

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

Seneca Valley Senior High School Auditorium - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

February 13, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Ms. Kathy Whittle, President, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sage Friedt, a second grader in Seneca Valley Academy of Choice (SVAOC) continued the board initiative, “I Led the Pledge” by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. **Roll Call** – Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. James Nickel, Mr. Fred Peterson, Ms. Kathy Whittle, and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson. Mr. Eric DiTullio and Mr. Mike Jacobs were not in attendance.
2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

- A. **Student/Staff Recognition** - Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following student/staff recognitions:

Sarah Vescio and Kacy Christensen, juniors, have been nominated by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) as 2023 Student Visionaries of the Year for their incredible leadership and passion to find a cure and to do so with involvement from the entire Seneca Valley community. This spring, both young women will be participating in a well-planned charitable seven-week campaign where they will represent Seneca Valley and raise funds and awareness for the LLS mission of finding a cure and improving the quality of life for patients and their families. You can learn more or donate to their campaign at [Student Visionaries of the Year Pittsburgh \(lls.org\)](https://www.lls.org).

Both Sarah Vescio and Kacy Christensen presented the campaign that they have started in honor of friend, teammate and classmate, Virginia “Ginny” Fronk and a fourth grader at CVE that have been affected by Leukemia and Lymphoma. Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s (LLS) mission is to cure blood cancer and improve the lives of cancer patients. LLS does this by providing patient support, research and advocacy about LLS. Sarah and Kacy’s goal is to raise \$30,000 from February 10-March 31 to be able to donate to LLS.

Starting in August, Sarah and Kacy began doing research on LLS and wanted to do more to help. In November they began working on this campaign and have met with administration at Seneca Valley, teachers and club sponsors. They are helping bring awareness to LLS with meeting with others about what they are doing.

Some of the ways that money is being raised is through dress down days for teachers and staff, coin wars and bracelet sales. Monetary donations can also be made by Venmo, cash, check, credit card, Apple pay and through their website. Sarah and Kacy have raised \$3,000 in four days since the campaign started and hope to be able to exceed their goal of raising \$30,000 by March 31.

Ms. Whittle acknowledged how proud she is of them, the good that they are doing and asked how they got started. Kacy responded by saying that after Ginny was diagnosed, they knew they wanted to help make a difference. They started with research, and it led them to this.

Dr. Vitale shared with Kacy and Sarah that she knew from their first meeting that they were going to be successful. Dr. Vitale can tell how passionate they are about the cause and making a difference. Dr. Vitale reminded the public that they can join in the cause as well by going to the website that has been set up and that SV will share this information with the SV community as well.

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

February	National Black History Month
February 14	2023-24 SV Kindergarten registration opens
February 17	Inclement Weather Makeup Day for January 25 closure
February 20	Presidents' Day – Staff-In Service Day – No School for Students
February 22	Ash Wednesday
February 24	End of Second Trimester for SVAOC Classes, Grades K-6
March 1	End of Second Trimester for Grades K-6
March 2-5	All-School Musical, "Mary Poppins"

- C. **All-Star Award Winner** - Dennis Moyer, School Security Guard & Site Supervisor, was presented with the All-Star Award by Mr. Jason Young, Seneca Valley Supervisor of Safety and Security. Mr. Young shared that Mr. Moyer has a good work ethic, has built a great team and that Mr. Moyer will go above and beyond for his team and the SV community. Mr. Nickel thanked Mr. Moyer for all he does and that there is nothing more important than safety in our schools. Dr. Vitale thanked Mr. Moyer for serving our country and for serving our schools, also recognizing Mr. Moyer and the security team saying that they are some of the best.

Dr. Vitale commented that the board is committed to safety and security and therefore is committed to building the security team.

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** – Approved the following minutes:

- A. **Work Session** – January 9, 2023
- B. **Action Meeting** – January 17, 2023

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Approved the treasurer’s report.

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approved the general fund bills as follows:
Grand Total: \$4,157,830.38

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approved the construction fund bills as follows:
Grand Total: \$363,125.74

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve minute’s 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. **2023-24 School Calendar** – Approved the 2023-24 school calendar.

B. **Local District Holidays** – Approved the resolution regarding local district holidays for the 2023-24 school year.

C. **Kennywood Picnic** – Approved Friday, June 23, 2023, as Kennywood picnic date for 2023.

D. **Board Policies** – Approved the following board policies:

1. Policy 204 – Attendance, second and final reading.
2. Policy 233 – Suspension and Expulsion, second and final reading.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve the 2023-24 school calendar, the Local District Holidays Resolution, the Kennywood Picnic date and the board policies. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Conferences** – Approved the conference requests.
- B. **Student Trips** – Approved the following student trips:
 - 1. Mr. Varden Armstrong, Sr high School Music Department Chair, to take students to Slippery Rock High School for the PMEA District Band Concert, February 9, 2023. Students will miss one day instruction.
 - 2. Ms. Claire Barker, IHS Choral Teacher and Ms. Chessa Crum, RGMS Choral Teacher, to take students to Rochester, NY for the All-Eastern Choir, April 13-16, 2023. Students will miss two days of instruction.
- C. **Grant Disbursements** - Granted permission to apply for and disburse, if approved, the following grants:
 - 1. TransformED Teacher Innovation Fellowship mini-grant funded through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and in association with the Western PA AASA consortium in the amount of \$1,496.20 requested by Ms. Rebecca Whitney, third-grade teacher at Ehrman Crest Elementary School. Funds will be used to purchase a Hydroponic Indoor Garden System for the newly created Ehrman Crest Community Garden where students will learn about plant growth and development.
 - 2. KidsGardening.org grant in the amount of \$500 requested by Ms. Rebecca Whitney to purchase a raised garden bed for the Ehrman Crest Community Garden.

Mr. Peterson asked Dr. Vitale to share about the conference request that was submitted to the board for Dr. Vitale to go to Poland with Classrooms Without Borders. Dr. Vitale shared that she and five other Seneca Valley professionals will be traveling to Poland to study more on the Holocaust. Dr. Vitale has already been preparing for this trip and meeting with others attending the trip with her. The team traveling will be sharing more with the board after the trip is over. The trip is at no cost to the district.

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Ms. Bredl, to approve conferences, student trips and the grant disbursements. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. BUSINESS/FINANCE ACTION

- A. **Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School (BCAVTS) 2023-24 Budget** - Approve the BCAVTS proposed budget for the 2023-24 school year in the amount of \$6,513,809.00.
- B. **Change Orders** – Approve the construction change orders for Ehrman Crest.

- C. **Request for Proposals** - Motion to authorize the administration to seek proposals from Architectural/Engineering Firms for Architectural and Engineering design services for the new Intermediate High School Project. Pending solicitor review.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School 2023-24 Budget, change orders and the request for proposals. 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. **Appointments** – *Professional Substitutes* – Cherie McNulty, Thomas Krchmar, Mikayla Puzuto, Karin Murra, *Classified* – Lindy Winters, *Classified Substitutes*, Jordan Anthony, *Supplementals* – Tom Magill, Bill Parenti, Cam Palmer, Mickey Flood, Brian Pesavento, Greg Hayward, Justin McCauley, Mollie Gallagher, Megan Kennedy, Mackenzie McGuire, Brenna Cosgrove, Joseph DeCristoforo, Mike Conlon, Lisa Tyson, Lauren Hackett, Ashley Watkins, Nicole Lollo, Lisa Ridenour, Halley Alexander, Margaret Marciniak, Craig Gehm, Daniel Dickey, John Cashdollar, Kayla Robinson, Steve Strellick, Wesson Brahler, Anastasia Williams, Morgan Peaco, Barry Murray, Craig Gehm, Daniel Dickey, Catherine Trejchel, Chris Eden, Mike Manipole, Ashley Turici, Hannah Werner, Savannah Lohr, Megan Kelly, Jeff Beavers, Nicole Moorman, Maria Landolina, Nicole Ehmann, Robin Presco, Eric Cupp, Alyssa Ceraulo, Chelsea Koryak, Tyler Mesisca, Jen Exler, Kaitlin Jarvie, Teresa Greno, Kim Blakely, Paolo Tolomeo, Rachael Zoelle, Tammy McKenry, Megan Anderson, Amy Taylor, Emily Christ, Chessa Crum, Hayley Landolina, Susana Garcia, Lynn Wendereusz, Julia Benson, Tammy Cantella, John Schmidt, Crystal Shaner, Anne Stanton, Christine Palmer, Dave Benson, Tracy Meanor, Mark Meanor, Shellie Henrie, *Internship* – Hannah Clifford
- B. **Leaves** – *Administrator* – Nannette Farmar, *Professional* – Kristin Schlemmer, *Classified* – Angela Bivens, Brenda Mazinski, Brenda Mazinski
- C. **Retirements** – *Professional* – Raechel DeVinney, Pamela Krause

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Ms. Bredl, to approve appointments, leaves and retirements. 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 February 6, 2023, public agenda:

- a. Mary-Alice Dolan
- b. Kevin Strayhorn
- c. Kelly Scott

13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison to adjourn the meeting at 8 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