

Seneca Valley School District



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

Minutes

April 24, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Ms. Kathy Whittle, President, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Lincoln Wilkerson, a fourth grader from Ehrman Crest 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. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Jim Nickel, Mr. Fred Peterson, and Ms. Kathy Whittle. Ms. Leslie Bredl and Mr. Jeff Widdowson were not in attendance.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition**
 1. Seneca Valley sophomore, Max Wagstaff, was recently named a “CGI Pittsburgh Technologist of the Year” in the Pittsburgh Penguins Tech Academy. Mr. Wagstaff was on “Team Guentzel” with other students from Mt. Lebanon, and their impressive group proposal about integrating the Penguins Digitron into the in-game experience earned their team the coveted champion title, and Seneca Valley a \$5,000 award for tech services and upgrades. “Team Guentzel” attended the championship ceremony in March where they were invited to a pregame reception to network and present their winning project.
 2. Three students from Seneca Valley came home with awards from the 84th annual Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair (PRSEF) held last month at the Carnegie Science Center. They joined over 450 students from across the region to participate in this esteemed event that features middle and high school students designing, implementing and communicating an original experiment. On average, students spend about one year leading up to the Science Fair developing and executing their project. Winners from Seneca Valley include seniors Alex Kim and Shivani Umesh, and eighth grader Albert Pimenov.

3. Three Rowan Elementary School students recently won top awards for their ideas on how we can invest in our planet. All three were named winners in the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) annual Earth Day Poster Contest. The winners are:
- Alex Reiterovych, first place winner in the second-grade category
 - Nash Caldwell, second place winner in the second-grade category
 - Yasmeeen Fahs, first place winner in the fourth-grade category
- Their artwork is now [on display via the NETL website](#) and were forwarded to the U.S. Department of Energy headquarters in Washington, D.C. for display there, as well. The contest encourages creative expression and the development of an early interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

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

Now through May 1	Seneca Valley Art Show, Grades 7-12, at Cranberry Township Municipal Center. The public is invited to view the artwork at the Municipal Center Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
April 27	"The Dangers of Tech" hosted by the FBI, Pittsburgh Division, SVSHS Auditorium 6:30 p.m.
May 2	National Teacher Appreciation Day
May 4	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
May 5	School Lunch Hero Day
May 6	SAT Testing, SVSHS, 7:30 a.m.

- C. **All-Star Award Winner, April 2023** – Ms. Tracy Vidnovic, Seneca Valley Central Office Front Desk Administrative Assistant, was recognized and presented the All-Star Award by Director of Communications, Ms. Linda Andreassi. Ms. Andreassi shared that during Ms. Vidnovic's time at Seneca Valley, she has shown patience, professionalism, updated processes, trains others and does all of this while supporting multiple departments. In addition, Ms. Vidnovic has gone above and beyond by giving back to others and not expecting anything in return. She has spent time creating "Denim Day Friday's" and multiple themed lunches for the office staff. Mr. DiTullio thanked Ms. Vidnovic for everything that she does and shared that a good office culture is important. Dr. Vitale shared that Ms. Vidnovic has made a positive impact on a lot of people in the district, that she is thoughtful and that the little things that she does, go a long way. Ms. Whittle recognized that the kinds of things that Ms. Vidnovic does creates connections, brings people together and she cultivates an office family.

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** – March 6, 2023
- B. **Action Meeting** – March 13, 2023

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$4,304,299.45

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$1,319,281.80

Mr. Nickel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve the minutes, treasurer’s report, general fund bills and construction fund bills. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**

- A. **Board Policies** – Approved the following policies:
 1. Policy 800, Records Management, second, final reading.
 2. Policy 309.1, Pre-Employment Drug Testing Policy, second, final reading.
 3. Policy 915, Booster Clubs, revised, first reading.
- B. **Transportation Contract** - Approved the transportation contract for one family to transport their child to and from Total Learning Center retroactive March 27, 2023.
- C. **Student Adjudication** – Approved student adjudication #2022-23-34.
- D. **2023-24 School Calendar** – Approved the revised 2023-24 school calendar.

