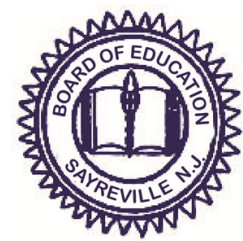




Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

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Mr. David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Talk Sup Week 22 Review and Preview

February 12, 2024

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that **next Monday, February 19th, our schools will be closed** in observance of Presidents' Day.

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday,



January 23rd, here is what you missed. Sean Burns from Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) began the meeting by providing his respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Report. Next, Mrs. Bloom expressed her opening remarks, as did Mrs. Napolitano. During the presentation portion of the meeting, the Board

resumed publicly reviewing and discussing the 2024-25 School District Budget with the following budget presentations: [Special Education](#) and [Athletics](#). To see each presentations, click on them. To see all the information pertaining to the development of the 2024-25 School District Budget, click [here](#).



The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click [here](#). To see the Agenda Addendum, click [here](#). To see all attachments, click [here](#). To view the video of the meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE accepted a generous donation of a keyboard, stand, and case from the Brandon Tyler Narleski Charitable Foundation to the Bombers Beyond Program, valued at \$719.77. It also approved an amendment to the American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY II) Grant application in the amount of \$28,208, which includes supplemental funding in the amount of \$1,395. In addition, the Board rejected all bids received in response to a bid opening held on January 25, 2024, for the Window Replacements at Multiple Schools, due to an error in the bid specifications. Lastly the Board of Education awarded the bid for HVAC Upgrades at the Samsel Upper Elementary School and Sayreville Middle School to Preferred Mechanical, Inc. as the lowest responsible bidder for bids opened on February 1, 2024, in the total amount of \$26,319,000, to be paid for using funds from the Bond Referendum.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved new courses, as well as course title changes at SWMHS for the 2024-2025 school year. Likewise, it approved a new Grades 9-12 American sign Language 1 Curriculum Guide. Click [here](#) to review it. In addition, the BOE approved the Camp XL Extended School Year Integrated Summer Program and the Learning Acceleration Extended School Year Summer Program at the Samsel Upper Elementary School and Selover School from July 1, 2024, through August 1, 2024. The program will run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday during the first week, and Monday through Thursday during the remaining weeks.

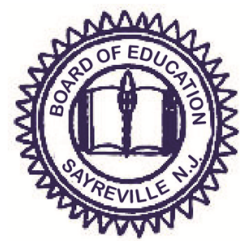
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On the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved revisions to BOE Policy P 8454 Management of Pediculosis for a second reading and adoption. Click [here](#) to read it. The BOE also approved the submission of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for school year 2023-2024 and the creation of a Law Enforcement Unit as an addendum to the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, as provided under FERPA (Family Education Rights Privacy Act), pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(4)(ii) and 34 C.F.R. 99.8.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. In addition, it approved a sidebar agreement with the Teamsters Local 469 regarding salary adjustments, due to contract anomalies for the 2023-24 school year.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a resident asked a question about the increase in legal fees and inquired whether they were related to the lawsuit involving the construction of the transportation complex filed by the district against the Borough. The same resident asked if the district has received any savings from the solar power purchase projects and inquired about the status of the bond referendum debt service aid. Finally, he asked if the district was considering and/or pursuing alternate locations for the transportation complex.

During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mr. Callahan reviewed what was discussed during the last Student Achievement Committee Meeting, as did Mrs. Napolitano for the last Governance Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association.

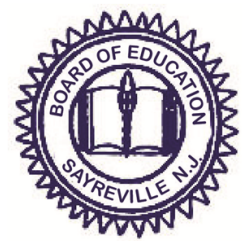
The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday, February 20th at 6:30 pm in the SUES Board Room**. During this meeting, the Board will resume publicly reviewing and discussing the 2023-24 School District Budget with the following budget presentations: Buildings & Grounds, Capital Projects, and Transportation. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **February 16th**. A complete copy of the **February 6th Business Meeting** minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **February 20, 2024**.



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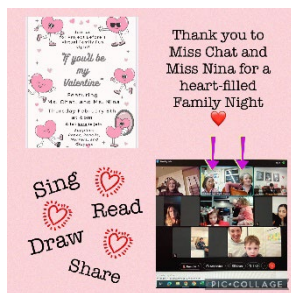


fractions by participating in a hands-on activity using Hershey Bars. The best part was when they got to eat the bars. The students and staff also had a ton of fun showing their support for their favorite sports team during Jersey Day. Finally, the faculty and staff recognized and rewarded the students who most represented the character education pillar of Responsibility during the Character Café.

Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive and fun week of learning last week. At the upper elementary school, staff, students and their families were a glow during the PTO Family Paint Night. Later in the week, Dr. Labbe stopped by to discuss the Let the Children



Lead program with the 5th grade students. If you were not aware, the Let the Children Lead program is when the 5th grade students represent board of education members and administrators during a BOE meeting and actually vote on and approve real motions. This year they will be doing so on April 2nd. In addition, students in Ms. Katz's and Mrs. O'Neill's classes were introduced to



In Project Before at the Cheesequake School, students and their families had a blast during the February Virtual Family Night. At the Selover School, students had an amazing time making new friends during Buddy Day. At the

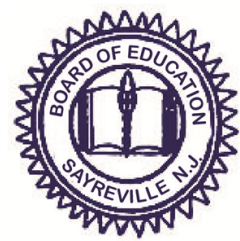


Eisenhower School, staff, students, and their families had a great time during Family Fun Night. Also with 298 soup cans collected, the most ever in school history, the staff and students demonstrated that they think the Chiefs will win the Super Bowl on Sunday.



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At the high school, students in National Art Honor Society got together after school to create Valentine's Day cards for local Senior Citizens. A lot of thought and care were put into each creation. The students had the opportunity to use art to express love and kindness to important members of their community. In addition, students in Mrs. Boyd's Statistics class explored the theoretical v.

experimental probability of Super Bowl Boxes and determined that 0, 7

and 3 have the highest chances of occurring in the big game. They then constructed paper footballs to run a simulation to predict the outcome for the game. Students in Mrs. Lascala's Ceramics class also had a blast using the ceramic wheel for the first time this semester. Lastly, a Monmouth University professor joined Ms. Sacs, school counselor, and Sayreville Police Officer Teeter in presenting the profound dangers of vaping to 10th, 11th, and 12th grades students.



This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We begin by commending and congratulating the members of the SWMHS Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) Club who recently competed in and placed at the New Jersey HOSA Southern Regional Conference Competition.

- 3rd Place (**will move on to NJ State HOSA Conference Competition**) Yana Krishnan Balgopal – Writing-Health Policy
- 8th Place: Dev Shah – Cultural Diversities and Disparities
- 8th Place: Erica Thu – Behavioral Health
- 8th Place: Laury Estefont – Job Seeking Skills
- 8th Place: Meredith Mendoza-Hernandez and Gillian Alarcon – 1CPR/First Aid



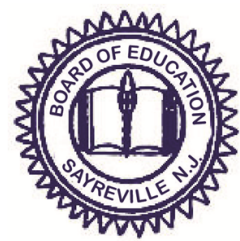
We also congratulate the following SWMHS student athletes who recently committed to study and continue competing athletically in college: Giana Gittlitz, Jillian Bourbeau, Connor Walsh, Jamaya Mayers, and Crystal Margotta. Gianna will continue to play lacrosse at Fairleigh Dickinson University Madison, Jillian will play field hockey at Kean University, Connor will play football at East Stroudsburg University, Jamaya will bowl at Morgan State University, and Crystal will compete in Track and Field Felician University. Additionally, we commend and thank the very

generous staff members of the district who recently donated \$1,050 to a sick staff member. Likewise, we commend and thank Dr. Aguiles, Ms. Leber, and Ms. Murphy, along with the entire District Culture and Climate Committee, for facilitating the collection of the money through Dollar for Denim Days.



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Where Are They Now

February 2024

Compliments of the “Where Are They Now” Committee at the high school, we commend SWMHS Class of 2017 graduate Julia Glace, who attended Rutgers University after graduating from SWMHS before heading to Boston University’s School of Medicine. She acquired her MS in Medical

Sciences, and is now continuing at Boston University in the MD program. Next, Julia will be pursuing a surgical subspecialty residency upon graduation. She sits on the Governing Board for the Spinal Leak CSF Leak Foundation Patient Registry, as well as their Patient Advisory Panel for Research. Julia also teaches Anatomy for an after-school program at a local high school, volunteers at a clinic for adolescent parents, and enjoys hiking with her dog through New England. We also commend SWMHS Class of 2010 graduate Amber Danku. Amber serves as Assistant Director for Student Basic Needs at Rutgers University after having held internships at Emerson College, Tennessee Technological University, and Dartmouth College. She also worked for seven years at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) and presented research and programming regionally and nationally for the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and the Association of College Unions International. Her work has her helping college students facing crises and helping to manage basic needs programs on campus. Most recently, she is a co-adjutant teaching a First-Year Fellowship course, which focuses on teaching leadership skills. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville an impeccable manner. They Rock!

Amber Danku, 2010

Rutgers University, MA in English Communications, Certificate in Creative Writing
Salem State University, M.Ed Higher Education in Student Affairs

Amber serves as Assistant Director for Student Basic Needs at Rutgers University after having held internships at Emerson College, Tennessee Technological University, and Dartmouth College. She also worked for seven years at NJIT and presented research and programming regionally and nationally for the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and the Association of College Unions International. Her work has her helping college students facing crises and helping to manage basic needs programs on campus. Most recently, she is a co-adjutant teaching a First-Year Fellowship course, focusing on teaching leadership skills.



Julia Glace, 2017

Rutgers University, BS in Exercise Science
Boston University School of Medicine, MS in Medical Sciences, Currently in MD Program

Julia attended Rutgers University after graduating from SWMHS before heading to Boston University’s School of Medicine. She acquired her MS in Med. Sciences, and is now continuing at Boston University in the MD program. Next, Julia will be pursuing a surgical subspecialty residency upon graduation. She sits on the Governing Board for the Spinal Leak CSF Leak Foundation Patient Registry, as well as their Patient Advisory Panel for Research. Julia also teaches anatomy for an after-school program at a local high school, volunteers at a clinic for adolescent parents, and enjoys hiking with her dog through New England.



In athletics, the SWMHS Competition Cheer Team won First Place in the Game Day division and 2nd Place in the Mega Varsity All-Music division at the Impact Cheer and Dance Competition. In addition, last week the SWMHS Boys Basketball Team defeated South Brunswick High School in the first round of the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Tournament to notch its 15th victory of the season. Win or lose, all our amazing student athletes continued to compete fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and



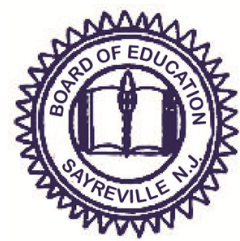
sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their coaches for their hard work, dedication, and the way they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules by visiting the Athletics page of our website or by clicking [here](#).

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As per the [2023-24 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, there will be Board of Education Business Meeting on Tuesday, February 20th in the SUES Board Room at 7:30 pm. Please remember that **our schools will be closed on February 19th** in observance of Presidents' Day.

On January 29, 2024, the district officially opened registration for our **free Full-Day Project Before Preschool and Kindergarten Programs**. Therefore, parents of ALL eligible (**must be 3 for preschool and 5 for kindergarten by September 30, 2024**) preschool and kindergarten students are invited to visit our website in order to register via **Oncourse Connect**, our online registration software. The link to student registration will be clearly identified on our district website homepage (www.sayrevillek12.net) as "[Student Registration](#)". Once on this registration page, you can obtain pertinent information regarding the registration of all students including preschool and kindergarten students, and you can begin completing the online registration application by clicking on one of the following links noted in the [2024-2025 Project Before and Kindergarten](#) drop down menu: [New Student Registration Link](#) or [Returning Student Registration Link](#).

If you or you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click [here](#) and submit an inquiry with **School Revenue Partners**. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our **buses**, click [here](#).

Have a great day and wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe