

The Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, in the High School Audion. Present were Directors William Broun, Donald Carpenter, John Conte, Vivian Demko, Laurel Erickson-Parsons, Tracy Magnotta-online, Shamim Pakzad, and Jay Santos. Also present were Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent, David Bonenberger, Temporary Board Secretary, and Mark Fitzgerald, District Solicitor.

- I. **Call to the Order** – 7:30 pm - *Cedric Dettmar, President, presiding*
- II. **Motion to Approve Agenda** – Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons, moved to approve the agenda. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- III. **Announcement of Executive Session** – Student disciplinary matter and legal issue.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Conte, seconded by Director Carpenter, moved to approve the minutes of November 12, 2024. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- V. **Recognition** – None
- VI. **Presentation** – High Academic Achievement Recognition:
  - Sarah Bocchini (10<sup>th</sup>), Kyle Chi (11<sup>th</sup>), Stephan Goudsouzian (11<sup>th</sup>), Gavin Laslow (9<sup>th</sup>), Alex Morawski (11<sup>th</sup>), Ryan Pakzad (10<sup>th</sup>)
  - Nitya Thakkar (11<sup>th</sup>) – Math PSAT Perfect Score
  - Stella Graf (4<sup>th</sup>) – Perfect score PSSA Math Assessment
- VII. **High School SGA Representative’s Report** – Gabi Silva
- VIII. **Superintendent’s Report** – *Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent* - None
- IX. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only** – None
- X. **Presentation of Bills** – *David Bonenberger*
  - A. General Expenditures – \$880,525.24
  - B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$27,936.39
  - C. Health Benefits – \$1,096,001.41
  - D. Capital Projects – None
    1. Approve the above Presentation of Bills.  
Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons, moved to the Presentation of Bills. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- XI. **Treasurer’s Report** – *Donald Carpenter/David Bonenberger*
  - A. Cash Investment and Bond Activity - None
  - B. Condensed Board Summary Report - None
  - C. Budget Transfers – \$1,600.00
  - D. Middle School Activity Report – None
  - E. High School Activity Report – None
    1. Approve the above Treasurer’s Report.  
Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons, moved to the Presentation of Bills. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

## XII. AGENDA ITEMS

### A. Education

1. Approve the attached agreement between Saucon Valley School District and Northampton Community College regarding the participation of NCC students in practicum experiences or student teaching at SVSD.
2. Approve the first reading of the following policy:  
918 – Title I Parent and Family Engagement

Director Magnotta left the meeting.

3. Approve the following 2024-25 mini-grants sponsored by the Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovations:

#### Small Grants

Big Panthers, Little Panthers – Peaceful Panther Garden (\$3,000.00)

Fashion (\$2,000.00)

Community-Based Instruction (\$1,200.00)

Manhattan School of Music (\$1,500.00)

Indoor Percussion Championship (\$1,200.00)

Director Conte, seconded by Director Carpenter, moved to approve Education Items #1-3. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Magnotta)

### B. Personnel

1. Approve Allison Mercovich as a Human Resources Generalist at a salary of \$58,500.00 with benefits per the Act 93 Compensation and Benefits Plan, effective immediately.
2. Approve the resignation of Jessica Rasich, middle school administrative assistant and district photographer, effective November 12, 2024.
3. Approve Nicole Marceca as an addition to the substitute teachers list for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. Approve the resignation of Ashlynn Petrie, paraprofessional; her last day was November 21, 2024.
5. Approve the following  
Leah Santoro – Girls Asst. Basketball Coach - \$1,500.00  
Matt Omdahl- Assistant Varsity Field Hockey - \$1,000.00  
Doug Chambers- Head MS Field Hockey - \$3,200.00  
Gianna Corda – Competition Cheer Coach - \$3,000.00  
Marcus Lazaro - Junior High Wrestling Coach - Volunteer  
Chad Saylor – Unified Bocce Coach - \$1,000.00

Mark Quinn – Boys Asst. Basketball Coach - \$3,500.00  
 Anthony Brinkley – Boys Asst. Basketball Coach - \$3,150.00  
 Alex Parker – Boys Asst. Basketball Coach - \$3,150.00

6. Approve Ellie Brown, Jerik Lesser and Angelina Dechert as Recreational Swim Membership Lifeguards for the 2024-2025 season at \$13.00/hour for lifeguarding and \$15.00/swim lesson, no benefits, pending completion of employment paperwork.
7. Approve Koray Girton as the 2024-2025 Yearbook advisor with a stipend of \$1,500.00.

