

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
February 15, 2024 BOE Meeting/Mynderse Academy Roundtable- 6:00 PM
Mynderse Academy, 105 Troy Street
Cafeteria

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, Faith Lewis, Dr. Breana Mullen, Matthew Bienvenue, Deena Swenson, Jarred Federman, Kelly Ward, Anna Luisi, Students: Tulsi Trivedi, Jacob Prayne, Madelyn Barg, Ryan McGuire, Breana Brigham, Joe Campese, and Nevaeh Andrews.

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 with the following addendums:

ADD Under X. Consent Agenda

A. Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

1. SFEA

a. Name: Mariah Gaither

Position: Science Teacher

Effective: the end of the day on 06/30/2024

3. Civil Service Appointments

Revised start date for Nicole Westfall-Effective 02/26/2024

ADD under XII. New Business

C. Women & Strength Training Program Contract-Judy Wentzel

Denise Lorenzetti made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend

Board of Education Minutes

February 1, 2024

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated February 1, 2024

Deborah Corsner made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Report

Not at this time

Extra-Curricular Treasurer Report

Not at this time

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

Mynderse Academy Roundtable

Chamber Singers, Drama Club and Jazz Band

The Board of Education viewed a sample of the upcoming musical "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" in the auditorium along with everyone else in attendance at the meeting.

Top of the Trade

The following students achieved "Top of the Trade" recognition in their programs at FLTCC:

- Tulsi Trivedi –Cosmetology.
 - Tulsi was present at the meeting to tell the Board about her experience as a Cosmetologist student. Some of the things she has learned are haircuts, hairstyles, waxing, how to do

lashes and nails. One thousand hours are required for this course. It is a very hands on program. Summer school is available for those to have to meet their 1000 hours.

- Jacob Prayne-Health Therapy
- Madelyn Barg-Emergency Services
- Ryan McGuire-Health Therapy
- Breana Brigham-Culinary Arts
 - Breanna was present to share with the Board her experience as a Culinary Arts student. Some of the things Breanna has learned are how to make are homemade pasta; homemade stocks; homemade soups; different cooking methods; homemade sauces; chocolate making and baking. Breanna has learned how to use commercial equipment. She has also learned about sales and catering.
- Marcus Martin-Electrical Trades
- Jeremiah Fils-Electrical Trades

Credit Recovery

Kelly Ward was present to discuss credit recovery. Credit recovery is about building trust between the student and teacher and even student and student. Credit recovery is successful because it is understood that change takes time. Credit recovery is personalized to each individual student (the way work is approached; how things are explained; and how progress is measured).

Physical Education

William Page, PE teacher, was present to share what the students have been doing in physical education. This year students have unit choices. Some of the things the students have done been able to choose from are Geocaching & Ultimate; Tennis & NTTS (Non-traditional team sports); Basketball & Weight Room 1; Pickleball & Weight Room 2 and Ping Pong and Guided Meditation. Students are currently doing volleyball. Joe Campese and Matt Bogart discussed with the Board their experience with unit choices. Joe and Matt both stated that unit choices took students out of their comfort zones. Students were able to learn new things.

Power of Peace

Stacey Bogart and Jared Federman were present to discuss the “Power of Peace” experience along with students, Joe Campese and Nevaeh Andrews.

- General school assembly with Mike Arterberry where he shared his own personal story, which is the inspiration for his program.
- “Mighty Mike” facilitated two separate groups of students for a two-day session. Mike Arterberry is scheduled to return to share his story and facilitate two more groups of students over the next several weeks.
- Groups included teachers and counselors alongside of students where participants were able to discover shared experiences, backgrounds and struggles.
- Student feedback was overall very positive and we are happy to introduce a few students who agreed to share their experiences with the board.

MTSS

Deena Swenson and Matt Bienvenue were present to review MTSS.