Mr. Nickel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the board policies, transportation contract, student adjudication and the 2023-24 school calendar. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Intergovernmental Agreement** - Approved the Intergovernmental Agreement between Midwestern Intermediate Unit (IV) and Seneca Valley School District for special education services.
- B. **Grant Disbursements** – Granted permission to apply and disburse, the following grants:
1. School Psychology Paid Internships for an Out of State Graduate Student in the amount of \$20,000 requested by Dr. Jeff Roberts. Funding will be used to provide a stipend for a qualified school psychology intern for the district for the 2023-24 school year.
 2. Gladys Brooks Foundation Grant in the amount of \$46,000 requested by Ms. Annie Mersing and Ms. Angela Kotula. Funds will be used to host annual presentations to students in grades 8-12 about online safety; the dangers of the internet; and the importance of digital citizenship.
 3. The School Readiness Program/Hi5! Kindergarten Transition grant in the amount of \$2,000 requested by Dr. Kristen White. Funds will be used to purchase Heggerty materials to be used in local preschool programs. These materials will support students transitioning to kindergarten by reinforcing phonemic awareness prior to entering school age programs.
- C. **Special Education Plan** – Approved the District’s Special Education Plan submission for 2023-2026 to the PA Department of Education.
- D. **Grove City Area School District Agreement** – Approved the professional services agreement for a school psychologist to provide services at Seneca Valley during the 2022-23 school year retroactive to March 30, 2023.
- E. **DePaul School for Hearing and Speech Agreement** – Approved the DePaul School for the Hearing and Speech Agreement for professional services for the 2022-23 school year.
- F. **Lego League Club** - Approved the establishment of a Lego League Club at RGMS at no cost to the district and under the supervision of volunteer sponsor Ms. Mary Boburczak, effective for the 2023-24 school year.
- G. **Student Trip** – Approved the middle school ski trip to Breckenridge, CO on January 10, 2024, returning on January 16, 2024, at no cost to the district and under the supervision of Mickey Flood. Coinciding with the Martin Luther King holiday, the students will miss three days of instruction.
- H. **McGuire Memorial Agreement** – Approved the McGuire Memorial Agreement for the Extended School Year (ESY) Program rates for the 2022-2023 ESY.
- I. **Memorandum of Understanding** - Approved the memorandum of understanding with the Education Support Professionals Association to allow adjusted work schedules during the instructional recess of the summer of 2023.

Mr. DiTullio made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve the Intergovernmental agreement, grant disbursements, special education plan, Grove City Area School District agreement, DePaul School for Hearing and Speech Agreement, Lego League Club, student trip, McGuire Memorial agreement, and the memorandum of understanding. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE ACTION**

- A. **Food Service Equipment** - Approved the sale of any food service equipment that is deemed to have resale value and the disposal of any items that are not suitable for resale in a responsible manner.
- B. **Summer 2023 Projects** – Approved the following summer 2023 projects:
 - 1. **Ryan Gloyer Middle School Quarry Tile Replacement Phase II and Interior Painting** - Award the General Construction Bid to GEM Building Contractors and Developers in the amount of \$526,700.00.
 - 2. **Elementary Campus Marquee Entrance Sign Replacements** - Award the General Construction Bid to GEM Building Contractors and Developers in the amount of \$167,300.00.
- C. **Budget Transfers** – Approved budget transfers.
- D. **Pittsburgh Pride Fastpitch Agreement** – Approved the five-year agreement with Pittsburgh Pride Fastpitch Association to lease property for its youth athletics program from April 25, 2023-April 24, 2028.

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve the food service equipment, summer 2023 projects, budget transfers and the Pittsburgh Pride Fastpitch agreement. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

