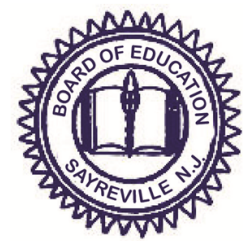




Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

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

Talk Sup Week 24 Review and Preview

February 26, 2024

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you are having a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that **next Monday, March 4th**, we will **dismiss students early** so that our staff can participate in professional development.

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, February 20th, here is what you missed. Ashten Poandl from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing his Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Report. Next, Mrs. Bloom expressed her opening remarks, as did Mrs. Napolitano, who also shared a few district highlights. 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: [Buildings & Grounds](#), [Capital Projects](#), and [Transportation](#). 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 approved the submission of the FY24 Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the NJSLs through Interdisciplinary Learning and Community Resilience Projects Grant. It is a competitive grant with the maximum funding amount of \$31,875.00. This grant would provide Sayreville the opportunity to expand high quality, standards-based climate change education for students in Grades 6-8 with a primary focus on Grade 7 in Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and English Language.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved the Middle School Credit Completion Summer School program, in which classes will begin on Monday, July 1, 2024 and end on Thursday, August 8, 2024. On the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the 2025-26 School District Calendar Click [here](#) to review it.

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. It also appointed paid coaches with their stipends, as well as volunteer coaches for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.

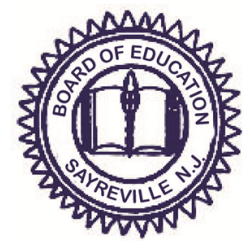
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During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mr. Smith reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mrs. Pieloch for the last Personnel Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association. Finally, Mr. Fernandadez updated the Board on news about the South Amboy and Sayreville Rotary Club.

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday, March 5th 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: Technology and Personnel. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **March 1st**. A complete copy of the February 20th 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 **March 5, 2024**.

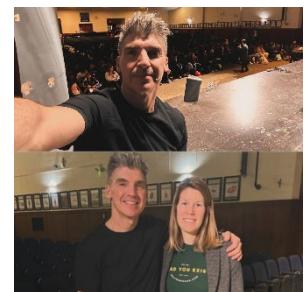


Last week, the Bombers Unified March Madness Basketball Tournament began with the Arleth game on Tuesday. On Thursday, the SWMHS team traveled to Perth Amboy High School to play their unified basketball team. The Sayreville Middle School (SMS) Team will play on March 14th while the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) Team will play on March 19th. During both games this past week, spectators were once again inspired to watch our students with pervasive developmental and intellectual disabilities compete with and against their typically developing peers.

Moreover, everyone was moved to see the sportsmanship, comradery, and friendship between our student athletes, which undoubtedly evolved during the process of practicing and preparing for the tournament together. Additionally, spectators were overwhelmed with joy to witness the amount of staff members, parents, and students who came out to assist and support these incredible student athletes. In fact, throughout both games, a tremendous number of people attended the games to support and cheer on all the student athletes. Thus, we thank and commend Ms. Carkeek and all the Bombers Unified Sports advisors and coaches, as well as other staff and students who made these and the upcoming games so special for all our student athletes who participated. Go Bombers Unified!



Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive and fun week of learning last week. As briefly mentioned last week, the SWMHS Black Student Union (BSU) hosted its first African American Art Gala in the Media Center to celebrate Black History Month. The event featured readings, poetry, speeches, and artwork. Kwabena Adjei, Co-President and organizer of the event opened with an introduction to the African American experience and the need for artistic expression. The warm welcome was followed by poetry readings



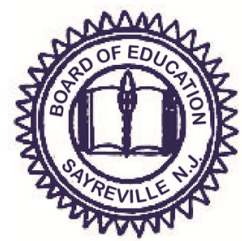
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from fellow students and ended with refreshments and a walk-through of sculptures, drawings, and paintings from students and local artists. We and the BSU thank Ms. Abdullah, Ms. Conry, Ms. Swanson, Ms. Mojzsis, and Ms. Chupka for all they did to make the event a success and special experience for all in attendance. In addition, with the help of Ms. Sacs, School Counselor, 11th grade students were treated to an assembly entitled



DIRT by John Morrello. This was a one-man theatrical presentation that was funny and deep all at once and covered an array of teenage issues. Some students also participated in travel training and learned about New Jersey Transit and its schedules. Additionally, students in the National Art Honor Society had a lot of fun making Valentine's Day cards for Sayreville Senior Citizens. Lastly, the Harlem Wizards visited the high school to meet and chat with students before the big Faculty v. Harlem Wizards Game next week.



At the middle school, students in the Career Club went on their first field trip to the East Brunswick Magnet School. They were exposed to a variety of career shops and had the unique opportunity to shadow a high school student. Likewise, since the club theme for January and February was careers in civics and government, Sergeant Tamahine Rivera from the New Jersey State Parole Board was the guest speaker during a recent meeting. In addition,

students continued to practice and prepare for the big Unified Sports Basketball Game on March 14th.



In Project Before at the Selover School, students and staff kicked off the Week of Kindness. At Garden and Friends, our preschoolers learned how to take care of their patients during their new Hospital creative play theme. At the Truman School, 455 "Caught Being Kind" cards were distributed during Kindness week when a student was "caught" being

kind. Last week, 20 of those students won a "Kindness raffle" to eat breakfast with Ms. Goodman, Truman School Counselor. The students had a great time and were able to share some of the kind acts they had performed.

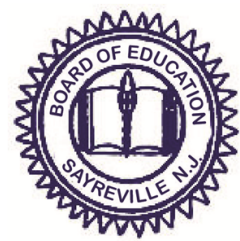


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This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We congratulate and commend SWMHS student musician Richard Kuzma who performed magnificently during last weekend's All-State Band Concert. Next, we commend and congratulate SWMHS Academic Competition Teams B and C for tying for 3rd Place in the recent Rowan University Quiz Bowl. Team B consisted of Rohit Gummadi, Alina Le, Sophia Lin, Colby Cheng, and Khadijah Mir; while Team C consisted of Dev Shah, Shaili Modi, Aanvi Talati, Marissa Mandola, and Reya Patel. Marissa Mandola was the top scorer out of the entire tournament, winning First Place in the individuals. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, the following wrestlers from the SWMHS Wrestling Team placed in the recent Region 5 Tournament: Connor Walsh (3rd Place), CJ McCrea (6th Place), and Bryce Bouchard, Robert Fritz, Sean Sylvester, Michael Zaunczkowski (8th Place). Connor will advance to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Championship Tournament in Atlantic City next week. In addition the SWMHS Competition Cheer Team took 3rd Place in

the New Jersey Cheer and Dance Coaches Association Competition. The SMS Cheer Team won 1st Place in the All-Music Division. 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](#).



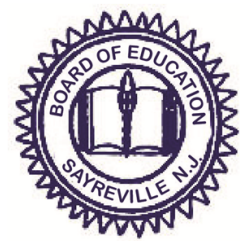
As per the [2023-24 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, there will be **BOE Business Meetings** on **Tuesday, March 5th**, **Tuesday, March 19th**, and **Tuesday, April 2nd**. Please also remember that **next Monday, March 4th**, we will **dismiss students early** so that our staff can participate in professional development. Please also note that **3rd Marking Period Progress Reports** for students in grades **6-12** will be issued on **March 5th**. Likewise, the **2nd Trimester** for students in grades **K-5** will end on **March 14th** and **Reports Cards** will be issued and viewable in Oncourse Connect on **March 21st**. Finally, please remember that **our schools will be closed** for spring recess from **March 25th through March 29th**.

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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.savrevillek12.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