

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

Zoom Video Conference – 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

June 1, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. James Nickel, President called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

- A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Bailey Costanza – Grade 1, Rowan Elementary, continued the board meeting initiative, “I Led the Pledge,” by opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. **Roll Call** - Roll call by Lisa Mislán, Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Timothy Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. James Nickel, Mr. Frederick Peterson, Jr., Ms. Kathy Whittle, and Mr. Jeff Widdowson.

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, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Lynn Burtner, Business Manager; Ms. Linda Andreassi, Director of Communications; Mr. Gerald Miller, Director of Special Education and Gifted; Mr. Randy Miller, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Dr. Marie Palano, Supervisor of Analytics and Federal Programs; Mr. James Pearson, Director of Transportation; Ms. Heather Lewis, Director of Athletics; Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; Ms. Annie Mersing, Recording Secretary and Director of Advancement; Ms. Megan Lizewski; Mr. John Schmidt; Ms. Christie Hardesty; Ms. Allison Stebbins; Ms. Diane Dunlap; Mr. Stephen Santa; and a press representative.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following student and staff recognition:
 - 1. In May, we recognized those dedicated staff members who are retiring at the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year. Since that time, we have had additional staff members come forward with the decision to retire at the end of the year. We thank and congratulate the following for their years of service and unwavering commitment to the Seneca Valley School District and its students:
 - a. Nancy Lees - Evans City Elementary/Evans City Middle School Cafeteria Employee – 4 years
 - b. Linda Lipscak – Rowan Elementary School Paraprofessional – 6.5 years
 - c. Debra Mitro – Ryan Gloyer Middle School Family and Consumer Science Teacher – 26 years
 - 2. Seneca Valley Sophomore Veronica Pimenova was recently awarded a scholarship from Gannon University for her excellent work on a nanoparticles project for the Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair (PRSEF). Each year,

approximately 1,000 students from more than 100 schools participate in Covestro PRSEF. Students spend a year leading up to the Science Fair developing and executing a project by utilizing a scientific method.

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

June 2	Last Day of Instruction K-11
June 3-5	Resource Drop-off Days for K-11 (this is a return of computers, library books, textbooks, etc.)
June 3-5 & 8	Staff In-Service Days
June 9	Seneca Valley School Board Action Meeting
June 25	Tentative Seneca Valley School Board Meeting to Discuss Construction
July 20	Tentative Seneca Valley School Board Meeting to Discuss Hiring
July 27	Tentative Date for the Seneca Valley Kennywood School Picnic
July 31	Tentative Date for the Class of 2020 Summer Celebration/Traditional Commencement Ceremony

C. Drug Testing Results Annual Report – Dr. Matthew McKinley presented the results of drug testing during the 2019-2020 school year. The results of random drug testing were .42% (last year was .41%) and fell well below the national average of 2.7%. Follow-up testing results were at 0%, again well below the national average of 20% for follow-up screens. Eleven students were reported by staff as suspicious. These students had a health check and were then tested. After follow-up testing, no one was positive. Dr. McKinley believes that Seneca Valley is well below the national average because of the deterrents that are built into our policy. Seneca Valley has been conducting random testing for approximately 19 years. A panel of approximately 13 drugs are tested.

D. Agency Reports

1. **Vo-Tech Report** – Mr. Peterson reported that Mr. Jared Ryan, Dr. Hile’s replacement is in place. Also, Dr. Vitale will again be the Superintendent of Record. Dr. Vitale commented that she is committed and very much looking forward to serving for the second time.
2. **I.U. IV** – Mr. Eric DiTullio reported that out of 240 ballots, 194 approved and 0 disapproved the operational budget. The challenges of reopening in the fall were discussed. There will be another meeting at the end of June.

E. Legislative – Mr. Peterson reported that the \$25.75 billion General Fund budget was sent to the Governor to sign. Education was funded for a full year. The budget also provides \$7.5 million from the School Safety and Security Fund to address health and safety needs related to COVID-19.

F. 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 Projects Funds

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3. ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.
- B. **Personnel** – Approved the personnel items as follows.
 1. **Appointments** – Professional – Sydney Sterner; Classified – Mary Barb; Supplementals – Department Chairs/Grade Level Coordinators
 2. **Leaves** – Administration – Amanda Mallin; Professional – Michelle Rogozinski, Brianna Beale, Jennifer Ramey, Lindsey Read, Kayla DeLallo, Megan Hammer, Rachel Johnson
 3. **Contract Renewals**
 - a. Dr. Matthew McKinley, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education; for a five-year term commencing effective July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2025.
 - b. Dr. Sean McCarty, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education; for a five-year term commencing effective July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2025.
 - c. Mr. Jeffrey James, Director of Safety and Security; for a one-year term commencing effective July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.
 4. **Act 93 Unused Vacation Days**
 5. **Director/Supervisor/Confidential Secretaries – Unused Vacation Days**
 6. **Salary Adjustments**
 7. **Retirements** – Debra Mitro, Secondary; Classified – Nancy Lees, Linda Lipscak

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve appointments, leaves, contract renewals, Act 93 unused vacation days, director/supervisor/confidential secretaries unused vacation days, salary adjustments, and retirements as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present in the affirmative.

