

A Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 via an online meeting. Present were Directors Edward Andres, Susan Baxter, Cedric Dettmar, Bryan Eichfeld, Michael Karabin, Tracy Magnotta, Dr. Shamim Pakzad, Sandra Miller and Shawn Welch. Also present were Dr. Craig B. Butler, Superintendent; David Bonenberger, Board Secretary and Mark Fitzgerald, District Solicitor.

- I. **Call to the Order** – 7:00 pm - *Dr. Shamim Pakzad, President, presiding*
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Recording of Attendance** – *David Bonenberger, Secretary*  
9-present, 0-absent
- IV. **Motion to Approve Agenda** – Director Welch, seconded by Director Baxter moved to approve the Agenda. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- V. **Announcement of Executive Sessions** –  
July 9, 2020  
July 14, 2020
- VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Miller, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve the minutes of June 23, 2020. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- VII. **Recognition** – None
- VIII. **Presentation** –None
- IX. **Superintendent’s Report** – *Dr. Craig Butler, Superintendent*
- X. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only**
  - K. Wechtler – Is concerned with what the live stream will be like, were the teachers involved in the planning, how will recess look like with social distancing.
  - B. Kachmar – Commented that he and his wife have worked for the District for almost 50 years and they are disappointed that there was no teacher input into the Health and Safety plan. Teachers will not be able to teach student in class while simultaneously teaching online students.
  - J. Colbert – Spoke as president of the teachers association. Since June 23<sup>rd</sup> the union has not had any input into the reopening plan. He is concerned about HIPPA/FERPA violations with the live stream education.
  - A. Krisukas – Commented that she is pregnant and is concerned for her health and the health of her baby. She spoke of the inadequacies of the Health and Safety plan.
  - T. Scherer – Is concerned about the live streaming and privacy, She asked how the bus and fire drills be handled and how the IEP’s will be managed.

C. Busci – Commented on social distancing and that live streaming can create a FERPA issue.

V. Opthof-Cordoro – Wants temperature checks to be monitored at school, she supports hiring more staff.

J. Davison –

A. Weber – Gave a student perspective and that it is important that we take the teachers perspective into consideration when making plans

A. McFetridge – Feels opening plan is not thorough enough, asked about school based screenings and contact tracing, wants a better cleaning plan and a plan for keeping the teachers healthy.

K. Fluke – Asked about parent pick up at the end of the day, before and after care, lockers, what to do when child is sick with non-COVID illness. Suggesting 2 teachers per grade teach online courses.

M. Salgado – Commented to the solicitor as to when would the public get answers to questions that are being asked. He commented on the use of paraprofessionals to help out with cleaning the cafeterias, concerned about the lack of quarantining of people exposed and the challenges with social distancing band and choir.

C. Skuba – Thanked Dr. Butler for the parent Zoom meeting, asked the board and Dr. Butler to include the teachers in making changes to the plan as parents, teachers and the public have stated that the plan is not good enough.

D. Lloyd – Commented that the plan seems rushed, not bad just rushed.

G. Geiger – Is concerned as to why we are not getting a substitute for guidance counselor that is going out on maternity leave.

**XI. Presentation of Bills – David Bonenberger**

- A. General Expenditures – \$460,977.64, \$423,397.48
- B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$740.16
- C. Health Benefits – None
- D. Capital Projects – \$74,030.97

1. Approve the above presentation of bills.

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

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

No Report or Recommendations

**A. Education**

- A. Parent Survey
- B. Summary Outline of the Health and Safety Plan
- C. Academic and Personnel Meeting Summary from July 1, 2020

1. Approve a summary outline of the Health and Safety Plan for the 2020-21 school year.

Director Miller asked when the plan in its entirety will be available for viewing by the public.

Director Magnotta asked if there is a deadline to approve the Health and Safety Plan.

Director Pakzad, seconded by Director Dettmar proposed to amend the summary outlined Health & Safety Plan for the 2020 – 2021 school year to reflect that the plan that will be formally approved at the July 28, 2020 meeting will adhere to the following items:

Transportation – no more than 1 child to a seat with the exception of siblings.

That we adhere to guidance articulated from the CDC, PA DOH and PDE with only limited exceptions for programming implementation issues under the IDEA and Section 504. Those would be provided by the Superintendent on a case by case basis on student and educational needs.

Vote: 7-yes, 2-no (Andes & Karabin)

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the amended Education Item 1. Vote: 8-yes, 1-no (Andres)

2. Approve the second and final review of the following textbook/license: (in 2020-21 budget)

Course Title – *Honors Calculus*

Textbook Title – *Calculus: An Applied Approach, 10th Student Edition + WebAssign (6 year access), Larson 10th Edition*

Cost Per Textbook – \$199 (bundle includes one hardcover textbook and six years ebook licenses)

Number of Textbooks – 30 bundles

Total Cost for Textbooks – \$6,567 (\$5,970 +\$597(10%S&H))

3. Approve the purchase of 120 Chrome Books in the amount of \$27,000 which is covered through PA Smart Grant, PCCD grant, and Ready to Learn Grant. These will facilitate various student technology needs across the district.

Director Miller seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Education Items 1 and 2.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

## **B. Personnel**

1. Accept the resignation of Dianne Nickles, food service, July 1, 2020.

2. Approve the following 2020-21 fall coach. *Appointment herein and the District's obligation to pay the coaches and supplemental positions approved in this motion is subject to the District's ability to hold and/or participate in the activity in light of the COVID-19 Crisis. In the event (1) the District is closed or providing modified services, (2) unable to hold the activity as the result of direction from outside agencies such as PDE, PIAA, the CDC, the Governor's Office, District XI, etc., or (3) the Administration determines not to hold such activities for the safety of the students and community, the District shall have no obligation to pay athletic and non-athletic contracts appointed herein. In the event the fall sports and/or activities are reduced, the athletic and non-athletic contracts approved herein shall be paid a pro-rata amount of the stipends herein based on the percentage of the season/activity that was held and students participated. The decision to cancel and/or discontinue the activities or sports season shall be at the exclusive discretion of the administration based, in part, on guidance from the Center for Disease Control, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, other health agencies, and student participation in such activities.*

**Girls Soccer:**

James Ellison – Volunteer Coach

Director Miller, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Personnel Items 1 & 2.  
Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

**C. Facilities**

No Reports of Recommendations

**D. Finance**

1. Approve the agreement for the National Math and Science Institute in the amount of \$15,526 which is covered through the Ready to Learn Grant. The district received full acceptance for a three-year partnership beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

Director Welch, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Finance Item 1.  
Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

**E. Community Outreach – SV Partnership – Michael Karabin and Shawn Welch**

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

**G. Colonial Intermediate Unit – Sandra Miller**

**H. PSBA – Sandra Miller**

**I. Hellertown/Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce – Michael Karabin**

**J. Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovation – Tracy Magnotta**

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

**L. New Business**

A. Discussion of Board Meetings in Person Instead of ZOOM

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Welch moved to have the next Board meeting live in person at the District.

Michael Hanssen will investigate options and present at the next Board meeting. Director Eichfeld withdrew his motion.

**M. Old Business**

**XIII. Citizens’ Inquiries and Comments –**

J. Broadhead – Asking for a high level of information prior to having to make any decisions.

T. Scherer – Asked about eating in the classroom in regards to allergies, plans for recess, increase of vehicles for drop off & pick up, disappointed that the Board has not asked Dr. Butler to talk to teachers for their guidance in the preparation of the plan.

J. Stern – Feels the Board Zoom meeting should be an option even when Board meetings go back to live in person meetings.

V. Opthof-Cordoro – Thanked Board for following the CDC guidelines. Commented that it is extremely convenient to participate via Zoom and would like it to continue even if the meetings do go live.

**XIV. Announcements**

**Future Meetings ~**

- July 28, 2020 – 7 pm – Business Meeting
- August 11, 2020 – 7 pm –Business Meeting
- August 25, 2020 – 7 pm –Business Meeting
- September 8, 2020 – 7 pm –Business Meeting

**XV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

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

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

9:51 pm

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary President