

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

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

Minutes

June 6, 2022

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mr. Eric DiTullio, President, called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting opened with a moment of silence in memory of the 19 students and two teachers who were tragically killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, on May 24. Please continue to keep in your hearts and thoughts with these young victims, their families, friends, classmates and community.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - C. **Roll Call** by Ms. Lisa Mislán, Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Mr. Timothy Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. James Nickel, Ms. Susan Harrison, Ms. Kathy Whittle, and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson. Mr. Frederick Peterson was absent.
2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition** - Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following:
 1. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to Mr. Dan Dickey, Ryan Gloyer Middle School Mathematics Teacher and Middle School Track Coach. As many of you are aware, Mr. Dickey and Steve Tinker, Avonworth Middle School Track Coach, assisted passengers who were injured – and others who were trapped – in a car accident they came upon after their teams were returning from a day-long track and field invitational in Butler. Mr. Dickey was able to render aid at the scene that he learned through “Stop the Bleed” training he received here at Seneca Valley. Most importantly, he was able to help free the last passenger from the vehicle; a vehicle which had flipped, rolled into a ravine and caught on fire. As described by a witness on the scene who emailed Ms. Heather Lewis, SV Athletics/Activities Director, Mr. Dickey “was nothing short of a hero.” [Coaches aid in fiery crash rescue – Cranberry Eagle](#)
 2. The Seneca Valley Biology Club Teams won first and second place at the Butler County Envirothon last month. The Envirothon is a natural resources competition that includes topics in Wildlife, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soils and Land Use and Current Environmental Issues. The competition is managed by our state agencies including the Game Commission, Fish and Boat Commission, PA Department of Agriculture and Conservation of Natural Resources.

3. Two Seneca Valley rising seniors were recently awarded Honorable Mention for their entries in the Society of Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP) High School Essay Contest. Each year, SACP hosts an essay contest that requires students to respond to a science-related prompt dealing with a current event. The winning essays focused on why increasing STEM courses at Seneca Valley helps students learn and understand how to solve many of the problems in the country and across the world.
4. Seneca Valley sixth graders made great investments that led to a win in a recent Stock Market Game. Evans City Middle School (ECMS) students won second place in the online competition where they competed against 128 other teams from across the region within the Middle School Division. The ECMS team participated through their math enrichment Purpose class and had an impressive equity of \$108,922.83, with an 8.92% return. The Stock Market Game is a simulation of the global capital markets that engages students in the world of economics, investing, and personal finance and prepares them for financially independent futures.
5. The Seneca Valley Academic Games Team excelled at the Pennsylvania State Academic Games Competition, known as the Tri-Bowl. The Tri-Bowl took place at Grove City College last month, where fifth and sixth grade students from Haine Middle School (HMS) and Evans City Middle School (ECMS) competed with schools from all across the commonwealth in four different games during a two-day competition. In addition to several individual and group placements, several students took home top state awards.
6. In related to item number 5 above, Seneca Valley students, grades 5-12, recently competed against approximately 1,200 other students from schools all over the country in the Academic Games National Championships, which took place at the Convention Center in Knoxville, Tennessee, April 22-25. Seneca Valley's teams across all divisions returned with an impressive 31 awards, including several individual national champion awards for division and type of game. Academic Games competitions feature seven types of games: Equations, On-Sets, Linguistik, Theme, Propaganda, Current Events and Presidents.
7. We would like to extend our appreciation and congratulations to the following two retirees who, combined, have over 100 years of dedicated service to our students even though they are not directly employed with the district. The first is Kurt Scheidemantle, Terminal Manager at ABC Transit, Inc. Mr. Scheidemantle retired Friday after 45 years in the profession. Throughout his many dedicated years of service, he worked for several transportation companies, but never once was it for any other district besides Seneca Valley. In addition, we thank Mr. Richard Jones, Bus Driver for ABC Transit, Inc. Mr. Jones retired this past Friday after 60 years of driving for several school transportation companies, all again with service to Seneca Valley students. In fact, Mr. Jones started driving in 1962 before we were an officially established school district (*we became Southwest Butler County SD in 1965*).

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

June 7	Release of Final Report Cards, Grades 7-12, and Student Progress Reports, Grades K-6
June 13	School Board Regular Meeting
June 14	Flag Day

June 19	Father's Day
June 19	Juneteenth
June 21	Summer Begins
June 24	Kennywood Day
July 4	Independence Day
August 1	School Board Work Session Meeting
August 4	Seneca Valley Foundation Gift of Hope Golf Classic at Cranberry Highlands
August 8	School Board Regular Meeting

**Extended School Year Camps - Qualifying IEPs, Not funded by ESSER
(Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund)**

June 20-23	Academic Camp, RGMS
July 18-21	
June 27-30	Camp Friendship & Learning, Haine
July 11-14	
July 18-21	Camp Amazing Race, RGMS; Academic Camp, RGMS

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

June 13-16	Summer Program at CVE, ECE, ECM
June 20-23	
June 13-16	Around the World Summer Camp for English Learners, Haine Elementary
June 20-23	
June 20-23	Math, ELA and Science Essentials Camps, RGMS
June 27-30	
June 20-23	Authentic Learning in Science, Math and English, I HS, SHS
June 27-30	
June 20-23	SAT/ACT Test Prep, SHS
June 27-30	
June 27-30	Summer Program at Haine Elementary & Middle; Rowan Elementary
July 11-14	
July 13	CPR & Stop the Bleed Recertification for Admin Staff
July 26	CPR & Stop the Bleed Recertification for Admin Staff
July 18-21	Pathfinder Summer Workshop for English Learners RGMS and Senior High School

C. Agency Reports

1. Vo-Tech - Mr. Mike Jacobs noted that the activities and awards ceremony was held at the end of May. Nothing else to report until after this Thursday's meeting.
2. Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV (MIU) - Mr. Eric DiTullio stated that the MIU is closing out the school year with some additional hires and more programs which will serve even more children. The MIU is in the process of finalizing the teacher contract.

Legislative - Mr. Eric DiTullio provided a report noting that the Senate returned on June 6, and the House will return to the Capitol on June 7.

The Senate Education Committee met but did not consider the private school voucher legislation under House Bill 2169. The bill was removed from the voting agenda prior to the meeting and next steps for the proposal were not announced.

The Senate Education Committee passed the following:

- Temporary graduation pathway for students impacted by COVID testing waivers. Under the bill, in any school year in which a demonstration of proficiency on a Keystone Exam is required for high school graduation, a student would be deemed proficient if they demonstrate attainment of a satisfactory composite score of at least 2939, using the highest scores attained by the student on two of the three Keystone Exams in Algebra I, Literature and Biology. The student would have to achieve a minimum score of proficient on at least one of the two Keystone Exams and a minimum score of basic on the other Keystone Exam used to calculate the composite score.
- House Bill 1041: Home school access to district/career technical education (CTE) programs which requires school districts and area career and technical centers (CTCs) to allow home schooled students who are residents of the school district or of one of the school districts that participates in the area CTC to enroll in cocurricular activities and take academic courses.

The House Education Committee passed the following:

- Senate Bill 224 out-of-state teacher certification reciprocity which allows an out-of-state candidate who has completed any state-approved educator preparation program (which includes field placement/student teaching), from an accredited institution of higher education, to be eligible for a comparable in-state instructional certificate.

Finally, the state legislature is confident that a budget deal will be completed prior to June 30, 2022.

D. **Cranberry Township Residential Development Updates** - Dr. Vitale reported the Breckenridge residential development with 112 townhouse units is being planned along Freedom Road in Cranberry Township. In addition, the construction of Boundary Lofts, a 68-unit multi-family development, is expected to begin this summer. Lastly, a 790-unit development is being considered in Cranberry. The Crescent development would be located near the Lemieux Sports Complex and include space for "non-residential uses." At this time, there is no way to determine how these developments would impact the number of children that might enroll in the District.

