

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: April 8, 2025

Kind of Meeting: Budget Workshop & Regular Meeting

Presiding Officer: Ms. Lynn Weibel, Vice-President called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the high school library.

Members Present: Patricia Collins, Ronald Critelli, Cathy Pumilia, Mike Sacco and Lynn Weibel.

Members Absent: Anthony Nicotera, and Mike Makuszak.

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

Presentation(s) – Josh Ettinger from Day Automation spoke on an Energy Performance Contract. In review of capital projects and costs, energy savings will assist in the funding aspect. Some examples a company will be looking at are security, lighting, controls and heating. These will qualify for state aid if they meet the criteria. His company looks at these and tries to meet the qualifications for an estimated savings that will occur over time which will reduce in expenditures. This will help with payment of the capital project loan. Josh explained the process from beginning to end with a start date of March 2025 and then after being reviewed and approved by the school's board, SED and the state, work will start in June of 2026. He answered questions and offered his assistance for future questions.

Budget – Charles Cowen – Charlie clarified the current bus situation of two disabled buses and the fact that one has to be declared inoperable to purchase another. May 20, 2025 election will have two diesel buses for approval and the other is to purchase one electric. The garage can hold one electric without construction. The need for three (3) new buses is important. Financially it is calculated in the budget.

Speaking of the budget, the numbers given at the March 25, 2025 meeting still stand and will be brought to the board tonight for approval. The state is going forward with funding the schools without a definite figure from the Federal government as to the budget.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- Facilities and Transportation met on April 1.
- Technology meeting is scheduled for April 14.
- Policy Committee met just prior to this board meeting. Updates and revisions will be presented at the next board meeting.

Superintendent's Report

- BOCES Annual Meeting held Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at BOCES. Great support and attendance from board members.
- Reminder - Board Petitions are due Monday, April 21, 2025 by 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday's OCMEA Elementary Music Festival was a very successful one hour event with nearly 1,800 attendees.
- Sunday was the Sports Booster meeting. Discussion on students participating at the collegiate level. Photos will be taken of the students and they are encouraged to wear their college jersey.
- Thursday the high school will be hosting ICAN. The presenters will be discussing the impact of social media on mental health. On May 7, we will host the parent forum (relating to book, The Anxious Generation).
- Message from President Tony Nicotera – Sauquoit Valley Board of Education members demonstrated the best participation at the SBI showcase and at the BOCES Annual Meeting. Thank you all!!
- Michelle Babbie recently secured \$3,000 grant from Central Library Council to digitize 64 yearbooks and make them available on NY Heritage.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: Ms. Lynn Weibel stated that action 7.1 to 7.11 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 Jeff Houck on his retirement of 32 years. Jeff Houck has had a tremendous impact on students over the years. We wish him all the best.

He also recognized Katie Buckingham on being appointed as a permanent employee.

Resolution No. 61: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Collins,

- to accept Michael Riccardi's resignation as bus driver effective February 5, 2025.
- to appoint Michael Riccardi as a substitute bus driver effective February 6, 2025.
- RESOLVE, to approve the retirement of Jeffrey Houck, as secondary math teacher, with regret, effective June 30, 2025.
- 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
Aaron Johnson	Volunteer Track Coach

- to approve the disposal of the following surplus vehicles as approved by the Superintendent of Schools through Auctions International, Inc.

Item #1	One (1) 2012 - 66 passenger bus (Bus 158)
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- to approve the agreement between Sauquoit Valley Central School District and Upstate Caring Partners, for transportation effective March 1, 2025 and terminate on June 30, 2026.
- BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Sauquoit Valley Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing risers for the auditorium and that the Board also authorizes 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.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to Oneida County Civil Service (HELPS) does hereby appoint Katie Buckingham permanently to the position of Office Specialist, 1.
- that the minutes of the March 25, 2025 meeting be approved.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor signed April 2, 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 1401687, 1402014, 1400155, 1400327, 1400485, 1400774, 1401289, 1401289, 1400898, 1401503, 103130, 1400603, and 103206, as recommended by the Committee on Special Education.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 62: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia,

- Adopt 2025-2026 Budget - to put before the voters on May 20, 2025 the budget for the Sauquoit Valley Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 as presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$27,187,654 and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in said district to be levied and collected as required by law.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 63: made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Ronald Critelli,

- Property Tax Report Card - WHEREAS, Education Law Section 1608(7) requires that each year the Board of Education prepare and approve a property tax report card;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopts the following property tax report card as presented to the Board by the District Treasurer.

2025-26 Property Tax Report Card			
Sauquoit Valley Central School			
Contact Person:	Charles Cowen		
Telephone #	(315) 839-6313		
	Budgeted 2024-25 (A)	Proposed Budget 2025-26 (B)	Percentage Change (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	26,602,037	27,187,654	2.20%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount ¹	9,082,057	9,298,574	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable ²	0	0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	0	0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A+B+C+D)	9,082,057	9,298,574	5.50%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	335,831	364,874	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions ³	8,474,626	8,933,700	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E-B-F)	8,748,539	8,933,700	
I. Difference: (G-H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval) ²	-273,913	0	
Public School Enrollment	902	890	
Consumer Price Index			2.95%

¹Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

²Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the school tax levy limit and may affect voter approval requirements.

³For 2025-26, includes any carryover from 2024-25 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2024-25 (D)	Estimated 2025-26 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	1,304,150	1,500,000
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	1,116,290	1,125,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,210,123	1,155,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.55%	4.25%

Reserve Name	Reserve Description	3/31/2025 Actual Balance	6/30/25 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2025-26 School Year
Unemployment Insurance	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	5,076	5,308	
EBALR	Payment of Accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of Service	100,000	140,968	
ERS Contribution	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	835,369	873,443	
TRS Contribution	To fund employer retirement contributions to the NYS Teachers' Retirement System	363,704	480,281	

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Miscellaneous Topics: Mr. Mike Sacco said thank you for the syrup that was left at his seat.

Public to be Heard: Mr. Mike Jouben spoke on the banners. He feels that the students who worked hard to achieve them, should be recognized. Mr. Stayton stated he will follow-up with Doug Jones, Athletic Director.

Resolution No. 64: made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco, that the Board of Education go into executive session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss personnel.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 65: made by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia, and seconded by Mr. Ronald Critelli, that the executive session was declared the over at 7:21 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 66: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Ms. Lynn Weibel, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Sincerely submitted,

Marie Goodman
Board Clerk