

A Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, June 9, 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 – *Susan Baxter, Vice-President, presiding*  
Director Pakzad asked for Director Baxter to run the meeting due to an unstable internet connection.
- 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 Eichfeld move to approve the agenda with the following changes: Remove Finance Item #1(A-H); Finance Item #2 and Finance Item #11. Vote:9-yes, 0-no
- V. **Announcement of Executive Session** –  
June 15, 2020 - Personnel  
June 23, 2020 – Personnel & Safety
- VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Welch, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the minutes of June 9, 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** –  
G. Nolf – Asked for clarification regarding the items that were removed from the agenda.  
J. Colbert – Will reserve comments until the end of the meeting.  
T. Scherer – Commented the increase in lunch prices may be a hardship for some.  
A. Kichline - Asked if the budget that is currently posted on the website is correct.  
C. Bucsi – Will reserve comments until the end of the meeting.  
C. Skuba – Asked if Nearpod is still in the 20-21 budget.
- XI. **Presentation of Bills** – *David Bonenberger*
  - A. General Expenditures – \$230,239.54
  - B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$450,784.37
  - C. Health Benefits – \$340,727.45
  - D. Capital Projects – None

1. Approve the above presentation of bills.

Director Miller, 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
- B. Condensed Board Summary Report
- C. Capital Project Finance Report
- D. Budget Transfers – \$375.00
- E. Middle School Activity Report – May 30, 2020
- F. High School Activity Report – May 30, 2020

1. Approve the above Treasurer’s Report.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve the Treasurers Report. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

**A. Education**

- A. The Keystone Graduation Requirement Pathways (Act 158 of 2018) remains in effect for the class of 2022 and beyond. With the cancellation of the Keystone Exams this past Spring, PDE will allow for students enrolled in 2019-20 Keystone Courses to opt to take the Exam during the 2020-21 school year. Saucon Valley School District will offer this testing during the Winter and Spring 2020-21 windows provided by the State as a means to continue the option for students to meet their requirements through the Keystone Exams.

B. Academic and Personnel Meeting Summary from June 16, 2020

1. Approve the second reading of the following policy:  
Policy 209.2 – Food Allergy Management

Director Andres commented that he is concerned with the guideline.

Dr. Butler stated that he is working on new administrative guidelines. The guideline are important for day to day process to keep children safe and has been a much needed update.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Education Item #1. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

**B. Personnel**

- 1. Approve Glenn Brown as the district home school visitor at an hourly rate of \$25 per hour for a maximum of 100 hours for the 2020-21 school year.

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Personnel Item #1.  
 Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

- 2. Approve the following to be employed as District Summer Bus Cleaners for 2020 at an hourly rate of \$14 per hour for Bus Cleaners /CDL Drivers, no benefits, not to exceed 40 days of employment. (Subject to budget approval)
  - Ginger Hill
  - Jessica Lehr
  - Keri Kane

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

**C. Facilities**

A. Facilities Committee Meeting Summary 6/17/2020

- 1. Approve the attached “Athletic Re-Socialization” Plan, effective until August 9, 2020.

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Facilities Item #1.  
 Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

Director Pakzad, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to amend the previous motion to give administration decision to open the weight room sooner if protocols and safety are in place.

**D. Finance**

A. Finance Committee Meeting Summary 6/10/2020

- 1. ~~Approve the elimination of the following items as the result of economic issues facing the district, effective July 1, 2020:~~

~~**A. Layoff the following employees (\$303,147)**~~

- ~~Lynn Cheddar— Supervisor of Federal Programs, Assessment and Professional Development~~
- ~~Nancy Zapotocki— HS Attendance Administrative Assistant~~

~~Nancy Bonhorst—Athletic Administrative Assistant  
 Catherine Garrity—K-8 Attendance Administrative Assistant  
 Martha Kelemen—Business Office Part Time Administrative Assistant~~

~~**B. Reduction from full time to part time status hours will be determined at administrative discretion. (\$75,042)**~~

~~Nancy Bean  
 Debra Panariello  
 Regina Savant  
 Christa Laudenslager  
 Rhonda Amber  
 Suzanne Becker  
 Kathi McGill  
 Jody Kozero  
 Michelle Brozoski  
 Janet Frankenfield  
 Kevin Petrucelli  
 Mary Seip~~

~~**C. Cancellation of Spanish Immersion Program for 2020-21 S.Y. (\$84,929)**~~

~~**D. Reduction in Athletic Program (\$19,503)**~~

~~**E. Cancel purchasing 2 District Vans 2020-21 S.Y. (\$80,590)**~~

~~**F. Elimination of Contracted Paraprofessionals (\$207,900)**~~

~~**G. Cancellation of transfer to Capital Project Funds (\$224,000)**~~

~~**H. 15% Building Level Budget Reduction (\$80,771)**~~

This item was pulled from the agenda.