Director Pakzad, seconded by Director Carpenter, moved to approve Personnel Items #1-7. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Magnotta)

### C. Facilities

#### A. Facilities Committee Summary – November 13, 2024

1. Approve the attached lists of Surplus/Obsolete items.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Carpenter, moved to approve Facilities Item #1. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Magnotta)

### D. Finance

#### A. Finance Committee Summary – November 13, 2024

##### **2024-2025 Budget Timeline for the 2025-2026 School Year**

**January 30, 2025** (110 days prior to primary election) - *District Deadline* to have the 2025-2026 Proposed Preliminary Budget available for public inspection or adopt a Resolution not to raise the rate of any tax by more than its index.

**February 4, 2025** (5 days after Resolution adoption) – *District Deadline* to submit adopted Resolution and proposed tax rate increases to the Department of Education.

**February 9, 2025** (10 days prior to Preliminary Budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to give public notice of intent to adopt the 2025-2026 Preliminary Budget unless a Resolution was adopted indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax by more than its index.

**February 19, 2025** (90 days prior to primary election) – *District Deadline* to adopt the 2025-2026 Preliminary Budget unless a Resolution was adopted.

**February 24, 2025** (85 days prior to primary election) – *District Deadline* to submit the 2025-2026 preliminary Budget containing proposed tax rate increases to the Department of Education.

**May 31, 2025** - *District Deadline* to adopt the 2025-2026 proposed final budget and upload the signed Certification of Use of PDE-2028 into the Consolidated Financial Reporting System application.

**June 10, 2025** (20 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to make the 2025-2026 Proposed Final Budget available for public inspection on PDE-2028.

**June 20, 2025** (10 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to offer public notice of its intent to adopt the 2025-2026 final budget.

1. Approve Resolution 2025-26, which states that the Saucon Valley School District will not increase any school district tax for the 2024-25 school year at a rate that exceeds the Index published by the Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Director Demko, seconded by Director Conte, moved to approve Finance Item #1. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Magnotta)

2. Approve the purchase of one 2025 Chevrolet Express 10-passenger van for \$61,789.00 from Bonner Chevrolet and one 2026 Blue Bird Vision 72-passenger Bus for \$123,910.00 from Brightbill Body Works.
3. Approve the attached contract with Americus Hotel for the 2026 Prom, pending review and approval of the district solicitor.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Carpenter, moved to approve Finance Items #2&3. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Magnotta)

#### **E. Community Updates**

- **Hellertown/Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce** – *John Conte*
- **Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovation** – *Tracy Magnotta*

#### **F. Northampton Community College** – *Susan Baxter*

#### **G. Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School** – *Vivian Demko & Cedric Dettmar*

#### **H. Colonial Intermediate Unit** – *Dr. Shamim Pakzad*

#### **I. PSBA Representative** – *Donald Carpenter* – On December 6, PSBA will host a lunchtime policy discussion regarding supreme court decisions affecting school districts. Director Demko reported on the PSBA Legislative meeting that she attended.

#### **J. New Business** – Dr. Pakzad brought up a social media post regarding bullying in the District.

#### **K. Old Business** - None

### **XIII. Citizens' Inquiries and Comments** –

R. Sajjani – commented that the rate for substitute teachers has not increased in 6 years.

### **XIV. Announcements**

#### **Future Meetings** ~

December 17, 2024 – 7 pm – Business Meeting – High School Audion

### **XV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

Board President Dettmar adjourned the meeting at 8:51