

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

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

Minutes

September 18, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Ms. Kathy Whittle, President, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
 - A. **Moments of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Adeeb Razik, a first grader at Ehrman Crest Elementary School, continued the board initiative, "I Led the Pledge" by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. **Roll Call** -- by Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Fred Peterson, Ms. Kathy Whittle, and Mr. Jeff Widdowson. Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Mike Jacobs and Mr. Jim Nickel were not in attendance.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

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

September 18	Regular School Board Meeting, 7 p.m. SVIHS Auditorium
September 19	National Information Technology (IT) Professionals Day
September 23	Autumn Begins
September 24	Yom Kippur Begins
September 25	Professional Development (Act 80) Day – No School for Students
September 29	Sukkot Begins

- B. **All-Star Award Winner, September 2023** – Ms. Carol Jamison, Ehrman Crest Multiple Supports Paraprofessional, was recognized and presented the All-Star Award by Assistant Principal, Dr. Bridget Miller. Dr. Miller shared that Ms. Jamison is a true gem, that she gives 100%, has an inner gentleness and she is always open to learning. Dr. Miller continued to say that Ms. Jamison consistently models love and that she is better because she works alongside Ms. Jamison. Mr. DiTullio thanked Ms. Jamison for all that she does and for the love that she shows to the children. Ms. Whittle shared how appreciative she is of all that Ms. Jamison does and thanked her for making a difference. Dr. Vitale acknowledged the challenging position that Ms. Jamison holds and expressed gratitude for her being a solid role model.

C. **Financial Reports**

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

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Public comment was heard by Mr. Daniel Cox regarding the Fencing Club that is on the agenda for board approval. Mr. Cox shared about how his son started with the sport and that they realized that there are other students in the District that have the same interest. He thanked the board for their consideration. Ms. Whittle shared that she is excited to add an additional club as an opportunity for which students can participate.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. **Work Session** – August 1, 2023
- B. **Action Meeting** – August 14, 2023

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

2022-2023 Grand Total: \$1,189,818.82
2023-2024 Grand Total: \$2,858,693.90

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$1,572,922.54

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve the 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.

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

A. **Board Policies** –

1. Approved board policy 713, Therapy Dog Policy, second, final reading.
2. Approved board policy 212, Reporting Student Progress, first, final reading.
3. Approved board policy 251, Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability, revised, first reading.

- B. **Altria Vaping Settlement Agreement** - Approved the settlement agreement with Altria in relation to the multi-district litigation involving the marketing of vaping products and authorize the Seneca Valley School District’s officers and legal counsel to execute such documents as required for and by such agreement.

- C. **Kennywood Picnic** – Approved Friday, June 21, 2024, as the Kennywood picnic date for 2024.

- D. **PSBA 2024 Officer Elections Slate of Candidates** - Elected the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) officers.
- E. **School Bus Drivers** – Approved the list of new bus drivers for ABC Transit, Valley Lines and Seneca Valley School District.
- F. **Transportation Contracts** – Approved the following transportation contracts:
1. Approved the transportation contract for one family to transport their child to and from D.T. Watson retroactive August 22, 2023.
 2. Approved the transportation contract for one family to transport their child to and from Ryan Gloyer Middle School retroactive August 22, 2023.
 3. Approved the transportation contract for one family to transport their child to and from Ryan Gloyer Middle School retroactive August 22, 2023.
 4. Approved the transportation contract for one family to transport their child to and from DePaul School for Hearing and Speech retroactive August 22, 2023.
- G. **Transportation Loyalty Program** - Approved a transportation driver loyalty program to increase the daily rate of our bus/van drivers and aides hired by ABC Transportation and Valley Lines for the Seneca Valley School District from October 2, 2023, for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year. This loyalty incentive is an effort to keep current drivers and promote new applicants. The district expects this monetary incentive to go directly to drivers from ABC & Valley Lines. Contract addendums will be prepared by our school solicitor for both ABC & Valley Lines transportation. Pending solicitor approval of addendums to the contracts.

Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester to approve the board policies, Altria Vaping settlement agreement, Kennywood picnic, PSBA 2024 officer elections slate of candidates, school bus drivers, transportation contracts and the transportation loyalty program. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION

- A. **Student Trips** –
1. Approved the Orchestra trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, April 11-14, 2024, under the supervision of Ms. Sarah Miller. Students will miss two days of instruction and the trip is at no cost to the district.
 2. Approved the Ryan Gloyer Middle School, Intermediate High School and Senior High School Student Councils’ trip to the Pennsylvania State Conference at Altoona Area Senior High School on September 22-23, 2023, under the supervision of Ms. Rebecca Mutschler. Students will miss two days of instruction and the trip is at no cost to the District.
 3. Acknowledged Mrs. Carissa Miller to take students to France June 2-11, 2024, at no cost to the district. Student will miss three days of instruction.
- B. **The Bradley Center** – Approved the service agreement with The Bradley Center to provide alternative education placement services.

- C. **BC3 College Within the High School (CWHS) Partnership Agreement** – Approved the College Within High School (CWHS) Partnership Agreement between the Seneca Valley School District and Butler County Community College from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.
- D. **LaRoche University Concurrent Enrollment Agreement** – Approved the concurrent enrollment agreement with LaRoche University from August 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.
- E. **Pickle Ball Club (Middle School)** - Approved the establishment of a Middle School Pickleball Club at RGMS at no cost to the District, and under the supervision of volunteer sponsors Ms. Brenna Cosgrove Miller and Mr. Michael Conlon, effective for the 2023-24 school year.
- F. **Glade Run Lutheran Services Mental Wellness Services Agreement** – Approved the agreement with Glade Run Lutheran Services to provide mental wellness services with 8 therapists for the 2023-24 school year.
- G. **Hoffman Academy Placement Agreement** - Approved the agreement with Hoffman Academy to provide education placement services for the 2023-24 school year.
- H. **Schoolwide Plan for Haine Elementary School** – Approved the 2023-24 Schoolwide Plan for Haine Elementary School.
- I. **Club Sport Status** - Approved club sport status for Fencing at no cost to the District.
- J. **Conferences** – Approved the conference requests.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson to approve student trips, the Bradley Center agreement, BC3 College within the high school partnership agreement, LaRoche University concurrent enrollment agreement, Pickle Ball Club (Middle School), Glade Run Lutheran Services mental wellness services agreement, Hoffman Academy placement agreement, Schoolwide Plan for Haine Elementary School, club sport status, and conferences. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. BUSINESS/FINANCE

- A. **Act 32 Tax Collection Committee** – Appointed Dana Kirk as the voting delegate to the Butler County Tax Collection Committee on behalf of Seneca Valley School District. This appointment is effective immediately and shall continue until terminated by the Board. – Ms. Burtner

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve the Act 32 tax collection committee. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

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

- A. **Appointments** – *Professional Substitutes* – Jessica Repp, Brittaney Lucas, *Classified* – Lisa Recce, Michel Chrostowski, Olivia Saylor, *Supplementals* – Spencer Murray, Andrew Russell
- B. **Contracted Service** – Emily Tarantino
- C. **Leave** – Kristin Schlemmer

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve the appointments, contracted service and leave. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

- 12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – Mr. Daniel Weimer communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the September 11, 2023, public agenda.

Mr. DiTullio thanked the board for their support and shared that he will be reelected for the PSERS board in October. Ms. Whittle thanked him for the years that he has sat on that board and for all he does.

- 13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 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