

Seneca Falls Central School District
Board of Education Meeting
January 9, 2024-6:00 PM
Robert McKeveny Training Room

BOE Present

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

BOE Absent

None

Others Present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni, Jodie Verkey, Faith Lewis, Matthew Bogart, and Kim Brady

Michael Mirras 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

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addendum as listed.

Add under X. Consent Agenda

B. Appointments

1. Professional Appointment(s)

a. Name: **William Corwin**

Position: **Biology Teacher**

Certification: **Biology 7-9 Extension (Initial)**

Tenure: **Science Education**

Probation: **12/18/2024-12/17/2028**

Salary: Continue on Step I

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend

Board Minutes

December 19, 2024

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the following Board of Education minutes dated December 19, 2024.

Joseph McNamara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Reports

None at this time

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report

November 2024

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report for November 2024.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

Matthew Bogart and Searah Reardon-Senior Class

Matthew Bogart and Searah Reardon presented a Senior Class Update:

Senior class will be traveling to Woodloch Resort in Pennsylvania for their senior trip.

A Silent Auction was held at the Annual Craft Show in December to benefit the Class of 2025. There was an increase number of vendors this year. Other fundraisers included the sale of a Rochester coupon book and candles.

College and Career Readiness: Group meetings were held with Mrs. Taylor, School counselor, last year to help student prepare for college applications, writing letters, etc. Searah and Matt wanted to thank Mrs. Taylor and the English Department for helping in college preparations.

Jodie Verkey and Faith Lewis shared information bridging the Blue Ribbon Commission work to Mynderse Academy:

1. Adopt a NYS Portrait of a Graduate

- Critical thinker
- Innovative problem solver
- Literate across all contents
- Cultural competence
- Social-emotional competence
- Effective communicator
- Global citizen

Seneca Falls CSD: Current Portrait of a Graduate

- Lifelong learners
- Effective Communicators
- Resilient & Responsible Individuals
- Digitally Responsive Contributors
- Social Responsible Community Members

2. Redefine credits and learning experiences

- District must confer diplomas to students to satisfy the State requirements.

- District can add local requirements and withhold who Diplomas from students who do not meet those requirements

3. Sunset Diploma Assessment Requirement

- Eliminate assessment requirements

- Assessment requirements

4. Move to one NYS Diploma

- One diploma

- Three diploma types

NYSED has not made any final decisions. Jodie and Faith both are pro-active so when the information is formally received from NYSED, the district is ahead of it.

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.

Mrs. Kim Brady was present to address the Board of Education regarding athletics and transportation. Mrs. Brady's concerns were in regards to availability of transportation for the Indoor Track Team for their meets. She would like to see equality for the athletic teams in the district.

Committee Reports

None at this time

Information

Warrants

12/01/2024-12/31/2024

Warrant A (43)	\$ 58,206.26
Warrant A (47)	\$ 97,513.04
Warrant C (18)	\$ 18.23
Warrant C (19)	\$ 13,423.04
Warrant F (18)	\$ 33,676.79
Warrant F (19)	\$ 97,035.72

Warrant H (8) \$ 57,460.75

Student Board Member

Search Reardon reported on the following:

The Superintendent Student Advisory Committee has shared an outline to fellow students. The process for looking for another student board member for the 2025-2026 school year is beginning. The Committee is working on a video to share with fellow students as well.

Business Administrator

James Bruni reported on the following:

- The district received the Single Audit. The district has roughly 4.3 million in Federal Grant money (19 plus grants) and the audit report was “clean”. It is on the agenda for acceptance by the board.
- Minimum wage went up beginning January 1, 2025. The adjustment will be on a later agenda.
- The SEQRA resolution for the emergency HVAC project at Elizabeth Cady Stanton School is on the agenda for approval.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported on the following:

- Fourteen drama students were going on an overnight field trip tomorrow (Jan. 10, 2025).
- The Middle School play “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” was coming up the weekend of Jan 17-19, 2025. Tickets: \$10 for adults and \$8.00 for students.
- Regents’ exams are coming up beginning January 21, 2025. A message to parents would be sent out tomorrow (Jan. 10, 2025).
- Dr. Reed also informed the Board that there was a (capital project) pre-bid walkthrough for interested contractors that morning. It went well. Matthew Lando added that there were about 17-18 people in attendance. Some of those present were roofing contractors, asbestos contractors, mechanical contractors, general contractors and electricians. Charlene Stafford, Campus Construction Management Group, did a great job. Dr. Reed stated that the bids are due Wednesday, January 22, 2025 by 3:00 pm in the District Office. Opening of the bids will take place in the Robert McKeveny Training Room, 2 Butler Avenue (2nd floor).

BOE President Report

Michael Mirras updated the Board on the following:

- Registration for the February 7, 2025-NYSSBA Capital Conference-Virtual is free. Board members should let the District Clerk know and she will register you.
- A Four County SBA events list was handed out.
- Information regarding WFL BOCES Board of Education nominations was handed out. Nominations must be received back to BOCES by March 24, 2025. The District Clerk will put the resolution on the second agenda of February or the first agenda of March.

BOE Member Comments

Joseph McNamara informed the Board that he will not be seeking re-election to the WFL BOCES Board of Education.

Important Dates to Remember

January 13, 2025-Facilities Committee (7:30 am)
January 14, 2025-Policy Committee (7:30 am)
January 20, 2025-Martin Luther King Day-holiday
January 21-24, 2025-Regents Exams
January 23, 2025-BOE Meeting/Frank Knight Roundtable
January 29, 2025-Lunar New Year-no school
February 7, 2025-NYSSBA Capital Conference-Virtual
February 12, 2025-NYSSBA Lobby Day, Albany, NY
February 13, 2025 BOE Meeting
February 17, 2025-President’s Day -holiday
February 17-21, 2025-Winter Break-no school
February 27, 2025-BOE Meeting

Consent Agenda
Resignations/Retirements/Terminations
SFEA

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following Seneca Falls Education Association resignation:

Name: Becky Allen
Position: Teaching Assistant
Effective: 01/05/2025

SFSSA

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

Name: Danielle Harko
Position: Teacher Aide
Effective: 01/17/2025

Appointments

Professional Appointment(s)

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: William Corwin
Position: Biology Teacher
Certification: Biology 7-9 Extension (Initial)
Tenure: Science Education
Probation: 12/18/2024-12/17/2028
Salary: continue on Step I

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: Casey Malloy
Position: Teacher Aide
Effective: 01/10/2025
Probationary 01/10/2025 through 01/09/2026
Hours/day: 6.0
Hourly Rate: \$16.48

Substitute Appointments

None at this time.

Probationary to Permanent

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the probationary to permanent appointment of the following employee(s):

Employee	Position	Effective
Brittany Draheim	Teacher Aide	01/08/2025

CSE Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE Minutes: 12/04/2024, 12/10/2024, 12/16/2024

Gifts and Donations

None at this time

2024-2025 Transportation Requests
None at this time

Overnight Conference Requests/Field Trips
None at this time

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business
None at this time

New Business
Policy-2nd Reading

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the second and final reading of the following policy:
Policy 8130-School Safety Plans and Teams

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Course Recommendations

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the following recommended course as listed:

Course Name: Introduction to Helping Professions II

Department: Family & Consumer Sciences

High School Credit: Yes (.5)

College Credit: Yes

Textbook Requirement: NA

Teacher of Course: Lindsay Willson

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Heather Zellers.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

2023-2024 Extra-Classroom Audit

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to accept the Extra-Classroom Audit and the corresponding Corrective Action Plan of the Seneca Falls Central School District for the year ended June 30, 2024, completed by Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co. LLPLLP, as recommended by the Audit Committee.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Heather Zellers.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

SEQRA- State Environmental Quality Review Act TYPE II Resolution Regarding Seneca Falls Central School Emergency Project

MOTION: WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Central School District (the "District") plans to undertake an emergency project at a maximum estimated cost of \$145,000.00 involving the replacement of two failing rooftop units (RTU's) at Elizabeth Cady Stanton Elementary School; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with State Education Department ("SED") guidance and policy, the local school district / board of education is the appropriate agency to be the lead agency to undertake project review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"); and

WHEREAS, Section 617.5 of the SEQRA regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617) provides that certain activities are Type II actions which are not subject to review under SEQRA and that such activities include "maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility" (§ 617.5(c)(1)), "replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site" (§ 617.5(c)(2)), and/or "routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by

less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings” (§ 617.5(c)(8)); and,

WHEREAS, the proposed additions and alterations project constitutes such maintenance or repair activities, and/or replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction activities, and/or routine activities of educational institutions; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the 2010 Letter of Resolution between the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (“OPRHP”) (a/k/a State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”)) and the SED and the Letter of Resolution’s exemption form, a project is exempt from SHPO review because (i) a building(s) is less than 50 years old at the time of project initiation and it is not the work of a recognized Master Architect, Designer or Builder, or associated with persons or events significant in the history of the State of New York, or (ii) a building is 50 years old or older but has previously been evaluated by SHPO and found not to meet the criteria for inclusion in the State and National Register, or (iii) the project work on a building falls under exempt work items specified in Attachment 1 of the memo of understanding (MOU), and therefore the project will have little or no potential impact on the character of historic resources; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Cady Stanton Elementary School is more than 50 years old and is not the work of a recognized Master Architect, Designer or Builder, or associated with persons or events significant in the history of the State of New York and the work would be exempt under Attachment 1 of the memo of understanding (MOU), and the building is listed as not eligible for inclusion on the State and National Register according to SHPO’s Cultural Resource Information System, and the District’s architect therefore has determined that the exemptions identified in the paragraphs above apply to the proposed project and that it will execute the Letter of Resolution form indicating that the work to be done will have no impact on the character of historic resources and is exempt from SHPO review, and that it will include the Letter of Resolution form in the submission to the SED for the additions and alterations project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BASED ON SUCH REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION, BE IT RESOLVED by the Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education that:

1. The District’s Board of Education is the lead agency for the SEQRA review of the proposed additions and alterations project.
2. The proposed additions and alterations project is a Type II action which is not subject to review under SEQRA, and it will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment.
3. This resolution is to confirm the District’s SEQRA determination.
4. The Superintendent is hereby authorized to sign and file or have filed on behalf of the District all documents necessary to comply with SEQRA.
5. This resolution is effective immediately.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Deborah Corsner	Yes	Joseph McNamara	Yes
Anthony Ferrara	Yes	Michael Mirras	Yes
Cara Lajewski	Yes	Erica Sinicropi	Yes
Matthew Lando	Yes	Heather Zellers	Yes
Denise Lorenzetti	Yes		

Budget Workshop

Dr. Reed and Jim Bruni-Department/Building Budget Goals

Department Budget Review (July through Dec)

Transportation Budget

It is important to ensure consistency in spending across years so that State Aid is consistent from year to year. The District receives 89.1% back on eligible Transportation expenditures.

- Spending in 2024 is \$64,500 higher than 2023, due to an encumbered van purchase (\$30k) and an overhaul upgrade in digital radios and GPS/Parent Mobile App for student location.
- Gas (\$50,080) vs. Diesel (\$11,182): Transition back to Diesel buses showed a reduction in gas spending, but an increase in van (gas) mileage due to more ODP students and longer routes kept it closer to 2023. Plans to increase budget 10% for 2025- 2026.
- 2023-24 Digital Radio Purchase/Contract (\$51,076)
- 2023-24 Van Purchase (\$29,998)

Maintenance Budget

- Maintenance & Custodial spending does not generate aid.
- Increase from 2023 is due to \$46,000 in encumbered purchases. Removal of encumbrances adjusts it to \$289,137.
- Electric costs are 6% above the 3-yr average (\$92,484)
- Supplies: Removal of encumbrances reflects \$68,411 in spending, right on track. This will increase in the Spring for MS Classroom furniture upgrades (\$92,257)
- Removal of encumbrances reflects \$92,250 in spending for 2024. This 52% increase is due to HVAC repairs throughout the district (\$114,405).

FY26 Budget: Plan to increase contractual and supply code, as well as a slight increase in electric costs (8%).

Technology Budget

2024-25 Technology Upgrades:

- Student Chromebooks (Grades 9, 10)
- Instructional staff devices for Grades 6-12
- Various Wireless Access Point upgrades
- Total Cost: \$165,288
- Applicable BOCES Aid: 76.7%, Generating \$126,776 in Aid
- Net Cost (After Aid): \$38,512

2025-26 Technology Upgrades:

Student Chromebooks (Grades 3-5)

- Instructional staff devices for Grades 3-5
- Various Security Cameras
- Total Cost: \$173,428
- Applicable BOCES Aid: 76.7%, Generating \$133,019 in Aid
- Net Cost (After Aid): \$40,409

Executive Session

Superintendent Mid-Year Review and Negotiations

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at 6:59 pm to discuss the Superintendent's mid-year review and negotiations.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk

Adjourn

The regular meeting resumed at 8:08 pm

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm.

Anthony Ferrara made the motion, seconded by Joseph McNamara.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Michael Mirras, Board President

