

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

MINUTES

February 10, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Eric DiTullio, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

- A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence in memory of Frank Goff who passed away on Friday, Jan. 31. He retired from Seneca Valley where he taught fourth grade for 27 years. Also, we remembered Sam Parker who passed away on Jan. 29. He was a retired math teacher who taught at both Zelenople High School and Seneca Valley High School for 41 years.
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Henry Cecchetti, a second-grade student at Rowan Elementary School, 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, Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Frederick Peterson, Jr., Ms. Kathy Whittle and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson. Mr. James Nickel 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; Ms. Heather Lewis, Athletics Director; Mr. Gerald Miller, Special Education Director; Ms. Nannette Farmar, Rowan Elementary School Principal; Attorney Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; and a press representative.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

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

1. A record-breaking 19 students from Seneca Valley were selected to attend the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District Chorus on Jan. 17.

Based on their audition results, 17 students qualified to move on to the PMEA Region I Chorus Festival in February. Students qualified by auditioning in the fall and achieving one of the top four seats in the Honor Choir to receive an automatic placement into the District Choir. PMEA District 5 Choir is a representative ensemble from Butler, Beaver, Lawrence and Mercer counties. These students are led by Aaron Magill and Bobi-Jean Alexander, secondary choral instructors.

Twenty-four students in grades 7-9 participated in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Jr. High District Chorus at Mercer Area High

School on Jan. 23. The students participated in a one-day festival where they worked with guest conductors who finely tuned the students' skills prior to their evening concert. Once again, District 5 is made up of students from Butler, Beaver, Lawrence and Mercer counties. Vocal instructors for grades 7-9 include Bobi-Jean Alexander and Claire Barker, secondary choral instructors

2. Two seniors in the Seneca Valley Global Leadership Club recently experienced life-changing trips they earned through scholarship opportunities. Grace Harrison attended the "Experiment in International Learning" through the World Affairs Council; a scholarship opportunity that afforded her the ability to spend four weeks in South Africa. Tory Grewer also received a scholarship opportunity through the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh to travel to Qatar this past summer. Both students were encouraged and guided through these opportunities by Ms. Debra McDermott, gifted support teacher and Global Leadership Club adviser.

Ms. McDermott, Miss Harrison and Miss Grewer shared with the Board additional details of their travels and relayed their gratitude for this life-changing experience. Several members of the Board expressed their pride in the students and thanked them for being ambassadors for the district. Ms. McDermott was also commended for her tenacity and willingness to mentor students in global competence.

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

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|-------------|---|
| February | National Black History Month |
| February 14 | Snow Makeup Day #1 – School is in Session |
| February 17 | President's Day/Act 80 Day - No School |

- 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** – January 6, 2020

B. **Regular Meeting** – January 13, 2020

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

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approved the following general fund bills:

Grand Total: \$4,460,057.63

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approved the following construction fund bills:

Grand Total: \$1,620,274.75

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, 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 Mr. Nickel absent.

8. ADMINISTRATION ACTION

A. Board Policies – Approved the following board policies:

1. #103.1 – Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities, revised, first reading – Mr. Gerald Miller
2. #112 – Guidance Counseling, revised, second reading – Mr. Jeffrey Roberts
3. #113 – Special Education, revised, first reading – Mr. Gerald Miller
4. #113.2 – Behavior Support, revised, first reading – Mr. Gerald Miller
5. #222 – Tobacco Use, revised, second reading – Dr. Matthew McKinley
6. #228 – Student Government, revised, first reading – Dr. Matthew McKinley
7. #231 – Social Events and Class Trips, revised, first reading
– Dr. Matthew McKinley
8. #234 – Pregnant Married Students, revised, first reading
– Dr. Matthew McKinley
9. #440 – Responsibility for Student Welfare, revised, second reading
– Mr. Jeff James

B. Student Adjudication – Approved student adjudication #2019-20-08. (Executive Session)

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve board policies and a student adjudication. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Nickel absent.

