

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
April 24, 2024 BOE Meeting/ECS Roundtable- 6:00 PM
Cafeteria
38 Garden Street

BOE Present

Deborah Corsner, Anthony Ferrara, Cara Lajewski, Matthew Lando, Michael Mirras, and Heather Zellers

BOE Absent

Joseph McNamara, Denise Lorenzetti, Erica Sinicropi

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni, Amy Hibbard, Stephanie Moll, students Joey Mull, Laynee Foster and Sophie Wyck; Elizabeth Jones and Nicole Brady with students Ian Butler, Aurora Guarino, Kaiden Russell and Harper Vanderwall; Scott Scierra with students Ashton Irizarry, Bella Leone, Nicholas Miller, Hannah Shafer, and Sam Taylor; Melissa Koepke with students Alec Page, Faylin Jensen, Mason Christensen and Gianna Sandroni; Eric Koepke with students Isaiah Abbe, Elise Gathenya, Ruby Bardo, Vinny Nigro, Sofia Bilancini, Benen Osborn, Gio Clinton-Ortiz, Jonah Smith, Michael Crane and Zachary Snyder.

Approval of Agenda

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the following addendum as listed:

ADD under Consent Agenda

G. Establish Account

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the establishment of an Elizabeth Cady Stanton Student Council account.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend
Board of Education Minutes

April 11, 2024

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education Minutes dated April 11, 2024

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Report
None at this time.

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report
None at this time.

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

Presentation by Stephanie Mirras, Student Liaison

Present from the Superintendent Student Advisory Committee along with Stephanie were Tulsi Trivedi and Searah Reardon. Joseph Campese Fowler was unable to attend.

A second survey was sent out to juniors and seniors.

It was a shorter survey with many of the same questions as the first one.

The survey was sent out at the same time as the Clyde Survey, with the help of the same teachers.

135 students responded to the survey.

Students were asked:

“What are the things about our school that you are proud of?”

- “Our school spirit, particularly at sports events. It's a very great environment with tons of support.”
- “I am proud of how students at our school cheer on and encourage others.”
- “How easy it is to find a member of staff to talk to about personal issues.”
- “I love the staff and how accepting they are of students and also willing to help you in any way with whatever you need.”
- “The great education system and the great teachers.”
- “I am very proud of the support systems in place at the school as well as the kindness that is

shown by almost all of the faculty here, because it makes the school feel more like a second home than an obligation.”

“Is there anything else you want to share that you think needs some improvement?”

- Some had concerns about student behavior and discipline
- Some felt that groups were blamed for an individual’s behavior
- More AP and other classes offered
- Bring back ‘Student of the Month’ awards
- Need more communication between teachers about their plans/assignments
- No more E-hall passes
 - Micromanage
 - Non-effective
 - No consistency when transitioning to high school
- Bring back AP Chemistry, APUSH, AP Physics
- Audio recording in addition to the cameras we have

“What classroom activities do you learn from the most/wish were offered more to better your learning?”

- Hands-on
- Kahoots/quizlets
- More work on physical paper, less chromebooks
- Class projects
- Demonstrations
- Games to help learn information (like headbands, hop scotch, and bingo)

Ways to reach and focus students more:

- Flexible seating in classrooms again
 - Had it in middle school but went away in high school and with Covid
- Calendar of what assignments will be happening in the classroom and when work is do, easily viewable in the front of the room (even if it is just for the week)
- Encourage more study games in the classroom instead of saying “Go practice the quizlet set for homework” - the competition in class adds to the excitement
- of learning a subject
- Scavenger hunts around the classroom using topic info
- Alternative, lower lighting and less chromebooks
- Quiet background music

Power of Peace Program the students participated in earlier this school year:

- The presenter really had a way with kids
- Made a space for kids to be vulnerable, helped others with empathy, and created friendships because students bonded over similar situations
- Helped others not feel as alone
- Created better relationships and trust between adults (staff) and students
- Communication with others
- Got people out of their comfort zone
- Slowly seeing progress in the halls

Progress being made:

- Writing and Literature Club (10th period)
- Cooking and Baking Club
- Men’s Volleyball
- E-Sports
- Student of the Month Awards
- Archery Club with Mr. Morey. Will need to see if there is enough equipment already owned by district.

ECS Roundtable

Community Recognition:

Seneca Falls Library: Tara Montoney, Luke Lorenzetti and Karen Kelly

Seneca Falls Historical Society-Rylie Stevers

Generations Bank-Jenny Humphreys

Seneca Falls Rec Center-Justin Hylwa
Pat's Pizzeria-Nate Young (representing)
Safe Harbors-Rebecca Goodwyn

Grade 3-Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Brady, Ian Butler, Aurora Guarino, Kaiden Russell and Harper Vanderwall

- Skilled Reading:
 - Features of Effective Instruction
 - Explicit – clear explanations, teacher modeling, student practice
 - Systematic – focus on 1 or 2 skills at a time moving from simpler to more complex progression
 - Engaging – motivating, multisensory, and snappy pace to keep interest
 - Duration – most students benefit from just a few minutes of blending and segmenting practice within the full phonics lesson
- Orthographic Mapping is the process used to permanently store words into long term memory. It requires:
 - Letter-sound proficiency
 - Phonemic proficiency
 - Relationships between sounds and letters automatically
- How do children process a printed word?
 - Our brain uses letter sound relationships plus our knowledge of phonemes to segment and blend spoken words.
 - With multiple exposures and practice, our brains map the letter sequence to long term memory. It becomes a sight word.

Grade 4-Mr. Sciera, Ashton Irizarry, Bella Leone, Nicholas Miller, Hannah Shafer, and Sam Taylor

Grade 5-Mrs. Koepke, Alec Page, Faylin Jensen, Mason Christensen and Gianna Sandroni

Mrs. Koepke shared the curriculum changes to 5th Grade Science. Her students demonstrated for the Board "What's in the Bag" (Physical Science unit). The students:

- Investigated whether the mixing of two substances in a closed system results in a new substance (or substances) with different properties
- How does particle size affects the rate of reaction?
- Collected data and identified evidence that a new substance was formed
- Core Idea - Structure and Properties of Matter

Music-Mr. Koepke, Isaiah Abbe, Elise Gathenya, Ruby Bardo, Vinny Nigro, Sofia Bilancini, Benen Osborn, Gio Clinton-Ortiz, Jonah Smith, Michael Crane and Zachary Snyder.

- The students switched from the Recorder to Ocarina for the following reasons:
 - Ocarina is smaller
 - Cannot be overplayed without intention
 - Has a mellow tone
 - Neither hand dominant
 - Comes with a neck strap
 - Costs \$10 a piece
 - Is one solid piece
 - Used 4 fingers and 2 thumbsThe downside is that the scale is not as obvious on the Ocarina.
- Student preparation to play the Ocarina:
 - Students need to know basic rhythms: quarter notes and eighth notes.
 - Students need to know how to read the Treble Clef in its most basic form: line and spaces each represent a new pitch A-G
 - History of the Treble Clef
 - Boomwhackers
- What students need to know to read music:
 - Know rhythm-how long to hold a note (percussion)
 - Know note names (Boomwhacker, Treble Clef)
 - Know fingerings for the notes.

This program is ability based-no grade requirements; tiered, solo work, independent of general music; immediate physical incentive; can be done online or locally; stress is on notes/fingering/tone with rhythm coming later and allows 1 on 1 time students.

2023-2024 School Improvement Plan

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Elementary School Improvement Committee: Amy Hibbard, Stephanie Moll, Scott Sciera, Susan Moulton, Morgan D'Eredita, Melissa Koepke

Four measurable points of pride (from last year's plan):

- Fountas & Pinnell benchmark assessments were administered with fidelity three times this year after teachers received training on assessment protocols.
- 80% of students grew the expected three or more levels on the Fountas & Pinnell benchmark assessment.
- The chronic absenteeism rate decreased throughout the year as a result of targeted student interventions.
- 10% of students were flagged as "at risk" socially/emotionally on the Panorama SEL survey data, and all were provided with tier 2/3 interventions.

Focus areas and rationale to improve our school in the coming year:

- SFCSD is committed to improve literacy instruction based on the plan developed in response to the K-8 Literacy Program Review. Cady Stanton faculty are dedicated to implementing standards-based instruction and helping all students to reach their reading potential. Students struggled with higher-level comprehension conversations on the Fountas and Pinnell assessment; teachers will work on reinforcing higher-level comprehension conversations in lessons.
- Successful students attend school on time and regularly. Cady Stanton faculty and staff are committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all students, which promotes consistent attendance. We value family partnerships and recognize the importance of working together to lower chronic absenteeism.
- A safe and effective school has students who are self-aware, caring, respectful, connected to others and responsible decision makers. Social awareness skills are especially important for students to develop throughout their intermediate years. Social awareness is how well students consider the perspectives of others and empathize with them. At Elizabeth Cady Stanton, we value the whole child and are dedicated to a socially, emotionally and behaviorally healthy safe learning environment for all. Therefore, intentionally teaching social awareness skills and strategies is a valuable part of our SEL curriculum.

Public Comment

The Seneca Falls Board of Education welcomes public comment. Speakers may comment on matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than three (3) minutes. Public comments will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated. In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored.

Persons addressing the Board of Education during public comment should not expect to engage in discussion with the Board. The Board will not permit any comments involving specific individual personnel or students.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be referred to the Superintendent. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

Committee Reports
Scholarship Committee

Denise Lorenzetti reported on the following:

Information
Warrants

03/01/2024 – 03/31/2024

Warrant #78 (A)	\$ 415,520.28
Warrant #31 (C)	\$ 1,305.99
Warrant #34 (F)	\$ 2,755.84
Warrant #5 (H)	\$ 10,533.33

04/01/2024 – 04/30/2024

Warrant #81 (A)	\$ 633,046.40
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Warrant #82 (A)	\$	32,131.47
Warrant #32 (C)	\$	24,020.04
Warrant #36 (F)	\$	55,157.35
Warrant #37 (F)	\$	12,843.71

Business Administrator Report

James Bruni shared with the Board that the Foundation Aid that the district will receive the same as last year.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported on the following:

The Capital Project design will be submitted to NYSED by May 15, 2024.

On April 22, Dr. Reed along with members of the Facility Committee visited with Day Automation to see a presentation of their safety products.

Next Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for May 9.

BOE Member Comments

Michael Mirras expanded on the visit with Day Automation. Take-a ways were automatic locking doors and cameras in the main offices of buildings. Ninety-five percent of the project in the Middles School would be aid-able. Money would be utilized from the Smart Bond for the other school buildings because only the Middle School is aid-able.

Matthew Lando asked if the project for safety features would go out for bid. James Bruni stated that Day Automation would have to meet state bid or be under.

Important Dates to Remember

- May 9, 2024-BOE Meeting/Public Hearing
- May 11, 2024-Four County SBA Legislative Meeting (9:00 am)
- May 16, 2024- Four County SBA Annual Meeting
- May 21, 2024-Annual Meeting (Budget Vote/Election)
- May 24, 2024-No School for students & 10 month employees
- May 27, 2024-Memorial Day Holiday
- May 30, 2024- Four County SBA New Member Get Acquainted Evening
- June 8, 2024- Four County SBA Legislative Committee Mtg.

Consent Agenda
Retirements/Resignations/Terminations

SFAA

None at this time

SFEA

Resignation

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following
Extra-Curricular resignation

Name: Alexa Parson
Position: Color Guard Coach
Effective: 04/12/2024

SFSSA
None at this time

Appointments
Professional Appointments

The Board of Education of the Seneca Falls Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Dr. Michelle Reed, Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints the following: *(Probation dates are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law sections 2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher*

receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time)

Name: Jamie Oberdorf
Position: Coordinator of Intervention and Student Services (TOSA)
Certification: Elementary Education (Gr. 1-6) & Literacy
Effective date: 07/01/2024
Salary Schedule + Position Stipend

Name: Katherine Mosca
Position: School Psychologist
Certification: School Psychologist (*pending*)
Tenure: (*pending certification*)
Effective date: 07/01/2024
Probation: (*pending*)
Salary: \$49,451

Civil Service Appointments
None at this time.

Substitute Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following substitute appointment(s) (*All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared*).

Name: James Clark
Position: Substitute Auto Mechanic/Bus Driver
Effective: 04/25/2024

Probationary to Permanent
None at this time.

CSE Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE minutes: 03/21/2024, 03/22/2024, 03/25/2024, 03/26/2024, 03/27/2024, 03/28/2024, 03/29/2024,

Gifts and Donations

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following gifts or donations:

Donor	Amount	Account	
United Way of Seneca Co.	\$200.00	A2020-450-04-0000	Mynderse Academy students

2024-2025 Transportation Request(s)
None at this time

2023-2024 Fingerprint Re-imbusement
\$50.00

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the district will reimburse an employee or substitute employee \$50.00 towards the cost of fingerprinting provided the employee, or substitute, has met the specified minimum number of hours worked on the Fingerprint Re-Imbursement Claim Form for their position.

Establish Account

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the establishment of an Elizabeth Cady Stanton Student Council account.

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.
Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business
Salary Correction

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to correct the salary as follows that was approved at the March 9, 2023 board meeting

Name: Tarryn Gould-Hebert
Position: School Psychologist
Certification: School Psychologist
Tenure: School Psychologist
Effective Date: 07/01/2023
Probation: 07/01/2023 through 06/30/2027
Base Salary: ~~\$48,000.00~~ **\$48,720.00**

Heather Zellers made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

New Business
SFEA MOA's

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following SFEA MOA's:

SFEA MOA- 2024-2025 K-8 Literacy Coach-Stephanie Moll (retro to 04/11/2024)
SFEA MOA-2024-2025 Coordinator of Intervention and Student Services (TOSA)-Jamie Oberdorf

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Property Tax Report Card

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Seneca Falls Central School District Property Tax Report Card as presented.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Election of Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES Board of Education Members

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that the Board of Education for the Seneca Falls Central School District cast one vote for Lynn Gay, Bloomfield CSD, to a seat on the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Board for a three-year term effective July 1, 2024.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that the Board of Education for the Seneca Falls Central School District cast one vote for Pam Pendleton, Wayne CSD, to a seat on the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Board for a three-year term effective July 1, 2024.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that the Board of Education for the Seneca Falls Central School District cast one vote for OJ Sahler, Canandaigua CSD, to a seat on the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Board for a three-year term effective July 1, 2024.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Heather Zellers.
Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

2023-2024 WFL BOCES Administrative Budget

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that the Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 tentative administrative budget (Part 1) of the Wayne-Finger Lakes Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of three million, eight-hundred sixty-three thousand, two-hundred dollars (\$3,863,200.00).

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Awarding of RFP for Geotechnical Investigation

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that upon the evaluation of all successful applicant bids and the recommendation from the Facilities Committee in conjunction with the Superintendent, the Board of Education awards the contract for Geotechnical Investigation to the Terracon Consultants, Inc. (NY).

Company Name	Estimated Lump Sum	Estimated Boring Lengths
Terracon Consultants, Inc.	\$18,500.00	225 LF
ATL, Inc.	\$22,331.50	225 LF
CME Associates, Inc.	\$24,696.00	225 LF

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Agri-Business Child Development

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following 2024-2025 school year agreements between the Seneca Falls Central School District and Agri-Business Child Development.

Agri-Business Child Development (UPK-Seneca Falls Head Start)
Agri-Business Child Development (ABCD at Seneca Falls Head Start)

Deborah Corsner made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Establishment of the Ben Cafolla Student Athlete Award

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the establishment of the following annual Ben Cafolla Student Athlete Award:

The Ben Cafolla Student Athlete Award criteria:

Amount of Award: \$500.00

Award will be presented in memory of Ben Cafolla, a former Mynderse Academy graduate

Money will be held by the Seneca Falls Education Foundation

Criteria:

Awarded to a senior male student who was a three (3) sport athlete;

One of the sports must include lacrosse, football or basketball

Overall minimum GPA of at least 3.0

The recipient must exhibit strength, determination and dedication to his fellow team mates;

In the event there are no graduating male senior athletes who meet the above criteria, other student athletes will be considered;

Recipient must have followed school's attendance policy.

First award beginning 2024 graduation

Selection Process: Nominations from the school will be mailed to the family who then will make the final decision.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Executive Session
Superintendent Evaluation

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:18 pm to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk

The regular meeting resumed at 8:21 pm

Adjourn

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Michael Mirras, Board Vice President

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