

BOARD REPORT

February 7, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$821.12.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board approved membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the 2022-23 school year.

The following individuals were approved as substitutes on an as-needed basis for the 2021-22 school year:

Jenna Ames	PK-12 – General Education
Marina Corbo	PK-12 – General Education
Kristen Lembo	PK-12 – General Education
Tricia Shannon	General Education

The board approved Jake Voigt as a home instruction tutor for the 2021-22 school year.

A tuition reimbursement was approved for one individual in the amount of \$270.00. The next board meeting will be February 28, 2022, at 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS AND OTHER REPORTS TO THE BOARD

SOLON SCHOOLS RECOGNIZE SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION IN FEBRUARY

As part of the national Love the Bus program, the Solon Schools are recognizing the district bus drivers who safely transport 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 drivers 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.

Following are important winter weather reminders:

- 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.
- Additionally, students should 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.

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

10 SOLON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS NAMED 2022 PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR CANDIDATES

A record 10 members of the Solon High School class of 2022 are among 5,000 students nationwide named as candidates for the prestigious honor of U.S. Presidential Scholar. The Solon seniors nominated as potential U.S. Presidential Scholars are Timothy Barron, Adina Guo, Lucas He, Simone Johnson, Andrew Li, Ryan Li, Grant Maiorana, Natalie Miller, Iris Yu and Dennis Zhitenev

“This is the highest number of students nominated as Presidential Scholar candidates in a graduating class in Solon history,” said SHS Principal Erin Short. “Everyone at Solon High School is very proud of their accomplishments.”

The Solon seniors were among students selected based on academic achievement exceptionally high scores on the ACT or SAT.

“Since 1964, this unique federal program has honored almost 8,000 U.S. Presidential Scholars, who have demonstrated scholarship, leadership, artistic excellence and selfless service to others,” according to the U.S. Department of Education’s Commission on U. S. Presidential Scholars.

“The Scholars represent excellence in education and promise of greatness in young people.” 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.

FOUR SOLON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES SIGN NATIONAL LETTERS OF INTENT ON WINTER SIGNING DAY

Four stand-out Solon High School varsity athletes signed NCAA letters of intent on February 2.

Seniors Patrick Burke, Jessie Kwiatkowski, Ellie Radis and Ethan Smith are all receiving scholarships to continue their studies and athletic participation at the Division I and Division II university level.

The signings include:

- ✓ Patrick Burke – Diving – West Virginia University
- ✓ Jessie Kwiatkowski – Track and Cross Country – Malone University
- ✓ Ellie Radis – Track and Cross Country – Walsh University
- ✓ Ethan Smith – Soccer – Duquesne University

COVID UPDATE

Currently, we reported only 8 total cases of COVID-19 last week in our school community. This low incidence mirrors the accelerated decline in cases in our 44139 area as well. This dramatic decrease is very good news.

Our vaccination data from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health shows that the 44139-community vaccination rate is now over 90 percent. This is the second highest of any community in the county.

As we have done throughout the pandemic, we have relied on local data to guide our decision making for our COVID-19 protocols. At this time, due to the significant decreases in cases in both our Solon/Glenwillow community and our high vaccination rate, we will shift our district mask protocol to reflect current conditions.

Beginning today:

PreK-12: Wearing masks indoors will now be **strongly recommended**, but not required, for students, staff, visitors, and volunteers, regardless of vaccination status.

School Bus Riders: Wearing masks remains **required** for all students and staff on buses per the CDC public transportation rules, which include school buses.

Outdoors: Students and staff **do not need to wear masks outdoors** during the school day for recess, outdoor gym classes or other outside activities.

These protocols are dependent on low incidence of COVID-19 in our schools and community, and they could shift back if we see a sustained increase again. Just as we put enhanced protocols in place when conditions warranted it, we are also committed to easing protocols during periods when the COVID cases are low among students, staff, and the community.

Although masks are strongly recommended for students and staff, it is important to remember that some individuals would be required to wear masks at school under the state mask-to-stay protocols. If this is applicable to a student, the details regarding masking requirements will be given to parents.