

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION Seneca Valley Senior High School Auditorium - 7 p.m.

Minutes

November 4, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President, called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was called to order with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Konnor Vaughn, fourth grader, 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. Nick Brower, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Fred Peterson, Mr. Jeff Widdowson and Ms. Kari Zimmer.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. **School Board Member Recognition** – Ms. Linda Andreassi introduced Ms. Lena Hannah, Pennsylvania School Board Association Member Outreach Manager, who was in attendance to honor several School Board Members for their milestone years of dedication to the SVSD School Board. Ms. Hannah recognized Mr. Widdowson for serving 20 years, Mr. DiTullio for serving 15 years and Mr. Jacobs for serving five years.

Dr. Vitale thanked Ms. Hannah for attending the meeting and for all that she does to represent the Board Members.

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

November	
November 5	Election Day
November 6	Butler County Area Vocational Technical School Open House/Program Showcase – 6-8 p.m. at BCAVTS
November 8	Release of Report Cards, Grades 7-12
November 11-15	National School Psychology Week
November 11	Veteran's Day – Act 80 Day – No School for Students
November 11	End of First Trimester for SVAOC Students, Grades K-6
November 15	First Day of PIAA Winter Sports

November 18	End of First Trimester for Students, Grades K-6
November 18	School Board Meeting, Regular Session, SHS Auditorium – 7 p.m.
November 21	Children’s Grief Awareness Day
November 27- December 2	Thanksgiving Break: District Holiday, No school for students and staff
November 29	Release of Reports of Student Progress, Grades K-6
December 2	School Board Reorganization Meeting, IHS Auditorium, 5 p.m.

C. **Agency Reports**

1. Vo-Tech - Mr. Fred Peterson, Jr. reported that he will provide an update at our next meeting.
2. I.U. IV - Mr. Eric DiTullio reported that they are developing a policy that if a board member does not attend two board meetings in a row without any explanation, they can be removed by the board.

D. **Legislative** - Mr. Eric DiTullio reported that with the election on November 5, there will be new House and Senate members.

He also shared that the PSBA Delegate Assembly was held on November 2, 2024, and Ms. Kari Zimmer attended as the Board’s Delegate.

Ms. Zimmer reported that there were 236 people who participated online and 46 people who participated in-person. There were four major platform issues that were discussed and deliberated:

- The state contributing substantial financial support in a fair and equitable manner
- Charter school reform and accountability
- Prioritizing mental health needs of students, and providing a funding stream and assistance
- School safety

All platform issues passed with a considerable margin.

Additionally, Ms. Zimmer shared that the principles they will advocate for at the State Legislature are:

- Universal free lunch
- Student assessment
- Growing public education as a profession

Student assessment was tabled.

Lastly, the PSBA election results were announced.

E. **Financial Reports**

1. Operations
2. Senior High Activities
3. Intermediate High Activities
4. Middle School Activities

5. Athletics
6. Food Service
7. Tax Collections
8. Capital Projects Funds

3. ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.
- B. **Personnel** – Approved the following personnel items that were discussed in executive session held prior to the meeting:
 1. **Resignations** – *Supplemental* - Bruce Clark, Rebecca Bosley
 2. **Appointments** – *Administration* – Ivan Aranha, *Professional Substitutes* – Emily Smith, Francis Garland, Raymond McKenzie, Charles Lisella, Rebecca Hester, Madison Winter, *Classified* – Brittany Clair, *Supplementals* – Matt Pournaras, George Williams, Gretchen Koken, Karlie Martin, Maria Montuoro, Madelyn Cornman, Jessica Kavanaugh, Allison Schuster, Julie Parenti, Megan Bonistalli, Gioia Warecki, Bethany Witt
 3. **Leaves** – *Professional* – Kelly Levere, Kate Oliver, Stacey Harding, Dalashay Williams, *Classified* – Nicole Parson, Nicole Pint, April Householder, Tracy Semega, Ashley Cleaver, Katherine Miller, Rosalie Bentley
 4. **Retirements** – *Director* – Susan Baker, *Professional* – Elizabeth Cavicchia, *Classified* – Susan Greco

Mr. Brower motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve resignations, appointments, leaves and retirements. The motion passed on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

Mr. DiTullio shared that one of the individuals that they just voted to approve was Mr. Ivan Aranha, the new Assistant Principal at Ehrman Crest Middle School. Mr. DiTullio congratulated and welcomed him to SVSD.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. **Work Session** – October 7, 2024
- B. **Action Meeting** – October 14, 2024

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

6. GENERAL FUND BILLS

Grand Total: \$4,470,712.70

7. CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS

Grand Total: \$251,080.00

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

- A. **Board Policy** - Approve board policy 622 – GASB Statement 34 – second, final reading.

9. **INSTRUCTION**

- A. **Conferences** – Approve conference requests.
- B. **Grant Disbursements** - Grant permission to apply for and disburse, if approved, the following grants:
1. The PARSS Grant in the amount of \$5,122 requested by Mr. Todd Pesavento. Funds will be used to purchase a XTool S1 40W All-in-One Color Bundle (Laser Engraver).
 2. The Water Play and Outdoor Learning Grant in the amount of \$3,500 requested by Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used to purchase Triple Waterway Exploration Station to enhance outdoor and structured learning opportunities at Haine Elementary School.
 3. The Raider Robotics Grant in the amount of \$2,000 requested by Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used to cover costs associated with registration fees and transportation for the Raider Robotics Team to participate in competitions.

Mr. DiTullio shared his appreciation to Ms. Mersing and the teachers that take time to find and apply for grants in an effort to enhance opportunities for our students.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

- A. **Budget Transfers** - Approve budget transfers.
- B. **December Bills** - Authorize administration to pay December bills.
- C. **Supplies and Equipment Bids** - Authorize administration to seek bids for supplies and equipment for the 2025-2026 school year.
- D. **Joint Purchasing Agreement AIU** - Approve the Joint Purchasing Agreement Resolution for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2025-2026 school year.
- E. **Joint Purchasing Agreement MIU IV** – Approve the Joint Purchasing Agreement with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for 2025-2026 school year.

11. **PERSONNEL**

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the October 14, 2024, public agenda:

- a. Everett Beck – student assignment
- b. Julia Garcia – student assignment
- c. Alex Homick - student assignment
- d. Ray Tucker - student assignment

- e. Tina Fazio
- f. Crystal Belsterling

Mr. DiTullio commented on the second annual SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run that was held on November 3. He thanked Ms. Mersing and her team for all that they did to make the event so successful, sharing that there were more vendors and participants this year than last year.

Dr. Vitale shared that she enjoyed seeing so many families participating together in the SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run. She also reflected on the sacrifice that Ryan made for his country. Mr. Jacobs recognized that the school takes time to educate the students on who Ryan was and that the administration doesn't want it to be just a name on a building, but that the students get to know Ryan.

Mr. Peterson commented on the student writing assignment that was given and the letters that the Board received, recognizing the time that teachers put into their students' education.

Mr. Brower passed along gratitude on behalf of the Evans City Mayor, Mr. Zinkhann, to the Administration for supporting the marching band's participation in the Evans City Halloween Parade on October 26.

- 13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing to come before the board, Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 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. Eric DiTullio, President



Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary