

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
February 1, 2024 BOE Meeting- 6:00 PM  
Robert McKeveny Training Room

BOE Present

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

BOE Absent

Denise Lorenzetti and Heather Zellers

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni, Jodie Verkey and Stephanie Mirras.

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 with addendums as listed.

ADD under X. Consent Agenda

A. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

2. SFSSA Resignation

a. Name: Lora Bennett

Position: Typist

Effective: the end of the day on 01/30/2024

B. Appointments

1. Substitute Appointments

a. Name: Lora Bennett

Position: Substitute Typist

Effective: 01/31/2024

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend

Board of Education Minutes

January 18, 2024

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated January 18, 2024

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Report

December 2023

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report of December 2023

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report

None at this time

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

Stephanie Mirras-Student Liaison

Stephanie Mirras has attended school in the Seneca Falls Central School District since Kindergarten.

Stephanie is a varsity athlete who participates in volleyball (both district and travel) and softball. Stephanie is the Treasurer and Stage manager for the Drama Club. Stephanie is the Treasurer for the Class of 2024, is on Student council and is the first student liaison at Mynderse Academy.

Two other student liaisons who could not make the meeting are Tulsi Trivedi and Joseph Campese-Fowler, who are both seniors as well.

Tulsi Trivedi is the Student Council Vice-President. She is a member of the Yearbook Club, Sources of Strength and the Seneca Green Club. Tulsi has 300 hours of community service. Tulsi loves to travel.

Joseph Campese-Fowler has always been in Seneca Falls. He loves Mynderse Academy and wants to build it into a better school before he leaves (graduates).

#### 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 Policy Committee

Cara Lajewski reported that the committee has met on January 29, 2024:

- There will be a one and only reading of the new POLICY-8130.2-Workplace Violence Prevention, so the district will be in compliance by Feb. 3, 2024.
- The committee reviewed Regulation 1500.1-Use of Facilities-Fitness Center. Regulations do not have to be approved by the Board. The regulation was revised to allow more opportunities and programs for students in the fitness center.
- Policies that will continue to be reviewed are Therapy dogs, Videoconferencing of Board meetings and Artificial Intelligence (the committee is waiting for information from BOCES on this policy).

#### Information Warrants

##### 01/01/2024-01/31/2024

Warrant A (55)	\$ 6,564.52
Warrant A (56)	\$ 22,031.33
Warrant A (59)	\$ 34,339.40
Warrant C (22)	\$ 15.72
Warrant F (24)	\$233,457.98
Warrant F (25)	\$ 19,197.50

#### Business Administrator

James Bruni reported on the following:

- Draft 1 of the tax cap would be reviewed during the budget work session.
- The upcoming school year's health insurance rates are expected next week. As of now, 19% is being budgeted for next year with the hope that the rates are lower than anticipated.

#### Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported on the following:

- The new Workplace Violence Prevention policy is on the agenda as stated by Cara Lajewski. Training for employees will be completed by May 2024 to be in compliance. Board members are also required to complete the training. The District will be creating the training using a template from the state.
- The Superintendent attended the presentation "Power of Peace" by Michael Arterberry. The purpose of his program is to cultivate a culture of empathy. There has been positive feedback from the students who are participating in his workshops. Mr. Arterberry provides other options for students who are dealing with conflict. The goal is to keep the momentum going.
- Candidate packets for the upcoming 2024 election are on the table outside the district office.

Important Dates to Remember

February 2, 2024-Virtual Capital Conference  
February 7, 2024-NYSSBA Lobby Day (Albany) for 2024  
February 15, 2024-BOE Meeting/MA Roundtable (at Mynderse Academy)  
February 19-23, 2024-Presidents Week Recess  
February 26, 2024-4 County SBA Professional Development Dinner (Club 86)  
March 22, 2024-4 County SBA 2nd Annual Spring Conference

Consent Agenda  
Retirements/Resignations/Terminations  
SFEA

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following instructional resignation for the purpose of retirement, and to grant them any and all applicable benefits per the current Seneca Falls Educator's Association Collective Bargaining Agreement:

Name: Deborah Mead  
Position: Kindergarten Teacher  
Effective: the end of the day on 06/30/2024

SFSSA

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following non-instructional resignation:

Name: Lora Bennett  
Position: Typist  
Effective: the end of the day on 01/30/2024

Appointments  
Professional Appointments  
None at this time.

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: Kyle Dawley  
Civil Service Position: Custodian  
Effective: 02/02/2024  
Probationary Period: 02/02/2024-08/02/2024  
Hours/day: 8  
Hourly Rate: \$17.27

Substitute Appointments

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

Name: Mark Lenzi  
Position: Substitute Teaching Assistant  
NYS Certification: Special Ed. K-12, Elem. Educ. N-6, General Science 7-12, Biology 7-12 (Permanent Certification)  
Effective: 02/02/2024

Name: Lora Bennett  
Position: Substitute Typist  
Effective: 01/31/2024

Probationary to Permanent

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education hereby approves the following probationary to permanent appointment.

Employee	Position	Permanent Effective Date
Lisa Lawler	Typist	02/17/2024

#### CSE Minutes

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

12/19/2023, 01/02/2024, 01/03/2024, 01/04/2024, 01/05/2024, 01/08/2024 (1), 01/08/2024 (2), 01/09/2024 (1), 01/09/2024 (2), 01/10/2024, 01/11/2024 (1), 01/11/2024 (2), 01/12/2024 (1), 01/12/2024 (2)

#### Gifts and Donations

None at this time

#### Transportation Requests

None at this time

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

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Michael Mirras.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

#### Old Business

None at this time

#### New Business

##### Change Board of Education Meeting Date

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve moving the March 7, 2024 board meeting to Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

##### 2024-2025 School Year Budget Vote

##### Date, Time and Location of Public Hearing

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve that the public hearing for the 2024-2025 Budget that will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2024 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Operations Center.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Michael Mirras.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

##### Annual Budget Vote on May 21, 2024

##### Time and Location

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following location and time for the Annual Budget vote that will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024:

Operations Center

2 Butler Avenue

Seneca Falls, NY

Noon to 8:00 p.m.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

#### Modified Boys Lacrosse

##### Romulus CSD 2024

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion 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 boys lacrosse;

Be it therefore resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve up to five (5) Romulus students total participate in the district modified boy'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 boys 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.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Policy-1<sup>st</sup> & Only Reading

Policy 8130.2 -Workplace Violence Prevention

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the 1<sup>st</sup> and only reading of the following policy:

Policy 8130.2 -Workplace Violence Prevention

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Budget Workshop

Dr. Michelle Reed and James Bruni

The following items were reviewed:

Anticipated 2024 -2025 Revenues

- NY State Aid: \$20,893,937 (55.8%)
- State Aid Categories
  - 66% Foundation Aid (Operating Funds)
  - 11% Building Aid ❖ 8% \*BOCES Aid
  - 9% Transportation Aid (expense driven)
  - 5% High Cost/Private Aid (expense driven)
  - 1% Software/Library/Textbook (expense driven)
- Tax Levy: \$14,403,097 (38.2%)
- Misc.: \$ 1,860,138 (2.09%)
- Total anticipated revenues: \$37,157,172

The current 2024-2025 Foundation Aid proposal per the current law is \$14,013,503 and the 2024-2025 Governor's proposal is \$13,828,931-a difference of (\$184,572).

The final review of the Governor's State Aid Proposal will be discussed at the February 15, 2024 Board of Education meeting as well as approval of the tax levy limit. The state requires tax levy cap by March 1, 2024.

Executive Session

None at this time

Adjourn

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm.

Michael Mirras made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried