

Seneca Falls Central School District
Board of Education Meeting/ECS Roundtable/Public Hearing
November 7, 2024-6:00 PM
Elizabeth Cady Stanton School Cafeteria

BOE Present

Deborah Corsner, Anthony Ferrara, Cara Lajewski, Matthew Lando, Denise Lorenzetti, Joseph McNamara, Erica Sinicropi, Heather Zellers and Searah Reardon, Student Board Member

BOE Absent

Michael Mirras

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni, Karissa Blamble, Amy Hibbard, Janet Clendenen, Kathryn Sargent, Melissa Woodard, Tricia Goodenough, Carey LaVoie, Rachel Williams, Susan Moulton, Sara Deatherage, Nichole Brady, Barbara Robinson, and numerous students and family members.

Denise Lorenzetti called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum of the Board of Education was present; the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approval of Agenda

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addendums as listed.

Add under IX. Committee Reports

A. **Facility Committee Report**

Add under XI. Consent Agenda

B. Appointments

2. Coaching Appointment

Employee	Sport/Position	Stipend	Certification
Danielle Burlew	Bowling-NON-Paid Assist	n/a	Pending

Joseph McNamara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend

Board Minutes

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated October 24, 2024

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Report

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to approve the following Treasurer Reports:

July 2024 Treasurer's Report

August 2024 Treasurer's Report

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Erica Sinicropi.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report

None at this time

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

ECS Round Table

Kathryn Sargent informed the Board that Kurtis Sessler had written a book in collaboration with Pat Harrison, Blueberry Hill Books. Kathryn Sargent presented Kurtis with a printed copy of his book, "Fluffy and Charlie Fly to the Moon".

Grade 4

Melissa Woodard and students, Ian Butler, Gavin Spitzer, Zachary Snyder and Jack Taylor. The students are currently learning about the five Iroquois tribes (Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca) in social studies. Iroquois grow corn, beans and squash. Iroquois leaders are chosen by the women of their tribes. Longhouses were made of elm bark. The longhouses were about 20 feet wide and 20 feet high. Holes were built in the roof. Rafters were used for bed and animal skins for blankets. The students built longhouses and shared them with the Board of Education.

Grade 5

In Seneca County, 4-H as the Youth Development program of Cornell Cooperative Extension and Farm to School as a program of the Nutrition and Agriculture Departments work together to implement the New York State Agriculture in the Classroom Dairy in the Classroom Grant. Seneca County is one of 18 counties in the state currently implementing this grant in schools.

The 5th grade students have had fun enjoying delicious, healthy snacks during their CCE sessions. After learning about healthy eating options, students then have the opportunity to sample the shared recipes. Tricia Goodenough, Carey LaVoie, and Rachel Williams (Cornell Cooperative Extension) and students Zoe Francis, Sophie Wick, Jonah Smith, Josie Wendt and Nicholas Miller presented on their experience of working with Cornell Cooperative Extension. The students learned on to make whip cream and butter. The students then showed the Board of Education on how to make them. Board members were given two containers each filled with cream. One container was shaken until whip cream was formed. The second container was shaken until butter was formed. It took longer to make the butter than the whip cream.

Susan Moulton, Social Worker
Sara Deatherage, Speech Pathologist

Susan Moulton, Social Worker and Sara Deatherage, Speech Pathologist and students, Jonah Smith, Kayden Cieri, Aubriella Larsen and Hannah Shafer, presented on SEL and Speech and Language Connection.

Using your Social Filter

A social filter is a thinking skill that most people can control without realizing it. Your social filter makes sure that some of the words in your head do not make it into your mouth. Your social filter keeps you from using words that can cause hurt feelings. It keeps you from saying things that may embarrass you and others around you. Our social filter helps us say words and use actions that make people have good thoughts about each other.

The students played a game with the Board members-“Think It?” or “Say It?”

Grade 3

Barbara Robinson, Special Education teacher, and Lisa Brady, classroom teacher, shared with the Board their experience with ICT (Integrated Co-Teaching) in the classroom.

Integrated- A classroom of students with or without disabilities, sharing a single learning environment for the entirety of a school day.

Co-A Special Education teacher and General Education teacher (plus any paraprofessionals) supporting the varied needs of all students.

Teaching-Implementation of varied instructional approaches are used to deliver engaging, meaningful learning experience.

All students benefit by:

- Exposure to different teaching styles;
- Enhanced understanding of material;
- More individual attention and more interaction with teachers;
- All students learn alongside of their peers improving confidence and social skills in the process;
- Students take more leadership roles in groups;
- Students learn collaboration from teacher modeled behaviors;
- Increase on-task time with more behavior management/adult support;
- Increase sense of community and belonging.

To be successful, teachers must be equal, have strong leadership and careful planning and high expectations for all students behaviorally and academically, just to name a few.

The program has been extended to Grades 4 & 5 as well. Twenty-one (21) students are currently being served in the ICT program.

Public Hearing
SMART BOND

The SMARTD Bond will be used for the Door Lock Project.

Wireless Door Locks	Budget	Details	Funding Options
Frank Knight School	\$213,000	Door fabs for each door; Wireless, not WiFi bridges;	\$230,000 for SF Middle School from the 2024 Capital Project.
Cady Stanton School	\$251,000		
SF Middle School	\$229,600		

Mynderse Academy	\$327,000	Ability to initiate lockdown of doors; all keys would be collected.	\$829,000 remaining from the SMART BOND
Total	\$1,020,600		

Door Lock Project Schedule:

- September 19, 2024-Planning/Safety Committee meeting was held (which included a minimum 1 student; 1 parent; 1 teacher; 1 Administrator; 1 Board of Education member and 1 community member).
- September 25, 2024-Board of Education meeting-presented preliminary plan; adopted the preliminary plan; District Clerk sent out legal notice to the newspaper; information posted to website for 30 days prior to public hearing; begin application process and letter of intent.
- October 2024-RFPs to obtained quotes (DAY Automation).
- November 7, 2024-Public Hearing on Preliminary Plan; adopt resolution approving plan. No public vote needed as the funding (LOI to NYS, Generate Application Data)Nov. '24 - Fall '25 Submit and wait for approval, Begin project immediately following
- November 2024-submit to NYSED. Wait for approval. Once approved, begin work immediately.
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Public Comment

The Seneca Falls Board of Education welcomes public comment. Speakers may comment on matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than three (3) minutes. Public comments will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated. In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored.

Persons addressing the Board of Education during public comment should not expect to engage in discussion with the Board. The Board will not permit any comments involving specific individual personnel or students.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be referred to the Superintendent. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

Committee Reports
Facility Committee Report

Information
Warrants 10/01/2024-10/31/2024

Warrant A (30) \$ 32,021.23
Warrant F (11) \$ 45,240.33

Student Board Member

Searah Reardon thanked Amy Hibbard. Searah enjoyed the roundtable. Searah reported that today, Nov. 7th, was a full day event for “Source of Strength”. Many students participated. The facilitators focused on each step and asked questions. The event is a way of finding support. The students brainstorm ideas and bring back to a larger group.

Business Administrator

James Bruni had no report. He would share information during the budget workshop portion of the meeting.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed thanked the board members for participating in the workshop on November 2, 2024. The draft goals will be shared with the student advisory group and steering committee. Dr. Reed reminded the Board members of the Veterans’ Day Assembly at Frank Knight elementary School on Friday (Nov. 8th) at 9:45 am. The assembly is a well-attended event and honors local veterans. The fall play is scheduled for the upcoming weekend. “Twelfth Night” will be showing Friday and Saturday night at 7:30 pm and a Sunday matinee at 2:00 pm.

BOE President Report

Michael Mirras was absent-no report.

BOE Member Comments

Erica Sinicropi stated that she thought (Nov. 2 BOE Meeting/Workshop) was very productive. She enjoyed Her time, the conversations around the pillars. She thanked Dr. Reed for organizing the workshop.

Denise Lorenzetti reported that she will be attending the NSBA Advocacy & Equity Institute in Washington DC February 2025. She attended last year.

Anthony Ferrara asked if the district will be updating the cell phone policy. Dr. Reed has been working with other superintendents in the region on the subject.

Important Dates to Remember

November 8, 2024-Veteran's Day Assembly (9:45 am)-Frank Knight Elementary School

November 11, 2024-Veteran's Day

November 16, 2024-Four County SBA Legislative Committee Mtg. 9:00 am (Zoom)

November 21, 2024-BOE Meeting

November 25, 2024- Four County SBA General Membership Meeting (Brian Fessler, NYSSBA Director of Governmental Relations

Nov. 27-28, 2024-No School for students & 10 month employees-Thanksgiving break

Consent Agenda
Resignations/Retirements/Terminations

SFEA

None at this time

SFSSA

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following Support Staff resignation:

Name: Marty Kerfien

Position: Cleaner

Effective: 10/30/2024

Appointments
Professional Appointment

The Board of Education of the Seneca Falls Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Dr. Michelle Reed, Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints (*Probation dates are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law sections 2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.*)

Name: Genevieve Griffin

Position: Art Teacher

Certification: Visual Arts (Initial Certification)

Tenure: Art Education

Effective date: 10/25/2024

Probation: 10/25/2024 through 10/24/2028

Base Salary: \$46,018

Coaching Appointment

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves following coaching appointments for the 2024-2025 school year.

Employee	Sport/Position	Stipend	Certification
Danielle Burlew	Bowling-NON-Paid Assist	n/a	Pending

Civil Service Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following civil service position(s) (*All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared*).

