

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium - 7 p.m.

Public Agenda

May 5, 2025

**** Subject to Change****

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President
 - A. **Moment of Silence**
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - "I Led the Pledge" – Amorabella (kindergarten) and Calvin Jason (second grade), Ehrman Crest Elementary School.
 - C. **Roll Call**
2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**
 - A. **Student/Staff Recognition**
 1. Dr. Marie Palano, Seneca Valley Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Assessment, was recently named the recipient of the 2025 Emerging Woman in Education Award, presented in memory of University of Pittsburgh Professor Emeritus Dr. Jean Winsand by the Tri-State Study Council. The award recognizes an educational trailblazer who has made a significant impact and positive difference through her leadership activities and initiatives.
 2. PMEA & Music Excellence
 - a. **Grand Champions**

The Seneca Valley Marching Band was named the Grand Champions in the Norfolk North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Festival's "Parade of Nations" in Norfolk, VA, on April 26. In addition to the Grand Champion award, which is the highest overall score of any ensemble at the festival, the marching band also earned the best percussion award, best auxiliaries award, and a gold rating. This marks Seneca Valley Marching Band's fifth appearance in the parade, and they proudly earned the title of Grand Champions every time. There were over 100 parade units in attendance; Seneca Valley was one of only eight high school bands selected nationwide to participate.
 - b. **District 5 Junior High Band Fest**

Eighteen SV Band students participated in the PMEA District 5 Junior High Band Fest on March 25 at North Catholic High School. The seventh/eighth grade ensemble featured 13 SV students.

c. Region 1 Band Festival

Nine SV Band students participated in the March 6 - 8 PMEA Region 1 Band Festival with two students advancing to the All-State Festival.

d. MPA Adjudication – RGMS and Elementary Bands/Orchestras

On March 18, sixth and seventh grade instrumental students participated in an adjudicated Music Performance Assessment (MPA) event. The RGMS seventh grade band and orchestra and Ehrman Crest sixth grade ensembles earned Superior and Excellent ratings.

e. Western Region Orchestra Festival

Six SV Orchestra students participated in the PMEA Western Region Orchestra Festival held Feb. 20–22. Four students advanced to the All-State Orchestra, setting a new school record.

f. Region Chorus Festival

Ten SV high school chorus students participated in the March 19-21 PMEA Region Chorus at Waynesburg University. Six advanced to the All-State Choir Festival.

g. Music Performance Assessment (MPA) – Choral Department

Approximately 800 chorus students in grades 6-12 participated in an MPA event on March 13. All choirs received "Superior" ratings.

h. PMEA All-State Festival Participants

Thirteen SV students advanced to the state level and attended the PMEA All-State conference in April. Participants represented Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble and Choir. Conductors included national and university-level professionals.

3. Media & Technology Distinction

a. Digital Media Arts Consortium (DMAC) Festival

SV Video Production and SVTV students earned seven awards at the April 9 DMAC Festival.

b. SVTV Award-Winning Program

On March 9, SVTV earned second place in the High School Live Sports Broadcast category at the Myron Cope High School Athletic Communication Awards. Crew members also received an honorable mention for Sports Broadcasters of the Year.

c. Aspirational Students Receive Recognition

Two seniors were selected as Western PA Affiliate Winners of the 2025 National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) for the Aspirations in Computing High School Award. The award celebrates students with achievements and leadership in technology and computing, with support from institutions like Carnegie Mellon, Pitt, and Penn State.

