

# Seneca Valley School District



## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

### MINUTES

September 16, 2019

**I. CALL TO ORDER** - Mr. James Nickel, President, called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

- A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Jillian Zevola, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Haine Elementary, continued the board meeting initiative, “I Led the Pledge,” by opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. **Roll Call** – Roll call by Annie Mersing, Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance; Ms. Leslie Bredl, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Timothy Hester, Rev. Reid Moon, Mr. James Nickel, Mr. Frederick Peterson, Jr., Ms. Kathy Whittle 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; Ms. Heather Lewis, Athletic Director; Mr. Jerry Miller, Special Education Director; Mr. Jim Pearson, Transportation Director; Kristen White, Haine Elementary Principal; Shannon Zolkowski, Haine Elementary Teacher; Elizabeth Porco, Haine Elementary Teacher; Attorney David Mongillo from the Solicitor’s office; and a press representative.

**2. INFORMATION REPORTS**

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

September 20	Hall of Fame Night, 7:30 p.m., NexTier Stadium
September 26	Homecoming Carnival/Parade, 5/7 p.m., Secondary Campus
September 27	Homecoming Game vs. North Allegheny, 7:06 p.m. kickoff, WPNT, NexTier Stadium
September 28	Homecoming Dances, 7-10 p.m., SVIHS & SVSHS

- B. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Ms. Andreassi announced that Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recently announced Seneca Valley seniors Nishant Jayachandran, Olivia Schultheis and Sean Scott as semifinalists in the 65<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. As semifinalists, all three will have an opportunity to continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million. Students annually enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). They will learn in February if they are finalists.

C. **Financial Reports** – The following reports were provided in the backup materials:

1. Operations
2. Senior High Activities
3. Intermediate High Activities
4. Athletics
5. Tax Collection Reports
6. Capital Projects Funds
7. Food Service

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Mr. Randy Hart addressed the Board and offered his opinion on safety concerns with the design of the new elementary building. He suggested the District seek input from local fire departments to ensure they can adequately respond to emergencies. Dr. Vitale confirmed once the initial design phase is complete, the District will work with civil engineers and local fire departments to review the designs and perform safety inspections in accordance with State and Federal laws.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approved the following meeting minutes:
  - A. **Work Session** – August 5, 2019
  - B. **Regular Meeting** – August 12, 2019
5. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Approved the treasurer’s report.
6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS** – Approved the general fund bills.  
 2018-19 Grand Total: \$525,785.37  
 2019-20 Grand Total: \$3,350,448.59
7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** – Approved the construction fund bills.  
 2019-20 Grand Total: \$587,423.15

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

8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**

A. **Board Policies** – Approved the following board policies:

1. #102 – Academic Standards, revised, second reading
2. #105 – Curriculum Development, revised, first reading
3. #105.2 – Exemption from Instruction, revised, first reading
4. #107 – Adoption of Planned Instruction, revised, first reading
5. #210 – Use of Medications, revised, second reading
6. #212 – Reporting Student Progress, revised, first reading
7. #246 – Student Wellness, revised, first reading
8. #806 – Child Abuse, revised, first reading

B. **Consulting Agreement** – Approved the consulting agreement between Supervisor of Safety and Security, Jeff James, and Seneca Valley School District.

- C. **Act 26 MOU** – Approved the Act 26 Memorandum of Understanding between Seneca Valley School District and local law enforcement agencies.
- D. **Plate Capture Solutions, Inc. Licensing Agreement** – Approved the licensing agreement between Plate Capture Solutions, Inc. and Seneca Valley School District for certain technology and systems used to photograph license plates and identify owners of vehicles.
- E. **Kennywood Picnic** – Approved June 19 as Kennywood picnic date for 2020.

Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve board policies, consulting agreement, Act 26 MOU, Plate Capture Solutions, Inc. Licensing Agreement and the Kennywood Picnic as listed above. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

## 9. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Conferences** – Approved conferences.
- B. **Seneca Valley Orchestra Parent Association (SVOPA)** – Approved the operating bylaws of the Seneca Valley Orchestra Parent Association.
- C. **Nonpublic Title I Services Agreement** – Approved the Third-Party Letter of Agreement for Nonpublic Title I Services with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for the term of August 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.
- D. **Education Placement Agreement** – Approved the Education Placement Agreement with Glade Run Lutheran Services dba St. Stephens Lutheran Academy and St. Stephens Academy Utica for the first half of the 2019-20 school year with automatic renewal of the agreement for the second half of the 2019-20 school year.
- E. **Student Trips** – Acknowledged the following student trips:
  - 1. Choral student trip to New York City, New York on April 30 – May 3 at no cost to the district. The students will miss two days of school and will be under the supervision of James Ringold, parent volunteers, trained medical staff and choral directors from each school.
  - 2. Student trip to London, Paris, and Rome in July 2020 under the supervision of Amanda Shaheen at no cost to the district through EF Tours.
- F. **BIAPA Employee Leasing Agreement** – Approved the employee leasing agreement between the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (“BIAPA”) and Seneca Valley School District for certain services of speech therapist, Maggie Lockovich, for the 2019-20 school year.
- G. **Grant Disbursement** - Granted permission to apply for and disburse, if approved, the following grants:
  - 1. Competitive Integrated Employment Grant: Special Education Performance Grant 2019-2020. This grant will support the Transition Program in

providing salary, benefit, and supply funding for the program up to \$30,000 (full amount possible.) The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Bureau of Special Education is requesting applications from local educational agencies (LEAs) interested in establishing or expanding effective, competitive integrated employment programming for youth with disabilities. The ultimate goal is to provide youth with disabilities community-based paid work experiences during the 2019-2020 school year.

2. Target Corporation Grant for \$700 to be used for CVE Grade 2 bus expenses to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at Heinz Hall. Requested by Ms. Susan Dinger.
3. First Energy Grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project using DNA to discover rare salamander populations, specifically the Pennsylvania state amphibian - the hellbender salamander. The grant will fund the necessary DNA extraction kits as well as furniture for the Genetics Lab. Requested by Mr. Brian Carson.

- H. **Book Disposal** – Approved the disposal of outdated and obsolete textbooks from the Latin, World Language and Aviation Departments.
- I. **School Health Services Agreement** – Approved the School Health Services Agreement between Allegheny Clinic and Seneca Valley School District effective for one year beginning on April 1, 2019.

Mr. Peterson motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to table approving Instruction Item B - Seneca Valley Orchestra Parent Association By-Laws in order to clarify what happens to any remaining cash balances should the Club dissolve. Ms. Lewis noted that bylaws are a template created as per school district policy. The motion failed on a roll call vote with the majority of those present voting against it.

Mr. Peterson motioned, seconded by Rev. Moon, to table approving Instruction Item I -School Health Services Agreement to allow language to be added to the agreement that would require the District be notified should a provider with Allegheny Clinic have his/her privileges censured or revoked. The school solicitor in attendance noted two sections in the agreement that required the provider to follow all applicable laws and indicated such notification would be included in this statement. The motion failed on a roll call vote with the majority of those present voting against it.

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve conferences, Seneca Valley Orchestra Parent Association (SVOPA), Nonpublic Title I Services Agreement, Education Placement Agreement, Student Trips, BIAPA Employee Leasing Agreement, Grant Disbursement, Book Disposal and School Health Services Agreement as listed above. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

## 10. BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION

- A. **Reschini Agreement** – Approved the agreement with The Reschini Group for processing year end Affordable Care Act returns.
- B. **Cernica Engineering 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Special Inspections and Testing Agreement** – Approved the agreement between Cernica Engineering, Inc. and Seneca Valley School District for 3<sup>rd</sup> party special inspections and testing of the Aquatic Center.

- C. **Cleaning Service Agreements** – Approved the extension of agreements with E.B. Peffer Company for cleaning services at Seneca Valley Senior High School, Seneca Valley Intermediate High School, Ryan Gloyer Middle School, and the Seneca Valley District Administration Center and Central Maintenance & Service for cleaning services at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School, Evans City Elementary/Middle School, Haine Elementary/Middle School, and Rowan Elementary School for 3 years at an increase of 3% per year.
- D. **Bid Awards** – Awarded bids for the construction of the new Maintenance Building at 162 Seneca School Road for the following Prime Contracts:
1. General Construction Bid to Gem Building Contractors in the amount of \$394,043.
  2. HVAC Construction Bid to Hranec Sheet Metal in the amount of \$24,500.
  3. Plumbing Construction Bid to East End Plumbing & Mechanical in the amount of \$156,000.
  4. Electrical Construction Bid to Current Waves, LLC in the amount of \$62,400.
- E. **Maximum Project Cost and Maximum Building Construction Cost** – Approved the maximum building construction cost and maximum project cost for the proposed new construction of the New K-6 Elementary School located on Ehrman Road, Cranberry Township, with the following maximum project cost estimates:
1. Maximum Building Construction Cost - \$60,571,183  
(Structure Costs, Fees, Movable Fixtures/ Equipment)
  2. Maximum Project Cost - \$78,737,089

Ms. Bredl motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve the Reschini agreement, Cernica Engineering 3<sup>rd</sup> party special inspections and testing agreement, cleaning service agreements, bid awards and the maximum project cost/maximum building construction costs as listed above. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

11. **PERSONNEL ACTION** – Personnel items were discussed in an executive session held prior to this meeting.
- A. **Appointments - Professional Substitutes** – Jana B. Emerson, Kathleen P. Hippert, Laura R. Kellar, Lori M. McCann, Lauren T. Swerdloff; **Classified** – Elaine Duggan, Jacqueline McElheny; **Supplementals** – Kimberly Belt, Renae Brown, Daniel Dickey, Kalene Ireland, Kenneth Kotula, Camden Palmer, Tracy Richards, John Roman, Nina Grinnell, Tammie Limmer, Herbert McCracken, Todd Winter; **Athletics and Activities** – Brett Poirier, Amanda Huey, Marie McLachlan, Margaret Marciniak, Amanda Shaheen, Tammie Limmer, Claire Thomas
- B. **Leaves – Administration** – Nanette Farmar; **Professional** – Lauren O’Donnell; **Classified** – Holly Butcher, Debra Neely, Susan White, Lisa Recce
- C. **Retirement** – **Professional** – MaryAnn Stewart
- D. **Agreement** – Between the District and ESPA Union employee

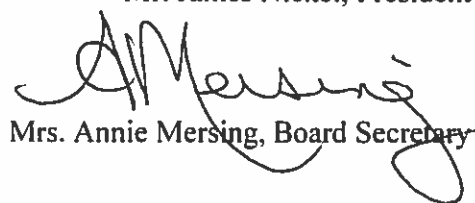
Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. DiTullio, to approve appointments, leaves, retirement and an agreement as listed above. The motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

12. **COMMUNICATION** – No communication was received.

Ms. Whittle commended the student section and Ms. Heather Lewis for representing the District so well at the Raiders vs. Mt. Lebanon game on Friday, September 13, in supporting Mt. Lebanon's principal, Brian McFeeley, who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** – With nothing further to come before the Board, Mr. DiTullio motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

Mr. James Nickel, President



Mrs. Annie Mersing, Board Secretary