4. **APPROVAL OF MAY 4, 2020 MINUTES** – Approve the May 4, 2020 Minutes.
5. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Approve the treasurer’s report.
6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approve the general fund bills totaling \$903,343.60.
7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approve the construction fund bills totaling \$664,814.54.

8. ADMINISTRATION ACTION

- A. **Board Policies** – Approve the following policies.
 1. #203: Communicable Diseases and Immunizations, revised, first reading – Mr. Jeffrey Roberts
 2. #203-1: HIV Infection Students, revised, first reading – Mr. Jeffrey Roberts
 3. #209: Student Health Examinations, revised, first reading – Mr. Jeffrey Roberts
 4. #314-1: HIV Infection Administrative Employees, revised, first reading – Ms. Kyra Bobak

5. #414-1: HIV Infection Professional Employees, revised, first reading – 5 0 3 0
Ms. Kyra Bobak
6. #514-1: HIV Infections Classified Employees, revised, first reading – Ms. Kyra Bobak

- B. **Head Start Agreement** – Approve the renewal lease agreement with Butler County Children’s Center, Inc. for the operation of a Head Start program at Rowan Elementary for the 2020-2021 school year.
- C. **PreK Counts Agreement** – Approve the lease agreement with Butler County Children’s Center, Inc. for the operation of a PreK Counts program at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary for the 2020-21 school year.
- D. **Early Intervention Agreement** – Approve the lease agreement with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for the operation of an Early Intervention program as established by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act and under the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning at the District’s Rowan Elementary School for the 2020-21 school year.
- E. **AVEANNA Healthcare Agreement** – Approve the agreement with Pediatric Services of America, Inc., d/b/a AVEANNA Healthcare.
- F. **Board Secretary** – Appoint Ms. Lisa Mislan as Board Secretary effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024.
- G. **PSBA Voting Delegate** – Appoint Mr. Eric DiTullio as voting delegate for PSBA Delegate Assembly on Saturday, November 7, 2020.

9. **INSTRUCTION ACTION** – Ms. Sue Harrison

- A. **2020 Graduates** – Approve the list of Seneca Valley graduates for 2020.
- B. **Club Status** – Approve club status for the Seneca Valley Senior High Environmental Club (SHS) at no cost to the District and under the supervision of Intermediate High School teacher, Ms. Cheri Mihalik.
- C. **Center for Community Resources Agreement** – Approve the Student Assistance Program agreement for the 2020-21 fiscal year with Butler County Human Services Center for Community Resources (CCR).
- D. **Glade Run Lutheran Services Agreement** – Approve the agreement between Seneca Valley School District – Glade Run Lutheran Services to provide therapy services for the 2020-21 school year.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION** – Mr. Mike Jacobs

- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approve budget transfers.
- B. **Postage Lease Renewal with Quadient (formerly NeoPost)**
- C. **Act 1 Resolution** – Approve the 2020-21 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution per Act 1, Taxpayer Relief Act.

- D. **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%
- E. **2020-21 Budget** – Adopt the annual budget for 2020-21 in the amount of \$140,122,325 with no millage increase.
- F. **Summer Actions** – Authorize the administration to approve.
1. Year-end budget transfers
 2. Outreach Partnership of Technology (OPT) agreements
 3. June and July bills
- G. **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 2020-21 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.
- H. **Booster Group Resolution** – Approve the Booster Group Recognition resolution for the 2020-21 school year.
- I. **Facilities Use Fees** – Approve the use of facilities fees (no increase) for the 2020-21 fiscal year.
- J. **Insurance Premiums** – Approve insurance premiums for 2020-21 provided by First National Insurance Agency.
11. **PERSONNEL ACTION** – Mr. Jeff Widdowson – (Executive Session)
12. **COMMUNICATION** – Communication was received from the following:
- A. Ms. Monica Venturella – Commending Ms. Cornibe at Haine Elementary School
 - B. Ms. Amanda Temple – Return to school
 - C. Dr. Alton Temple – Return to school
 - D. Mr. Rob Campbell – Graduation
 - E. Ms. Lisa Cramer – Graduation
 - F. Ms. Allison Stebbins – Graduation
 - G. Ms. Jennifer Schwedler – Graduation
 - H. Ms. Noel Reynolds – Graduation
 - I. Ms. Cindy Hansen – Graduation
 - J. Ms. Cori Wagner – Graduation and school board response
 - K. Ms. Amy Clark – Graduation
 - L. Mr. Chuck Roberts – Graduation
 - M. Ms. Laura Kurywchak – Graduation
 - N. Ms. Lori Pontzius – Graduation

Board members provided positive feedback related to the two-day graduation ceremonies held on May 28 and May 29, 2020. The administration was commended on its commitment and leadership.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further before the Board, Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.
14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal items.

Mr. James Nickel, President



Ms. Annie Mersing, Board Secretary