

The Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, in the High School Audion. Present were Directors Susan Baxter, John Conte, Cedric Dettmar, Bryan Eichfeld, Laurel Erickson-Parsons, Michael Karabin, Tracy Magnotta-online, Shamim Pakzad and Shawn Welch. Also present were Judith Riegel, Board Secretary, Mark Fitzgerald, District Solicitor, and Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent

- I. **Call to the Order** – 7:01 pm Susan Baxter, *President, presiding*
  - II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
  - III. **Recording of Attendance** – *Judith Riegel, Secretary*  
8-present, 1-absent (Pakzad)
  - IV. **Motion to Approve Agenda** – Director Conte, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve the Agenda as amended with the addition of #4 under Education, “Amendment of the 2023-2024 High School Program of Studies”.  
Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Pakzad)
  - V. **Announcement of Executive Session** – Special Education Issues and SVEA Updates
  - VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Conte, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve the minutes of February 28, 2023. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Pakzad)
  - VII. **Recognition** – None
  - VIII. **Presentation** –
    - A. High School Representative – Alana Weirbach - Absent
    - B. Chapter 339 Plan – Jillian Brodhead
- Director Pakzad arrived at 7:09 PM
- IX. **Superintendent’s Report** – *Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent*
  - X. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only** – None
  - XI. **Presentation of Bills** – *David Bonenberger*
    - A. General Expenditures – \$ 451,799.23
    - B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$12,301.80
    - C. Health Benefits – None
    - D. Capital Projects – None
      1. Approve the above presentation of bills.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve the Presentation of Bills. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
  - XII. **Treasurer’s Report** – *Cedric Dettmar/David Bonenberger*
    - A. Cash Investment and Bond Activity - None
    - B. Condensed Board Summary Report - None
    - C. Capital Project Finance Report – None

- D. Budget Transfers - \$2,105.00
- E. Middle School Activity Report - None
- F. High School Activity Report – None

1. Approve the above Treasurer's Report

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

### **XIII. AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **A. Education**

1. Approve a Dual Credit Affiliation Agreement with Pennsylvania State University for a period of 5 years.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons moved to approve Education Item #1. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

2. Approve the second and final reading of the following policies:

Policy 215.1 – Acceleration

Policy 215.1 AR – Acceleration Procedures

Policy 215.2 – Credit Recovery

800.1 – Electronic Signatures

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons moved to approve Education Item #2. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

3. Approve a 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant in the amount of \$1,750.00 for the Middle School Maker Space sponsored by the Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovations.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Karabin moved to approve Education Item #3. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

4. Approve the amendment to the Program of Studies to reflect that year-long classes are to be valued at 1.0 credits and semester-long classes are to be valued at .5 credits with the total credits required to be adjusted to reflect this change.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Karabin moved to approve Education Item #4. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

#### **B. Personnel**

1. Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Saucon Valley Board of School Directors and the Saucon Valley Education Association for a time period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028.

Director Pakzad, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Personnel Item #1. Vote: 8-yes, 1-no (Conte)

2. Approve Francesca Lesisko School Counselor at Masters, Step 2 at \$61,351.00, with benefits per the current Saucon Valley Education Association contract, pending completion of employment paperwork and release from current employment.

Director Pakzad, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons moved to approve Personnel Item #2. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

3. Approve 2 unpaid days, March 20 & 21, 2023, for Aidan Johnson, custodian, to attend his wedding.
4. Approve the following individuals as Middle School Student Council Advisors:  
Victoria Gazzana - \$1,119.50\* \*splitting stipend  
Amanda Holveck - \$1,119.50\*
5. Approve Beverly Sparling as a Homebound Instructor for the 2022-2023 school year at \$40.00/hour.
6. Approve the addition of Gail Isbell, paraprofessional, to the after-school Elementary School Homework Club.
7. Approve the following Athletic Coaches for the 2022-2023 school year. \*new coaches are in italics

**Track & Field**

Robert Davis - Volunteer

**Girls Lacrosse**

Timothy Lannon - Volunteer

**Boys Lacrosse**

*John Flok - Volunteer*

**Softball**

*Robert Schlegel - Assist. Coach Jr. High - \$1035*

*Kristen Gubish - Volunteer*

Greg Best - Volunteer

**MS Soccer**

Karoun Goudsouzian - Volunteer

8. Approve Michael Wechtler as an IU Emergency Certified Substitute for the 2022-2023 school year.

Director Karabin, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons moved to approve Personnel Items #3-8. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

## C. Facilities

### A. Facilities Committee Summary – March 8, 2023

1. Approve the attached agreement with Northampton County for use of the District Office Conference Room as a Polling Location for 2023.

Director Karabin, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Facilities Item #1.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

Director Pakzad left at 7:33 PM

## D. Finance

### 2022-2023 Budget Timeline for the 2023-2024 School Year

**May 31, 2023** - *District Deadline* to adopt the 2023-2024 proposed final budget and upload the signed Certification of Use of PDE-2028 into the Consolidated Financial Reporting System application.

**June 10, 2023** (20 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to make the 2023-2024 Proposed Final Budget available for public inspection on PDE-2028.

**June 20, 2023** (10 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to offer public notice of its intent to adopt the 2023-2024 final budget.

1. Approve the contracts with Easton Coach for \$2,000.00 and City Cruises in the amount of \$5,250.50 for the Class of 2023 Senior Trip paid for by students and fundraising.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Karabin moved to approve Finance Item #1.

Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Pakzad)

2. Approve Settlement Offer for Government Entity Claims Against JUUL Labs, Inc. (“JLI”)

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Finance Item #2.

Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Pakzad)

3. Approve the attached contract with Hogan Learning Academy for in-person instruction for identified students at a daily rate of \$460.00.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons moved to approve Finance Item #3. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Pakzad)

4. Approve the contract with Capstone Academy for an Extended School Year Program for student #12987 in the amount of \$12,121.25. (Pakzad)

Director Erickson-Parsons, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Finance Item #4. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent

**E. Community Updates**

- **Hellertown/Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce** – *John Conte*
- **Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovation** – *Tracy Magnotta*

**F. Northampton Community College** – *Susan Baxter*

**G. Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School** – *Cedric Dettmar and Bryan Eichfeld*

**H. Colonial Intermediate Unit** – *Dr. Shamim Pakzad*

**I. New Business** – None

**J. Old Business** – None

**K. Citizens' Inquiries and Comments** –

W. Broun – Asked about School Board Directors speaking to press and the identity of the District official spokesperson.

**L. Announcements**

**Future Meetings** ~ March 28, 2023  
April 11, 2023

**M. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

Director Welch, seconded by Director Conte moved to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Pakzad)

7:39 PM

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

President