

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

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

Minutes

March 11, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Mitchell Myers, third grader at Rowan 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, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Jeff Widdowson and Ms. Kari Zimmer. Mr. Fred Peterson was not in attendance.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition**
 1. Nationally known and recognized, Seneca Valley Performing Arts ensembles continued to receive top rankings at Pennsylvania Music Education Association (PMEA) conferences and festivals last month:
 - Nine Seneca Valley Band students were selected to participate in PMEA District 1 Region Band Festival that was held at Deer Lakes High School. Region Band is a select group of students who have advanced through audition to the regional level of the state festival process. Students are led by Mr. Varden Armstrong, Mr. Robert Babick, Mr. Brian Croach and Ms. Sara Snyder, secondary instrumental instructors.
 - Eleven Seneca Valley orchestra students participated in the PMEA District 2, 3 and 5 Orchestra held at Hickory High School. Based on auditions at this event, seven Seneca Valley students were selected to advance to the Western Region Orchestra. Students are led by Ms. Sarah Miller, secondary orchestra instructor.
 - Twenty-five Seneca Valley band students were selected by audition to perform in the PMEA District 5 Jazz Festival held at Slippery Rock University (SRU). Students are led by Mr. Varden Armstrong and Mr. Robert Babick, secondary band instrumental instructors.

2. Three Seneca Valley students returned with first-place awards after presenting their research projects at the Region 9 Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition held at Slippery Rock University last month. All three students will move on to present at the state PJAS competition held at Penn State University in May. Entry fees for the regional competition were funded by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF). PJAS is a statewide organization designed to stimulate and promote interest in science among its junior and senior student members through the development of research projects and investigations. Student adviser for the program is Ms. Kelly Weston, senior high school science teacher.
3. Mr. Mike Manipole, Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) Health and Physical Education Teacher, recently received the Ann Moniot Outstanding Middle Level Teacher Award for the 2023-24 school year from the Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education (PAMLE). This award is presented to a middle level educator that has made professional contributions that have positively influenced middle level education and students within their school, has a passion for teaching that is contagious to those around them, and someone who creates positive and caring relationships with their students and their colleagues. PAMLE is the leading advocate for middle level education in the state of Pennsylvania.

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

March	
March 13	Reports of Student Progress Release, Grades K-6
March 15	Act 80 Day – No School for Students
March 18	Snow Make up Day #2 – This is a makeup day for the Jan. 19 closure; school will be in session
March 19	Spring Begins
March 22	End of Third Nine Weeks, Grades 7-12
March 25	The holiday of Holi
March 29	Good Friday and the start of Spring Break, No school for students and Staff
March 31	Easter
March 29-April 5	Spring Break, no school for students and staff

C. **All-Star Award Winner, March 2024** – Kelly Bommer, Haine Elementary/Middle School Cafeteria Manager, was recognized and presented the All-Star Award by Food Services Director Mr. Nolen Fetchko. Mr. Fetchko shared about a time that Ms. Bommer helped a co-worker prepare for an important event in her personal life with Ms. Bommer going above and beyond to provide assistance. He emphasized her leadership skills, friendliness and expressed his thanks for all that she does. Ms. Bredl thanked Ms. Bommer for being a mainstay in the District and always being there for the students. Mr. Jacobs compared the cafeterias to well-oiled machines due to the work of Ms. Bommer and her colleagues. Mr. DiTullio thanked Ms. Bommer for her commitment to the students and staff. Dr. Vitale recognized that each of the administrators from Haine Elementary and Haine Middle School were in attendance and that they were there to show their support for Ms. Bommer. She

continued by thanking Ms. Bommer for how she embraces the students and staff each day with a smile.

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** – February 5, 2024
- B. **Action Meeting** – February 12, 2024

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$3,306,039.68

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$148,346.17

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower 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 200 – Enrollment of Students, new, first reading.
2. Approved board policy 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students, revised, first reading.
3. Approved board policy 204.1 – Dual Enrollment – revised, first reading.
4. Approved board policy 312 Employees – Evaluation of Employees, new, first reading.
5. Approved board policy 323 Employees – Tobacco Use, new, second and final reading.
6. Approved board policy 605 – Tax Levy – revised, first reading.
7. Approved board policy 606 – Tax Collection – new, first reading.
8. Approved board policy 618 – Student Activity Funds – revised, first reading.
9. Approved board policy 625 – Procurement Cards – new, first reading.
10. Approved board policy 626.1 – Travel Reimbursement- revised, first reading.
11. Approved board policy 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings, revised, first reading.

Policies to be retired:

12. Policy 323 Administrative Employees – Tobacco Use, retired, second reading.
13. Policy 423 Professional Employees – Tobacco Use, retired, second reading.
14. Policy 523 Classified Employees – Tobacco Use, retired, second reading.
15. Policy 412 Professional Employees – Evaluation of Employees, retired, first reading.

