

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

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

Minutes

November 7, 2022

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mr. James Nickel, President, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Mikah Anderson-Baldt, a third 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: Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. James Nickel, Mr. Frederick Peterson and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson. Ms. Kathy Whittle was not in attendance.

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

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 7-11 | National School Psychology Week |
| November 7 | Release of Report Cards, Grades 7-12 |
| November 8 | Election Day |
| November 10 | SVAOC End of First Trimester, Grades K-6 |
| November 11 | Veterans Day; Act 80 Day – No School for Students |
| November 11 | Valley Lines Job Fair for SV Bus Drivers – 9 a.m.-Noon – (Former Evans City Elementary/Middle School) |
| November 14 | School Board Meeting, Regular Session, IHS Auditorium – 7 p.m. |
| 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. **All-Star Award Winner** - Ms. Colleen Kamarchik, Ehrman Crest Elementary School Secretary was recognized and presented with the All-Star Award by Ms. Lauri Pendred, Ehrman Crest Elementary School Principal. Ms. Pendred shared that Ms. Kamarchik has worked for SVSD for 26 years and that she is someone who continually serves others, gets to know everyone and their sub needs individually along with the importance of supporting teachers. Dr. Tracy Vitale recognized how important Ms. Kamarchik’s role is, that she steps up without complaining and that she loves our children. Dr. Vitale congratulated Ms. Kamarchik for all that she has done for SVSD over the years.

C. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Ms. Linda Andreassi announced Seneca Valley senior, Gracen Heilman was recently accepted into the 2022 FBI Pittsburgh Teen Academy. As a selected participant, Miss Heilman will gain a better understanding of the FBI and what it takes to keep America safe, highlighting the various positions and career paths that work together to help them in their mission to uphold the U.S. Constitution. Miss Heilman will be offered insight into a number of topics including the importance of making good choices when using online communication platforms, understanding which federal law violations the FBI investigates, requirements of all FBI applicants and the FBI’s domestic and international roles. Ms. Andreassi congratulated Ms. Heilman for receiving this acceptance.

D. **Agency Reports**

- 1. Vo-Tech – Mr. Fred Peterson, Jr. reported that they have received a copy of the budget for review. He also reported that they often ask students what vo-tech can do better and, in response, students are requesting more time in the shops. He believes that is a good sign for what is being taught. Mr. Mike Jacobs reported that they recently received communication from a previous student that was both constructive and positive. They were thankful for the feedback. In addition, it was reported that they are working through some technical difficulties this week and may need to move to analog.
- 2. I.U. IV – Mr. DiTullio reported that they had a meeting on October 26, 2022. Rodney Bobby was appointed to fill the remaining term of Jeanne Bacon. Labor contractor negotiations with Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA) have resumed and they had discussions around the challenges filling open positions.
- 3. WPIAL Update - Mr. Timothy Hester relayed that there was nothing new to report at this time.

E. **Legislative** – Mr. DiTullio reported that The House will return to Harrisburg on November 14-16. The Senate’s final day of session is November 15.

Senate Bill 696 and House Bill 2447 have been approved and awaiting the Governor’s signature.

Updated terminology in the School Code, House Bill 365, was passed by the Senate and returned to the House for concurrence on changes made by the Senate. House Bill 365 amends the Public-School Code making editorial changes to replace antiquated language with current terms.

Endangerment of public safety officials: House Bill 1546 which amends Chapter 27 to the Crimes Code, has been passed by the Senate.

House Bill 1546 was returned to the House for concurrence on the bill as amended and is now in the House Rules Committee.

Mr. DiTullio reported that Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS) held a meeting on October 20 and 21, 2022. There will be four new board members next year. Due to there being a new governor, there is a possibility of three additional board members. Additional PSERS items include:

- With the bylaw change adopted at the meeting, committee vice chairs will assume the Chair position if the Chair is unable to complete their term.
- For fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, PSERS had a positive return of 2.28%. The three-year return was 8.82%, five years was 8.47% and 10 years was 7.92%.
- 2023 will be the seventh year in a row that the state will provide 100% of the actuarial required contribution (ARC).
- The net pension liability (NPL) is at \$44.459 billion, down \$5 billion from 2016. That NPL would be at \$51.459 billion had we been at the "median pension peer return."
- In 2009-2010, there were 282,000 active members and today there are 250,000 active members resulting in a 11% decrease.
- Mr. DiTullio is on the Ad-Hoc Committee for the hiring of the new Chief Investment Officer. They held interviews on October 24, 2022 and October 25, 2022. The full board will interview the "short list" candidates on December 14, 2022 with the expectation to hire a candidate at the December 16, 2022 board meeting.

F. **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. **ACTION AGENDA**

- A. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

B. **Personnel** - Approved the following personal items that were shared in backup and will be discussed in the executive session that will be held following the School Board meeting.

1. **Resignations** – *Classified* – Mary Ray, Kimberly Peaco, Nicole Matson, Jaime Lippert, Amanda Slovak, Jenny Wright

2. **Appointments** – *Administrator* – Thomas McKelvey, *Professional Substitutes* – Theodore Lindgren, Raymond McKenzie, Jacquelynn Edmisten, Amy Parkinson, Mary Barb, *Classified* – Kimberly Peaco, Ku Kartini Tuan Yusoff, Selene Stott, Elizabeth Kelly, *Classified Substitutes* – Sheli Baker, *Supplementals* – Joe Frank, Justin McCauley, Tom Magill, Eric Semega, Rob Naylor, Michael Henry, Gary Brooks, Karen “Julie” Fornadel, Krystal Epps, Caitlyn Connelly, Ray Peaco, Megan Meeder, Jess Leighty, Jen Exler, Rebecca Grinnen, Chessa Crum, Amy Seelbaugh, Mark Beighey, Devyn Brown, Bruce Smith, Michael Marra, Kurt McNaught, Sara Snyder and Elizabeth Wimer.

3. **Leaves** – *Professional* – Lauri Pendred, Rebekah Grinnen, Danielle Reynolds, Jennifer Cabecinha Katherine Langley, Rachel Johnson, Nicole Joyce, David Lowe and Gabriella Harding, *Classified* - Benjamin Taylor, Ann Wise and Wilbert Schwartz.

4. **Retirements** – *Professional* – Laura Zewe, *Classified* – Sandy Turner

5. **Memorandum of Understanding** – Approved the MOU with Seneca Valley Education Association regarding Unified Bocce Team.

Dr. Vitale commented that one of the individuals that they are seeking approval for is Mr. Thomas McKelvey, and if approved, will be the new Assistant Principal at Haine Elementary School.

C. **Student Trip** - Approved the Intermediate High School and Senior High School Student Councils’ trip to the Pennsylvania State Conference at Boyerstown Area Senior High School on November 3-5 under the supervision of Ms. Rebecca Mutschler. Students will miss two days of instruction. The trip is at no cost to the District.

Mr. Fred Peterson questioned if Ms. Rebecca Mutschler would have additional adult chaperones attending the trip. Dr. McKinley assured him that other adult chaperones would be attending.

Mr. Nickel motioned, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve resignations, appointments, leaves, retirements and the Memorandum of Understanding. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **Work Session** - October 3, 2022

B. **Regular Meeting** - October 10, 2022

5. TREASURER’S REPORT

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$3,253,331.96

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$869,790.55

8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION** - Approve school board meeting dates January through June 2023.9. **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 used utilize 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.

C. **Athletic Uniform Sale** - Approve the sale of obsolete athletic uniforms.

- D. **Athletic Uniform Disposal** - Approve the disposal of old, unusable athletic uniforms.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION**

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

11. **PERSONNEL ACTION - (Executive Session)**

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the October 10, 2022 public agenda:

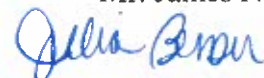
- a. Sarah Cardoso
- b. Jason Borkowski
- c. Sally Reichert
- d. Kirk Kush
- e. Bonnie Carter
- f. Erin McClymonds
- g. Mason Klingensmith
- h. Cassandra Zoelle
- i. John and Patricia Hodil
- j. Kevin O'Neill

Mr. Nickel shared that the School Board was not able to meet for Executive Session prior to the School Board meeting and that they would be meeting immediately following the School Board Meeting.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 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, Board Secretary