

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

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

MINUTES

August 5, 2019

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. James Nickel, President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Mr. Nickel led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
 - C. **Roll Call** - Roll call by Annie Mersing, Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance; Ms. Kathy Whittle, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Fred Peterson, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Mr. James Nickel, Ms. Leslie Bredl 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, Human Resources Director; Ms. Lynn Burtner, Business Manager; Ms. Linda Andreassi, Communications Director; Mr. Randy Miller, Buildings and Grounds Director; Mr. Jerry Miller, Director of Special Education; Ms. Heather Lewis, Athletic Director; Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; and a press representative.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following student/staff recognition: In late June, The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced over 3,500 winners of National Merit Scholarships including Seneca Valley's own Scott McElhinny. Mr. McElhinny, a recent 2019 graduate, was named a National Merit University of Pittsburgh Scholarship winner. Officials of each sponsor college selected their scholarship winners from among the Finalists in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program who plan to attend their institution.
- B. **Dates to Remember** – Ms. Andreassi announced the following dates to remember.

August 8	Seneca Valley Foundation - Gift of Hope Golf Classic, Cranberry Highlands Golf Course
August 12	School Board Meeting, Intermediate High Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
August 13-16	Summer Academy, Teacher Professional Development in Ed. Technology
August 14	Bus Driver Meeting, SHS Auditorium, 8:00 a.m.
August 19, 20	New Teacher Induction

August 22	Pie Fest, IHS Cafeteria/NexTier Stadium
August 22, 23, 26	Staff In-Service
August 27	First Day of School for Students
August 30	Veteran Recognition event to held during the Raider Football game

- C. **Cranberry Township Residential Developments** – Dr. Tracy Vitale presented information regarding new residential developments in Cranberry Township including Meeder (Phase 4); Forest Edge (Phase 3); Laurel Point (Phases 1 and 2); and the Courtyards at Willow Grove. Dr. Vitale applauded the board and administration for paying attention to and diligently planning for student enrollment increases that come with these developments.
- D. **Agency Reports**
1. **Vo-Tech** – Mr. Nickel reported on the Vo-Tech’s discussion of a “Use of Non-Lethal Force” policy. They will work with the Butler police force to put this policy in place. Mr. Fred Peterson reported the Vo-Tech is fully funded, and now has an updated website. Also, this year it celebrates its 40th anniversary.
 2. **I.U. IV** – Mr. Eric DiTullio reported on new leadership on the Board, specifically the new vice-chair, Mr. Richard Rossi of Greenville Area School District. Mr. DiTullio feels Butler County is well-represented by the newly appointed representatives and through this good leadership is headed in the right direction.
- E. **Legislative** – Mr. Peterson reported the State and Federal legislators are on summer break.
- F. **Financial Reports** – The following reports were provided in the backup materials.
1. Operations
 2. Intermediate High Activities
 3. Food Services
 4. Tax Collection Reports
 5. Capital Projects Funds

3. ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Public Comment** – Public comment was heard from the following:
1. Brian Trimble spoke of his concerns surrounding the construction of the new K-6 Elementary School.
 2. Randall Hart spoke of the history of the homesteads located on Seneca Valley property that are scheduled to be razed.
- B. **Personnel Action** – Personnel items were discussed in an executive session held prior to this meeting.

1. **Resignations:** *Professional* – Kelly O’Leary, Julie McGuire, Katherine Rettura; *Classified* - Linda Ackley, Lisa DeYoung, Pamela Cosky; *Supplemental* – April Stadtmiller
2. **Appointments:** *Professional* – Leah Kistler, Christina King, Alex Krajniak, Lora Nickel, Gabriella DiSimone, Jennifer Ramey, Quincy Gildea, Hannah Hamilton, Bethany Bowen, Chloe Knappenberger, Ciara Was, Stephanie Carney, Candance McComb, Sydney Sterner, Lindsay Cable, Brittney Voettner, Kathryn Bly, Brieana Nassan, Morgan Verplank, Karissa Lambert, Elizabeth Porco, Kaitlyn Foley; *Classified* – Pamela Weis, Kelly Swain, Margaret Beggy, Laura Moad, Lisa Ridenour, Richard Grupp, William McCracken; *Supplementals* - Elizabeth Williams, Ann Cheman, Susan Moury, Ray Peaco, Justin Dosch, Jacob Hecht, Jennifer Erin, Kasey Kraus, Ted Neill, Hannah Hugo, Eric Semega, Katie Smolter, George Trew, Eric Grove, Ray Peaco, Karen Martini, Chris Masi
3. **Retirement:** *Classified* – Daryl Seitz
- C. **Student Adjudications** – Approved student adjudications #2018-19-14; #2018-19-12; and #2018-19-11. (Executive Session)
- D. **Transportation Contracts** – Renewed the following transportation contracts.
 1. One family to transport their children to Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf.
 2. One family to transport their child to the Blessed Francis Seelos Academy.
 3. One family to transport their child to D.T. Watson School.
- E. **Revised 2019-20 School Calendar** – Approved the revised 2019-20 school calendar due to the new Commonwealth law of Flexible Instructional Days (FIDs).

Mr. DiTullio congratulated Dr. Vitale on the success of the Flexible Instructional Days legislation. He stated the law would not have been passed without her hard work.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve resignations, appointments and retirement as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Reverend Moon absent.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approve the following meeting minutes.

- A. **Work Session** – June 3, 2019
- B. **Regular Meeting** – June 10, 2019
- C. **Special Meeting** – July 9, 2019

5. **TREASURER’S REPORTS** – Approve the treasurer’s reports.

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approve the general fund bills.

2018-19 Grand Total: \$1,438,578.50

2019-20 Grand Total: \$2,225,432.67

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approve the construction fund bills.

Grand Total: \$1,110,492.83

8. ADMINISTRATION ACTION

- A. **Board Policies** – Approve the following board policies.
1. #102 – Academic Standards, revised, first reading (pending solicitor review)
 2. #119 – Current Events, adoption, first and final reading
 3. #125 – Adult Education, adoption, first and final reading
 4. #211 – Student Accident Insurance, adoption, first and final reading
 5. #205 – Postgraduate Students, retire, first and final reading
- B. **Conferences** – Approve conferences.

9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Book Disposal** – Approve the disposal of outdated and obsolete textbooks from the German Department, Intermediate High School Library and English Department.
- B. **Adelphoi Education Agreement** – Approve the agreement with Adelphoi Education, Inc. to provide alternative education services for the 2019-20 school year.
- C. **Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania Agreement** – Approve the agreement with Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania for the purchase of UPMC Project SEARCH transition services.
- D. **Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit Contract** – Approve the contract for special education programs and services with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit.
- E. **Grant Disbursement** – Grant permission to disburse the following Highmark Foundation grants:
1. Olweus Anti-Bully Program to Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School in the amount of \$7,500.
 2. Student Vaping Prevention and Education to the Intermediate High School in the amount of \$3,500.
- F. **Student Placement Agreement** – Approve the student placement agreement with Daniels Academy for Student CD.
- Mr. Peterson asked for clarification as to why the student is being sent to a school in Utah. Attorney Hoffman stated no school in Pennsylvania could meet the specific special needs of this student.
- G. **SchoolAssist Consulting, LLC** – Renew the agreement with SchoolAssist Consulting, LLC to provide professional development in the form of leadership coaching for the 2019-20 school year.
- H. **Student Adjudication** – Approve student adjudication #2018-19-13. (Executive Session)

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION** – Approve the joint permitting and wetland delineation tasks to be performed by CannonDesign/HRG for the new elementary school at Ehrman Road.

11. **PERSONNEL ACTION** – Mr. Jeff Widdowson – (Executive Session)
12. **COMMUNICATION** – No communication was received.
13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further to come before the Board, Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Reverend Moon absent.
14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. James Nickel, President



Ms. Annie Mersing, Board Secretary