

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium - 7 p.m.

Minutes

April 8, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** - We are deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of two dedicated members of the ABC Transit family, Cheryl Norman and Bernard Rozic. They both served the Seneca Valley community with unwavering commitment and compassion:
 - Cheryl Norman was a long-time driver for Seneca Valley students having previously worked with A.J. Myers & Sons. Her love for her job was evident in her dedication and care for the students she transported. Cheryl was known for her delicious apple pies and her warm interactions with everyone she encountered. She leaves behind her husband of 46 years, Harry R. Norman, her children Carol Hare and Harry Jr., and her beloved grandchildren.
 - Bernard Rozic was not only a dedicated driver for Seneca Valley students having previously worked with W.L. Roenigk Inc. His commitment to safety and reliability made him an integral part of our team, and his kindness and patience touched the lives of many students and colleagues.

Please keep Cheryl and Bernard’s family and friends in your thoughts during this difficult time.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Isaac Chiaraluna, fourth grader in the Seneca Valley Academy of Choice (SVAOC), 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. Fred Peterson, Mr. Jeff Widdowson and Ms. Kari Zimmer. Mr. Mike Jacobs was not in attendance.
2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition**
 1. The Seneca Valley Academic Decathlon Team clinched first place at the United States Academic Decathlon (USAD) State Competition and will now move on to nationals. Seneca Valley’s Academic Decathlon Team had an outstanding score of 42,290 points and earned numerous medals across a range of subjects at the

state competition held last month in Harrisburg. Seneca Valley's Academic Decathlon Team, led by Seneca Valley Senior High School Teacher Mr. David Reichard, will proudly represent the state of Pennsylvania as they compete at the USAD National Competition April 25-27 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh.

2. Mrs. Tracy Glass has an unwavering dedication and commitment to the art of music and her many accomplishments will be noted as she makes her way to Erie later this month to accept the 2024 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Citation of Excellence in Teaching Award for District 5. Mrs. Glass currently serves as an instrumental instructor for students in grades 4-6 at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary, Ehrman Crest Elementary and Ehrman Crest Middle School. She is also the director of beginner band, fifth grade band, and sixth grade band performance ensembles.
3. Also to take place later this month, Ms. Chessa Fernandez-Crum, Ryan Gloyer Middle School Choir Director, will receive the 2024 Butler County Symphony Association's Outstanding Music Educator Award. The award brings attention to the excellent and impactful work of a music teacher in Butler County. In addition to being the RGMS Choir Director, she is also the vocal director for both the RGMS Musical and the junior cast of the SV All-School Musical. Ms. Fernandez-Crum will be recognized by the symphony at an upcoming concert in Butler.
4. The Seneca Valley School District is proud to recognize a Haine Middle School fifth grader, Yasmeen Fahs, who was recently named a 2024 Carson Scholar. Miss Fahs is one of 570 students across the nation who have the coveted honor of being named a Carson Scholar in recognition of her high level of academic excellence and community service. With this honor, she received a \$1,000 scholarship toward her college education and was formally recognized at the 20th annual Carson Scholars Fund's Awards Banquet last night in Pittsburgh.

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

April	Autism Awareness Month
April	National Child Abuse Prevention Month
April	School Library Month
April 9	Eid al Fitr Begins
April 13	ACT Testing, SVSHS, 7:30 a.m.
April 15	School Board Regular (Action) Meeting, SVIHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
April 22	Passover Begins
April 22	Earth Day
April 23	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
April 24	Administrative Professionals' Day
May 3	School Lunch Hero Day
May 4	SAT Testing, SVSHS, 7:30 a.m.
May 5	Orthodox Easter

C. **Agency Reports**

1. Vo-Tech - Mr. Peterson reported that the budget was approved. Additionally, Dr. Hiler has proposed to convert the counselor position to a “Workforce Development Coordinator” to help students find placement in the workforce after completing Vo-Tech. Mr. Peterson also shared that a local dealership donated a vehicle for students to practice/work on in the Automotive Technology Program of Study.
2. I.U. IV - Mr. Eric DiTullio reported that Ms. Breda Marino was awarded the President’s Award by the Pennsylvania Association of School Personnel Administrators. Additionally, he shared that the I.U. IV Convention will be later this month.

D. **Legislative** - Mr. DiTullio reported that the Senate came back to office on April 8 and that the House was back on March 25. Additionally, negotiations for the budget have started.

E. **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. **ACTION AGENDA**

A. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

B. **Student Adjudications** – Approved the following student adjudications:

1. #2023-24-14
2. #2023-24-15
3. #2023-24-16

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison to approve student adjudications. The motion passed on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. **Work Session** – March 4, 2024
- B. **Action Meeting** – March 11, 2024

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$11,392,836.29

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$329,328.92

8. **ADMINISTRATION**A. **Board Policies** -

1. Approve board policy 200 – Enrollment of Students, new, second and final reading.
 2. Approve board policy 201 – Admission of Students – revised, first reading.
 3. Approve board policy 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students, revised, second and final reading.
 4. Approve board policy 204.1 – Dual Enrollment – revised, second and final reading.
 5. Approve board policy 221 – Dress and Grooming – revised, first reading.
 6. Approve board policy 312 Employees – Evaluation of Employees, new, second and final reading.
 7. Approve board policy 425 – Dress and Grooming – revised, first reading.
 8. Approve board policy 605 – Tax Levy – revised, second and final reading.
 9. Approve board policy 606 – Tax Collection – new, second and final reading.
 10. Approve board policy 618 – Student Activity Funds – revised, second and final reading.
 11. Approve board policy 625 – Procurement Cards – new, second and final reading.
 12. Approve board policy 626.1 – Travel Reimbursement- revised, second and final reading.
 13. Approve board policy 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings, revised, second and final reading.
- Policies to be retired:
14. Policy 412 Professional Employees – Evaluation of Employees, retire, second and final reading.

B. **Settlement Agreement** – Approve a special education agreement with one student.

C. **Drug Testing Fees** – Approve to increase the cost of the District drug testing fee.

Mr. DiTullio raised the question of when the last time the fee was raised for drug testing. Dr. McKinley responded that is has been many years since the last increase. Dr. Vitale shared that families are only responsible for the cost of the initial drug test and that the district pays for additional tests where other districts require families to pay for each drug test.

9. **INSTRUCTION**

A. **Student Trips** – Varden Armstrong, Robert Babick, Sarah Miller, and Bobi-Jean Alexander to take band, choir, and orchestra students to the Pennsylvania Music Education Association (PMEA) All-State Conference from April 17-20, 2024. Students will miss three days of instruction.

B. **Equipment Disposal** – Approve the disposal of old, unusable weight room equipment.

- C. **Intergovernmental Agreement** - Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV and Seneca Valley School District for special education services for the 2024-2025 school year.
- D. **Conferences** – Approve conference requests.
10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**
- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approve budget transfers.
11. **PERSONNEL** – Approve appointments, leaves, sabbatical, stipend, and retirement.
12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the March 11, 2024, public agenda:
- a. Eric Goucher
 - b. Laura Moad
 - c. Julia DeSantes on behalf of Representative Stephanie Scialabba
13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing to come before the board, Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 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