

Great Valley School District

School Board Business Meeting Highlights

April 15, 2024

From the Office of the School Board Secretary



To view presentations and attachments, please view the [agenda](#) on BoardDocs.

During the April 15, 2024 Business Meeting

The April 15, 2024, business meeting was called to order by Vice-President Rachel Gallegos. **Board members present:** Tricia Chasinoff, Samantha Jouin, Wendy Litzke, Neha Mehta, Thomas Richards, and Becky Speiss. **Joining via Zoom:** David Barratt. **Absent:** Andrea Rizzo.

Presentations

Recognition

Marie Derby, a middle school teacher, recognized **Neel Rege** (8), **Satvik Sharma** (8), **Om Gagrani** (7), and **Akshaj Samineni** (8), who earned second place in the regional 'You Be the Chemist' challenge. This is a collaborative STEM/Science competition where teams compete for scholarships.

Marie Derby, a middle school teacher, recognized three middle school students who received recognition in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC). Those students are **Satvik Sharma** (8), who earned the spot of the top 1% in the country, **Masamune Ozawa** (6), who earned the spot of the top 5% in the nation, and **Aarav Khandelwal** (8), who earned the spot of top 3 in GVMS.

Jessica Stanhagen, High School Art Teacher, recognized **Rylee Basore** (12), **Rebecca Gonsalves** (11), and **Evelyn Song** (12) as finalists in this year's Wharton Esherick Museum's Student Printmaking Competition.

Sharon Maroney-Garrett, President of Neighbors in Black and White, Inc., recognized nine Black History Poster contest students named first through third place winners. The elementary-level winners are **Penelope de Barrena-Sarobe** (3) and **Sai Aditi Ratnavali** (3) in third place, **Kayla Ouazzi** (5) in second place, and **Shivansh Ahuja** (4) in first place. The middle school winners are **An'Niya Jackson** (8) in third place, **Navina Shanmugavelu** (6) in second place, and **Guler Camyar** (8) in first place. The high school winners are **Delight Adeyemi** (10) in third place, **Atharva Singh** (9) in second place, and **Naomi Elliot** (12) in first place. Shannon also recognized the General Wayne student, **Brayson Bishop** (1), who won the Institute for the Development of African American Youth Winner.

Student Council Reports

The K.D. Markley Elementary School students reported the recent events within their school to the school board. Those events included raising money for a People's Pantry donation, Valentine's Day cards for the veterans at the VA in Coatesville, and a mindfulness day for staff and students.

The Middle School Student Council shared that they earned the 2024 National Council of Excellence Award for exemplary service in leadership, service, and activities.

Executive Session

Ms. Gallegos reported that the Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Secretary's Correspondence

Ms. Gallegos asked Mr. Peterson if there was any Secretary's Correspondence. There was none.

Chester County Intermediate Unit Report

Dr. Rizzo was absent, so there was no report.



Presentations
(continued)

Legislative Report

Ms. Jouin shared that the meeting is scheduled for next week and that she will give a report at the next board meeting.

Council for Diversity and Inclusion Report

Mrs. Chasinoff said that during the April 3 meeting, the committee discussed the equity plan, and that the high school group “The Great Valley Leaders for Equity” had a speaker come to speak to the students.

The Great Valley School District Education Foundation Report

Ms. Speiss reported a partnership breakfast is scheduled for April 19, and the golf outing is scheduled for June 24.

Instructional Technology and Curriculum Committee Report

Ms. Jouin reported that the committee reviewed the new curriculum information at the April 8 meeting, which will be approved at tonight’s Board Meeting. She also shared that the Pennsylvania Department of Education has recommended a Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) designation for the English Learner Achievement scores for the high school.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

There were no public comments on agenda items.

Consent Agenda Items

The board voted 8 to 0 to approve the following Agenda Items.

