

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium - 7 p.m.

Minutes

May 13, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Jeff Widdowson, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Lucy Martsolf, fourth grader, Haine Elementary School, continued the board initiative, "I Led the Pledge" by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. **Roll Call** - by Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Nick Brower, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Fred Peterson, Mr. Jeff Widdowson and Ms. Kari Zimmer. Mr. Eric DiTullio was not present.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition**
 1. Seven talented SV musicians recently advanced all the way to the Pennsylvania Music Education Association (PMEA) All-State Festival and Conference. In the performing arts world, this is the equivalent of making it to the state championship. The festival was held late last month at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center and student performances were held at the newly renovated historic Warner Theater.
Representing Seneca Valley:
 - All-State Orchestra student is Isabella Muthler
 - All-State Band students are Paityn Armstrong, Kami Topf and Mackenzie Tunstall
 - All-State Choir students are Ayla Alexander, Graham Logue and Giulia Siegfried
 Students are led by Ms. Sarah Miller, Orchestra Director, Mr. Varden Armstrong and Mr. Robert Babick, band directors, and Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander, choir director.

The SV Madrigal Choir performed two selections from their spring music for the School Board and those in attendance. The Board was thrilled that Ms. Bobi Jean Alexander brought the students to share their musical gifts and congratulated them on their recent awards and accomplishments.

2. The U.S. Department of Education recently announced the 2024 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, which includes Rowan Elementary School. Rowan is one of only three schools on the list from Pennsylvania, in addition to also being the only Pennsylvania elementary public school and the only educational institution representing the western side of the state. Across the country, 41 schools, 10 districts, three postsecondary institutions and one early learning center are being honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and offer effective sustainability education. The honorees were named from a pool of candidates nominated by 24 states. Rowan and the other award winners will be recognized later this summer at an event to be held in Washington D.C.

Dr. Tina Wentz, Rowan Elementary Principal, was honored to recognize the “Green Team” teachers and their efforts to win the Green Ribbon Award. The team, led by Ms. Betsy Cavicchia and Ms. Michelle Cowell, shared the steps and application process that led to the school winning. The board members recognized and thanked the team for everything that they did, acknowledging that they have gone above and beyond to make this happen. Dr. Vitale shared that she is proud of the team and for the opportunities that they have created in countless hours of learning for the students at Rowan Elementary.

3. Seneca Valley had 36 students from various grade levels compete against hundreds of other students from across the country in the Academic Games League of America (AGLOA) National Tournament, which took place in Atlanta, Georgia, April 20-22. Seneca Valley proudly returned with 20 team and individual awards after competing in seven areas: Equations, On-Sets, Linguistik, Theme, Propaganda, Current Events and Presidents. A special shout out goes to Miss Lydia Miller, senior, for being a member and leading scorer for the Senior Division Propaganda National Champion Team. All Seneca Valley students were led in this effort by Mr. Michael Stebbins, senior high school librarian, Ms. Julie Smith, Ryan Gloyer Middle School science teacher, and Mr. Jeremiah Friday, Haine Elementary School gifted support teacher.

- B. **Dates to Remember** - Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following dates to remember:

May 13-16	Keystone Exams
May 18	Armed Forces Day
May 27	Memorial Day Holiday – No school for students and staff
May 30	Graduation Day (May 31 is the Rain Date)
June 1	Seneca Valley Best Buddies Walk, 9 a.m. – Noon, North Boundary Park; signup at Seneca Valley Best Buddies Walk (runsignup.com)
June 6	Last Day of School for Grades K-11
June 7	Staff In-Service Day

- C. **All-Star Award, Winner, May 2024** - Chris Hoch, Haine Middle School Security Guard, was recognized and presented the All-Star Award by Haine Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Wilcher. Dr. Wilcher shared that Mr. Hoch has a heart of gold, sets a positive tone for the school and that his acts of kindness do not go unnoticed.

Additionally, she shared that Mr. Hoch is often seen lending a helping hand and that he makes a lasting impact on those as he welcomes them into the building. The Board members along with Dr. Vitale, thanked him for all that he does. Mr. Jacobs recognized his heart of service and Mr. Widdowson shared that he has often heard Haine Middle School employees refer to him as the building's ray of sunshine.

D. Financial Reports

1. Operations
2. Senior High Activities
3. Intermediate High Activities
4. Middle School Activities
5. Athletics
6. Food Service
7. Tax Collections
8. Capital Projects Funds

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – There was no public comment.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. **Work Session** – April 8, 2024
- B. **Action Meeting** – April 15, 2024

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$5,082,203.23

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$124,823.75

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the minute's, treasurer's report, general fund bills and construction fund bills. The motion passed on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

A. **Board Policies** -

1. Approved board policy 201 – Admission of Students – revised, second and final reading.
2. Approved board policy 221 – Dress and Grooming – revised, second reading. Third and final reading will occur on June 3.
3. Approved board policy 425 – Dress and Grooming – revised, second reading. Third and final reading will occur on June 3.
4. Approved board policy 317.1 Employees – Weapons, revised, second and final reading.
5. Approved board policy 319 Employees – Outside Activities, revised, second and final reading.
6. Approved board policy 602 – Budget Planning, new, second and final reading.
7. Approved board policy 608 – Bank Accounts, revised, second and final reading.

8. Approved board policy 615 – Payroll Deductions, revised, second and final reading.
 9. Approved board policy 623 – Anti-fraud, new, second and final reading.
 10. Approved board policy 438 – Sabbatical/Professional Development Leave, revised, second and final reading.
 11. Approved board policy 438.1 – Classroom Occupational Exchange Leave, revised, second and final reading.
- Policies to be retired:
12. Policy 317.1 Administrative Employees – Weapons, retire, second and final reading.
 13. Policy 417.1 Professional Employees – Weapons, retire, second and final reading.
 14. Policy 517.1 Classified Employees – Weapons, retire, second and final reading.
 15. Policy 419 Professional Employees – Outside Activities, retire, second and final reading.

- B. **Board Meeting Dates** – Approved the July 2024 through June 2025 School Board Meeting Dates.
- C. **Care Solace Agreement** - Approved utilization of PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) grant funds for the board-approved Care Solace agreement to provide mental health care coordination and support for students, staff and their families during the 2024-2025 school year.

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Ms. Bredl, to approve board policies, board meeting dates and the Care Solace Agreement. The motion passed on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION

- A. **Conferences** – Approved conference requests.
- B. **Student Trip** – Approved Head Cross Country Coach Steve Strellick, along with assistants to the boys and girls Cross County Teams, to Jennerstown, PA for a pre-season training camp from August 16-18, 2024. Students will not miss instruction and there is no cost to the district.
- C. **Adelphoi Education Agreement** – Approved the agreement with Adelphoi Education, Inc. to provide alternative education services for the 2024-25 school year.
- D. **Grant Disbursement** – Granted permission for and to disburse the American Heart Association Wellness Grant in the amount of \$2,500 requested by Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used for equipment and resources in Mr. Michael Pelloni’s physical education classes.

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to approve conferences, the student trip, Adelphoi Education Agreement and the grant disbursement. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

- A. **Budget Transfers** - Approved budget transfers.
- B. **Bid Awards** – Awarded the following bids for the 2024-25 school year:
 - 1. General Supplies
 - 2. Print Supplies
- C. **Depository/Treasurer** – Appointed NextTier Bank as depository and treasurer for the 2024-25 school year.
- D. **Ryan Gloyer Middle School partial Re-Roofing Project** - Approved Duro-Last, Inc. through the government cooperative purchasing program, The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Vendor Agreement for the RGMS partial Re-roofing Project.
- E. **Ryan Gloyer Middle School Quarry Tile Replacement Phase III**: Awarded the General Construction (GC) Bid to GEM Building Contractors and Developers in the amount of \$615,550.
- F. **CVE Re-Roofing Project** - Approved Duro-Last, Inc. through the government cooperative purchasing program, The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Vendor Agreement for the CVE Re-roofing Project for Areas A, B, C, & E.
- G. **Secondary Campus Parking Lot Additions** - Awarded the General Construction Bid to Youngblood Paving, Inc in the amount of \$1,896,050. Award the Electrical Construction Bid to Blackhawk Neff, Inc. in the amount of \$291,800.

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by, Mr. Hester to approve budget transfers, bid awards, depository/treasurer, Ryan Gloyer Middle School partial re-roofing project, Ryan Gloyer Middle School quarry tile replacement phase III, CVE re-roofing project and the secondary campus parking lot additions. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

11. **PERSONNEL** – Approved the following personnel items that were discussed in executive session held prior to the meeting:

- A. **Resignations** – *Administrator* – Amanda Mallin, *Director* – Taylor Schmidt, *Classified* – Ashley Haney, Stephanie Keebler, Lee Ann Petrelli, Nicole Magerl
- B. **Appointments** – *Professional* – Michaela Hermann, *Professional Substitutes* – Debra Karpak, Isabella Harris, *Classified* – Chris Leatherow, Valerie Kirk, Carol Youkers, Michelle Feil, *Supplementals* – Marcus Muenck, J.P. McFeeley, E.G. Sipp, Dan Acklin, Mark Del Duca, Walt Regal, Jim Rekowski, Jay Roman, Brian Goche, Jeff Richards, Scott Stewart, Jenna Plummer, Scott Postler, Kevin Trost, Dorothea Epps, Brian Blackwell, Kevin Wildrick, Jennifer Exler, Eric Fogle, Elizabeth Allen-Boyle, Danielle Fagan, John Schmidt, Joseph Ehmann, Katie Wolford, Wanda Reynolds, Adria Herlihy, Steven Fortunato, Jenna Montelaro, Tara Morrison, Lauren Calderon, Wanda Reynolds, Adria Herlihy, Steven Fortunato, Katherine Peterson, Kevin Holman, Rose Piso, Melissa Mitro, Megan Davis, Amy

Brush, Susan Irwin, Katherine Webb, Cortney Lambert, Gioia Warecki, Molly Brunner, Halley Rooney, Joan Widdowson, Kristi Dietz, Jordan Sadley, Katelyn Gall, Jason Groom, Nichole Schauer, April Christopher, Nicole Ehmman, Carey Beachem, Abigail Russell, Victoria Hinchee, Karissa Lambert, Jennifer Shipe, Jenna Montelaro, Jeanne Probst, Emily Murphy, Leah Carlin, Melinda Hickman, Eva Herman, Melody Snyder, Carolyn Cox, Shelly Droz, Judi Spinelli, Tara Morrison, Lauren Calderon, Stephen Wolfe, Erin Dusenberry, Susan Himic, Kelsey Pappas, Andrea Platt, Colleen Lefler, Lisa Kasper, Jonathan Hickman, Amanda Weir, Maria Landolina, Janet Tallerico, Erin Stewart, Jennifer Roush, Taylor Barum, Michelle Feil, Katherine Miller, Christina Dugan, Valerie Stephens, Amanda Jamison, Tracy Semega, Pamela Volz, Lynne Rodrigues, Whitney Corrigan, La Varr Stephens-Howling, Jason Groom, Karissa Lambert, Darla Ramirez-Lightner, Kaitlyn Witt, Jennifer Exler, Lisa Kasper, Tracy Richards, Halley Rooney, Kalene Ireland, Valerie McGee, Michelle Kostlich, Deanna Christopher, Megan Oldenski, Katie Wolford, Haley Landolina, Erik Carlberg, Jennifer McMurray, Adelina DiTullio, Shannon Perry, Ashley Salman, Melissa Cipollone, Lauren McClain, Julie Glenz, Christopher Titus, Emily Cramer, Kara Andres, Ezekiel Stroupe, Victor Giannotta, Halley Rooney, Cortney Lambert, Christine McCormick, Lisa Tyson, Jennifer Kaufman, *Internship* – Stephanie Bruner

- C. **Leaves – Professional** – Ciara Was, Hannah Hendershot, Michelle Hess, Sinead Reeb, Michelle Huffman, Kayla Robinson, Rebecca Bosco, Rebecca Ganter, Chelsea Patricca, Hannah Sheldon, Jennifer Fiscus, Kristin Henry, Leah Vogel, Jordan Sadley, *Classified* – Dina Tompkins, Margaret Beggy
- D. **Affiliation Agreements** – Approved Affiliation Agreements with Seneca Valley School District and Liberty University and Youngstown State University.

Mr. Brower motioned, seconded by Mr. Peterson to approve resignations, appointments, leaves and affiliation agreements. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative and Mr. Widdowson abstaining.

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the May 6, 2024, public agenda:
- a. Aimee Kaczmarek, Sarah Barone, Martha Gordon and Kelly Cahal
13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing to come before the board, Mr. Brower motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.
14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. Eric DiTullio, President

Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary