

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: March 25, 2025

Kind of Meeting: Budget Workshop & Regular Meeting

Presiding Officer: Mr. Anthony Nicotera, President called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Members Present: Anthony Nicotera, Patricia Collins, Mike Makuszak, Cathy Pumilia, and Mike Sacco.

Members Absent: Ronald Critelli and Lynn Weibel.

Administration Present: David Stayton, Superintendent
Charles Cowen, Business Administration

Others Present: Staff & community members signed in.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited

Budget Presentation: Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator, gave an update of the proposed 2025-2026 budget stating a proposed tax levy increase of 2.38% tax cap to the voters on May 20, 2025. Programs and staffing that are in place for 2024-25 will remain with the addition of one Special Education teacher. This addition will be beneficial with the program in trying to assist students here on campus. The proposed 2025/26 budget will include the Capital Outlay Project. This project occurred this year and will proceed next year to replace more interior doors in the elementary building for better security. Mr. Cowen explained the two different propositions in regards to the purchasing of buses. Questions and answers were given. One proposition was voted on at the last meeting and the second proposition will be decided by the board later in the meeting.

Presentation(s): There was none.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- A. Facilities and Transportation – meeting on April 1.
- B. School Boards Institute (SBI) – March 27 is the next meeting at BOCES.
- C. Policy Committee – Next meeting is scheduled prior to the next board meeting April 8, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Superintendent's Report:

- ❖ The high school held a Stress-Less Day on March 19.
- ❖ It is great to see the high level of Chess Club participation in the middle school.
- ❖ On March 21, Mrs. Babbie's Media Literacy class presented on cellphone bans in school. Many students supported a potential ban and it was wonderful to observe student presentations based on research they conducted.
- ❖ Capital Project planning committee met this afternoon. A representative from Day Automation may come to the April 8th BOE meeting to discuss energy performance.
- ❖ Chamber Choir is performing at the "Ball in the House" event at 6:30 tonight at Whitesboro HS.
- ❖ Rotary Club of Sauquoit will be honoring "Juniors of the Month" Wednesday night at their weekly meeting.
- ❖ Health/wellness committee is meeting on Thursday, March 27. Thank you Ms. Patricia Collins for your participation on this committee.
- ❖ SBI Program Showcase is this Thursday night. Mrs. Connie Stayton and the STEAM club students will present as will Mr. Brian Read who will be providing information on Stress-Less Day.
- ❖ Dalilia Hasanagic from SABA, is coordinating Career Day in MS on Friday, as students will attend four 30 minute sessions.
- ❖ The spring sports season officially begins Tuesday, April 1. Tennis will be the first match starting the spring season off.
- ❖ Rotary and American Red Cross facilitating blood drive in HS on Wed, Apr 2.
- ❖ BOCES' Annual Meeting is Wednesday, April 2. Those who have registered, we'll see you there.
- ❖ Sauquoit Valley Central School will be hosting the OCMEA Elementary All County Music Festival for two days of practice with the performance on Saturday, April 5, at 3:00pm. This will include orchestra, chorus, and band from all over the county. There is anticipation of 1,000 attendees. Around 300 students will be performing.
- ❖ Just an FYI to the Board:

NAME	JOB TITLE	END DATE OF PROBATIONARY PERIOD	DATE RECOMMENDATION PRESENTED TO BOARD
Patricia Murphy	Earth Science (HS)	9/1/2021	9/1/2025
Alysia Maine	Reading Teacher (MS)	9/1/2021	9/1/2025
Sara Williams	Teacher Assistant (Math - HS)	9/2/2022	9/2/2025

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: Mr. Anthony Nicotera stated that action 7.1 to 7.19 will be read as a consent motion and take one vote. If there are any questions or comments, members can do so prior to vote or pull a motion for further discussion.

Mr. Stayton congratulated Julie Williamson on her retirement of 23 years. She is an outstanding teacher assistant who worked closely with students with special needs. He wished her a long and healthy retirement.

Mr. Stayton then commented on the great turnout at the spring parent/coaches meeting. Student numbers of participation in sports has risen in Sauquoit Valley Central School's sporting activities. Additional coaches were hired as needed for the increase.

Resolution No. 58: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia,

- to appoint Edward DiBari as a per diem substitute teacher effective March 26, 2025.
- to appoint Amanda Rogowski as a per diem substitute teacher effective March 26, 2025.
- to approve the retirement of Julie Williamson, teacher assistant in the elementary school, with regret, effective June 30, 2025.
- to accept the resignation of Jason Barker as Modified Softball coach for the spring 2025 season.
- that the following people be appointed to athletic coaching positions for the spring 2024-25 school year contingent upon student participation in each sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.

NAME	SPORT
Jason Barker	JV Softball
Alexis Townsend	Modified Softball
Brad Dunlay	Assistant Track Coach
Kristen Willson	Volunteer Girls'/Boys' Modified Track
Richard DePerno	Volunteer JV Boys' Baseball

- to approve maternity leave for Alyssa Orsino to commence on or about May 14, 2025 to be continuous for twelve weeks from actual commencement date; and to approve an unpaid child care leave that is otherwise not covered by approved sick leave time with a return date of the beginning of September.
- to appoint Paige Luke as a long-term substitute teacher in the middle school, effective May 12, 2025 until the end of the 2024-25 school year or until teacher returns.
- to approve child care leave for Kyle Hutchinson to commence on or about March 24, 2025 to be continuous through April 16, 2025; and to approve an unpaid child care leave that is otherwise not covered by approved sick leave time with a return date of April 17, 2025.
- BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Sauquoit Valley PTO in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing risers for the auditorium and that the Board also authorized a budget

modification to increase account code A2110.201-00 in the amount of \$1,000.00 to allow for the purchase of the risers.

- to approve the revised/reviewed policies listed below:
 - a) Policy 2306 Ex-Officio Student Member of the Board
 - b) Policy 5010 District Wide Safety Plans & Building Level Emergency Response Plans
 - c) Policy 7062 Field Trip Policy
- that the Treasurer's Reports of Balances for February 28, 2025 be approved as presented.
- that the minutes of the March 11, 2025 meeting be approved.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor signed March 18, 2025.
- that the Board of Education upon completion of its review of the IEP in accordance with Section 200.4(d)(2) of the Regulations of the Commissioner agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students numbered 1401660, 1401997, 1401676, 1401838, 1401521, 1401081, 1400437, 1401941, 1400646, 1400911, 1400503, 1401062, 1401796, 1401797, 1402012, 1402011, 1401676, and 1401888.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 59: made by Mr. Mike Makuszak, and seconded by Mr. Anthony Nicotera,

ELECTRIC BUS PROPOSITION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following notice shall be added to the notice of annual meeting and election:

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the following propositions will be submitted for voter approval at such time:

PROPOSITION #__

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of one (1) zero-emission electric school bus, at an estimated maximum cost of \$445,175.55, but with an estimated net maximum cost of \$190,000 after the receipt of grants, credits, rebates or trade-in value, if any, and that such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$445,175.55 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that

it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

2. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed for authorized indebtedness providing for payment of the acquisition of school buses at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of not to exceed \$445,175.55. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.

3. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to add the above to the notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

Carried: Ayes 4, Nays 1.

Miscellaneous Topics: There was none.

Public to Be Heard: Mr. Mike Jouben suggested the school district look into promoting the Sauquoit Valley Central School District and the town. Wynn Hospital and Marcy chip plant are just two businesses that are drawing outsiders to move into this region. Sauquoit Valley has a lot to offer for new residents to move into. It will help with increasing the tax base. If possible meet with Town of Paris officials and see what can be fostered to getting residents interested in living in Sauquoit Valley District. There are consultants to assist with this but at a cost. Mr. Stayton and the board members agreed that he made a good point and thanked him for his suggestion. He and Mr. Anthony Nicotera also thanked everyone for giving their input on the budget and transportation propositions.

Executive Session: There was none.

Resolution No. 60: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Goodman
District Clerk