

BOARD REPORT

February 6, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$803.83.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board approved membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the 2023-24 school year. The Board approved a resolution recommended for science resource for kindergarten.

The Board approved the retirements of Michael Biben, mechanic for Solon City Schools, effective May 1, 2023; and Dianne DeVine, food service employee for Solon Middle School, effective May 31, 2023.

The resignations of Aaron Booher, educational aide at Orchard Middle School, effective February 3, 2023; and Ramnik Kour, monitor at Orchard Middle School, effective March 2, 2023, were Board approved.

The Board approved supplemental contracts to the following individuals for the 2022-23 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sarah Miller	Math Club Advisor (Jan.-Jun. 2023)	\$32.99/hr
Robert Northrup Jr.	Ski/Snowboard Club	\$2,776.15
Chad Ramlow	Girls' Indoor Track – Assistant Coach	\$3,886.61

The Board approved non-district pupil activity permit contracts to the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Daniel Giulvezan	Boys' Soccer – Head Varsity Coach	\$6,434.90
Kelly Kolcun	Starlette Advisor (Fall)	\$5,197.07
Matthew Wiczorek	Girls' Indoor Track – Assistant Coach	\$3,637.03

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

Shanae Eiland	1 Year PK – 12 (General Substitute)
Jennifer Kavanagh	5 Year PK – 12 (General Substitute)
Mary Salib	1 Year PK – 12 (General Substitute)

Michelle Speelman was Board approved as a home instruction tutor for the 2022-2023 school year.

Tuition reimbursements were approved for nine individuals in the amount of \$5,309.19.

The next board meeting will be February 27, 2023, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8 SENIORS NAMED 2023 PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR CANDIDATES

Eight members of the Solon High School class of 2023 are among 5,000 students nationwide selected as candidates for the U.S. Presidential Scholar Award, the nation's highest honor for high school students. The Solon seniors named as potential U.S. Presidential Scholars are Matt Charney, Amy Duan, Aakarsh Garg, Viresh Mittal, Laura Mo, Ava Preston, Manikantha Puram and Prahalad Rao.

Students are nominated based on their accomplishments in academics, the arts, and/or career and technical education.

The candidates were selected from nearly 3.6 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2023. Since 1964, the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program has been recognizing and honoring some of the nation's "most distinguished graduating high school seniors," according to the U.S. Department of Education's Commission on U.S. Presidential Scholars.

Ultimately, only up to 161 students nationwide will be chosen in May to receive the nation's highest honor for high school students as U.S. Presidential Scholars.

5 SOLON STUDENT ATHLETES SIGN NATIONAL LETTERS OF INTENT

Five stand-out Solon High School varsity athletes signed NCAA letters of intent on February 1, the winter national signing day. The students are all receiving scholarships to continue their studies and athletic participation at the college level.

The signings include:

- Jordan Grafton – Track – Ashland University
- Blake Hoegler – Football – Mercyhurst University
- Will Johnson – Football – West Virginia Wesleyan College
- Joel Kpassou – Football – University of Findlay
- Caleb Walker – Baseball – Augustana University

SHS DRAMA CLUB STAGES STUDENT-DIRECTED ONE ACT PLAYS

The Solon High School Drama Club is staging its annual "Evening of One-Acts," February 9 and 10 at 7 p.m. in the SHS auditorium. All tickets are \$7 and proceeds benefit the Drama Club Scholarship Fund.

Tickets are available online through the Solon Schools' online ticketing portal at www.solonschools.org/showticketportal.

The One-Act Plays are all student-directed shows by Solon High School seniors. This year's featured shows are:

- Perfect Score directed by James Barroa & Josh Egolf. Four friends negotiate the college application process as graduation approaches. SATs and GPAs are only a part of their worries, as senioritis, awkward interviews, and the pressure to succeed provide bigger challenges.
- Romeo and Juliet at Verona High directed by Hannah Lewis & Max Moses. A modern-day update of Shakespeare's tragedy with Romeo as the captain of the football team and Juliet as the president of the Chess Club. Can the rival teams resolve their differences and who will triumph at the grudge chess match?
- The End of Civilization As We Know It directed by Aria Wei & Sari Zager. It's the morning of a dreaded history exam and the whole class is on edge. When the teacher finally arrives, the test she gives is not at all what the students were expecting.
- Lockdown directed by Andrew Hall & Michael Nimrick. In a dark classroom, eight students sit in an "official lockdown," not knowing if it's just a drill or an actual emergency.

FEBRUARY IS LOVE THE BUS MONTH

As part of the national Love the Bus program, the Solon Schools are recognizing the district bus drivers who safely transport 3,500 students to and from school and extra-curricular activities every day.

Sponsored by the American School Bus Council, the Love the Bus program is celebrated in February as a way to raise awareness about school bus transportation. It also serves as a timely reminder for everyone to review the traffic and safety laws regarding school buses.

Bus drivers receive ongoing training in student loading and unloading procedures, state driving laws, student evacuation, student behavior and security management. In Solon, drivers receive routine training to help prepare them for emergencies that could arise and participate in safety drills with students.

Additionally, this is an opportune time to remind students and families of important winter weather reminders for school bus travel:

- Cold, blustery and icy winter weather can create slick road conditions, so it is more important than ever that students follow all bus safety protocols.
- If your child misses the bus, please call the Transportation Department. Students should never chase after a bus and parents should not drive to catch up to a bus. Having students run alongside a bus to catch a missed bus at a subsequent stop is dangerous as students could be in a driver's blind spot. Our drivers follow very specific protocols.

- Please consider adding reflective address numbers to your mailbox so that our drivers can more easily identify stop locations. This is particularly helpful when we have substitute drivers or regular drivers covering a different route. Students should also wear light-colored clothing or jackets on dark mornings (or add something reflective on coats or backpacks).
- As a reminder, students must wait for the bus at their designated place of safety even in inclement weather. Students should be at their designated place of safety 5 minutes prior to the scheduled stop time.
- Students should always alert the driver if they ever drop something near the bus. Students or parents should not reach to pick up items that fall near the bus or roll near the wheels until given the go-ahead that it is safe to do so by the driver.
- Students should also not use technology such as phones or earbuds while waiting for a bus. Playing on a phone or listening to music impedes students' ability to watch and listen for potential dangers around them as well as hear or see safety instructions from their bus driver.

School bus warning light signals have specific meanings and require definitive actions from drivers on the roadway. Always remember that:

- Alternating flashing amber (yellow) lights are on to warn motorists that the bus is stopping to let students on or off the bus.
- Alternating flashing red lights are on to warn motorists that the bus is stopped on the roadway to let students on or off the bus.
- The STOP sign arm is engaged at the same time as the red flashing lights are turned on. A white flashing strobe light may also be used during unfavorable conditions or times of day that limit visibility, such as darkness, rain, fog and snow.
- Four-way hazard lights are activated at all railroad crossings and turn-arounds.
- The school bus will have its four-way hazard lights and backup light on when preparing to back onto a side street to turn around.
- Motorists must use caution when they approach a bus in the process of completing a turn-around.
- Do not pass a school bus that has red alternating flashing lights. This is the signal that the bus is stopped to load or unload students. Traffic should not move until the bus resumes motion or the driver signals traffic to proceed.

Thank you to everyone in our community for their continued support and commitment to students' safety as they travel to and from school each day.

SOLON SCHOOLS RECEIVE AUDITOR OF STATE AWARD

Noting the "citizens you represent are well-served by your effective and accountable financial practices," Ohio Auditor Keith Faber has recognized Treasurer Tim Pickana and the Solon

Schools with the Ohio Auditor of State Award. Mr. Pickana and the district received the award for excellent financial record-keeping as well as receiving a clean audit report.

The Ohio Auditor of State Award is presented to local governments and school districts upon completion of a clean financial audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and compliance with applicable laws for fiscal year 2022. A clean audit means that the district's audit report did not contain any findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Uniform Guidance (Single Audit) findings or any questioned costs.