

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION MEETING

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

November 14, 2022

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. James Nickel, President, called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Jena Yousef, a first grader at Rowan 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: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. James Nickel, Mr. Frederick Peterson, Ms. Kathy Whittle and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

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

November 14-18	American Education Week
November 16	End of First Trimester for Traditional Students, Grades K-6
November 18	First Day of All PIAA Winter Sports
November 23-28	Thanksgiving Break: District Holiday, No school for students and staff
November 30	Release of Reports of Student Progress, Grades K-6
December 5	School Board Reorganization Meeting, IHS Auditorium, 5 p.m.

- B. **Student/Staff Recognition** -Ms. Linda Andreassi announced that early Thursday morning, Nov. 10, TIME released its list of the best inventions of 2022, and we’re excited to announce that Ehrman Crest Elementary/Middle School made the list! As stated by TIME, “Ehrman Crest models the future of educational institutions.” According to their website, TIME editors highlighted the most impactful new products and ideas from around **the world**. They evaluated each contender on a number of key factors, including originality, efficacy, ambition and impact. In their review of the building, TIME noted Ehrman Crest’s harmonic walls that educate about sound, fractions, and energy; graphic walls with animals and numbers; and magnetic walls that let kids study local ecology. Ehrman Crest is the only educational institution chosen for any category and one of just six best inventions in the design category.

Ms. Andreassi congratulated the administration and School Board Members for all that they did for this project. Mr. Jim Nickel recognized how amazing that this recognition is for everyone and the district.

C. Financial Reports

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

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

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Approved the following minutes:

- A. Work Session - October 3, 2022
- B. Regular Meeting - October 10, 2022

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

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approved the general fund bills as follows:
Grand Total: \$3,253,331.96

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approved the construction fund bills as follows:
Grand Total: \$884,950.48

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the minutes, treasurer's report and construction fund bills. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**

A. School Board Meeting Dates – Approved the school board meeting dates January through June 2023.

B. Student Expulsion – Approved student expulsion #2022-23-14.

Ms. Whittle questioned the reason for the dates in April and the reason for one meeting in May. Dr. McKinley responded that the dates in April were chosen due to Spring Break and that it was decided to only have one meeting in May due to the late meetings in April. It was also shared that the May 8 date for action is needed for budgeting purposes.

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve the school board meeting dates and the student expulsion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Conference** - Approve the conference request.
- B. **Grant Disbursements** - Grant permission to apply for and disburse, if approved, the following grants:
1. Heroes and Helpers Grant funded by Target in the amount of \$2,500. Funds will be utilized during Haine Middle School's "Shop with a Cop" event where students are paired with a Cranberry Township Police Officer and provided with a gift card to purchase holiday presents.
 2. Farm to School Grant funded by the Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$18,780 for the Seneca Valley Academy of Choice (SVAOC) to create and maintain a hydroponics school community garden which will incorporate hands-on science lessons centered around plant growth, development, nutrition and agriculture for K-8 SVAOC students.
 3. Farm to School Grant funded by the Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$18,780 for Haine Middle School to purchase three (3) Flex Farm Systems - one for each 6th Grade Team at Haine Middle School and in collaboration with the HMS Cooking Club. The systems, along with its enhanced curriculum, will afford students the opportunity to learn about and grow fresh produce while observing and comparing their peers' systems' progress.
 4. Food Service Equipment Grant funded by the PA Department of Education in the amount of \$715 for ice blankets that will be utilized by all district cafeterias.
 5. Food Service Equipment Grant funded by the PA Department of Education in the amount of \$11,787.90 to replace two (2) sets of hot holding wells in the Intermediate High School (IHS) cafeteria.
 6. The Moonshot Grant funded by Remake Learning and the Grable Foundation in the amount of \$70,000 to invest in customized learning plans for Seneca Valley Academy of Choice (SVAOC) students. Funds will be used to create a welcoming, unique student-centered collaboration and learning space; diverse activities and technology resources based on the results of student-interest surveys; and professional development for staff.
 7. Mental Health and Physical Safety Grant funded by the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) in the amount of \$416,458 for district-wide mental health and school safety initiatives including additional resources for student well-being, increased police patrolling/presence and the school resource officer at Ryan Gloyer Middle School. - Dr. Palano and Dr. Roberts
 8. Two PCCD School Resource Officer (SRO) Grants in the amount of \$73,500 each. Funds will be utilized for salary and equipment costs associated with the SROs at both the Intermediate High School and Senior High School.
- C. **Athletic Uniform Sale** - Approve the sale of obsolete athletic uniforms.
- D. **Athletic Uniform Disposal** - Approve the disposal of old, unusable athletic uniforms.
- E. **Student Trip** – Acknowledge Ms. Sarah Deeds to take students to Italy March 27-April 4th, 2024 at no cost to the district.

Ms. Whittle commented on the amount of grants that were brought to the board for approval and the amount of work that Ms. Annie Mersing did to make all of this happen.

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve the conference request, the grant requests, the athletic uniform sale, the athletic uniform disposal and the student trip. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION**

- A. **Change Orders** - Approved the construction change orders for Ehrman Crest.
- B. **Act 57 Resolution** - Approved the Resolution regarding Act 57 of 2022.
- C. **December Bills** - Authorized administration to pay December bills.
- D. **Supplies and Equipment Bids** - Authorized administration to seek bids for supplies and equipment for the 2023-24 school year.
- E. **Joint Purchasing Agreement MIU IV** - Approved the Joint Purchasing Agreement with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for 2023-24.
- F. **Budget Transfers** - Approved budget transfers.

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve the change orders, Act 57 Resolution, December bills, supplies and equipment bids, Joint Purchasing Agreement MIU IV and budget transfers. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

11. **PERSONNEL ACTION** - Approved appointments and leaves. (Executive Session)

- A. **Appointments** - *Professional* - Laura Lugarich. *Professional Substitutes* – Ashley Harris, Sydney Servello, Madison Belsterling, Jeanna Pournaras, Josie Tompson, Angela Rebovich, *Supplementals* – Lexi Tofanelli, Caden Leighty, Tom Magill, Eric Semega, Mark Beighey, Jessica Kavanaugh, Erin Sypien, Susana Garcia.
- B. **Leaves** - *Professional* - Leah Vogel, Chelsea Risch, Jenny Caputo, Carolyn Bromberg, *Classified* - Nicole Parson.


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

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - Ms. Deborah Bailey communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the November 7, 2022 public agenda.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 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.

Mr. James Nickel, President



Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary