Asst. Varsity Baseball Coach
Doug Jones	Modified Baseball
Fredric Orsino	Varsity Softball
Amanda Orsino	Asst. Varsity Softball Coach
Nicole Becker	Modified Softball
Scott Smith	Boys Varsity Tennis
Scott Prichard	Boys Varsity Track
John Nicotera	Girls Varsity Track
Brad Dunlay	Asst. Varsity Track for both boys & girls
Scot Alsante	Modified Boys Track
Gianna Giruzzi	Modified Girls Track
Chris Bradbury	Volunteer Modified Basketball
Ben LoGalbo	Volunteer Modified Basketball

- RESOLVE, to approve the retirement of Beth Thomas as an elementary teacher, with regret, effective September 21, 2024.
- to accept the Appendix 1 as written to be added to the policy on Workplace Violence Prevention

Appendix 1

January 16, 2024

Workplace Violence Prevention Policy Statement

The Sauquoit Valley Central School District is committed to the safety and security of our employees. Workplace violence presents a serious occupational safety hazard to our agency, staff, and clients.

Workplace Violence is defined as any physical assault or act of aggressive behavior occurring where a public employee performs any work-related duty in the course of his or her employment including but not limited to an attempt or threat, whether verbal or physical, to inflict physical injury upon an employee; any intentional display of force which would give an employee reason to fear or expect bodily harm; intentional and wrongful physical contact with a person without his or her consent that entails some injury; or stalking an employee with the intent of causing fear of material harm to the physical safety and health of such employee when such stalking has arisen through and in the course of employment.

Acts of violence against any of our employees where any work related duty is performed will be thoroughly investigated and appropriate action will be taken, including involving law enforcement authorities when warranted. All employees are responsible for helping to create an environment of mutual respect for each other as well as clients and visitors, following all policies, procedures and practices, and for assisting in maintaining a safe and secure work environment.

This policy is designed to meet the requirements of New York State Labor Law Art. 2 §27-b and highlights some of the elements that are found within our Workplace Violence Prevention Program. The process involved in complying with this law includes a workplace evaluation that is designed to identify the risks of workplace violence to which our employees could be exposed. Authorized Employee Representative(s) will, at a minimum, be involved in:

- evaluating the physical environment;
- developing the Workplace Violence Prevention Program; and
- reviewing workplace violence incident reports at least annually to identify trends in the types of incidents reported, if any, and reviewing the effectiveness of the mitigating actions taken.

All employees will participate in the annual Workplace Violence Prevention Training Program. The goal of this policy is to promote the safety and well-being of all people in our workplace. All incidents of violence or threatening behavior will be responded to immediately upon notification. All personnel are responsible for notifying the contact person designated below of any violent incidents, threatening behavior, including threats they have witnessed, received, or have been told that another person has witnessed or received.

Designated Contact: David Stayton
Title: Superintendent
Phone: 315-839-6311
E-mail: dstayton@svcsd.org

Designated Contact: Mark Putnam
Title: Elementary School Principal
Phone: 315-839-6339
E-mail: mputnam@svcsd.org

- BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Sauquoit Valley Sports Boosters in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the purpose of purchasing uniforms and other items for the athletic programs and also authorizes a budget modification to increase account code A2855.504-00 in the amount of \$2,500.00 to allow for the purchase of such items.
- BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education authorize the donation of school property, automobile with VIN 1FDFE45PX9DA82197, to the Clayville Fire Department at no cost.
- that the quarterly extra-classroom activity report from the high school and middle school be approved as presented.
- that the Treasurer's Reports of Balances be approved as presented.

- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor signed January 4, 2024.
- that minutes of January 2, 2024 meeting be approved.
- 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 1401456, 1401427, 1401793, 1401729, and 1400624 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education and by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education.

Carried: **Ayes 4, and Nays 0.**

Miscellaneous Topics: Mr. Sacco Red hawk mascot costume something we can look at for the fall.

Public to Be Heard: There was no one.

Executive Session: There was none.

Ticket was drawn for a winner for attending the meeting.

Mr. Nicotera expressed his gratitude to everyone for giving input on the budget during the presentation. He would like everyone to know (those in attendance) are welcome to comment on the budget. It would be good for the board members to hear how they feel and hear other views and perspectives.

Resolution No. 49: made by Mr. Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Pumilia, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Carried: **Ayes 4, and Nays 0.**

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Goodman
District Clerk