

The Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, December 17, 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-online, and Jay Santos. Also present were Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent, Judith Riegel, Board Secretary, and Mark Fitzgerald, District Solicitor.

- I. **Call to the Order** – 7:22 pm - *Cedric Dettmar, President, presiding*
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Recording of Attendance** – *Judith Riegel, Board Secretary*
- IV. **Motion to Approve Agenda** – Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons, moved to approve the agenda. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- V. **Announcement of Executive Session** – December 4 & 17, 2024 – Personnel & Legal
- VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Conte, seconded by Director Santos, moved to approve the minutes of December 3, 2024. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- VII. **Recognition** – None
- VIII. **Presentation** – None
- IX. **High School SGA Representative's Report** – Zoe – SGA Treasurer
- X. **Superintendent's Report** – *Jaime Vlasaty, Superintendent* – Will give report at the end of the meeting.
- XI. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only** – None
- XII. **Presentation of Bills** – *David Bonenberger*
 - A. General Expenditures – \$1,378,942.35
 - B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$25,012.87
 - C. Health Benefits – None
 - D. Capital Projects – None
 1. Approve the above Presentation of Bills.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons, moved to approve the Presentation of the Bills. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no
- XIII. **Treasurer's Report** – *Donald Carpenter/David Bonenberger*
 - A. Cash Investment and Bond Activity
 - B. Condensed Board Summary Report
 - C. Budget Transfers – \$23,375.47
 - D. Middle School Activity Report – None
 - E. High School Activity Report – October & November 2024

1. Approve the above Treasurer's Report.

Director Santos, seconded by Director Conte, moved to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

A. Education

1. Approve the 2025-2026 High School Program of Studies.

Director Erickson-Parsons, seconded by Director Carpenter, moved to approve Education Item #1. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

2. Approve the attached agreement between Saucon Valley School District and Moravian University regarding the participation of Moravian University students in practicum experiences or student teaching at SVSD.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Santos, moved to approve Education Item #2.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

B. Personnel

1. Approve Yesenia Claros as a Part-Time Non-Instructional Paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$20.38, benefits per the Educational Support Staff Compensation & Benefits Plan, pending completion of employment paperwork.
2. Approve Christina Goy as a day-to-day substitute at a daily rate of \$120.00, no benefits, pending completion of employment paperwork.
3. Approve an unpaid leave for:
Lisa DiRusso, food service, from November 13 - December 13, 2024. She will return on December 16, 2024.
Amy Kozel, high school teacher, an unpaid FMLA leave from December 5 – 11, 2024.
4. Approve the following substitute support staff:
Stephon Garcia—Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$18.00, no benefits, pending completion of employment paperwork.
Scott Correll – Substitute paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$18.00, no benefits, effective December 18, 2024.
5. Approve an Educational Sabbatical for Amanda Holveck for the 2025-2026 fall semester.
6. Approve Hailey Bonenberger as a Long-Term Substitute beginning on December 9, 2024, at Bachelors Step 1, \$59,182.00 prorated.

7. Approve the resignations of:
Michael Wechtler, Dedicated Building Substitute effective December 13, 2024.
James Gonzales, Part-time Bus Driver, effective December 9, 2024.
8. Approve intermittent FMLA for Karen Kemper, MS teacher, beginning January 7, 2025, through January 6, 2026, running concurrently with her sick days; at the time of exhaustion, her leave will be unpaid.

Director Santos, seconded by Director Conte, moved to approve Personnel Items #1-8.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

C. Facilities

- A. Facilities Committee Summary – December 11, 2024
 1. Approve the attached list of Surplus/Obsolete items.
 2. Approve the proposal for the Auditorium Wall Panel and Masonry Project with Waterproofing Technologies with the KPN base bid of \$407,574.66, pending review and approval of the solicitor.
 3. Authorize the administration to go out for bid for the Athletic Training Room Project.

Director Erickson-Parsons, seconded by Director Santos, moved to approve Facilities Items #1-3.

Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

D. Finance

- A. Finance Committee Summary – December 11, 2024
2024-2025 Budget Timeline for the 2025-2026 School Year

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 the commitment of \$11,913,475 by the Board of Directors from the fund balance of the General Fund, of which \$3,500,000 is for PSERS, post-retirement costs per GASB 45 in the amount of \$4,500,000, and Capital Projects in the amount of \$3,791,594 and \$121,881 for computer technology, retroactive to June 30, 2024.
2. Approve an increase of the teacher substitute rates from \$120.00 to \$130.00 a day. Additionally, after substituting for 30 days in a school year, they will receive a \$500.00 bonus. After that, for each 30 days of substituting a \$600.00 bonus will be given.

3. Authorization for the administration to work with Fast Signs to apply to Lower Saucon Township for a variance for the digital marquee at Polk Valley Road and the Campus Service Road, not to exceed \$3,500.00.

Director Conte, seconded by Director Erickson-Parsons, moved to approve Finance Items #1-3. Vote: 9-yes, 0-no

E. Community Updates

- **Hellertown/Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce** – *John Conte* - None
- **Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovation** – *Tracy Magnotta* – Explained the SVFEI Teacher Tribute Program.

F. Northampton Community College – *Susan Baxter*

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

H. Colonial Intermediate Unit – *Dr. Shamim Pakzad* – Reported on the IU exiting the internet consortium. The school district will be getting information on the new services available which will be at a reduced cost.

I. PSBA Representative – *Donald Carpenter & Jay Santos* – Informed the Board of a recording available of a PSBS webinar on Solar Energy.

J. New Business – Mr. Broun commented that he is in favor of teachers requesting professional development.

K. Old Business - None

XIV. Citizens' Inquiries and Comments – None

XV. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Vlasaty announced the resignation of High School Principal Mrs. Teresa Casimir. Former Superintendent Dr. Richard Kaskey will be the interim High School Principal until a replacement can be found.

XVI. Announcements

Future Meetings ~

Board

January 14, 2025 – 7 pm – Business Meeting – High School Audion

January 28, 2025 – 7 pm – Business Meeting – High School Audion

Committees

January 8, 2025 – 5 pm – Academic & Personnel Committee – District Office

January 15, 2025 – 5 pm – Facilities Committee – District Office

January 15, 2025 – 6 pm – Finance Committee – District Office

XVII. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Board President Dettmar adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

ATTEST _____
Secretary President