

BOARD REPORT

May 8, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$73,566.37. The submission of the district five-year forecast was Board approved. The final transfers and advances to close out fiscal year 2023 were approved. The revised appropriations for the Solon City School District to provide for current operating expenses and other expenditures during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, were approved.

The Board approved the following purchase orders as Then and Now Certificates:

Purchase Order #	Amount	Vendor	Purpose
23001781	\$14,250.00	Panorama Education Inc.	Data collection and analysis
23001816	\$3,420.00	McKeon Education Group. Inc.	St. Rita's contracted services
23001839	\$5,947.93	Dobson Family Partnership/Servpro	Emergency Plumbing Services

The Board approved adding the law firm of Ice Miller, LLP to perform legal services in connection with matters relating to education, including fundamental matters.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

426 seniors who are candidates for graduation contingent upon each candidate's successful completion in meeting all state and local requirements for graduation, were approved.

The Board approved a contract between Fred Bolden and the Solon Board of Education for a period of five years beginning August 1, 2023, through July 31, 2028.

The following out-of-state trips were Board approved: Solon High School, Solon Middle School, and Orchard Middle School Future Problem Solvers teams to travel to the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Massachusetts, June 7-11, 2023, for the International Future Problem-Solving Competition, and the Solon Middle School Speech and Debate Team to travel to Phoenix, Arizona, June 13-17, 2023, for the 2023 Speech and Debate Associational National Tournament.

Recommended Grade 6 Social Studies textbooks were approved.

The following retirements were Board approved: Brian Jones, English teacher at Solon High School, effective June 2, 2023; and Nancy Csarny, math teacher at Solon High School, effective September 1, 2023.

The Board awarded continuing teacher contracts to the following individuals effective for the 2023-24 school year provided all conditions set forth in the collective bargaining agreement are met:

Kathleen Burke	Emilie Macek
Carly Cancasci	Sarah Militello
Kendall Daulton	Madeline Nieder
Stephanie DeLine	Rebecca Smith
Jessica Jagers	Courtney Steinhauser
Jodi Lurie	Jennifer Stevenson

Supplemental contracts to the following individuals were approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mark Mauldin	SMS – Jazz Band Director – 8 th Grade (Split)	\$1,298.94
Tanya Perez	OMS – Future Problem Solvers International	\$1,250.00
Trent Siebert	SMS – Jazz Band Director – 7 th Grade (Split)	\$1,178.18

The Board approved the following individuals as substitutes on an as-needed basis for the 2022-23 school year:

Shreyanshi Bhatt	Multi-Age PK – 12 (General Substitute)
Gabrielle Gyurky	Multi-Age PK – 12 (General Substitute)
Ryan Kitay	Multi-Age PK – 12 (General Substitute)
Janice Litterst	Multi-Age PK – 12 (General Substitute; Marketing)
Leigh Ann Pustai	Professional Elementary (1-8); Professional Principal (PK-9)

The Board approved Paul Diehl, Robert Northrup, Kelly Tailford, Sophia Viglione, and Caelan White as home instruction tutors for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year.

The Board approved to rescind the non-renewal of contract for Paul Peavy, hall monitor at Solon High School, due to a clerical error, and, approve an unpaid medical leave of absence, pursuant to ORC 3319.13, for Paul Peavy, hall monitor at Solon High School, for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.

The retirement and rehire of the following individual, was Board approved, for the retire/rehire incentive that is part of the collective bargaining agreement between the Solon Board of Education and Ohio Association of Public-School Employees complying with Ohio Revised Code 3307.353, which requires the notification of a hearing to be conducted at the regularly scheduled board meeting of June 30, 2023, at the Board of Education offices:

Steven Gross

The following resignations were Board approved: Yuhauhakhana Yuhauha, food service at Solon High School, effective April 12, 2023; Yadha Yahu, food service at Solon Middle School, effective April 13, 2023; and Marvin McNatt, custodian at Solon High School, effective June 1, 2023.

A resolution to approve the following bus driver for annual driver certification by the Solon City School District for the 2022-23 school year under OAC 3301-83-06 B5, was approved.

Mercedes Petite

Tuition reimbursements were approved for 8 individuals in the amount of \$2,392.50.

The next board meeting will be June 5, 2023, 8 a.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

POLICY UPDATES

The following policies and administrative guidelines are being presented for consideration. After review, they will be placed on our next agenda for consideration and approval.

Bylaw 0131.1 - Technical Corrections (Revised) – This is a policy revision that will allow us to make limited technical corrections to policies that have already been approved without the need for another board vote. Technical corrections can be consolidations, formatting, name changes based on staffing, etc. None of the changes alter the substance or meaning of the policies.

Policy 2114 - Meeting State Performance Indicators (Revised) – This updates our policy to reflect the state star ranking system for school performance ratings.

Policy 2271 - College Credit Plus Program (Revised) – Revised to meet state law regarding participants who are part of military families.

Policy 2412 - Homebound Instruction Program (Revised) – Revised to meet state law and align policy with current state law.

Policy 3120.09/4120.09 - Volunteers (Rescind) - Policy 8120 - Volunteers (Replacement/Revised) – Policies 3120.09 and 4120.09, which cover the use of volunteers in school programming have both been deleted and replaced by one policy that has been placed in the 8000 series. Much of the content remains the same. The change to a different series recognizes that volunteers are not considered employees of the district, but rather function more to support general district operations. However, in addition to moving the policy's location, new language has been added to address requirements for volunteers who support athletic activities. Under the Ohio High School Athletic Association General Regulations, all coaches whether paid or unpaid must hold an active Pupil Activity Permit to coach in any OHSAA member school athletics for grades 7-12.

Policy 5112 – Entrance Requirements (Revised) - This policy has been updated to reflect current district practice and state policy as it relates to early entrance to Kindergarten.

Policy 5310 - Health Services (Revised) - This policy has been updated to reflect current state law pertaining to assessing a student for a concussion or head injury during a school activity (e.g., physical education class, or athletic practice or competition) because the student is exhibiting signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion or head injury. The document further addresses the nature of the assessment that must be conducted to clear a student to return to an activity after having been removed.

Policy 5460 - Graduation Requirements – This policy and associated administrative guidelines are being adjusted to align with the final transition to the graduation requirements that have been implemented in law.

Policy 5610 - Removal, Suspension, Expulsion, and Permanent Exclusion of Students (Revised) – This policy has been revised to reflect specific language in Ohio Revised Code 3313.66(J), which requires a school district to “offer an opportunity for a hearing” before temporarily denying admittance to any pupil who has been suspended or expelled from the schools of another district. Under the statute, the district can decide to honor the previously imposed suspension or expulsion, after the district holds a hearing.

Policy 6325 - Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds (Revised) – A minor adjustment has been made to policy 6325, specifically to recognize that not all federal grant contracts are subject to the Davis-Bacon Act (“DBA”). The DBA typically applies to any federally funded contract in excess of \$2,000 for the construction, alteration or repair of public buildings or public works, and requires payment of prevailing wages for workers who provide services under the contracts. However, there are some instances in which the DBA does not apply and the change made to policy 6325 clarifies this.

Policy 8400 - School Safety (Revised) – This policy has been updated to reflect current state law and best practices. In particular, the document reflects changes enacted by House Bill 123, which was adopted in 2021 and comes into full effect and enforcement in 2023, including the requirement for districts to have a trained threat assessment team in place in each school building that serves students in grades 6-12. HB 123 also places responsibility for school safety under the Ohio Department of Public Safety instead of the Ohio Department of Education. This policy/AG is also consistent with the Model Threat Assessment Plan that was released in September 2022.

Policy 8420 – Emergency Situations at Schools (Revised) - This policy and corresponding AGs have been updated to reflect current state law and best practices, including language from new Ohio Administrative Code Section 4501:5-1-01, which pertains to school safety. AG 8420A is updated to include the latest definition of a Tornado Watch.

Policy 8462 - Student Abuse and Neglect (Revised) – This policy has been revised to include the provisions of SB 288, passed during the lame-duck legislative session when the General Assembly passed an omnibus criminal justice bill named Erin’s Law. The bill was signed by the Governor on January 3, 2023, and requires school districts to include age-appropriate training to K-12 students on child sex abuse prevention. Schools must also provide training to staff regarding sex abuse that is presented by either a prosecutor or law enforcement officers who have experience handling cases of child sex abuse. The staff training is to occur along with other required trainings for topics such as school safety and violence prevention.

AG 2623D - Standards Relative to the Ethical Use of Assessments by Staff and Students (Revised) – This guideline has been revised to reflect the most recent requirements of ODE regarding the ethical use of state-mandated assessments.

Technology Policies – 7450, 7450.01, 7450.02, 7450.03, 7450.04, 8300, 8305, 8315 – These policies are all minor revisions to our technology policies to reflect current changes in technology that have occurred in the interim.

Tobacco Policies – 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 9160 - These policy language changes are being recommended to align district policies to those that are compatible with the Ohio Department of Health's (ODH) Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program initiative.

CELEBRATING PROM & GRADUATION SAFELY

With prom and graduation just around the corner, the Solon Schools are urging students to make wise choices by celebrating responsibly and parents and local businesses that host underage student parties to ensure these gatherings are drug and alcohol free.

Ohio underage drinking laws include penalties for adults who enable underage drinking that occurs on property under their control. The law covers underage drinking in private homes as well as at hotels, motels, campgrounds and other public places like restaurants, according to the state Department of Safety Ohio Investigative Unit, which is charged with enforcing the liquor laws.

Parents/guardians should be aware of the following:

- It is illegal to provide a place for an underage child and his or her friends to drink in a “safe” environment. In fact, parents are not permitted to provide alcohol to children under 21, who are not their own, even if it is in a private home and with the other parents' permission. Adults convicted of providing alcohol to a child under 21 years of age face maximum sentences of six months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.
- It is illegal to purchase alcohol for anyone under 21. Adults who purchase, sell or provide alcoholic beverages to underage children face a \$1,000 fine and/or up to six months in jail.
- Anyone under 21 who is caught driving with a blood alcohol concentration of .02 percent or higher, a level that is possible after just one or two drinks, can be arrested. Driving under the influence is punishable by suspension of a driver's license for at least 90 days and up to a maximum of two years, plus four points added to a driving record.
- It is illegal to have an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

If an after-prom or graduation party is held at a private home and the parents knowingly allow underage teens to drink alcohol, the teenagers and the parents are both violating the law. In addition, the parents can be held liable for any injuries or damage caused by a teenager who has consumed alcohol at their home.

State law also prohibits the use of false identification by a person under the age of 21 for the purpose of purchasing alcohol and the possession of an alcoholic beverage anywhere by minors, including in a public place or car.

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE FOR AFTER PROM IS MAY 13

To provide a safe and drug- and alcohol-free atmosphere for students' after-prom festivities each year, the Solon High School PTA stages an extensive, themed event immediately following prom. This year's After Prom event will again be held at the high school, where seniors will enjoy the theme “Alice in Wonderland” with games, music, food, dancing and other activities.

The public is invited to an open house to view the extensive After Prom decorations all in keeping with the “Alice in Wonderland” theme just prior to the event on Saturday, May 13, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Community members are encouraged to enter through the Senior Commons entrance to the high school near the auditorium along the east drive entrance to the school.

TWO SOLON SENIORS NAMED PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR SEMI-FINALISTS

Solon seniors Aakarsh Garg and Ava Preston have advanced as semi-finalists in the 2023 Presidential Scholar Program, which recognizes the nation's most distinguished graduating seniors. Aakarsh and Ava are among only 628 students nationwide and 26 in Ohio to advance to the final round and still be in the running to become a Presidential Scholar for this year. Ava is Solon's first semi-finalist for Presidential Scholar in the Arts.

"It is a great honor and exceptional accomplishment to have reached the semi-finalist phase in this highly selective and prestigious program," according to the U.S. Commission on Presidential Scholars. "The achievements of these outstanding students deserve acknowledgement."

The 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be announced in mid-May.

NEW US NEW YOU – SOLON COMETS CLASS OF 2023

Solon High School began celebrating the Class of 2023 on May 5 with a video montage called New Start New Us, that was posted for the community on we now call #FutureFriday. The slide show highlights the students' post-SHS plans, such as college choice, the military, safety force academies, the work force or a gap year.

The success Solon students experience in choosing their "right match" college or other post-SHS plan is a reflection on the hard work of the high school's counselors and staff, which includes relationship building with admissions professionals at the nation's colleges, universities, and technical programs. Solon High School has always had a positive reputation throughout Ohio as having outstanding students, but now SHS and its students are known nationally as well.

BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Planning is already under way for the 2023-24 school year. Working ahead to determine the number of students who will need bus transportation for next year is an important component of that planning. Bus transportation zones and numbers of riders on the bus will be the same as those implemented for the 22-23 school year. For increased routing efficiency, families who want their children to ride the bus to and/or home from school must **OPT-IN** for transportation.

Families must submit the 2023-24 Solon Schools Bus Transportation OPT-IN form for their children to have a seat on the bus. The deadline to opt-in for bus transportation for the 2023-24 school year is May 31.

Families who need day care or shared parenting transportation must also complete the 2023-24 Day Care/Shared Parenting Transportation Request Form. A new shared parenting form must be completed each school year. The deadline for the Day Care/Shared Parenting form is July 7.

All Bus Opt-In forms are posted under Quick Links on the district home page at www.solonschools.org.

SMS & SHS SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAMS ARE BOTH STATE CHAMPS AGAIN

Solon Middle School and School High Science Olympiad teams both took first place at the Ohio Science Olympiad State Tournament. The state competition is the culmination of “outstanding team performances” from eight regions across Ohio. As state champions, both the SMS and SHS teams will travel to Kansas in May to compete in the national tournament.