4. Congratulations to two Seneca Valley students for placing at the SkillsUSA Pennsylvania State Competition held in Hershey earlier this month. SkillsUSA, offered through the Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School (BCAVTS), welcomed hundreds of top-performing students from across the state to participate in real-world job challenges across a range of industries. Mr. Gavin Uber, junior, received bronze for his participation in the TeamWorks contest of the Building Construction program. Miss Elizabeth Semenenko, a sophomore graphic design student, received bronze for her photography submission.
5. Seneca Valley is proud to announce that two student teams from Haine Elementary School have earned invitations to the KidWind World Championship, taking place May 18–21 in Phoenix. The competition is the culminating event of the KidWind Challenge, a hands-on design competition that encourages students to explore the power and promise of clean energy through building and testing small-scale wind turbines and solar structures. This year, six teams of fourth-grade students from Haine Elementary participated in KidWind events. Following impressive showings at these events, two Seneca Valley teams earned tickets to the prestigious world finals.

B. Dates to Remember

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| May | Mental Health Awareness Month |
| May 6 | National Teacher Appreciation Day |
| May 15-16 | Advanced Placement Testing |
| May 8 | Remake Learning Days RGMS to host Stream Guardians Professional Development, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Secondary Campus SVAOC to host Scan & Play: Step into VR, open to teens ages 14-18, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., SVAOC Drop-In Center |
| May 9 | Act 80 (Professional Development) Day – No School for Students |
| May 9 | Graduation Project Day – SVSHS |
| May 10 | Prom – Grand March begins at 5 p.m. – SVSHS Auditorium |
| May 11 | Mother’s Day |
| May 12 | 2024-2025 SV Retirement Reception & Recognition, 6:30 p.m., SVIHS Cafeteria |
| May 12 | School Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., SVIHS Auditorium |
| May 12-15 | Keystone Exams |
| May 15 | SV Job & Opportunities Fair, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – SHS |
| May 17 | Armed Forces Day |
| May 22 | Center for Biotechnology Open House, 6-7:30 p.m., SVIHS Library and Labs; RSVP by May 16 to svfoundation@svsd.net |
| May 26 | Memorial Day Holiday – No School for students and staff |
| May 29 | Graduation Day (May 30 is the Rain Date) |
| May 31 | Seneca Valley 2 nd Annual Best Buddies Walk, 9 a.m. – Noon, North Boundary Park; Signup at Seneca Valley Best Buddies Walk (runsignup.com) |
| June 6 | Last Day of School for Grades K-11 |
| June 9 | Staff In-Service Day |

- C. **School Nurse Appreciation Day** – In recognition of National School Nurse Appreciation Day on May 7, we are proud to recognize our outstanding team of school nurses.
- D. **Agency Reports**
 - 1. Vo-Tech - Mr. Fred Peterson, Jr./Mr. Hester
 - 2. I.U. IV - Mr. Eric DiTullio
- E. **Legislative** - Mr. Eric DiTullio
- F. **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**
- B. **Student Adjudications** – Approve the following student adjudications:
 - 1. #2024-25-13
 - 2. #2024-25-14
- C. **SV Community Sign Project** – Approve the SV Community Sign Project under the direction of Ms. Lisa Graham and Mr. Dan Guerra as presented by students in the District’s Learn, Explore, Act and Develop (LEAD) committee on April 7, 2025.
- D. **Student Trip** – Approve the Academic Decathlon Team to travel to Des Moines, Iowa, from April 30-May 3, 2025, under the supervision of Mr. David Reichard. Students will miss three days of instruction. The trip was at no cost to the District.
- E. **Personnel** – Approve resignations, appointments, leaves, and Memorandums of Understanding.
- F. **Proposed Final 2025-2026 General Fund Budget** - Approve the proposed final general fund budget for 2025-2026 in the amount of \$180,611,403 with a proposed millage increase of 5.53 mills (4%) and authorize the budget to be made available for public inspection.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. **Action Meeting** – April 7, 2025

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$2,384,706.29

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$426,314.60

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

A. **Board Policy** – Approve board policy 626.2 – Conflict of Interest – revised, first reading.

B. **Research Studies** - Approve the following research studies:

1. Doctoral Candidate, Hannah Hamilton to conduct a case study at Seneca Valley entitled “*Sustaining Change: Teacher Perspectives on PBIS Implementation in Year Two.*” This qualitative case study aims to explore the perspectives and experiences of elementary educators regarding the implementation and sustainability of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) in the district.
2. Doctoral Candidate, Jeremiah Friday to conduct a case study at Seneca Valley focusing on teacher understanding and implementation of Problem-Based Learning (PBL). This study aims to learn more about elementary teacher understanding of PBL and to create professional development training to support the implementation of PBL in elementary classrooms.