E. **Financial Reports**

1. Operations
2. Senior High Activities
3. Intermediate High Activities
4. Middle School Activities
5. Athletics
6. Food Services
7. Tax Collection Reports
8. Capital Project Funds

- F. **Drug Testing Results Annual Report** - Dr. Matthew McKinley provided a report with results collected from July 1, 2021 through May 10, 2022, noting that the District's positive rate decreased to 1.9%. Two years ago, the positive rate was 2.4% which was well above the pre-COVID positive rate of 0.4%. Nationally, the positive test rate in the past year is up to 3.7%.

Once testing positive, students must take five follow-up tests. In 2020, the follow-up positive rate was 8.9%. This past year, that has decreased to 6%.

Additionally, 89% of the positive cases are for marijuana and 11% for alcohol, which is more difficult to detect.

Mr. DiTullio noted that marijuana can be more dangerous and potent than in the past. Dr. McKinley confirmed that the results reported are from random testing and do not include those confirmed with "reasonable suspicion" such as glassy eyes and slurred speech.

Dr. Vitale added that we should not be afraid to confront and report these findings and discuss the problems with our children who have underdeveloped brains. She acknowledged that COVID has played a roll.

Dr. McKinley confirmed for Mr. Jacobs that 6% is the number of kids who tested positive.

3. **ACTION AGENDA**

- A. **Public Comment** - There was no public comment.
- B. **Personnel** - Personnel items were discussed in an executive session held prior to this meeting.
1. Resignation: *Professional* - Andrew Russell
 2. Appointments: *Director* - Nolan Fetchko; *Administrator* - Quincy Gildea; *Professional Substitutes* - Dana Barclay, Cortney Lambert, Leah Carlin, Donald Barclay, Samantha Mooney, Emily Smith, Heather Husband, Jessica Adam, Christine Alexander, William Allen, Margaret Anderson, Francesca Battaglini, Denyse Bruni, Kelly Casey, Michael Cristallino, William Crummy, Michelle Follett, Richard Goehring, Carmen Householder, Denise Howell-Longello, Nick Ierino, Jean Ignatuk, Deborah Kennedy, Carol Kocur, Kathy Mahony, K. Marks, Lori McCann, Christine Michael, Tabatha Mill, Sheryl Moses, Amy Perschke, Katherine Peterson, Joanne Ranayhossaini, Amanda Rusnock, Emily Schnell, Sherri Schubert, Thomas Snyder, Marcia Sopher, Madison Speicher, April Stadtmiller, Carol Wilson, Theresa Wolf; *Classified* - Tanya Rubright, Tammy Tappe, Erma Safranek, David Visconti, Shannon Heyl, Ashley Berty, Beth Craig, Ashley Cleaver, Alden May, Tracy Semega, Pam Volz; *Supplementals* - Nicole Moorman, Shannon Perry, Tracy Richards, Lara DiFrischia, Abby Wetzell, Kevin Trost, Dorothea Epps, Brian Blackwell, Kevin Wildrick, Erica Guidroz, Hunter Karenbauer, Athena Konidaris, Robert Traugh, Brian Croach, Katie Huttinger, P.J. Gatch, Cassandra Pagani, Caitlin Cindrich, Robert Babick, Varden Armstrong, Melissa Armstrong, Bobi-Jean

- Alexander, Sara Snyder, Alex Krajniak, Karissa Lambert, Halley Alexander, Shannon Zolkowski, Morgan Wagner, Ciara Was, Beth Clegg, Jennifer Roush, Karen Rebholz, Sofia Albanowski, Emilia Pfab, Adri Defanti, Tyler Hunt, Alex Abruzzese, Mia Stohon, Sarah McCullough, Emily Sigmund, Kyra Heeter, Sydney Hunt, Kayla Keown, Matthew Pournaras, Sarah Miller
3. Leaves: *Psychologist* - Latitia Lattanzio-Paros; *Professional* - Alaina Kloc, Dean Leventopoulos, Nichole Schauer, Stacey Richard, Taisia Papariella, Sarah Hackenberg, Diane Koegler, Marlina Hasara; *Classified* - Sarah Wagner, Sandy Turner, Nicole Parson, Kayla White
 4. Retirements: *Classified* - Carolyn Huttinger, Michael Pendred, Daniel Magill

