

A Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, October 13, 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** – 7:06 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 Karabin, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve the Agenda. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- V. **Announcement of Executive Session** – October 13, 2020
- VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve the minutes of September 22, 2020. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- VII. **Recognition** – None
- VIII. **Presentation** –
 - A. Bond Refinancing - Jamie Doyle, Managing Director, PFM and Jennifer Caron from Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott, LLC
- IX. **Superintendent's Report** – *Dr. Craig Butler, Superintendent*
Dr. Butler thanked the Administration, staff and students for what they are doing to keep everyone safe.
- X. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only**
 - K.Baum – Thanked the Board, the elementary school and Dr. Butler for what they are doing to keep the children safe and provide education to the students.
 - A.Sams – Dr. Butler asked Ms. Sams to bring her subject up to administration.
- XI. **Presentation of Bills** – *David Bonenberger*
 - A. General Expenditures – \$725,642.75
 - B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$12,713.02
 - C. Health Benefits – None
 - D. Capital Projects – None
 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

- A. Cash Investment and Bond Activity – None
- B. Condensed Board Summary Report – None
- C. Capital Project Finance Report – None
- D. Budget Transfers – \$318,969.52
- E. Middle School Activity Report – None
- F. High School Activity Report – None

- 1. Approve the above Treasurer’s Report.

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

A. Education

- A. Academic and Personnel Committee Summary – October 7, 2020
- B. Discussion of Adjustment to Spectator Guidelines for Athletic Event.

Director Eichfeld mad a motion to expand the spectator capacity to the Governor’s 20% recommendation. Attorney Fitzgerald said a motion is not necessary unless we would be going beyond the Governor’s recommendation.

- 1. Approve the second reading of the following policy:

Policy 103.2 – Title IX/Nondiscrimination – Based on Sex

Director Karabin, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Education Item #1.

Director Miller will be voting no because she is uncomfortable that she has not reached out and received a good explanation regarding the higher standard we chose to have in the policy.

Vote: 5-yes, 4-no (Andres, Pakzad, Miller, Magnotta)

- 2. Approve the School Wide Plan for 2020-21.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Education Item #2.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

B. Personnel

- 1. Approve the following individuals as part time instructional paraprofessionals at an hourly rate of \$19.19 for no more than 28 hours per week, benefits per the current Educational Support Staff Compensation Plan, effective upon completion of employment paperwork.

Kimberly Reilly
Whitney Reese

2. Approve the following individuals as part time bus drivers at an hourly rate of \$10.00 for riding and starting at \$22.30 for driving, benefits per the current Educational Support Professional Contract, effective upon completion of employment paperwork.
David Coyle
Emmanuel Rosa
James Bartley
3. Approve the following Family Medical Leave:
Robyn Heppenheimer, high school English teacher, beginning October 6, 2020 through November 16, 2020.
4. Approve the following unpaid medical leave:
Chad Miller, high school music teacher, to begin unpaid medical leave beginning Tuesday, September 29, 2020 and continue through Friday, October 16, 2020. Mr. Miller will return to his teaching duties on Monday, October 19, 2020.
5. Approve the unpaid maternity leave extension request of Ashley Yestrumskas, high school science teacher. She was originally returning October 30, 2020. She will now return on November 30, 2020.
6. Approve the following maternity leave requests:
Julie Bechtold, first grade teacher, beginning approximately November 30, 2020 through approximately April 30, 2021. She plans on using 30 sick days prior to using 44 sick days in conjunction with 12 weeks of FMLA leave, followed by an unpaid leave from approximately March 25th through approximately April 30th. Mrs. Bechtold will return to her teaching duties on approximately May 3, 2021.
Amber Krisukas, elementary special education teacher, beginning approximately February 1, 2021. She plans on using 22.5 sick days and 2.5 personal days prior to 12 weeks of unpaid FMLA leave, followed by an unpaid leave for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. Mrs. Krisukas will return to her teaching duties at the beginning of the 2021-22 school year.
7. Approve the following sabbatical leaves:
Melissa Janis, speech/language teacher, beginning October 5, 2020 through December 18, 2020, for restoration of health. Mrs. Janis will return to her position on December 21, 2020.

Eugenia Miller, high school English teacher, beginning October 19, 2020 through end of the first semester, for restoration of health. Mrs. Miller will return to her position the first day of the second semester.

8. Approve the following day to day substitutes for the 2020-21 school year working four days of a five day school/work week where needed in assigned school buildings. Their salary will be \$175 per day, no benefits:

Dzana Krcic – Elementary School – effective September 29, 2020

Kristi Levin – High School – effective September 29, 2020

Trish Murphy – Middle School – effective September 30, 2020

Robert Pasternak – High School – effective September 29, 2020

Julie Santoro – Elementary School – effective October 5, 2020

9. Approve the following 2020-21 substitute teacher(s):

Julie Santoro – SV Emergency Certified

Director Welch, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Personnel Items # 1 – 9.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

C. Facilities

No Reports of Recommendations

D. Finance

A. Finance Committee Summary – September 23, 2020

1. Adopt the Resolution as presented authorizing a \$2,107,000 General Obligation Note, and related action, to refinance the School District's 2014B Note under the terms and saving set forth in the related report of PFM Financial Advisors.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Finance #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

M. Old Business - Director Eichfeld commented that he is very proud that the District has been able to educate the children in five days a week at the District.

Director thanked Ms. Baum for her kind comments.

Dr. Pakzad agreed and thanked the staff for all that they are doing.

XIII. Citizens' Inquiries and Comments –

T. Scherer – Thanked Mr. Deegan, Mr. Halcisak, M. Sakelarides and the teachers for everything they are doing. She asked where we are with the Principal position for the elementary school.

M. Salgado – Asked when we are going to do live Board meetings; about the change in job titles for Director of Special Education; the St. Luke's link on the website does not work; who are the doctors that Dr. Butler is consulting. He commented that since teachers are not allowed to speak at the Board meetings how are we to hear what is happening. He stated that Board policies 402 & 903 state that it is okay for staff to address the Board. He also wants to know why teachers were expected to report when the school was closed.

XIV. Announcements

Future Meetings ~

October 27, 2020 – 7 pm –Business Meeting – TBA

November 10, 2020 – 7 pm –Business Meeting – TBA

December 1, 2020 – 7 pm –Reorganization and Business Meeting – TBA

XV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

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

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

8:00 pm

ATTEST: _____

Secretary

President