Routine Approvals

- Minutes of March 18, 2024
- Invoices
- Treasurers and Tax Collectors’ Report

Program Approvals

- Social Studies curriculum for 1st-grade unit 4 for the 2023 – 2024 school year
- Social Studies curriculum for 3rd-grade unit 3 for the 2023 – 2024 school year
- Social Studies curriculum for 5th-grade unit 3 for the 2023 – 2024 school year
- Social Studies curriculum for 8th-grade unit 1 for the 2023 – 2024 school year
- Social Studies curriculum for 8th-grade US and PA History for the 2023 – 2024 school year

Facilities Approval

- Change order #1 to the contract with David M. Maines Associates, Inc., the Roofing Contractor for the 5/6 Center, at a cost of \$12,494.52, to be paid with construction funds.
- Change order #30 to the contract with Lobar, Inc., the General Contractor for the 5/6 Center, at a cost of \$32,807.41, to be paid with construction funds.
- Change order #31 to the contract with Lobar, Inc., the General Contractor for the 5/6 Center, at a cost of \$11,727.03, to be paid with construction funds.
- Change order #32 to the contract with Lobar, Inc., the General Contractor for the 5/6 Center, at a cost of \$90,598.02, to be paid with construction funds.
- Change order #33 to the contract with Lobar, Inc., the General Contractor for the 5/6 Center, at a cost of \$33,347.69, to be paid with construction funds.



Consent Agenda Items

(continued)

Technology Approvals

Purchase of 15 Ricoh IM3500 black and white copiers at a cost of \$71,969 under the terms and conditions of the PA Costars Contract 001-E22-086
Purchase of seven copiers at a cost of \$30,429, under the terms and conditions of the PA Costars Contract 001-E22-086.

Financial Approvals

Resolution authorizing a Property Tax Rebate Program for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) and the Great Valley High School for the Unified Champion Schools (UCS) program for the 2023-2024 school year.
Chester County Intermediate Unit Core and Occupational Budget Resolutions for 2024-2025
Authorization for the Director of Business Affairs to approve an extension of the electricity purchasing contract.
Contract with LearnWell for student 270172. The admission date was 2/23/2024 at Brooke Glen Behavioral Hospital. The instruction is for 10 hours of educational services per week at a cost of \$53.50/hour.
Contract with LearnWell for student 260270. The admission date was 3/25/2024 at SUN Behavioral Delaware - Adolescent Inpatient. The instruction is for 10 hours of educational services per week at a cost of \$53.50/hour.
Contract with KidsPeace for student 270124. The admission date was 3/10/2024 at Orefield Campus. They provide up to 5 hours of tutorial education per week at a cost of \$40.00/hour.
Contract with KidsPeace for student 250249. The admission date was 3/28/2024 at Orefield Campus. They provide up to 5 hours of tutorial education per week at a cost of \$40.00/hour.
Contract with The Vanguard School for student 290022. This is for the 23-24 school year. The student finished a 30-day trial period and will continue at Vanguard. The cost per year is \$80,500.00. This is pro-rated for a start date of 4/4/2024.
Contract with Dr. Debbie Zacarian to provide professional development to administrators and ESL specialists for a total cost of \$20,000 paid by the Ready to Learn Grant.
Special education settlement agreement for student #280015.

The board voted 6 to 0 to approve the proposal of Wendy Saltzman from Philly Power Media to provide public speaking and presentation training for \$12,800.

Financial Approvals

Mrs. McGibboney reviewed the preliminary budget, which includes a 3.5% tax increase. She also shared the 2024-2025 budget assumptions and staffing changes.

Dr. Wexler and Ms. Dinsmore reviewed the various Great Valley School District support systems. The Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) is broken into three-tiered support systems. The least restrictive environment was also reviewed, and how the district designates the different levels of support needed for students.

The board voted 8 to 0 to approve the 2024-2025 preliminary budget resolution with a real estate tax increase of 3.5%.

The board voted 8 to 0 to approve the following financial items.

Tellez Enterprises Quote for a welcome event for Charlestown Elementary School, at a cost of \$1,200
Contract with CCRES for a substitute assistant principal for a short-term leave of absence (eight weeks) for \$650.00/day plus a CCRES administrative fee of 10% for a total of \$715 per day.

Personnel Approvals

Resignations

Professional Staff

Mark Cellini, Music teacher, Great Valley Middle School, effective August 19, 2024.
Kristen Green, School Psychologist, Great Valley High School, effective up to 60 days from April 15, 2024.



Personnel Approvals
(continued)

Resignations

Support Staff

Amber Stirling, 10-month Clerical Aide to the Director of Athletics, Great Valley High School, effective April 3, 2024.
Kelly Fichter, 10-month Clerical Aide, Great Valley Middle School, effective June 5, 2024.

Extra Duty Responsibilities (EDR)

Scott Gee, Fitness Monitor, Great Valley High School, effective March 21, 2024.

Leaves

Professional Staff

Ryan Shields, Kindergarten teacher, K. D. Markley Elementary School, requests FMLA from approximately August 20, 2024 to November 11, 2024.
Ellie Doyle, Grade 3 teacher, Charlestown Elementary School requests a professional compensated leave for the 2024-2025 school year.
Carly Machamer, Grade 2 teacher, K. D. Markley Elementary School requests a professional compensated leave for the 2024-2025 school year.
Neil Young, Social Studies teacher, Great Valley Middle School, requests a professional compensated leave for the 2024-2025 school year.
Kimberly Wickham, STEAM teacher, General Wayne Elementary School, requests FMLA from approximately April 1, 2024 to April 12, 2024.
Lisa Freeman, Language Arts teacher, Great Valley Middle School, rescinds her request for a professional compensated leave during the 2024-2025 school year.

Appointments

Professional Staff

Molly Basilio, ESY (Extended School Year) Reading Specialist, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Casey Malack, ESY (Extended School Year), Grade 3 Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Laura Campbell, ESY (Extended School Year), Grade 4 Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Kelsey Withrow, ESY (Extended School Year), Intensive Structured Literacy, Grades 2-5 Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Carolyn Magee, ESY (Extended School Year), Intensive Structured Literacy, Grades 2-5 Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Mary Ackerman, ESY (Extended School Year) Executive Functioning/Credit Recovery Support/8-12 Learning Support Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Natalie Hartman, ESY (Extended School Year) Elementary Center Based Instructor, K. D. Markley Elementary School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Rachel Pelletier, ESY (Extended School Year) Elementary Literacy Support, Intensive Structured Literacy Center, Grades 2-5 Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.
Jacquelyn Zalkind, ESY (Extended School Year) Grade 2 Learning Support Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024
Melissa Webb, ESY (Extended School Year) Secondary 8-12 grade Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.



Personnel Approvals

(continued)

Appointments – continued

Professional Staff

Anna Rojewska, ESY (Extended School Year) Elementary Center Based Instructor, Great Valley Middle School, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective June 17, 2024.

Support Staff

Edwinis Sharpe, full-time 12-month Head Custodian, K. D. Markley Elementary School, (Brown, E.), (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective April 16, 2024.

Administrative Staff

Susan Chambers, Assistant Director of Business Affairs, Great Valley School District, (McGibboney), (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks), effective May 20, 2024.

Extra Duty Responsibilities, 2023-2024 school year (F – Faculty, NF – Non-Faculty)

Great Valley Middle School

Mathieu Weiner, Athletic Director, F, effective April 15, 2024.

Salary Adjustments

Post Season Play

Basketball Boys’, GVHS

Todd Fredrick, 11 days

Rasheed Lawson, 11 days

Winter Track, GVHS

Nicole Jones, 13 days

Jason Shaw, 13 days

Andrew Le, 13 days

Wrestling, GVHS

Scott Gee, 6 days

Jared Zupito, 6 days

Swimming, GVHS

Ashlyn Marabella, 13 days

Carly DiMarcantonio, 13 days

Great Valley High School Musical

Tim Brown, Keyboard, (rehearsals 3/19, 4/2, 4/4, 4/6, 4/8, 4/9, performances, 4/11, 4/12, 4/13)

Genevieve Chapin, Bass (rehearsals 4/9, performances 4/11, 4/12, 4/13)

Eileen Fields, Keyboard, (rehearsals 3/12, 3/19, 4/2, 4/4, 4/8, 4/9, performances 4/11, 4/12, 4/13)

Christopher Tolomeo, Keyboard, (rehearsals 3/19, 4/2, 4/4, 4/6, 4/8, 4/9, performances, 4/11, 4/12, 4/13)

Jason Wolbach, Guitar (rehearsals 3/12, 3/19, 4/6, 4/8, performances, 4/11, 4/12, 4/13)

Change of Status/Assignment

Professional Staff

Rebekah Groh, Art teacher, Great Valley Middle School to Great Valley High School, (Startup), effective August 20, 2024.

Gabrielle Juliano, long-term substitute Intervention teacher, (Blickle), General Wayne Elementary School, from Bachelor’s degree, Step 1 to Master’s degree Step 1, (pro-rated to start date of January 17, 2024),

Administrative Staff

Kevin Bray, Assistant Principal, General Wayne Elementary School/K. D. Markley Elementary School to Assistant Principal, the Great Valley 5/6 Center, effective July 1, 2024.



Personnel Approvals

(continued)

Summer Services

ESY (Extended School Year) Instructors, 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. for 24 days. Two additional days for preparation.

- Jacquelyn Mack**
- Brenda Roy**
- Jean Spitofsky**
- Amanda McLoughlin**
- Andrew Schreiber**
- Christine Parthemore**
- Taylor Gavin**
- Taylor Geiser**
- Anne Winter**
- Stephanie Cummings**
- Connor Tabak**
- Carolyn White**
- Jackie Furia**
- Johnna Rice**
- Alyson Streeter**
- Stephanie Robinson**
- Sarah Karwoski**
- Rachel Sortino**
- Julia Hild**

Staff Conference Requests

PMEA All-State Conference & Festivals 2024, (PA Music Educators Association), Erie, PA, Wednesday, April 17 – Saturday, April 20, 2024.

Alexander Siwa, Music Teacher, Great Valley High School

PASA Women’s Caucus Conference, Hershey, PA, Sunday, May 19 – Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

Emily Braskey, Elementary Supervisor, Student Services, District Office

Joanna Wexler, Assistant Superintendent, District Office

Heidi Capetola, Principal, Great Valley High School

Melanie-Jo McCarthy, Principal, General Wayne Elementary School

Policy Approvals

The following policies were approved by a vote of 8 to 0.

2nd Reading and Adoption

- Policy 006 Meetings
- Policy 200 Enrollment in District. AG
- Policy 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students. AG
- Policy 209.1 Food Allergy Management. AG
- Policy 210 Administration of Medication. AG
- Policy 216.1 Supplemental Discipline Records
- Policy 217 Graduation Requirements
- Policy 237 Electronic Devices. AG
- Policy 246 Student Wellness. AG

2nd Reading Repeal

- 216.3 Supplemental Discipline Records, AG



Facilities/Transportation/Food Service/Technology Approvals

Dr. Goffredo gave a brief overview of the progress of the 5/6 Center construction and shared a few pictures of the project thus far.

Public Comments

The following community members made public comments on other items:

- Mrs. Helme – High School Football Coach
- S. Johnson – High School Football Coach
- D. Ludwig – District Policies and High School Football Coach
- Mr. Helme – High School Football Coach

Adjournment

Seeing no further comments or questions, the board voted 8 to 0 to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.