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve the Personnel items as listed above. The motion carried with those present voting in the affirmative. Mr. Peterson was absent.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. **Work Session** - May 2, 2022
- B. **Action Meeting** - May 9, 2022

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Total \$2,821,309.60

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Total \$3,091,736.95

8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**

- A. **Board Policies** - Approve the following board policies:
 1. Policy 227, Substance Use/Abuse - revised, second and final reading.
 2. Policy 227.1, Drug and Alcohol Awareness for Athletic Programs, Extracurricular Activities, and Student Drivers - revised, second and final reading.
- B. **Transportation Contracts** - Approve the following transportation contracts:
 1. One family to transport their child to their qualifying placement retroactive to May 13, 2022, through the 2022 summer program (due to a resignation of contracted nurse) at a cost of \$36.74 per day.
 2. One family to transport their child to their qualifying placement retroactive to May 13, 2022, through the 2022 summer program (due to a resignation of contracted nurse) at a cost of \$50.54 per day.
 3. One family to amend and extend their current transportation contract to include their qualifying 2022 summer program at a cost of \$37.26 per day.
- C. **The Day School at The Children's Institute Services Agreement** - Approve the Day School at the Children's Institute Services Agreement for educational and related services during the 2022-23 school year.

- D. **Head Start Agreement** - Approve the renewal lease agreement with Butler County Children’s Center, Inc. DBA Early Learning Connections for the operation of a Head Start program at Rowan Elementary for the 2022-23 school year.
- E. **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 2022-23 school year.
- F. **Care Solace Agreement** - Approve utilization of Federal Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) funds for the board-approved Care Solace agreement to provide mental health care coordination and support for students, staff and their families during the 2022-23 school year.

Mr. Jacobs inquired about the utilization of the Care Solace program thus far. Dr. Roberts stated that there have been 140 warm handoffs which generated 30 students now in care; 30 students who were not receiving services before. There is a slight lag between referral and getting an individual into care, noting that after reaching out, some individuals decide to go in a different direction for care. Dr. Roberts added that Care Solace offers some resources that the District had not regularly used before. Dr. Vitale asked the Board to advocate for more providers and more mental health services.

- G. **PSBA Voting Delegate** - Appoint Mr. Eric DiTullio as the voting delegate for the PSBA Delegate Assembly meeting on Saturday, November 5, 2022.
- H. **Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Process for School Reconfigurations** - Approve the PDE process for school reconfigurations for the closing of Evans City Elementary and Middle Schools and the opening of Ehrman Crest Elementary and Middle Schools.

9. **INSTRUCTION ACTION**

- A. **2022 Graduates** - Approve the list of Seneca Valley graduates for 2022.
- B. **Conferences** - Approve conference requests.
- C. **Student Assistance Program Articulation Agreement** - Approve the Student Assistance Program agreement for 2022-23 school year between Butler County Human Services, the Center for Community Resources and Seneca Valley School District.
- D. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Services Agreement** - Approve the AIU services agreement for special education services for the 2022-23 school year.
- E. **Adelphoi Education Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Adelphoi Education, Inc. to provide alternative education services for the 2022-23 school year.
- F. **Pittsburgh Art Region Agreement** - Approve the affiliate partner agreement with Young Artists & Writers, Inc. for administration of a Scholastic Art & Writing Awards regional program for the term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

- G. **Pittsburgh Ballet House** - Approve the SV Academy of Choice Instructional Services Agreement with Pittsburgh Ballet House for 2022-23.
- H. **Glade Run Day Student Education Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Glade Run Lutheran Services for the provision of educational services for Seneca Valley students at their St. Stephens Academy, Special Education Transitions Program, and Partial Hospitalization programs during the 2022-23 school year.
- I. **MHY Family Services Agreement** - Approve the agreement with MHY Family Services for the provision educational services at Longmore Academy for Seneca Valley students who attend there during the 2022-23 school year.
- J. **Student Trip** - Approve the March 2023 chorus trip to Orlando, Florida at no cost to the District and under the supervision of Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander. Students will perform for international audiences, participate in educational workshops and miss two days of school.
- K. **Book Disposal** - Approve the sale, donation or recycling of obsolete books from the Senior High School.
- L. **Club Status** - Approve club status for the Mountain Bike Club at no cost to the District and under the volunteer supervision of Mr. Oliver Wiehe, RGMS teacher.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION**

- A. **Budget Transfers** - Approve budget transfers.
- B. **Act 1 Resolution** - Approve the 2022-23 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution per Act 1, Taxpayer Relief Act.
- C. **Act 511 Taxes** - Approve re-enactment of the following Act 511 taxes:
 - 1. Flat Rate Occupation Tax – \$10
 - 2. Earned Income Tax – 1%
 - 3. Real Estate Transfer Tax – 1%
- D. **Summer Actions** - Authorize the administration to approve the following:
 - 1. Year-end budget transfers
 - 2. Outreach Partnership of Technology (OPT) agreements
 - 3. June and July bills
- E. **2022-23 Budget** - Adopt the annual budget for 2022-23 in the amount of \$166,861,572 with no millage increase.
- F. **Liability Insurance** - Approve 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 2022-23 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, JROTC, After Prom Committee, Booster Groups, Seneca Valley Foundation, and all Board approved student clubs.

- G. **Booster Group Resolution** - Approve the Booster Group Recognition resolution for the 2022-23 school year.
- H. **Ticket Prices** - Approve the athletic ticket prices for the 2022-23 school year 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.
- I. **Facilities Rental Fees** - Approve the facilities rental fees for 2022-23.
- J. **Insurance Premiums** - Approve insurance premiums for 2022-23 provided by First National Insurance Agency.
- K. **Change Orders** - Approve the construction change orders for Ehrman Crest.
- L. **Summer 2022 Construction Projects Contracts** - Award the following contracts for the Summer 2022 construction projects, pending solicitor's final review of the agreements.
 1. CVE Field Drain Replacement: Award the General Construction (GC) bid to GEM Building Contractors and Developers in the amount of \$142,743
 2. Paving Improvements at the secondary campus: Award the General Construction (GC) bid to Shields Paving in the amount of \$279,117
 3. Ryan Gloyer Middle School Quarry Tile Replacement Phase I: Award the General Construction (GC) bid to GEM Building Contractors and Developers in the amount of \$984,743

11. **COMMUNICATION**

- A. Mr. Eric and Ms. Erin Wharton
- B. Mr. Dean and Ms. Kari Ann Noechel
- C. Ms. Amy Corsaro
- D. Ms. Sarah Cardosi
- E. Ms. Lindsay Senft
- F. Ms. Jayme Gordon
- G. Ms. Stephanie Lane
- H. Ms. Rebekah Kinney
- I. Mr. Tom Serafin
- J. Mr. Zac Leroy
- K. Ms. Dana Chappell
- L. Ms. Sylena Smith
- M. Ms. Josie Angel
- N. Ms. Georgiann Dieteman
- O. Mr. John Ward
- P. Ms. Sarah Rothrock
- Q. Ms. Erin Kenyon
- R. Ms. Cindy Zonts
- S. Mr. Bob McClune
- T. Ms. Erin McClymonds
- U. Mr. John Ciganik

V. Ms. Brandi Schandelmeier
W. Ms. Kristy Koenig

12. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the Board, Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Ms. Bredl, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Peterson absent.
13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. Eric DiTullio, President

Ms. Lisa Mislán, Board Secretary