- ~~2. Approve the retirement of Kimberly Kemmerer, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, effective July 1, 2020. Ms. Kemmerer has been with the Saucon Valley School District in this position for 36 years.~~

This item was pulled from the agenda.

- 3. Adopt the 2020-2021 budget in the amount of \$47,628,231.00 which will be funded by a 0 millage increase and \$1,459,318 from Fund Balance. The millage rate will be 53.43.

Director Eichfeld will not vote in favor of this because it is not realistic not having COVID-19 expenses in the budget. Director Baxter commented that it is still a lot of money coming from Fund Balance.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Welch moved to approve Finance Item # 3.  
Vote: 7-yes, 2-no (Andres & Eichfeld)

4. Approve the attached Senior Citizens Property Tax Rebate Resolution of 2020.

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

5. Approve the following categories regarding the Commitment of Fund Balance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. This is required because of the requirements of GASB54. The categories are: GASB 45 Post-Retirement Costs; Reserve for Health Benefits; PSERS Increases; Capital Improvements/Replacement; and Post-Retirement Benefits other than health care.

Director Karabin, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Finance Item #5.  
Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

6. Approve the attached 2020-2021 District Contracts with:  
Otis, CSI, Degler Whiting, Ehrlich Pest Control, Mountain Environmental & Radon Services, Suppression System Inc., Integritec, Kistler O'Brien, Tomlinson Bomberger, Joshua Tree, Johnson Control, Trane, Emergency Systems Inc, Spangler Boyer, Chrin Hauling, Tyler(Versatrans), Tu Way, Stem Lawncare

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Eichfeld moved to approve Finance Item #6.  
Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

7. Approve the following 2020-21 food service price increases:  
Five cent (\$.05) increase on school tray lunches and breakfast for Elementary, Middle, and High Schools students effective the 2020-21 school year.  
*(2019-2020 Elementary School lunch was \$2.85, Middle & High School lunch \$3.00 and \$1.80 for Elementary, Middle and High School breakfast).*

Director Pakzad will vote no as that money could be best used elsewhere.

Director Eichfeld, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Finance Item #7.  
Vote: 8-yes, 1-no

8. Approve the attached 2020-2021 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution based on the school district real estate tax rate of 53.43 with an exclusion for each approved homestead and farmstead in the amount of \$196.89.

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

9. Approve the PowerSchool Hosting and Support Contract effective July 1, 2020, pending review and approval from solicitor.

10. Approve the contract with Nearpod for Instructional Technical Tools, pending review and approval from solicitor.

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Finance Items #9 & 10.  
Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

- ~~11. Approve the contract with Newsela for Instructional Technical Tools, pending review and approval from solicitor.~~

This item was removed from the agenda.

**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**

Director Magnotta gave a “shout out” to the Hellertown McDonald’s and the community that supported the recent fundraiser.

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

**L. New Business**

**M. Old Business**

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

J. Colbert - Asked if the items taken off the agenda are permanently off or could they be put back on the agenda at some point.

J. Schmell – Commented that the survey that was sent out was confusing. She also commented on the cuts that were removed from the budget.

K. Fluke – Stated that before cuts are proposed consideration needs to be made how the cuts will affect the district. Also wants no raises for staff.

R. McCann - Spoke about the positions that were not replaced and the money the District should be saving.

T. Scherer – Thanked her children’s teachers for taking the time to check in with her children and send them resources even on their summer break.

C. Bucsi – Feels we are over looking special education and we need to cut other items not the paraprofessionals.

A. Kichline - Asked if future cuts would be made during a public meeting or during an executive session

V. Demko – Is disgusted with the proposed cuts, they were all women except for one man.

J. Perez - Spoke about the success her special needs children have has a Saucon Valley partly due to the support from the paraprofessionals.

B. Weaver – Sent a letter to the Board and the Superintendent regarding the Black Lives Matter movement and about bringing racism training to the school district

R. Phillips – Feels the Board is acting under the cloak secrecy and they have now created even more distrust with the employees and the community. Cuts have affected the quality of education in the schools

J. Kozero – Commented that she is a paraprofessional at the elementary school and was one of the people that was to have her hours cut. She stated that she is worried about the children and the potential cuts and if they are going to get everything they need for their IEP’s.

**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

**XV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

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

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

8:38 pm

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
President