9. **INSTRUCTION**

A. **Grant Disbursement** – Grant permission for and to disburse, the following grants:

1. The SVAOC Functional Fitness Lab Grant in the amount of \$7,500 funded by Highmark Foundation and requested by SVAOC Physical Education Teachers. Funds will be used to purchase strength and conditioning equipment.
2. The Robotics Before and After School Programs Grant in the amount of \$30,000 funded by Arconic and requested by Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used for continuing the opportunity of having Robotics Clubs for middle and elementary school students.
3. The Healthy Start Smoothie Cart Grant in the amount of \$2,000 funded by the National Dairy Council and requested by Dr. Erin Wilcher and Ms. Annie Mersing. Funds will be used to purchase a Healthy Start Smoothie Card.
4. The Ehrman Crest Middle School Movement Studio Grant in the amount of \$6,854 funded by Highmark School Grants and requested by Ms. Annie Mersing and Mr. Tim Eiler. Funds will be used to enhance Ehrman Crest Middle School’s existing Movement Studio.

- B. **Book Disposal** – Approve the sale, donation, or recycling of obsolete books from the Intermediate High School and Haine Middle School.
- C. **Student Trips** – Approve the following student trips:
 - 1. Mr. Jeremiah Friday and Ms. Linda Weismann to take six students to Phoenix, Arizona, for the KidWind World Challenge, May 18-21, 2025. Students will miss three days of instruction.
 - 2. The secondary chorus trip to Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida, February 25-March 1, 2026, under the supervision of Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander, Ms. Claire Barker, and Ms. Chessa Crum. Students will miss three days of instruction. This trip is at no cost to the district.
- D. **Conferences** – Approve conference requests.
- E. **Bradley Center** - Approve the agreement with The Bradley Center to provide special education programming for enrolled students during the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- F. **Resource Adoption** – Approve the adoption of the K-6 Amplify math resource.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approve budget transfers.
- B. **Bid Awards** – Award the following bids for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - 1. General Supplies
 - 2. Print Supplies
- C. **Depository/Treasurer** – Appoint NexTier Bank as depository for the 2025-2026 school year.
- D. **Bond Issuance Resolution** –Authorize the incurring of nonelectoral debt by the issuance of general obligation (limited tax) bonds. Series 2025 in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$39,500,000 covenanting to pay, and pledging all available taxing power of the local government unit for the payment of, the bonds; establishing a sinking fund and appointing a sinking fund depository; fixing the form, maximum interest rates, maturity, redemption and other provisions for the payment thereof; authorizing the acceptance of a proposal for the purchase of the bonds ; authorizing the filing of the required documents with the Department of Community and Economic Development; ratifying and directing certain actions of officers; and making certain other covenants and provisions in respect of the bonds.
- E. **Xerox Business Solutions Agreement (previously AmCom/ComDoc)** - Approve an addendum to the existing document management agreement with Xerox Business Solutions for a 60-month lease covering a total of twenty-five (25) devices. All existing devices will be replaced with new machines. The addendum further includes 587,000 black/white impressions and 73,000 color impressions per year.
- F. **Ryan Glover Middle School Quarry Tile Replacement Phase IV** - Award the General Construction Contract, per COSTARS, Commonwealth of PA cooperative

purchasing program, to Allegheny Installations in the amount of \$454,000. Pending solicitor review of final agreement.

11. **PERSONNEL**

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD**

- a. Sandy Ferrainola
- b. Zach Zimmerman

13. **ADJOURNMENT**