9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

A. Conferences – Approved conferences.

B. Student Trips – Approved the following student trips:

1. Trip to Quebec City, Quebec, Canada for 76 French-language students on February 26 - 29, 2020 under the supervision of RGMS French Teacher, Mr. Andrew Russell, at no cost to the district. Students will miss three days of instruction.
2. Academic Decathlon trip to Edinboro University on February 7 – 8, 2020 for nine students under the supervision of SHS Learning Support Teacher, Mr. David Reichard, at no cost to the district. Students will miss one day of instruction.
3. Chorus trip to Hickory High School for 17 students to participate in the regional chorus concert on February 26, 2020 under the supervision of Music Teacher, Mr. Aaron Magill, at no cost to the district. Students will miss one day of instruction.
4. Educational trip to London, Paris, Rome and the Sorrento region to help students become global learners on July 13-23, 2020 under the supervision of IHS English Teacher, Ms. Amanda Shaheen, at no cost to the district.
5. Band trip to the PMEA District Band Concert in Butler, PA on February 13-14, 2020 under the supervision of Mr. Varden Armstrong at no cost to the district. Students will miss one day of instruction.

6. Orchestra trip to the PMEA Western Region Orchestra Concert in Pittsburgh, PA on March 12-13, 2020 under the supervision of Ms. Sarah Miller at no cost to the district. Students will miss two days of instruction.

- C. **Naviance Agreement** – Approved the three-year renewal agreement with Naviance, Inc. in the amount of \$33,372 to provide software for student college and career exploration.

Mr. Peterson motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve conferences, student trips and the Naviance Agreement. The motioned carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Nickel absent.

10. BUSINESS/FINANCE ACTION

- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approved budget transfers.
- B. **Bid Authorizations** - Authorized the administration to seek bids for the following:
 1. Asphalt Paved Parking (Extend exist/Gravel Lot/Upper lot extension) - Secondary Campus
 2. Main Switch Gear Replacement - Intermediate High School
 3. Storefront Replacement – Ryan Gloyer Middle School, Rowan and CVE Dock Door
 4. HVAC Piping - Water filtration issues – Senior High School
 5. Roof Replacements – CVE, Haine, & RGMS
 6. HCP/ADA Bleachers, Redo Floor, Paint walls, VB Sleeves inserts in SHS Gym – Athletics

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve budget transfers and bid authorizations. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Nickel absent.

11. PERSONNEL ACTION – The following personnel items were discussed in executive session held prior to this meeting:

- A. **Resignations** – *Classified* – Melissa Nulph, Lori Brown, Emily Blakesley, Barbara Porter, April Stadtmiller; *Supplemental* – Marie McLachlan
- B. **Appointments** – *Administration* – Daniel Guerra; *Professional Substitutes* – Katie Carothers, Molly Conlon, Nathaniel Copeland, Nicole Haas, Marissa Johnson, Diane Rometo, Melanie Killian, April Stadtmiller; *Classified* – Lisa Mislán; *Internship* – Kristen White; *Supplementals* – Tom Magill, Nick DeSanzo, Bill Parenti, Cam Palmer, Mickey Flood, Brian Pesavento, Mike Palano, Megan Dushesne, Hannah Hugo, Michelle Couch, Nicole Lollo, John “Gar” Bercury, Justin Dosch, Daniel Dickey, John Cashdollar, Craig Gehm, Anastasia Williams, Ron Butschle, Susan Moury, Steve Strelick, Karissa Lambert, Jen North, Ezekial Stroupe, Catherine Lochner-Trejchel, Tracy Richards, Anastasia Williams, Chris Eden, Justin Dosch, Daniel Dickey, Paul (PJ) Blinn, Wayne Roccia, Morgan Peaco, Crystal Weimer, Ashley Turici, Alex Fischer, Michael Franciscus, Laken Baker, Brett Poirier, Bill Adams; *Department Chairs/Grade Level Coordinators* - Varden Armstrong, Carrie Ehrenberger; *After School Tutoring* – Steven Miller

- C. **Leaves - Professional** – Scott Rupik, Erin Wildrick, Jason Shorr, Lauren Miloser, Allison Ricci-Stebbins, Ashley Pattison; **Classified** - Karen King, Jennifer Fiorenzo
- D. **Sabbatical** – Deanna Sipp
- E. **Tenure** – Jeffrey Richards
- F. **Retirement** – Kathy Williamson
- G. **Memorandum of Understanding**

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve resignations, appointments, leaves, sabbatical, tenure, retirement and memorandum of understanding. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Nickel absent.

- 12. **COMMUNICATION** – No communication was received.
- 13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Peterson motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Nickel absent.
- 14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. Eric DiTullio, School Board Vice-President



Ms. Annie Mersing, School Board Secretary