

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

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

Minutes

August 14, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Ms. Kathy Whittle, President, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Ms. Whittle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
 - C. **Roll Call** – by Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Jim Nickel, Mr. Fred Peterson, Ms. Kathy Whittle, and Mr. Jeff Widdowson.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) Honor Roll** – PSBA's Honor Roll of School Board Service program honors school board directors for long-term service and dedication to their local districts and communities, beginning at year eight. PSBA recently notified us and shared a certificate for Ms. Susan Harrison, recognizing that she has reached this milestone.

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

August	Building Events and Activities
August 15-16	New Teacher Induction
August 17	Paraprofessional Job Fair – Haine Elem. – 9:30-11:30 a.m.
August 17-18	Teacher In Service/Professional Development
August 21	All Staff Welcome Back Meeting – SVIHS Auditorium
August 22	First Day of School for 2023-24
August 26	SAT Testing – SHS – 7:30 a.m.
September 4	Labor Day – No School for Students or Staff
September 11	Patriot Day
September 11	School Board Work Session – SVIHS Aud. – 7 p.m.
September 15	Veteran Recognition – NexTier Stadium – 6 p.m.
September 15	Rosh Hashana begins
September 18	School Board Meeting Regular Meeting – SVIHS Aud. – 7 p.m.

Dr. Vitale shared that she was interviewed today by WISR/WBUT Radio about the upcoming school year. As she shared in that interview, Dr. Vitale noted that we are currently hiring for paraprofessionals and bus drivers. The pay for a paraprofessional is \$15/hour and the hours are flexible. She was happy to report that the district is fully staffed for teachers at this time.

Mr. DiTullio and multiple other board members shared compliments around the SV Foundation Golf Outing. Dr. Vitale shared that the outing raised over \$55,000 for the students here in our district and thanked everyone who played a part in making it possible.

C. **Financial Reports**

1. Operations
2. Food Service
3. Tax Collections
4. Capital Projects Funds

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comment was heard.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. **Work Session** – June 5, 2023
- B. **Action Meeting** – June 12, 2023

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

5. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

2022-2023 Grand Total: \$3,867,717.43
2023-2024 Grand Total: \$1,956,988.08

6. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$2,256,148.17

Mr. Widdowson, motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio to approve the minutes, treasurer’s report, general fund bills and construction fund bills. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

7. **ADMINISTRATION**

A. **Board Policies** –

1. Approved board policy 713, Therapy Dog Policy, new, first reading.
2. Approved policy 908 – Title I Parent and Family Engagement, first and final reading, no revisions, annual update per federal mandate.

B. **Federal Program Allocation Spending Plan** - Acknowledged the federal program allocation spending plan for the 2023-24 school year.

C. **Student Expulsion** - Approved Student Expulsion #2022-23-38.

D. **Sports Trainers Affiliation Agreement** – Approved the Slippery Rock University Uniform Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement.

Ms. Whittle raised a question about the sports trainers affiliation agreement, asking if it is a new agreement for this year. Ms. Lewis answered that this is a new agreement and that it is similar to student teachers but for trainers.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison to approve board policies, federal program allocation spending plan, student expulsion and the sports trainers affiliation agreement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

- E. **Substitute Rate Compensation** - Approved the day-to-day substitute teacher rate for the 2023-24 school year compensation for \$125/day for 1-30 days, \$150/day for 31+ days, \$150 for 1-30 days for Seneca Valley retired teachers, \$175/day for 31+ days for Seneca Valley retired teachers, \$150/day for substitute teachers serving in a paraprofessional role in a multiple support classroom, and \$175 for multiple support classrooms.

Ms. Harrison raised the question if pay rate for retired teachers is specifically for Seneca Valley retired teachers. Ms. Bobak confirmed the pay rate is for Seneca Valley retired teachers. This addition of "Seneca Valley" has been added to the above item (letter E).

Mr. DiTullio made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrison to approve the substitute rate compensation. The motion carried on a voice vote with six members voting "yes" and Ms. Bredl, Mr. Hester, and Mr. Widdowson voting "no."

8. INSTRUCTION

- A. **Butler Area School District Program Placement Agreement** – Approved the program placement agreement with Butler Area School District to provide services during the 2023-24 school year.
- B. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Services Agreement** - Approved the AIU services agreement for special education services for the 2023-24 school year.
- C. **MHY Family Services Agreement** - Approved the agreement with MHY Family Services/Longmore Academy for the 2023-24 school year.
- D. **Watson Institute Service Agreement** – Approved the service agreement with the Watson Institute for the 2023-24 school year.
- E. **Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit Agreement** - Approved the agreement for special education programs and services with Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit for the 2023-24 school year.
- F. **Sign Language Interpreting Professionals LLC Client Agreement** - Approved the agreement with Sign Language Interpreting Professionals LLC to provide interpreting services for deaf and/or hard of hearing students.
- G. **School Assist Consulting, LLC Proposal** - Approved the School Assist Consulting, LLC proposal to provide professional development leadership coaching during the 2023-24 school year.
- H. **Student Trips** – Approved the following student trips:

1. Approved the varsity and junior varsity boys' basketball trip to Orlando, Florida, December 26-30, 2023, under the supervision of head coach Mr. Kevin Trost, and staff. The students will not miss any days of instruction. The trip will be at no cost to the district.
 2. Approved the varsity and junior varsity softball spring training trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, March 13-17, 2024, under the supervision of head coach Ms. Marlesse Hames and staff. The team would depart campus after school on March 13, 2024, and return the evening of March 17, 2024. The students will miss one day of instruction. The trip is at no cost to the district.
- I. **Grant Disbursement** – Granted permission for and disburse, if approved the Supplemental Nutrition for Extended Day Kindergarten Students in the amount of \$10,000. Funds will be used for providing nutritious dietary supplements to Extended Day Kindergarten students.
- J. **Educational Services Agreement** - Approved the Educational Services Agreement with the School at McGuire Memorial for the 2023-24 school year.
- K. **Conference** – Approved the conference request.
- L. **Early Admission** – Approved the early admission to Kindergarten for one student for the 2023-24 school year.
- M. **Book Disposal** – Approved the sale, donation or recycling of obsolete books from Haine Elementary School.
- N. **Health and Safety Plan** – Acknowledged the six-month review of the Health and Safety Plan as per the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requirements (no proposed changes).
- O. **Non-Public Title I Services Agreement** - Approved the Third-Party Letter of Agreement for Nonpublic Title I Services with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for the 2023-24 school year.
- P. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Title I Services Agreement** - Approved the AIU services agreement for Title I Non-Public services for the 2023-24 school year.

Mr. DiTullio made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hester to approve the Butler Area School District program placement agreement, Allegheny Intermediate Unit Services Agreement, MHY Family Services Agreement, Watson Institute Service Agreement, Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit, Sign Language Interpreting Professionals LLC Client Agreement, School Assist Consulting, LLC Proposal, student trips, grant disbursement, Educational Services Agreement, conference, early admission, book disposal, Health and Safety Plan, Non-Public Title I Services Agreement, and Allegheny Intermediate Unit Title I Services Agreement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

- A. **Bid Awards** – Awarded the Paper Products Bid for the 2023-24 school year to Fagan Sanitary Supply.
- B. **E. B. Peffer Company** – Approved the renewal of the cleaning agreement with E.B. Peffer Company.
- C. **Central Maintenance & Service** – Approved the renewal of the cleaning agreement with Central Maintenance & Service.
- D. **Local Auditor Appointment** – Approved the reappointment of Mark C. Turnley, CPA as local auditor for fiscal years 2023, 2024, 2025.

Mr. Nickel raised the question of when the last time was that the district has gotten bids for a new auditor. Ms. Burtner replied that Mr. Turnley has been the auditor since before she started as the business manager. Mr. Nickel shared that he agrees that Mr. Turnley does great work, but that periodically we should look at other auditors to ensure that we are getting the best prices. Ms. Burtner agreed with him and ensured him that that can be done. Dr. Vitale shared that the district has great vendor relationships and that she is confident that we are getting the best prices but also agrees that we can investigate other auditors, as well.

Mr. Jacobs made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bredl, to approve the Bid Awards, E.B. Peffer Company Agreement, Central Maintenance & Service Agreement, and the Local Auditor Appointment. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. **PERSONNEL** – Approved the following personnel items that were discussed in executive session held prior to the meeting:

- A. **Resignations** – *Classified* – Sandra Suski, Lynn Wendereusz, Lauren Hogue, Jessica Repp, Barry Marcella, Karen Zaphyr
- B. **Appointments** – *Professional* – Todd Pesavento, Zach Maisner, Shannon Perry, Lisa Brown, Kristen McClintock, Professional Substitutes - Tom Adams, Elizabeth Babcock, Mary Barb, Don Barclay, Diane Becker, Leslie Bullis, Jennifer Bunofsky, Michelle Camilli, Anthony Chiappetta, Jill Deutsch, Gerald DiPaola, Ava Ekstam, Ronald Evans, Sharon Gallas, Alisa Gargas, Jessica Gasior, Laura Gutauskas, Jennifer Hinchman, Deborah Kennedy, Eric Krchmar, Thomas Krchmar, Tara Krepp, Elizabeth Krumm, Melissa Kvasager, Susan Leake, Jenna Livingston, Savannah Lohr, Kristie Long, Elianna Marsh, Stacy McClune, Brenda McVicker, Jaden Miller, Ben Pasternak, Amy Perschke, Jennifer Richart, Barbara Rosenbaum, Maria Schley, Jill Schulz, Erin Scott, Sydney Servello, Marcia Sopher, Cindy Speck, April Stadtmiller, Carla Stark, Sherry Steed, Maura Taylor, Robert Taylor, Susan Weber, Zackary Weismann, Dale Zacherl, Erin Burkhart, Julie Camp, Hannah Perry, Angela Rebovich, Dyanna Boosel, *Classified* – Lorena Jones, Sara Setser Stewart, *Classified Substitutes* – Kaylyn Talton, *Supplementals* – Steve Campos, Gabe Miller, Kevin Holman, Curtis Miller, David Reichard, Julie Smith, Mike Stebbins, Julie Smith, Jeremiah Friday, Jason Woolslare, Jason Shorr, Stan Zimmerman, Laura Wise, Victoria Hahn, Alexis Helsel, Emma O'Connor, Dana Hadley, Ed Senor, Rebecca Beers, Rachel McGourty, Emily Christ, Marie McLachlan, Diane Koegler, Stan Zimmerman, Lara DiFrischia, Carrie Ehrenberger, Heather Sibeto, Chris Titus, Joe Logsdon, Veronica Mortier, Sarah Deeds,

Heidi Thomas, Staci Hughes, Steve Fortunato, Sarah Deeds, Marie McLachlan, Mary Boburczak, Angie Kotula, Sara Snyder, Dean Leventopoulos, Bobi-Jean Alexander, Keith Chrestay, Oliver Wiehe, Megan Bonistalli, Meagan Loewy, Laura Lugarich, Michael Flood, Rebekah Grinnen, Bobi-Jean Alexander, Claire Barker, Mark Beighey, Rebecca Hester, Amanda Armor, Chessa Crum. Amber Hugus, Amber Hugus, Megan Bonistalli, Kelly Weston, Dean Walker, Michael Flood, Kurt McNaught, Oliver Wiehe, Kurt McNaught, Dean Leventopoulos, LaVarr Stephens-Howling, Staci Hughes, Brienna Nassan, Rebecca Mutschler, Dan McKosky, Janice Plutnicki, Steve Fortunato, Zach Cene, Kara Andres, Amber Hugus, Bobi-Jean Alexander, Courtney Strieby, Michael Manipole, Courtney Striby, Jen North, *Internship* – Daniel Hackenberg

C. **Leaves** – *Professional* – Jeannie Orend, Julie Tomasovich, *Classified* – Jennifer Schlichtkrull, Steven Trempus, Kristie Moran

D. **Retirement** – *Classified* – Brenda Lynn

Mr. Widdowson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve the resignations, appointments, leaves, and retirement. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

Ms. Whittle acknowledged that there were new teachers on the agenda that were just approved, and she welcomed them to the District.

11. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the August 1, 2023, public agenda:
- a. Eric and Sara Rice
 - b. Heather Wood
 - c. Jamie Thompson

Ms. Whittle recognized that this is the last School Board meeting before the start of the school year. She shared that she knows that everyone has been very busy this summer to prepare for the new year, and is looking forward to the 2023-24 school year.

12. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 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