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

- A. **Resignations** – *Classified* – Jill Deutsch, Beth Craig, Madalyn Jamison
- B. **Appointments** – *Supervisor* – Kayla Warren, *Professional Substitutes* – Amanda Snyder, Jaden Miller, Caitlin Cindrich, Sherree Pawlowski, Jill Deutsch, George Panzak, Grace Gadsby, Theodore Cecotti, Heather Szymczak, Samuel Hillman, Elizabeth Steele, *Classified* – Jamie Marcotte, Kristine Hart, *Classified Substitutes* - Alexis Baney, April Householder, Amanda Slovak, *Supplementals* – Steve Strelick, Ron Butschle, J.P. McFeeley, Mike Pelloni, Kevin Locke, E.G. Sipp, Frank Antuono, Michael Henry, Barry Murray, Chris Eden, Mickey Flood, Eric Semega, Nathan Flood, Mark Del Duca, Shaine Patsilevas, Walt Regal, Jim Rekowski, Casey Williams, Dean Leventopoulos, Michael Stebbins, Brian Pesavento, Brian Pesavento, Mark Perry, Eric Grove, Brett Poirier, Thomas Donati, Judith Baret, Susan Berlin, William Crummy, Nancy Graham, Michelle Kostlich, Kristie Long, Kimberly Magill, K. Adele Marks, Wendy McQuiston, Darla Ramirez-Lightner, Chad Robertson, Rebecca Rockey, Jill Schulz, Carol Wilson, Carey

Beachem, Kristi Dietz, Adelina DiTullio, Chelsea Koryak, Cortney Lambert, Karissa Lambert, Morgan Wagner, Ciara Was, Karen Fornadel, Jennifer Exler, Tracy Lowe, Joan Widdowson, Jeremiah Friday, Kathleen Kessler, Chelsea Miller, Scott Rupik, Bobbi Lyn Cooper, Grace Rupik, Andrea DeFabbo, Melissa Cipollone, Brittney Voettiner, Shannon Zolkowski, Rachel Pool, Colleen Lefler, Michelle Cowell, Elizabeth Cavicchia, Mackenzie Kacsur, Taisia Papariella, Caroline Dillon, Christina King, Steven Baldinger, Karen Zaphyr, Jennifer Exler, Shannon Perry, LaVarr Stephens-Howling, Tracy Richards, Kasey Kraus, Kalene Ireland, Janet Becker, Steve Fortunato, Tracey Lowe, Sarah McKissick, Nicole Parson, Katherine Miller, Tracy Semega, Joseph Ermann, Katie Wolford, Lindsay Mysliwicz, Kelsey Meredith, Wanda Reynolds, Emily Murphy, Lauren Hackett, Halley Alexander, Steven Fortunato, Kelly Vu, Christine Roe, Andrea Platt, Jason Groom, Erin Dusenberry, Jonathan Hickman, Jeanne Probst, Lauren Hackett, Kiera Kegges, Cortney Lambert, Sydney Heeter, Rosemary Piso, Carey Beachem, Alysia Barrett, Nicole Ehmann, Wanda Reynolds, Kelsey Meredith, Emily Murphy, Abigail Russell, Kelly Vu, Amy Brush, Melissa Mitro, Judi Spinelli, April Christopher, Eva Herman, Susan Irwin, Melinda Hickman, Adria Herlihy, Colleen Lefler, Karissa Lambert, Janet Tallerico, Maria Landolina, Tracy Semega, Christina Dugan, Katherine Miller, Barry Marcella, Amanda Anke, Pamela Volz, Lauren Hogue, Melissa Gawne, Alicia Shao, Whitney Corrigan, Linda Starosta

C. **Contracted Service** - Shannon Perry

D. **Leaves** – *Professional* – Skylar Meier, Lora Nickel, Lora Nickel, Michelle Steinmetz, Amanda Fleming, Rebecca Watkins, Chessa Crum, Kara Andres, Megan Orloff, Carolyn Bromberg, Danielle Reynolds, Lindsay Bergstrom, Nichole Schauer, Jenna Montelaro, Laken Baker, Taylor Marsinetti, Brittney Voettiner, Louis Cammisso, Leigh Vagias, *Classified* – Lisa Recce, Connie Wetzel, Susan McClure, Valerie Kirk

E. **Retirements** – Classified – Diane Dunlap, P. Lauren Sunday

Ms. Harrison made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nickel to approve resignations, appointments, contracted service, leaves and retirements. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative and Mr. DiTullio abstaining.

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the April 17, 2023, public agenda:

- a. Cranberry Township
- b. Ray Peaco
- c. Jon and Lydia Horvath
- d. Lydia Horvath
- e. Mary-Alice Dolan
- f. Lauri and Aaron Hmel

Mr. Peterson acknowledged the work and amount of detail that went into the final Special Education Plan.

Ms. Whittle commented that she appreciates Mr. Peterson's time and all that he does for this committee.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further to come before the board, Ms. Whittle motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 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