

BOARD REPORT

October 24, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$10,980.64.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board approved the following purchase order as a Then and Now Certificate:

Purchase Order #	Amount	Vendor	Purpose
23001421	\$11,355.00	Meritech	Copier High School

Two trips for the SHS Science Olympiad Team to travel to the University of Michigan Invitational in Ann Arbor, MI, February 17-18, 2023; and the Northwestern Invitational in Chicago, IL, February 24-26, 2023, were Board approved.

The Board authorized the Business Manager to advertise and secure bids for the projects listed below:

- SHS Main Gym HVAC replacement and upgrade;
- Dual School Phase 5 HVAC upgrade and VAV replacement;
- SHS Natatorium Locker Rooms HVAC replacement;
- SHS Classroom HVAC replacement and upgrades;
- Dual School Masonry repairs;
- Orchard Middle School Generator upgrade and replacement;
- Roxbury Exterior Windows and Door replacements

The retirements of Ellen McConnell, media specialist at Lewis Elementary School, effective June 2, 2023; and Barbara Clark, English teacher at Solon Middle School, effective July 1, 2023, were Board approved.

The resignation of Christina Krusinski, food service employee at Lewis Elementary School, effective November 4, 2022, was Board approved.

A resolution to approve and appoint the following medical examiner to conduct and complete our bus driver examinations for the 2023-23 school year, under OAC 3301-83-07 was approved.

St. Vincent-Occupational Health

This ensures that we have appointed the proper medical authority to conduct examinations in compliance with Ohio Revised Code 4511.01, Section F.

A resolution was Board approved as stated below, which permits the Board to reimburse parents whose children attend a private school for which it is impractical to transport their children.

In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 3327.02 providing that Boards of Education consider all factors identified in Ohio Revised Code Section 3327.02, and determine whether or not transportation shall be provided to non-public schools for district resident children, payment in lieu of transportation shall be offered to parents of children at the rate established by the State Board of Education. The factors considered by the Board of Education are (1) The time and distance required to provide the transportation, (2) The number of pupils to be transported, (3) The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administrative, (4) Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation, (5) Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules, and/or (6) Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available.

The Board approved the hiring of the following individual as a contract building substitute for the 2022-23 school year:

Marissa Martel Orchard Middle School

The Board approved the following individuals to be hired as monitors and aides for the 2022-23 school year:

Baishakhi Ghosh
Kimberly Rosasco
Desiree Portal

The following non-district pupil activity supplemental was Board approved for the 2022-23 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Forrest Campbell	SHS – Boys’ Swimming Varsity Asst. Coach	\$4,241.43

The Board approved the following policies:

Policy 2220 - Adoption of Courses of Study (Revised)

Policy 2280 - Preschool Program (Revised)

Policy 2413 - Career Advising (Revised)

Policy 2430 - District-Sponsored Clubs and Activities (Revised) Policy 2431 - Interscholastic Athletics (Revised)

Policy 3120.08 - Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities (Revised)

Policy 5460.01 - Diploma Deferral (Revised)

Policy 7440.03 - Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Technical Correction/Revised)

Policy 8210 - School Calendar (Revised)

Policy 8320 - Personnel Files (Revised), Policy 8330 - Student Records (Revised)

Policy 8600 – Transportation (Revised)

AG 5460C - Ohio Core Opt-Out (DELETE)

AG 8800 A - Religious Activities/Ceremonies (DELETE)

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

Lea Echan	Elementary (1–8)
Sherry Headen	General Substitute
Kristen Newman	General Substitute
Feyza Telli	General Substitute

Tuition reimbursements were approved for eight individuals in the amount of \$883.50.

The next board meeting will be November 7, 2022, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

FEDERAL GRANT ROBUST PROGRAMS – INADEQUATE FUNDING

Our district receives some federal grant financial assistance based on our overall curriculum and student need. This federal funding sometimes can vary greatly from year to year. Our 2022-23 school year federal grant funding has been reduced to the point our General Fund will need to pick up the additional expenses. If the General Fund did not pick up the additional expenses, our programs associated with these federal grants would be significantly harmed and not nearly as robust as they are today.

Should our federal grant funding increase in the future, the additional funds will be utilized to once again fund these positions.

IDEA Part B: We have 13 employees who are working each day on approx. 85% IDEA Part B, but we only have enough funding in 516 to pay for 64% salaries and 53% benefits

Title III LEP: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 73% LEP, but we only have enough funding in 551 LEP to pay for 31% salaries and 0% benefits

Title III Immigrant Ed: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 13% Immigrant Ed, but we only have enough funding in 551 LEP to pay for 0% salaries and 0% benefits

Title I: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 100% Title I, and an additional 6 employees who are working approx. 50% Title I, but we only have enough funding in 572 to pay for 74% of their FTE status salaries and 49% benefits

Title I Expanding Opportunities: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 90% Title I Expanding Opportunities, but we only have enough funding in 572 to pay for 0% salaries and 0% benefits

Early Childhood: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 93% Early Childhood, but we only have enough funding in 587 to pay for 17% salaries and 0% benefits

Title II-A: We have 1 employee who is working each day on approx. 93% Title II-A, but we only have enough funding in 590 to pay for 51% salaries and 0% benefits

FALL BUS SAFETY REMINDERS

As we transition to colder weather and darker mornings, the Solon Schools Transportation Department is reminding families and drivers in the community of several important safety protocols. Additionally, we want to reinforce the changes that were necessary this school year due to staffing challenges. Some bus stops this year are in different locations than families were used to seeing and students may have slightly longer walks to the stop this year. However, the choice was between lengthening the distance from home to the stops as well as reducing the total number of stops or cutting transportation to some students entirely. The district chose to continue providing bus transportation to as many students as possible. Current bus stop locations will remain in place for the rest of the school year.

The safety of students on our school buses is our top priority. State law requires very specific safety precautions by bus drivers, students, family members and motorists to ensure student safety.

All students are assigned and required to use a specific school bus stop with a designated place of safety. When possible, students should wear light-colored clothing or jackets on dark mornings (or place something reflective on coats or backpacks). Families should also:

- Check new cold-weather clothing for safety. Draw strings and key chains can catch on objects on the bus and create potential safety hazards.
- Help students to be ready at their place of safety at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is due to arrive even in inclement weather. If necessary, family members should take turns with friends and neighbors to be sure students are supervised at bus stops.
- Never 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. Also never chase after a bus that may miss a stop on the ride home from school. Drivers follow very specific protocols for missed stops, which includes radioing into the Transportation Department and continuing along the route to a safe location to turn around and bring the student back to the stop.
- Remind students to 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.
- Ensure students are not using technology such as phones or earbuds. 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.

For parents and other motorists driving during school transportation times, please remember that:

- Alternating flashing amber (yellow) lights are on to warn motorists that the bus is preparing to stop 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 bus will stop prior to crossing railroad tracks.
- 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.
- Be careful and alert on dark streets in the mornings as students and families are waiting at bus stops. Please observe posted speed limits on roadways.
- Remind teen drivers about these important rules of the road.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to students' safety as they travel to and from school each day.

ANNUAL REPORTING OF NUTRITION STANDARDS

Certification of Standards Governing Types of Foods and Beverages Sold on School Premises for the previous school year, 2021-2022.

State law in Ohio requires each school district board of education and each chartered nonpublic school board or governing authority to adopt and enforce nutrition standards governing the types of food and beverages available for sale on school premises and report compliance annually to the Ohio Department of Education.

Solon City School District is compliant with regulations for all snack food sold by adhering to the USDA Smart Snack regulations at school and Ohio's food and beverage standards for items sold as outlined in SB 210 (whichever is more strict).

The district offers healthy a la carte options that meet the Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School. A la carte options include hard boiled eggs, salad with chopped vegetables and chicken/egg, string cheese, yogurt parfaits topped with fresh fruit, wraps, sandwiches on whole grain bread, egg salad, tuna salad, hummus with vegetables or pretzels, whole grain tortilla chips and salsa, fresh fruit, vegetables with ranch dressing, roasted sunflower seeds, roasted chickpeas, and Nutrigrain bars.

In addition, the cafeterias offer snacks that have been specially formulated to be reduced in fat, low in sugar, low in salt, and/or whole grain rich, including reduced-fat potato chips, whole grain tortilla chips, and reduced-sugar fruit snacks. While these items look similar to those found in stores, their ingredients and composition are adapted to meet the demands of a healthy school

environment. The school cafeterias do not serve pop or sugary drinks. At the high school, in addition to milk and water, the cafeteria offers 100% fruit juice with and without carbonation, sugar-free coffee options and other popular sugar-free beverages.

RED RIBBON WEEK

This is Red Ribbon Week, a long-standing national education campaign aimed at supporting students in safe and healthy decision making. This year's national theme is: "Celebrate Life. Live Drug Free."

In the Solon Schools, students participate in Red Ribbon Week with different creative daily themes that reflect the overall message of staying drug free and making healthy choices. The schools use this week as a springboard to focus on age-appropriate information about the dangers of drug and alcohol use as well as promoting leadership and kindness.

Students traditionally wear red on the first day of Red Ribbon Week and follow up with additional theme days such as wearing sports jerseys or t-shirts to "Team Up Against Drugs," wearing mismatched socks to "Sock it to Unsafe Behavior," and wearing hats on a "Hats Off to Being Drug Free" day.

Red Ribbon Week is just one of the many ongoing programs in our schools to provide positive educational supports for students.

STRATEGIC PLANNING ACTION TEAMS

The first meetings of the four action teams working on the strategies identified through the Strategic Planning process are this week. Community members can still get involved in the process by submitting the interest form on the district home page.

Thank you in advance to all of the district stakeholders who have already volunteered to participate in this important work.