- B. **America250PA** –Approved the resolution supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (AMERICA250PA) to demonstrate support of the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States in 2026. The resolution endorses and supports the various programs, projects and events surrounding this commemoration and Pennsylvania’s rich history and culture that has contributed to the nation over the last 250 years.
- C. **Future Ready Comprehensive Plan Submission** - Approved the Seneca Valley School District Future Ready Comprehensive Plan for 2024-2027 to be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. www.svsd.net/ComprehensivePlan
- D. **Student Adjudications** – Approved the following student adjudications:
 1. #2023-24-12
 2. #2023-24-13
- E. **School Calendar** – Granted the Superintendent authority to alter the school calendar if necessary for April 8, 2024 due to the total solar eclipse.
- F. **Recruiting Services Agreement** – Approved the Recruiting Services Agreement between Search is Over LLC and Seneca Valley School District through the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester to approve board policies, America250PA, Future Ready Comprehensive Plan Submission, Student Adjudications, School Calendar, and the Recruiting Services Agreement. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION

- A. **McGuire Memorial Agreement** – Approved the McGuire Memorial Agreement for the Extended School Year (ESY) Program rates for the 2023-2024 ESY.
- B. **Athletic Uniform Disposal** – Approved the disposal of old, unusable athletic uniforms.
- C. **Student Trips** – Approved the following student trips:
 1. Ms. Sarah Miller, RGMS and IHS Orchestra teacher, to take students to Butler Intermediate High School for Pennsylvania Music Education (PMEA) Regions, March 21-23, 2024. Students will miss one day of instruction.

2. Mr. Angelo Lettiere, JROTC instructor at the SHS, to take students to Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Camp Perry, Ohio, April 10-13, 2024. Students will miss three days of instruction. The trip is at no cost to the District.
- D. **Health and Safety Plan** – Acknowledged the six-month review of the Health and Safety Plan as per the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requirements.
- E. **Grant Disbursement** – Granted permission for and to disburse:
1. Seneca Valley Fishery Grant in the amount of \$24,987.56 requested by Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used to create and equip the SV Fishery, a unique learning experience for secondary students using the already established waterway flowing along our secondary campus.
 2. Robotics Club Grant in the amount of \$30,000 requested by Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used to support the Robotics Clubs for middle and elementary school students.
 3. Hi 5 Kindergarten Transition Grant in the amount of \$2,000 requested by Dr. Kristen White. Funds will be used to purchase UFLI materials that will be used in local preschool programs. These materials will support students transitioning to kindergarten.
- F. **Presley Ridge Agreement** – Approved the Presley Ridge Agreement for Extended School Year Services for the Summer of 2024.
- G. **Conferences** – Approved conference requests.

Mr. DiTullio recognized and thanked Dr. White for the work that she did for the Hi 5 Kindergarten Transition grant.

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower to approve the McGuire Memorial Agreement, athletic uniform disposal, student trips, Health and Safety Plan, grant disbursements, Presley Ridge Agreement, and conferences. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. BUSINESS/FINANCE

- A. **2024-2025 MIU IV General Operating Budget** – Approved the 2024-25 Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV General Operating Budget in the total amount of \$4,162,498 with Seneca Valley’s contribution being \$155,200.
- B. **Budget Transfers** – Approved budget transfers.
- C. **AmCom Agreement** - Approved an addendum to the existing document management agreement with AmCom for a 60-month lease covering a total of thirty-one (31) devices plus the additional PaperCut Solution. Twenty-eight (28) existing devices will be replaced with new machines, and three (3) existing printers will continue in the agreement for a cost of service and supplies only. The addendum further includes 1.2M black/white impressions and 14,500 color impressions per month.

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson to approve the 2024-2025 MIU IV General Operating Budget, budget transfers and the AmCom Agreement. 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** – *Classifieds* – Madalyn Jamison, Daniel Reconnu, *Supplemental* – Kayla Robinson
 - B. **Appointments** – *Professional Substitutes* – Rachel Schulte, Brianna Hunt, Brianne McDonough, Amy Kuszynski, Hannah Morini, Benjamin Jamison, Daniel Reconnu, Jessica McNulty, *Classified* – Oliver Pflug, Brandi Ruiz, Lee Ann Petrelli, Janean Yeater, Alissa Hodas, *Classified Substitutes* – Emily Rihely, *Supplementals* – Jane Leo, E.G. Sipp, Brianne McDonough, Chris Eden, Megan Meeder, *Internship* – Katherine Lukaszewicz
 - C. **Leaves** – *Professional* – Michelle Hess, Kristin Henry, Danielle Reynolds, Scott DeVivo, Amanda Fleming, Jennifer Fiscus, Rachael Belschner, Kelsey Stauffer, Rachael Gales, Dayna Gulish, Rebecca Ganter, Melissa Cornibe, Philip Sassaman, *Classified* – Kelly Bommer, Desirae Foster, Dillon Wetzel
 - D. **Retirements** – *Administration* – Robert Raso, *Professional* – Julie Blackburn, Kelly McDonald, Erin Kerr, Stanley Zimmerman, Keith Chrestay, Marie McLauchlan, Jennifer Fiscus, Patricia Griest, Tracey O’Toole, Rebecca Hester, *Classified* – Deborah Stocklas
 - E. **Affiliation Agreements** - Approved affiliation agreements with Seneca Valley School District and Kurtztown University of Pennsylvania, University of Pittsburgh and Grove City College.

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

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the March 4, 2024, public agenda:

- a. Timothy Straight
- b. David and Amy Canty

Dr. Vitale shared that she had the opportunity to join students who heard from Pa. Supreme Court Chief Justice Debra Todd at a recent presentation in the Senior High School. Chief Justice is the first female in this seat and took time to answer questions from students. Dr. Vitale shared that the students were engaged and excited to hear the Honorable Chief Justice, given especially that it is Women’s History Month.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. Jacobs to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Eric DiTullio, President



Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary