

A Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, in the High School Audion. Present were Directors Edward Andres, Susan Baxter, John Conte, Cedric Dettmar, Bryan Eichfeld, Michael Karabin, Dr. Shamim Pakzad, and Shawn Welch. Director Tracy Magnotta attended virtually. Also present were Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent; Judith Riegel, Board Secretary, and Mark Fitzgerald, District Solicitor

- I. **Call to the Order** – 7:01 Dr. *Shamim Pakzad, President, presiding*
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Recording of Attendance** – *Judith Riegel, Secretary*
9-present, 0-absent
- IV. **Motion to Approve Agenda** – Director Welch, second by Director Karabin moved to approve the Agenda. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- V. **Announcement of Executive Session** – May 24, 2022- Personnel & Negotiations
- VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Conte, second by Director Eichfeld moved to approve the minutes of May 10, 2022. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- VII. **Superintendent’s Report** – *Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent*
Reported on the recent Kindergarten screening, 100 students have registered so far. The 1st EL picnic occurred last week and 100 students and parents attended. The first round of Marching Band Instructor interviews occurred last week. Four candidates are being moved to the second round of interviews.
- VIII. **Recognition** – None
- IX. **Presentation** –
 - A. High School Student Representative – Avia Weber
- X. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only** –
 - P. Silverthorn – Spoke about the staff that is not currently present and rumors occurring.
 - H. Gress – Commented on High School staff
 - A. Ramsberger – Commented on the possible tax increase.
 - C. Komoroski – Commented on the staffing situation and possible tax increase.
 - B. Geyer – Commented on the Tax Appeal Policy.
- XI. **Presentation of Bills** – *David Bonenberger*
 - A. General Expenditures – \$ 385,237.79
 - B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$16,901.37
 - C. Health Benefits – \$312,793.89
 - D. Capital Projects – None

1. Approve the above Presentation of Bills.

Director Dettmar, second by Director Conte moved to approve the Presentation of the Bills. Vote:9-yes, 0-no

XII. Treasurer’s Report – Cedric Dettmar/David Bonenberger

- A. Cash Investment and Bond Activity
- B. Condensed Board Summary Report
- C. Capital Project Finance Report
- D. Budget Transfers - \$190.00
- E. Middle School Activity Report - None
- F. High School Activity Report – April 2022

1. Approve the above Treasurer’s Report

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

XIII. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Education

- A. None

1. Approve the attached agreement between Saucon Valley School District and IUP regarding the participation of IUP students in practicum experiences or student teaching at SVSD.

Director Welch, second by Director Baxter moved to approve Education Item #1. Vote:9-yes, 0-no

B. Personnel

- A. None

1. Approve the following retirement MOUs:
Sharon Bender
Debra Kunkel-Christman

Director Dettmar, second by Director Conte moved to approve Personnel Item #1. Vote:9-yes, 0-no

2. Approve the following resignations:

Julie Arena, Kindergarten teacher, effective May 7, 2022. Mrs. Arena is currently out on unpaid maternity leave.

Molly Cook, First Grade, her last day will be June 6, 2022

Director Conte, second by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Education Item #2. Vote:9-yes, 0-no

3. Approve Meredith Lesney and Kristin Schlotter as summer technology assistants at \$15.00/ hr. not to exceed a total of 270 hours.
4. Approve the following 2021-2022 substitute teacher:
Jacqueline Fetzer - Emergency Certified
5. Approve the following maternity leave request:
Kaitlin Sauerzopf, K-2 speech teacher, begins approximately August 23, 2022, through approximately December 4, 2022. She plans on using 27 sick days prior to 9 weeks of unpaid FMLA leave. Mrs. Sauerzopf will return to her teaching duties on approximately December 5, 2022.

Director Dettmar, second by Director Baxter moved to approve Education Items #3-5.
Vote:9-yes, 0-no

C. Facilities

- A. Summary Facilities Committee Meeting – 5/11/2022

Recommendations for Approval

None

D. Finance

- A. Summary Finance Committee Meeting – 5/18/2022

2022-2023 Budget Timeline for the 2021-2022 School Year

May 31, 2022 - *District Deadline* to adopt the 2021-2022 proposed final budget and upload the signed Certification of Use of PDE-2028 into the Consolidated Financial Reporting System application.

June 10, 2022 (20 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to make the 2021-2022 Proposed Final Budget available for public inspection on PDE-2028.

June 20, 2022 (10 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to offer public notice of its intent to adopt the 2021-2022 final budget.

1. Approve the 2022-2023 proposed final budget, consistent with school code, in the amount of \$51,116,885.00, with \$1,257,239.00 coming from fund balance and a 1.2289 millage increase which generates tax revenue of \$743,588.00. The new millage rate will be 54.6589 mills.

Director Welch, second by Director Conte moved to approve Finance Item #1.
Vote:5-yes, 4-no (Andres, Karabin, Pakzad, Welch)

2. Approve the first reading of the policy:
605.1 – School District Initiated Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals

Director Dettmar, second by Director Karabin moved to approve Finance Item #2.

Vote:9-yes, 0-no

3. Approve the attached contracts with Hirschberg Mechanical pending review and approval of the solicitor:

Outside excavation & sewage line repair in the amount of \$12,640.00

Inside excavation & sewage line repair in the amount of \$107,240.00

Director Karabin, second by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Finance Item #3.

Vote:9-yes, 0-no

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*

1. Approve the candidates for the Northampton Community College Board of Trustees, with a term of July 1, 2022-June 30, 2028, per board ballots.

Director Welch, second by Director Dettmar moved to approve NCC #1.

Vote:9-yes, 0-no

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

H. Colonial Intermediate Unit – *Bryan Eichfeld*

1. Approve the candidates for the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 Board of School Directors, with a term of July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025, per board ballots.

Director Karabin, second by Director Dettmar moved to approve CIU #1.

Vote:9-yes, 0-no

I. New Business

J. Old Business

XIV. Citizens' Inquiries and Comments –

P. Silverthorn – Commented on the Budget, bringing charter school students back to Saucon Valley, creating Vo-Tech type classes here to keep students here.

A. Ramsberger – Commented that she is devastated that we are losing Mrs. Arena and Mrs. Cook, and asked when we will find out about the new Spanish Immersion teacher.

B. Geyer – Commented on the budget and appreciated the clarity given on the tax appeal policy.