Name: Nadia Tohafjian
 Position: Teacher Aide
 Effective: 10/28/2024 (retro)
 Probationary Period: 10/28/2024 through 10/23/2025
 Hours/day: 6.0
 Hourly Rate: \$16.48

Substitute Appointments

None at this time

Probationary to Permanent

None at this time

CSE Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE Minutes: 10/16/2024, 10/17/2024, 10/21/2024, 10/22/2024(1), 10/23/2024(1), 10/23/2024(2), 10/24/2024, 10/29/2024, 10/30/2024

Gifts and Donations

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following gifts or donations:

Donor	Amount	Account	Purpose
Merry-Go Round Playhouse	\$900.00	A2705	Used for Arts in Education Programming

2024-2025 Transportation Requests

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the contract for transportation as presented.

Name:	Dates:	Purpose
Katie Butler	2024-2025 School Year	Transport student out of district

Overnight Conference Requests/Field Trips

None at this time

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business

Correction-Oct. 24, 2024 appointments

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to approve the following corrections as listed:

4. Civil Service Appointments

a. Name: Alateisha Johnson
 Position: School Bus Monitor
 Hours/day: 2.0 hours/day
 Hourly Rate: ~~\$16.00~~ **\$15.84**

b. Name: Janita Barnard
 Position: Cashier/FSH
 Effective: ~~10/25/2024~~ **10/28/2024**

Probationary Period: ~~10/25/24 through 10/24/25~~ 10/28/2024 through 10/27/2025

c. Name: Kristen Hooper

Position: Cashier/FSH

Effective: ~~10/25/2024~~ 10/28/2024

Probationary Period: ~~10/25/24 through 10/24/25~~ 10/28/2024 through 10/27/2025

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Heather Zellers.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

New Business
Contracts, Agreements and MOA's

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Seneca Falls Board of Education approves the following Contracts, Agreements and MOA's:

2024-2025 Interpreter Agreement with Acculang Consulting, LLC

Patricia Muchard

Rate: \$60/hour

Deborah Corsner made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

SMART BOND Resolution

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion that WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Central School District approved a preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan ("SSIP") on November 7, 2024 pursuant to The Smart Schools Bond Act (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the preliminary SSIP was posted on the Seneca Falls Central School District's website for at least 30 days, and the District included an address to which any written comments on the preliminary SSIP should be sent; and

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education conducted a public hearing that enabled stakeholders to respond to the preliminary SSIP, for which adequate notice of the public hearing was provided through local media and the Seneca Falls Central School District website for at least two weeks prior to the hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education has considered all public comments, completed a final SSIP, and determined that approval of the final SSIP is in the best interest of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Central School District's final Smart Schools Investment Plan featuring high-tech security upgrades by installing a district-wide classroom entry control system up to \$829,792 as more fully described in the District Plan is hereby approved.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Erica Sinicropi.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Surplus

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to dispose of following surplus items as listed through sale, donation, disposal or auction according to Board Policy #6900:

<u>School tag</u>	<u>Item Description</u>
002245	Long table from room 172, old and broken beyond repair
20081002	Carpet machine that has been stripped for parts
20130125	Carpet Machine not operational
20080687	Broken Kiln
20080665	Kitchen Kettle Broken Beyond Repair
20080667	Kitchen Kettle Broken Beyond Repair

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Anthony Ferrara.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Dr. Reed and James Bruni reviewed the following:

Capital Building Reserve –Balance as of 07/01/2024- \$4,385,552

- The District utilizes the reserve for Capital Improvement Projects for the school facilities, buses and equipment improvements;
- States the specific purpose of the fund, the amount, the term of the fund and sources where fund is obtained (e.g. budgetary appropriations, unappropriated fund balance and NYS Aid);
- Utilized to pay for any object or purpose for which a school district may issue bonds pursuant to Finance Law;
- The reserve was funded by voter approval and can be transferred to other funds only by voter approval;
- Can only be used for the purpose of which the fund was established;
- The reserve may be liquidated by voter approval if determined the fund is no longer needed for its original purpose. The proceeds from the dissolved fund must be applied first to outstanding bond indebtedness and then to the tax levy.
- Reference: Education Law, Article 74 §3651(1)

Capital Bus Reserve Balance as of 07/01/2024- \$2,913,816

- Established by voter approval;
- States the specific purpose of the fund, the amount, the term of the fund and sources where fund is obtained (e.g. budgetary appropriations, unappropriated fund balance and NYS Aid);
- Utilized to pay for any object or purpose for which a school district may issue bonds pursuant to Finance Law;
- The reserve was funded by voter approval and can be transferred to other funds only by voter approval;
- Can only be used for the purpose of which the fund was established;
- The reserve may be liquidated by voter approval if determined the fund is no longer needed for its original purpose. The proceeds from the dissolved fund must be applied first to outstanding bond indebtedness and then to the tax levy.
- Reference: Education Law, Article 74 §3651(1)

Projected needs:

With the 2027 Zero-emission mandate looming, the district will be increasing its bus purchases from 4 to 5 buses in the next three years (8 year refresh). Current zero-emission busses are currently costing around \$475,000 per bus. It will be crucial to start increasing the bus reserve to combat the purchase increases.

Executive Session
None at this time

Adjourn

Denise Lorenzetti asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk