

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

MINUTES

March 9, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. James Nickel, President, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Shea Skwartz, a second-grade student at Evans City Elementary School (“ECE”), continued the board meeting initiative, *I Led the Pledge*, by reciting the “Pledge of Allegiance.”
 - C. **Roll Call** – Roll call by Ms. Annie Mersing, Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Timothy Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Frederick Peterson, Jr., Ms. Kathy Whittle, Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson, Mr. James Nickel. Ms. Leslie Bredl was absent.

Others present included Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Matthew McKinley, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary; Dr. Sean McCarty, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary; Ms. Kyra Bobak, Human Resources Director; Ms. Lynn Burtner, Business Manager; Ms. Linda Andreassi, Communications Director; Mr. Randy Miller, Buildings and Grounds Director; Mr. Gerald Miller, Special Education Director; Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; a press representative; Ms. Lauri Pendred, Principal at ECE; Mr. Andrew Teti, Assistant Principal at ECE; Ms. Amanda Huey, grade 2 teacher at ECE; Ms. Emily Thornton, grade 1 teacher at ECE.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following student and staff recognition:
 1. Corbin Edge, a freshman and one of Pennsylvania’s top two youth volunteers of 2019 by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, followed up on his positive experiences as a state honoree and shared his 2020 fundraising efforts for the American Diabetes Association.

Corbin presented to the Board additional information about his "Pins and Needles" Bowl-A-Thon to be held March 29, 2020 from noon to 3 p.m. at Family Bowlaway Fun Center, 540 Fairground Hill Road, Butler. There will be a basket raffle and bake sale. Several Board members thanked Corbin for his dedication to the American Diabetes Association and offered. Mr. DiTullio agreed to provide a basket to be auctioned at the event. People can reserve spots by calling 724-538-5834. Donation checks can be made payable to the American Diabetes Association and mailed to Corbin Edge, 225 First St., Evans City, PA 16033.

2. Seneca Valley was well represented at the 2020 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District Jazz Festival held last month at Slippery Rock University. Through a competitive audition process, 26 band students from Seneca Valley were selected and performed at the annual festival, which concluded with a public concert in Swope Recital Hall. District 5 is made up of students from Beaver, Butler, Lawrence and Mercer counties. Students are led by Robert Matchett and Varden Armstrong, secondary instrumental instructors.

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

March	Seneca Valley Kindergarten Registration
March 13	Report of Student Progress, Grades K-4
March 16	Act 80 Day, No School for Students
March 19	Spring Begins
March 23	End of Third Nine Weeks, Grades 5-12

C. Financial Reports

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

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – There was no public comment.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approved the following meeting minutes:

A. **Work Session** – February 3, 2020

B. **Regular Meeting** – February 10, 2020

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

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approved the following general fund bills:
Grand Total: \$2,023,913.89
7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approved the following construction fund bills:
Grand Total: \$515,616.13

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve meeting 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 with Ms. Bredl absent.

8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**

A. Approved the following board policies:

1. #103.1 – Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities, revised, second reading – Mr. Gerald Miller
2. #113 – Special Education, revised, second reading – Mr. Gerald Miller
3. #113.2 – Behavior Support, revised, second reading – Mr. Gerald Miller
4. #228 – Student Government, revised, second reading – Dr. Matthew McKinley
5. #231 – Social Events and Class Trips, revised, second reading
– Dr. Matthew McKinley
6. #234 – Pregnant Married Students, revised, second reading
– Dr. Matthew McKinley
7. #314 – Physical Exam Admin Employees, revised, first reading
– Ms. Kyra Bobak
8. #414 – Physical Exam Professional Employees, revised, first reading
– Ms. Kyra Bobak
9. #514 – Physical Exam Classified Employees, revised, first reading
– Ms. Kyra Bobak

- B. **Krakoff Communications Agreement** – Approved the agreement with Krakoff Communications to provide specialty services in the areas of marketing and communications for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year and in the total amount of \$4,000.
- C. **Captivate Media Agreement** – Approved the agreement with Captivate Media to provide video production services for the areas of communications and marketing for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year and in the total amount of \$5,115.
- D. **Social Sentinel Agreement** – Approved the agreement with Social Sentinel, Inc. in the amount of \$3,400 annually for social media scanning with a price guarantee for up to three years.

Mr. Ditullio motioned, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve board policies, Krakoff Communications agreement, Captivate Media agreement, and Social Sentinel agreement. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Ms. Bredl absent.

9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Conferences** – Approved conferences.
- B. **Student Trips** – Approved the following student trips: (The District reserves the right to cancel any student trip in consideration of health concerns or other developments.)
1. Approved the Latin Student Trip to the PA Junior Classical League (JCL) Latin Club State Convention on May 24 – May 26, 2020 at Lock Haven University under the supervision of Ms. Sarah Deeds at no cost to the district. Students will miss one day of instruction.
 2. Approved the PMEA All-State Conference for nine students to Poconos Kalahari Convention Center on April 22 – April 25, 2020 under the supervision of Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander, Choir Director. Students will miss three days of instruction.
 3. Approved the PMEA District 1 Region Band Festival at Moon Area High School for 18 students on March 27 – March 28, 2020 under the supervision of Mr. Varden Armstrong. Students will miss one day of instruction.
 4. Approved the Seneca Valley Academic Decathlon for nine students to Souderton High School on March 12 – March 14, 2020 under the supervision of Mr. David Reichard. Students will miss two days of instruction.
 5. Approved the 2020 CMP Regional Championship trip for five JROTC Marksmanship Team students to the CMP Gary Anderson Competition Center in Port Clinton, OH on March 25 – March 28, 2020 under the supervision of ISG Angelo Lettiere. Students will miss two days of instruction.
 6. Approved the Seneca Valley High School Spain Trip from June 14 – June 22, 2021 under the supervision of Ms. Julie Parenti with Passports Educational Group Travel. Students will not miss any days of instruction.
- C. **MIU Intergovernmental Agreement** – Approved the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV Intergovernmental renewal agreement for the 2020-21 school year.
- D. **Club Status** – Approved club status for the Seneca Valley Dungeons & Dragons Club (RGMS) at no cost to the District and under the supervision of Ryan Gloyer Middle School Teacher, Mike Manipole.
- E. **Grant Disbursements** – Granted permission to apply for and disburse, if approved, the following:
1. Ignite 2020 Grant from Remake Learning in the amount of \$5,000 to host a series of “Raider Robotics Rallies” during the summer of 2020 for students in grades 7-12. The rallies will allow the members of the FIRST team to prepare for their competition season, as well as mentor and encourage an interest in robotics to middle school students. Requested by Ms. Annie Mersing, Director of Advancement, and Mr. Steve Fortunato, Applied Engineering and Technology teacher.

2. PPG Innovative Classroom Grant funded by PPG Foundation in the amount of \$1,000 to support an activity and enrichment club at Haine Middle School called Fly Fishing Club. Requested by Mr. Tim Cammisa.

- F. **Memorandum of Understanding** – Approved the following memorandum of understanding with the Education Support Professionals Association to allow adjusted work schedules during the instructional recess of the summer of 2020.

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve conferences, student trips, MIU Intergovernmental Agreement, Club Status, Grant Disbursements, and Memorandum of Understanding. The motioned carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Ms. Bredl absent.

10. BUSINESS/FINANCE ACTION

- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approved budget transfers.
- B. **MIU IV General Operating Budget** – Approved the 2020-21 Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV general operating budget in the total amount of \$3,611,283 with Seneca Valley's contribution being \$143,344. No increase from last year.
- C. **Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School 2020-2021 Budget** – Approved the 2020-2021 Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School budget for the 2020-21 school year in the amount of \$5,952,479. An increase of 2.9%.

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve budget transfers, MIU IV General Operating Budget, and Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School 2020-2021 Budget. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Ms. Bredl absent.

11. PERSONNEL ACTION Approve resignations, appointments, leaves, and sabbatical as listed below:

- A. **Resignations** – *Professional Substitute* – Samantha Travis; *Classified* – Donald Melodia, Christine Brunello
- B. **Appointments** – *Professional Substitute* – Samuel Froehlich; *Classified* – Diane Taylor
- C. **Leaves** - *Professional* – Rebekah Grinnen, Claire Barker; *Classified* – Dana Osselborn, Jaime Lippert
- D. **Sabbatical** – Diane Koegler

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve resignations, appointments, leaves, and sabbatical. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Ms. Bredl absent.

12. **COMMUNICATION** – No communication was received.
13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Ms. Bredl absent.
14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and real estate items.

Mr. James Nickel, School Board President



Ms. Annie Mersing, School Board Secretary