Mynderse Academy 9th Grade W.I.N. Group

- Tier 2 Intervention- Data Driven
- Targeting “under the radar” kids
- 10th Period Participation-Snacks are provided. There is an invite list for students but no student is turned away if they come for help. Attendance is taken. Students sign in and indicate the subject they are there for.
- Community Building (Teachers and Students)

BLUE:

Be respectful

Live responsibility

Unite together

Excel daily

Mynderse Academy B.L.U.E. Booth

- Supports our B.L.U.E. expectations
- 56,723 Devil Dollars given this year

- BLUE Store will open March 11. The store will not be open during school hours but before school or during 10th period.

Music Department

- SH Mixed Chorus
 Julia Lamanna Jada Siders Brody Tanner
 Liam Dominguez Liam Powers Brock Calabrese
- Mixed Chorus
 Brody Tanner Brock Calabrese
- Treble Chorus
 Julia Lamanna Jada Siders
- All County, January 26-27 @ Red Jacket
JH All County Concert Band:
 Noah Butler, Baritone Saxophone
 Mason Ntuala, Trumpet
 Mary Little, Horn
 Long Cao, Flute
 RaeLynn Davis, Clarinet
SH All County Concert Band:
 Avinash James, Baritone Saxophone
 Deven James, Piano
- Area All State, February 2-3 @ Ithaca College
SH Concert Band
 Marianna Siders, Clarinet
 Avinash James, Baritone Saxophone
 Mary Little, Horn
 Kyan Powers, Trombone
 Deven James, Timpani

Global 9

Students are currently studying the post-classical era, beginning with the fall of Rome and the decline of Western Europe into the "Middle Ages." They participated in a simulation of Medieval Feudal Europe where they were assigned roles within the feudal system (*bound and free serfs, knights, lords, a monarch, monks and nuns, and a bishop*).

Students made oaths of loyalty and pledged their allegiance to one another, paid taxes in the form of skittles, and gained an understanding of how the system benefited some, more than others. Overall, their engagement will provide them with a strong basis of this social, political, and economic system that existed within multiple civilizations across history and that will extend into their learning in 10th grade.

Mynderse Academy

- Mynderse Academy enrollment: 355 Students
- Mynderse SIP Goals & Updates
 - Decrease the rate of chronic absenteeism for all students (30% or less with a stretch 25%)
 - Graduation rate of 95% of the currently enrolled students of the 2021 Cohort
 - Continue to enhance a positive and safe environment by decreasing negative behaviors as measured by a 15% reduction of behavioral referrals.
- Upcoming Events:
 March 8-10, 2024-High School Musical
 March 13, 2024-Band Concert
 March 20, 2024-Chorus Concert
 May 4, 2024-Junior Prom
 May 24, 2024-Senior Ball
 May 30, 2024-Band Concert
 June 5, 2024-Chorus Concert
 June 7, 2024-Senior Picnic
 June 28, 2024-Graduation

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

None at this time

Information

Warrants

01/01/2024-01/31/2024

Warrant A (60) \$451,465.61

Warrant C (23) \$ 19,076.28

Business Administrator

Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported that she had attended the ribbon cutting at the Northeast College of Health Sciences on Feb. 13, 2024. It was a wonderful event.

Dr. Reed also informed the Board that the district had received the request from the Seneca Falls Library to be placed on the May ballot for their annual increase. The request was received in January 2024.

BOE President Report

Joseph McNamara reminded the Board that the cut-off date for the Feb. 26, 2024 Four County SBA Professional Development meeting was Friday, Feb. 16.

BOE Member Comments

Denise Lorenzetti updated the Board on her recent attendance to the NSBA (National School Boards Association) Advocacy Institute in Washington, DC. Denise was able to meet with Senator Gillibrand's staff to discuss current advocacy efforts for increased Title Funding, universal food for all students, science of Reading and increase in mental health clinics in schools. Denise attended the NSBA Equity Symposium as well.

Heather Zellers updated the Board regarding the Pell Grant Bill that would help students with short-term career training programs after they graduate. For example, the BOCES Top of the Trade students who spoke earlier in the meeting, who are required to meet a minimum number of hours for their program and don't the requirement during their high school year, this Bill, if passed, would help.

Important Dates to Remember

February 19-23, 2024-Presidents Week Recess

February 26, 2024-4 County SBA Professional Development Dinner (Club 86)

March 2, 2024-4-County SBA Prospective School Board Members Seminar

March 6, 2024-BOE Meeting

March 19, 2024-4-County SBA Board of Director's Mtg.

March 21, 2024-BOE Meeting

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:

Name: Mariah Gaither
Position: Science 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: Ashley Bergin
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide
Effective: 02/16/2024

Appointments Professional Appointments

The Board of Education of the Seneca Falls Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Dr. Michelle Reed, Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints (Probation dates are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law sections 2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.)

Name: Michelle Bonanno
Position: ENL Teacher
Certification: English to Speakers of Other Languages (Supplementary Certification)
Tenure: TESOL
Effective date: 01/30/2024 (retro)
Probation: 01/30/2024 through 01/29/2028
Salary: \$52,105 (to be pro-rated 01/30/2024 through 06/30/2024)

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: Caitlyn Skinner
Civil Service Position: Health Aide
Effective: 02/16/2024
Probationary Period: 02/16/2024-02/15/2025
Hours/day: 7
Hourly Rate: \$21.00

Name: Nicole Westfall
Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide
Effective: 02/16-26/2024
Probationary Period: 02/16-26/2024 through 02/15-25/2025
Hours/day: 6
Hourly Rate: \$16.00

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: Kiersten Shimmel
Position: Substitute Teacher, Teaching Assistant, Tutor (Elizabeth Cady Stanton School)
NYS Certification: Uncertified
Effective: 02/16/2024

Name: Kiersten Shimmel
Position: Substitute Teaching Aide (Elizabeth Cady Stanton School)
Effective: 02/16/2024

Name: Nicole Westfall
Position: Substitute Teaching Aide
Effective: 02/16/2024

Election Inspectors

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education appoints the following people listed as election inspectors for the May 21, 2024 budget vote/election.

Election Inspector	May 16, 2023 Budget/Election Vote	Hourly Rate
Ted Novak	11:45 am through the end of ballot counting	\$15.00
Patricia Novak	11:45 am through the end of ballot counting	\$15.00
Theresa Clark	11:45 am through the end of ballot counting	\$15.00

Probationary to Permanent

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education hereby approves the following probationary to permanent appointment.

Employee	Position	Permanent Effective Date
Jada Buck	School Monitor	03/03/2024

CSE Minutes

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

12/15/2023, 01/10/2024, 01/15/2024, 01/16/2024, 01/17/2024, 01/18/2024, 01/22/2024, 01/23/2024, 01/24/2024, 01/25/2024, 01/26/2024

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.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business

None at this time

New Business

Policy-1st Reading

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the 1st reading of the following policies:

Policy 4327-Homebound Instruction

Policy 6700-Purchasing

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

SFEA MOA

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following Seneca Falls Education Association Memorandum of Agreement:

SFEA MOA-Stanton Singers Advisor

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Denise Lorenzetti
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Women & Strength Training Program Contract

Judy Wentzel

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the contract between the Seneca Falls Central School District and Judy Wentzel, independent contractor, for a Women & Strength Training Program

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Budget Workshop

Dr. Michelle Reed and James Bruni

James Bruni reviewed a draft of the tax-cap calculations with the Board. The BOCES bill continues to be reviewed and worked on for next year's budget.

Executive Session

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:59 pm to discuss matters leading to the appointment of a particular corporation.

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

Monica Kuney, District Clerk

The regular meeting resumed at 9:19 pm.

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion that the Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education appoint the law firm of Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC as legal counsel for the district's General Labor as well as any current or pending Notices of Claims, effective March 1, 2024 and

Be it further resolved that all General Labor files of the Seneca Falls Central School District along with all files pertaining to any current or pending Notices of Claims against the district be transferred to Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC., effective March 1, 2024

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

Adjourn

Joseph McNamara asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Michael Mirras made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Joseph McNamara, Board President