

A Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 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** – 7:05pm - *Susan Baxter, President, presiding*

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Recording of Attendance** – *David Bonenberger, Secretary*  
7-present, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

**IV. Motion to Approve Agenda** – Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve the Agenda. Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2 absent

**V. Announcement of Executive Session** – February 9, 2020

Director Andres arrived at 7:07pm.

**VI. Approval of Minutes** – Director Welch, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the minutes of January 26, 2021. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Magnotta)

**VII. Recognition** – None

**VIII. Presentation**

A. Second Quarter Parent Satisfaction Survey – Jaime Vlasaty

Director Magnotta arrived at 7:18pm.

**IX. Superintendent's Report** – *Dr. Craig Butler, Superintendent*

Rebecca Dettmar was nominated for the U.S. Presidential Scholarship. Twenty-six FBLA students qualified for the state competition and had eight students win. Robert Frey was recognized as a Certified International Athletic Administrator.

**X. Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only**

E. Stern - Commented on the possible shortening of the AP classes from full year to semester classes.

T. Scherer – Commented on the proposed remediation for grades 7-12. She would also like to see it available for grades K – 6.

D. Lloyd – Concerned about the potential compression of AP classes to half a school year.

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

- A. General Expenditures – \$288423.68
- B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$9,796.97
- C. Health Benefits – None
- D. Capital Projects – \$6,026.78

- 1. Approve the above presentation of bills.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch 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. Academic and Personnel Summary – February 3, 2021

- 1. Approve the Residency Adjudication involving student #75488 as presented.

Director Miller feels that this policy should be reviewed.

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Education Item #1. Vote: 6-yes, 3-no (Andres, Magnotta, Pakzad)

- 2. Approve the settlement agreement for student #13083.

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

- 3. Approve the 2021-22 High School Program of Studies.

Director Miller will be voting no due to classes being removed. Director Pakzad is voting no because it does not meet the needs of the students.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Education Item #3. Vote: 6-yes, 3-no (Miller, Pakzad, Karabin)

- 4. Approve the first reading of the following policies:

- Policy 317 - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
- Policy 417 - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
- Policy 517 - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures

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

5. Approve the After School Remediation program.

Director Pakzad asked how many students will be in the classes. He stated he would like to see any instructional problems addressed at the building level not after school.

Director Eichfeld asked if this is COVID related or will this program continue.

Director Dettmar thanked Dr. Butler and the administrators for doing this but also has some concerns as others also have. He asked about the cost of the program.

Director Miller asked if other students would be allowed to join later on. She felt ESSER funds would be perfect for this.

Director Karabin asked if this was mandatory. He would also like to see data on where the children come from that have failures.

Director Eichfeld agrees and that we should do this to help the students and the cost should not be an issue.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Education Item #5.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

6. Approve the agreement between the Saucon Valley School District and Lehigh University which will provide eligible employees accepted into the College of Education programs, the opportunity to receive scholarship monies provided by Lehigh University to cover the difference between the district reimbursement for credits and the Lehigh University tuition. This agreement begins May 25, 2021 and continues until May 18, 2024.

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Education Item #6.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

**B. Personnel**

1. Approve the following resignations:

Frank Kulla, part time bus driver effective January 25, 2021.

Jennifer Basmagy, instructional paraprofessional her last day will be February 19, 2021.

2. Approve the addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Saucon Valley Education Association involving Long Term Substitutes for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

3. Approve the following long term substitute:

Melissa Miller as high school English long term substitute, beginning January 14, 2021 and continue for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. Base salary is \$53,182 (B, Step 1), which will be prorated for the number of days worked. Ms. Miller is replacing Matthew Shaw, who recently resigned.

4. Approve an unpaid medical leave for Lynn Beller, Elementary School Cafeteria Monitor, from March 16-31, 2021. She will be using her sick and personal days prior to starting unpaid medical leave.
5. Approve the following 2020-21 substitute teacher(s):  
Vivian Demko – Elementary

Director Karabin, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Personnel Items #1-4.  
Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

### **C. Facilities**

No Reports of Recommendations

### **D. Finance**

#### **2021-2022 Budget Timeline for the 2019-2020 School Year**

**February 17, 2021** (90 days prior to primary election) – *District Deadline* to adopt the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget unless a Resolution was adopted.

**February 22, 2021** (85 days prior to primary election) – *District Deadline* to submit the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget containing proposed tax rate increases to the Department of Education.

**May 31, 2021** - *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, 2021** (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, 2021** (10 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to offer public notice of its intent to adopt the 2021-2022 final budget.

#### **A. Finance Committee Summary – January 27, 2021**

1. Approve the purchase of a Karcher HDS Undercarriage Cleaner at a cost of \$5,716. This item has been budgeted for in the 2020-2021 school year budget.
2. Approve the purchase and installation of two cantilever slide gates to replace the swing gate at the Transportation Building at a cost of \$9,878. This item has been budgeted for in the 2020-2021 school year budget.

Director Karabin, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Finance Items #1 & 2.  
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 and Shamim Pakzad*

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

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

Director Magnotta reported that Fulton Bank gave a \$2,500 donation to the SVFEI.

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

**L. New Business** – Director Baxter proposed to resume in person committee meetings.

**M. Old Business**

**XIII. Citizens’ Inquiries and Comments** – *Visitors should state their name and address.*

**XIV. Announcements**

**Future Meetings ~**

February 23, 2021 – 7 pm – Business Meeting – TBA

March 9, 2021 – 7 pm – Business Meeting – TBA

March 23, 2021 – 7 pm – Business Meeting – TBA

**XV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

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

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

8:16 pm

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

Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

President