

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

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

Minutes

June 12, 2023

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** by Ms. Kathy Whittle, President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Eli Zajacs, second 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: Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Jim Nickel, Mr. Fred Peterson, Ms. Kathy Whittle and Mr. Jeff Widdowson. Ms. Leslie Bredl and Mr. Tim Hester were not in attendance.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition**
 1. Seneca Valley and, more specifically, Ehrman Crest, were recently featured in “District Administration” Magazine, a national print and digital publication for K-12 leaders. Superintendent Dr. Tracy Vitale was asked to author a column that would shine a light on Ehrman Crest and the many individuals who played a part in seeing the building come to life in August 2022. She was thrilled to have the opportunity, and in addition to sharing our story, was able to provide facility planning and collaboration tips to educational leaders across the United States. To read the article in its entirety, please go to: [Reflecting and listening: What we can learn from Fred Rogers \(districtadministration.com\)](https://www.districtadministration.com).
 2. Seneca Valley eighth graders made great investments that led to a win in a recent Stock Market Game. Students from Ms. Kayla Robinson’s Personal Development classes competed in Butler County Community College’s (BC3’s) Stock Market Game. One team won first place in Pennsylvania and placed first in the region and a second team placed third in Pennsylvania and third in the region. The Stock Market Game is an online simulation of the global capital markets that engages students grades 4-12 in the world of economics, investing and personal finance. The competition is presented by the Foundation for Free Enterprise.
 3. Lucas Boyle, a rising senior at Seneca Valley High School, was selected as a world-wide Dean’s List winner in a recent FIRST Robotics Competition. Mr. Boyle was

part of a robotics team consisting of members from multiple western Pennsylvania school districts. FIRST®, a robotics community that prepares young people for the future, brought together approximately 50,000 people from around the world as hundreds of student robotics teams put their innovation, teamwork and robotics skills to the test at the 2023 FIRST Championship, which was held April 19-22, in Houston, TX. More than 18,000 students, and 974 student robotics teams from 59 countries competed and exhibited across FIRST programs. Many FIRST LEGO League (FLL), FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC), and FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) teams earned honors for design excellence, competitive play, research, business plans, creativity and teamwork.

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

June 8-July 13	SVAOC Cyber Summer Session and Summer Camps
June 12	School Board Regular Meeting
June 13	Release of K-6 Student Reports of Progress and 7-12 Report Cards
June 14	Flag Day
June 18	Father's Day
June 19	Juneteenth
June 21	Summer Begins
June 23	Seneca Valley's Kennywood Day
July 4	Independence Day
July 11	Athletics & Activities Summer Drug & Concussion Testing
July 12	Athletics & Activities Summer Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals
August 1	School Board Work Session (please note this is a Tuesday meeting)
August 1	Athletics & Activities Summer Drug & Concussion Testing
August 2	Athletics & Activities Summer Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals
August 3	Seneca Valley Foundation Gift of Hope Golf Classic
August 3	Due date for all Fall Sport Athletic Paperwork
August 10	Alternative Bus Stop Location Request Deadline
August 14	School Board Regular Meeting

Extended School Year Programs

June 26-29	Extended School Year, Special Education, Grades K-12 at ECE/ECMS
July 10-13	Extended School Year, Special Education, Grades K-12 at ECE/ECMS

Summer Programs – Funded by ESSER (Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund)

June 19-22	Summer Program, Grades K-7 at CVE, ECE, ECM, HES, HMS, RE, RGMS
July 17-20	Summer Program, Grades K-7 at CVE, ECE, ECM, HES, HMS, RE, RGMS

English as a Second Language (ESL) Elementary Program

June 26-29	ESL Around the World Camp, Grades K-5 at Haine Elementary
July 10-13	ESL Around the World Camp, Grades K-5 at Haine Elementary

English as a Second Language (ESL) Secondary Program

June 26-29	ESL Pathfinder Workshop, Grades 6-8 at RGMS
June 26-29	ESL Pathfinder Workshop, Grade 9-11 at SHS

C. 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** – Public comment was heard from Mr. Justin Hewitt, President of Seneca Valley Hockey, and Mr. Anthony Raco, Head Coach of Seneca Valley Hockey. The gentlemen spoke collectively on Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (PIHL) Girls' Hockey and their perceived lack of acknowledgement from Seneca Valley. Coach Raco expressed his concerns regarding safety with having girls play with boys and that he wants to work with SV to build the program and increase the number of scholarships offered to girls.

Dr. Vitale thanked Mr. Hewitt and Mr. Raco for advocating for females and thanked Coach Raco for his tenure and dedication to coaching.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Action Meeting – May 8, 2023

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$4,172,714.93

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$1,144,021.64

Mr. Nickel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrison to approve the minutes, treasurer's report, general fund bills and construction fund bills. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

- A. **MIU IV Application** - The Seneca Valley School District Board authorized the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV (MIU IV) to file an application to continue a regional Education Leading to Employment and Career Training (ELECT) program. If awarded the grant, MIU IV will implement the ELECT program on behalf of the Seneca Valley School District, which authorizes MIU IV to receive and expend funds for the implementation of the ELECT program and conduct the activities outlined in the program application.

- B. **Board Policy** – Approved board policy 237, Responsible Use of Personal Technology Resources – revised, first and final reading.
- C. **The Day School at The Children’s Institute Services Agreement** – Approved the Day School at The Children’s Institute Services Agreement for educational and related services during the 2023-24 school year.
- D. **PSBA Voting Delegate** - Appointed Mr. Fred Peterson as the voting delegate for the PSBA Delegate Assembly meeting on Saturday, November 4, 2023.
- E. **Student Adjudications** – Approved the following student adjudications:
 - 1. ~~#2022-23-38~~ Item removed from agenda.
 - 2. #2022-23-39
 - 3. #2022-23-40

Mr. DiTullio made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nickel to approve the MIU IV application, board policy, The Day School at The Children’s Institute Services Agreement, PSBA Voting Delegate and Student Adjudications. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION

- A. **Student Trips** – Approved the following student trips:
 - 1. Approved the secondary band trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida to participate in the Walt Disney World Resort’s Magic Kingdom Parade on March 13-18, 2024, under the supervision of Mr. Varden Armstrong, Mr. Robert Babick and their staff. Students will miss up to three days of instruction. The Seneca Valley Band Boosters will be responsible for all the fundraising activities.
 - 2. Approved the secondary chorus trip to the Great Smokey Mountains, April 26-29, 2024, under the supervision of Mrs. Bobi-Jean Alexander, Mrs. Claire Barker, and Mrs. Chessa Crum. Students will miss two days of instruction. This will be at no cost to the district.
- B. **Athletic Uniform Sale** – Approved the sale of obsolete athletic uniforms & warm-ups.
- C. **Athletic Uniform Disposal** – Approved the disposal of old, unusable athletic uniforms & warm-ups.
- D. **Grant Disbursement** – Granted permission and disbursement for, The McDonald’s MAC Grant in the amount of \$500 requested by Ms. Stacey Harding. Funds will be used to support a cross curricular project involving Language Arts, Social Studies, and Mathematics, in her sixth-grade class.
- E. **Adelphoi Education Agreement** – Approved the agreement with Adelphoi Education, Inc. to provide alternative education services for the 2023-24 school year.
- F. **2023 Graduates** – Approved the list of Seneca Valley graduates for 2023.

- G. **Conferences** – Approved the conference requests.
- H. **Pittsburgh Ballet House** – Approved the SV Academy of Choice Instructional Services Agreement with Pittsburgh Ballet House for 2023-24.

Mr. DiTullio commented that he loved the conference that Ms. Oldenski will be going to.

Mr. DiTullio made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nickel, to approve student trips, athletic uniform sales, athletic uniform disposal, grant disbursement, Adelphoi Education Agreement, 2023 Graduates, conferences, and the Pittsburgh Ballet House agreement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. BUSINESS/FINANCE

- A. **Summer 2023 Projects** – Mr. Randy Miller -
 - 1. **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.
 - 2. **Secondary Campus Survey and Utility locating/mapping services** - Approved the Proposal from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. to provide a complete survey of the secondary campus that includes locating/mapping the underground utilities throughout the campus.
- B. **Owner’s Representative Agreement** – Approved Eckles Construction Services as the Owner’s Representative for the new Intermediate High School Project, pending solicitor review of final agreement.
- C. **Stepping Stones Agreement** - Approved the one-year renewal agreement with Stepping Stones, Inc. to provide extended-day services in each elementary school for the 2023-24 school year.
- D. **Intermediate High School Project** - Approved the proposal from CannonDesign for Architectural/Engineering Services for the Intermediate High School Project, pending solicitor review of final agreement.
- E. **Liability Insurance** - Approved the sanction of the following groups to work on behalf of the Seneca Valley School District and intention to provide that the District’s liability insurance covers these groups for the 2023-24 school year: PTA, PTO, SV Boys’ Lacrosse, SV Indoor Track and Field, SV Ice Hockey, SV Inline Hockey, SV Slow Pitch Softball, SV Bowling, SV Competitive Cheer, SV Ultimate Frisbee, SV Unified Bocce, JROTC, After Prom Committee, Booster Groups, Seneca Valley Foundation, and all Board approved student clubs.
- F. **Booster Group Resolution** - Approved the Booster Group Recognition resolution for the 2023-24 school year.
- G. **Ticket Prices** -
 - 1. Approved the athletic ticket prices for the 2023-24 school year with no changes as follows: football reserved seating \$8.00/entry; football pre-sale adult general admission \$6.00/entry; football pre-sale student general admission \$4.00/entry;

- all football tickets at the gate \$6.00/entry; all other sports adult general admission \$5.00/entry; all other sports student general admission \$3.00/entry.
2. Approved a student annual athletic pass for the 2023-24 school year at a cost of \$50.00 for the year. The pass will allow entry into all Seneca Valley sponsored home athletic events. Pass does not allow for entry to any away or any WPIAL and/or PIAA playoff events.
- H. **Facilities Rental Fees** - Approved the facilities rental fees for 2023-24 with no changes.
- I. **Act 1 Resolution** – Approved the 2023-24 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution per Act 1, Taxpayer Relief Act.
- J. **Budget Transfers** – Approved budget transfers.
- K. **Act 511 Taxes** – Approved re-enactment of the following Act 511 taxes: Flat Rate
1. Occupation Tax - \$10
 2. Earned Income Tax – 1%
 3. Real Estate Transfer Tax – 1%
- L. **Summer Actions** – Authorized the administration to approve the following:
1. Year-end budget transfers
 2. Outreach Partnership of Technology (OPT) Agreements
 3. June and July bills
- M. **Insurance Premiums** – Approved insurance premiums for 2023-24 provided by First National Insurance Agency.
- N. **Portersville Transportation Agreement** – Approved the transportation renewal contract with Portersville Christian School for the 2023-24 through 2027-28 school years.
- O. **Act 93 Agreement** – Approved the Act 93 agreement effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2028.
- P. **SV Aquatics Facility Final Closeout of General Construction Contract** – Approve the Settlement Agreement and Release with VendRick Construction, Inc.’s contract closeout.
- Q. **PreK Counts Agreement** - Approve the renewal lease agreement with Butler County Children’s Center, Inc. DBA Early Learning Connections for the operation of a PreK Counts program at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary for the 2023-24 school year.

Mr. DiTullio shared that he loves the idea of the student annual athletic pass and would like more information on the process in purchasing them. Ms. Lewis shared that this was an idea that came from the student athletic group and that students will have the opportunity to purchase them at the beginning of the year. After purchasing one, students will then get into home events at no cost. More information will be communicated this summer.

