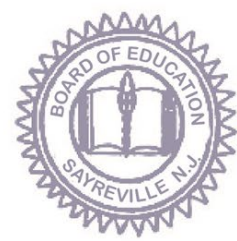




# Sayreville Public Schools

## Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997  
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Fax: 732-727-5769



Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

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

### Talk Sup Week 31 Review and Preview

April 22, 2024

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that we will **dismiss students early today, Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** so that our staff can participate in professional development. Likewise, please note that **our schools will be closed tomorrow, Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>** in observance of Passover.

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, here is what you missed. Sean Burns from Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS), and Ashten Poandl from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing their respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Reports. Next, Mrs. Bloom expressed her opening remarks, as did Mrs. Napolitano, who also shared some district highlights.



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 purchase of technology subscription/licensing items for the 2023-2024 school year in the total amount of \$96,180, and security hardware items in the amount of \$94,332.03 from CDW Government Inc. through the ESCNJ Cooperative Purchasing Pricing System Contract Technology Supplies and Services. Additionally, it awarded the bid for Mechanical Upgrades at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School and Woodrow Wilson Elementary School to Unitemp Mechanical Degrees, LLC as the lowest responsible bidder for bids opened on April 12, 2024, in the amount \$9,378,000, to be paid for using funds from the Bond Referendum

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board approved the long-term suspension of several students. On the Governance portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved revisions to Board of Education [Policy 5570 Sportsmanship](#) and [Policy](#) and [Regulation 8660 Student Transportation](#) for a second reading and adoption. To read them click on each. It also approved revisions to the [2023-24 School District Calendar](#), which makes the last day of school for both students and staff Monday, June 24, 2024. Likewise, the Board approved revisions to the [2024-25 School District Calendar](#), which changes the Juneteenth school holiday from June 20, 2025 to June 19, 2025. To review each calendar, click on them. Lastly, the BOE approved the 2024 Summer Hours for Administrators, Secretaries, Technicians, and Technology Engineers.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education graciously accepted the retirements of Sheila Berman, Special Education Teacher at the high school, Lisa Greene, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at the Truman School, Maria Basile, Cafeteria Manager/Cook at the middle school, effective July 1, 2024, and Donna Midgely, Administrative Secretary in Central Office, effective May 1, 2024. The

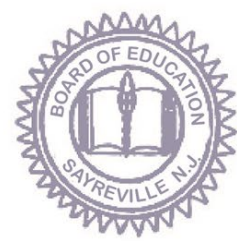
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BOE also appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. In addition, the BOE appointed staff to perform science tutoring at the middle school. Likewise, it appointed staff to work in the Advanced Placement Summer Boot Camp from July 1, 2024, and August 1, 2024, on an as-needed basis dependent on student enrollment. Lastly, it appointed staff to perform Summer IEP Work.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, one parent and several non-residents of Sayreville continued to express concern about BOE Policy 5756 Transgender Students. In addition, a high school student commented about the 2023-24 School District Calendar and suggested revisions to it. She also expressed her support for Policy 5756 Transgender Students. During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Ms. Hill 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.

The next meeting will take place at **7:30 pm on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>** in the **SUES Board Room**. During this meeting, the district will hold the mandatory public hearing for the 2024-25 School District Budget before the Board of Education votes on it and potentially adopts it. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. A complete copy of the **April 16<sup>th</sup> 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 **May 7, 2024**.



Last Wednesday evening, the Sayreville War Memorial High School National Honor Society (NHS) held its annual Induction Ceremony. As is the case each year, the high school recognized and inducted the amazing juniors and seniors who have demonstrated excellence inside and outside of the classroom this year. As always, the ceremony was rich with tradition and spirit, as the inductees took the time to thank the wonderful teachers at SWMHS who were pivotal in their success. We commend and thank Ms. Jennifer Vazquez and Ms. Mary Kruh, Co-NHS Advisors, and all the staff members who assisted them in coordinating such a memorable

experience for our 2024 NHS students and their parents.

Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive and fun week of learning last week. At the high school, our 11<sup>th</sup> grade students visited The College of New Jersey, where they learned about their many programs and opportunities and toured the beautiful campus. The Renaissance Committee also hosted another outstanding breakfast for all students who



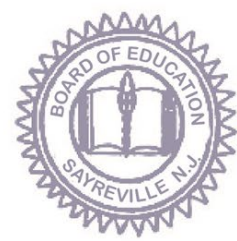
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earned straight A's for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period. In addition, students in Ms. Mojzsis's Advanced Art class completed their self-portraits. Using acrylic paint on canvas, these talented artists utilized their observation skills in addition to color mixing and brush



technique to create their masterpieces. Likewise, students in the Advanced Placement Art History classes attended a full day of art in N.Y.C. They started with a visit to Thomas Art Conservation, where the students spoke with and watched a demonstration from Ms. Thomas on her work as a painting conservator. They also participated in some hands-on activities. Next, they went to Pace Prints Gallery. The Vice-President of the space led the class on a tour of their exhibition. After that, the director of Pace African & Oceanic Art spoke about two African masks. Lastly, the



students walked the High Line to the Whitney Museum. Furthermore, students in Mr. Alvarez's Robotics class had a ton of fun participating in the annual Robotic Sumo Wrestling Challenge, where teams of students from different classes designed and built a sumo robot that competed against other robots on a 4' diameter dojo board. The tournament was won by the Unbreakable Tech Team consisting of Matt Lopez, Mike Nachajski, Elijah Melendez, Amanie Nasr, and Jerielis Cruz Lopez. Lastly, our amazing students and staff showed off their incredible talent during the annual Variety Show.



At the upper elementary school, the most improved students were recognized and honored during the Somerset Patriots Most Improved Students Game at Patriots Park in Somerset. In addition, the Samsel PTO sponsored a life-changing assembly



where 5<sup>th</sup> grade students got to hear the stories of first-generation Holocaust survivor, Ruth Rosenfeld, and second-generation survivor, Mimi

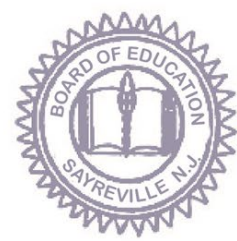






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Werbler, who were both from Center for Holocaust, Human Rights and Genocide Education (CHHANGE) organization. Likewise, students were treated to a Grand Falloons Comedy Show, in which the theme was recycling. Finally, students and staff had a blast during their school spirit day, where teachers were dressed as students and students were dressed as teachers.



At the Arleth School, students and staff participated in Awareness Week, which Mr. Preston kicked off in a colorful and grand fashion. In addition, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Chorus members went to the senior center and performed magnificently during



a concert for members. Their Spring Chorus Concert will be on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at Arleth. At the middle school, students in Mr. Provenza's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science classes literally had a blast making volcanoes. In Project Before, at the Cheesequake School, thanks to Ms. Hart and Ms. Schlaline, staff, students, and their families had a terrific time



sharing their culture and heritage during Multicultural Night. At the



Truman School, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students created some amazing, recycled fashion for their annual Recycling Parade.



This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We begin by commending and congratulating SWMHS students Riva Barbaria (12<sup>th</sup> grade) and Lillian Heidelberg (11<sup>th</sup> grade), who were honored last Wednesday evening as Sayreville's Unsung Heroes during the Middlesex County School Boards Association and the Middlesex County



of Association of School Administrators Unsung Hero Dinner at Old Bridge High School. We also commend Mrs.

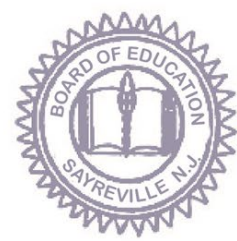
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Bloom, Sayreville Board of Education President, who assisted in coordinating this event and served as a speaker. Next, we commend and congratulate SMS Teacher Jarrett Lampkin for being selected by the Magic 98.3 radio program as a Teacher Who Makes Magic, which is a well-known program that recognizes up to 12 outstanding people per year for this prestigious award because of their important contributions

to society. In addition, we commend and congratulate SWMHS Biology Teacher Ms. Fox-Greer, who was selected by her colleagues at the high school as the April Teacher of the Month. In performing arts, we commend and congratulate the SWMHS Winterguard Team for winning First Place in their competition last weekend and for earning a Silver Medal in this past weekend's Mid Atlantic



**Newest winners**  
Week of April 21 - April 27, 2024  
12,121 total votes received

Grade PK - 3  
Noah 51237  
Kindergarten  
Sayreville, N.J.  
1,556 votes

Championship. Finally, we commend and congratulate Arleth School kindergarten student Noah Clemente, who was selected to be in the Artsonia Artist of the Week contest, along with other students from around the county. Noah received the most votes and thus was the winner of the elementary level. See more by clicking [here](#). You can see his wonderful artwork during the upcoming Art Show at Arleth on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing

Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, the SWMHS Girls Lacrosse Team defeated John P. Stevens High School (HS) to improve its record to 3-3 on the season. Remarkably, during the game both Abby Mayer and Mackenzie Hastings earned their 100<sup>th</sup> career points. We commend and congratulate Jill Bourbeau and Gene Moore for receiving the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Sportsmanship Athlete Award for



SWMHS. In addition, we congratulate SWMHS Softball player Caydence Barton who was named the



MyCentralJersey.Com Player of the Week. On the field, the Girls Softball Team defeated East Brunswick HS in the Teamwork Unlimited Autism Awareness Tournament. Jaydin Barton, who is the cousin of Cayden, threw out the first pitch. The Bombers scored 11 runs. Josie Vanore went 3 for 3 and pitched a two-hitter. Jill Bourbeau and Mya Infante also went 3 for 4 at the plate. Altogether, the Bombers had 14 hits. Earlier in the week, they defeated North Brunswick HS to improve their season record to 6-2. Likewise, the SWMHS Baseball Team played in the



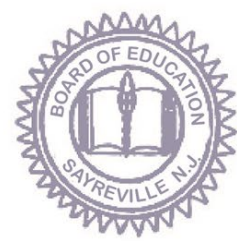
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Autism Awareness Challenge presented by Teamwork Unlimited. Although they lost to Somerville HS, the high school and middle school teams were able to raise over \$1,800 for this charity, which earned them the "Top Fundraiser" status and a commemorative plaque. Earlier in the week, the high school team defeated Perth Amboy HS twice to improve their record to 4-6. The SWMHS Boys Tennis Team defeated Union HS and Piscataway HS to improve their record to 2-5. The SWMHS Boys Lacrosse Team beat John Paul Stevens HS and North Brunswick HS to improve their record to 5-3. The SWMHS Boys Golf Team won matches over New Brunswick HS and John F. Kennedy HS to improve its record to 3-5. Finally, the



SWMHS Track and Field Teams continued to perform well. During the Colts Neck Invitational Meet, Molly Logan won 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the 2 Mile, Lily Poulson took 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Javelin, Morgan Koonce place 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 800 Meter, and Angeleah Lepre (2 Mile), Molly Logan (Mile), and Analia Marrero placed 5<sup>th</sup> in their respective events. On the Boys Team, Anthony Losada was named Athlete of the Week. 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 and view all the action by watching them on the live streaming links posted on 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, please remember that we will **dismiss students early today, Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** so that our staff can participate in professional development. Likewise, please note that **our schools will be closed tomorrow, Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>** in observance of Passover. Finally, please remember that the **3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period Report Cards** for students in **grades 6-12** will be **issued and viewable in Oncourse Connect** for those students **today, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

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](http://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](#).

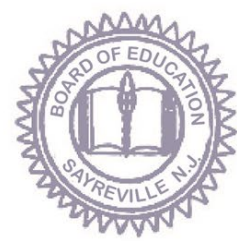
If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click [here](#) and submit an inquiry with *School Revenue Partners*. Naturally, we will continue to

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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