Mr. Jacobs made a motion, seconded by Mr. DiTullio to approve summer 2023 projects, Owner's Representative Agreement, Stepping Stones Agreement, Intermediate High School Project, liability insurance, booster group resolution, ticket prices, facilities rental fees, Act 1 resolution, budget transfers, Act 511 taxes, summer actions, insurance premiums, Portersville transportation agreement, Act 93 agreement, SV Aquatics facility final closeout of general construction contract and the PreK Counts agreement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

- R. **2023-24 Budget** – Adopted the annual budget for 2023-24 in the amount of \$168,089,185 with a 2.55 (1.95%) millage increase.

Mr. DiTullio shared that this he believes that the Board has had productive conversations regarding the budget, and that they have come up with a very responsible budget.

Ms. Whittle commented that the Board has had a lot of healthy deliberation regarding the budget in the past month, and that she appreciates all that Ms. Burtner has done to get them where they are.

Mr. Jacobs made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the 2023-24 budget. The motion carried on a roll call vote with five members voting “yes” and Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Nickel voting “no.”

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

A. **Resignations** – *Professional* – Alan Witt, *Classified* – Kenneth Luna

B. **Appointments** – *Director* – Dana Kirk, *Administrator* – Tresa Amoscato, *Classified* – Steven Baldinger, Kathleen Ricker, *Supplementals* – Jason Logue, Val McGee, Ray Peaco, Kayla Keown, Grant McCarthy, Daniel Dickey, Don Barclay IV, Jade Maher, Cam Palmer, Kevin Wildrick, Jay Roman, Brian Goche, Jeff Richards, Kim Bull, Stan Zimmerman, Scott Stewart, Jenna Plummer, Kasey Kraus, Rosa Salgado, Scott Postler, Andrea Morrisard, Walberto Lopez-Aviles, Dan Resetarits, Nicole Moorman, Shannon Perry, Tracy Richards, Lara DiFrischia, Jackie Hoover, Kevin Trost, Dorothea Epps, Brian Blackwell, Kevin Wildrick, Jess Leighty, Erin Sypien, Caitlin Cindrich, Brian Croach, P.J. Gatch, Erica Guidroz, Katie Huttinger, Hunter Karenbauer, Athena Konidaris, Bruce Lazier, Cassandra Pagani, Robert Traugh, Varden Armstrong, Melissa Armstrong, Bobi-Jean Alexander, Robert Babick, Sara Snyder, Laura Wise, Elaine Duggan, Katie Wise, Megan Wise, Melissa Mitro, Wanda Reynolds, Kenneth Kotula, Eden Geis, Rebecca Heltzell, Trey Hixon, Matthew Pournaras, Michael Manipole, *Internship* – Daniel Hackenberg

C. **Contracted Services** – *Artists in Residence* – Ashley Babick, Timothy Baurle, Clint Bleil, William Brewer, Sarah Frey, Perry Gatch, Younga Reitz, Brian Stahurski, *Pittsburgh Ballet House* – Brianna Casale, Mallory Marinack, Sae-Young Kang, Emily McGoey, Robyn Naugle

D. **Leaves** – *Professional* – Annelise Doran, Rebekah Grinnen, Susan Huber

E. **Tenure** – Halley Alexander, Sarah Corona, Scott DeVivo, Kiera Kegges, Tracey Lowe, Mackenzie McGuire, Ryan Pechulis, Andrea Platt, Kayla Robinson, Linda Weismann

F. **Classified and Administrative Adjustments**

- G. **Agreement** – Approved Separation Agreement with Seneca Valley School District and ESPA Union employee.
- H. **Affiliation Agreements** – Approved two affiliation agreements with Seneca Valley School District and Robert Morris University and Geneva College.
- I. **Memorandum of Understandings** – Approved two MOUs with Seneca Valley Education Association regarding the All-School Musical and Robotics.

Mr. Widdowson made a motion, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve the resignations, appointments, contracted services, leaves, tenure, classified and administrative adjustments, agreement, affiliation agreements and memorandum of understandings. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the June 5, 2023, public agenda:
- a. Erin McClymonds
 - b. Alan Witt
 - c. Ron Butschle
13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 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.

Ms. Kathy Whittle, President

Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary