

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Kind of Meeting: Organizational Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Mr. David Stayton, Superintendent at 6:02 p.m. in the high school library.

Oath of Office: Mr. Stayton stated that the board members did sign the Oath of Office upon arrival with the board clerk.

Appointment of President and Vice-President of the Board of Education for 2025-2026 school year: Nominations were opened for President of the Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Cathy Pumilia nominated Anthony Nicotera.

Resolution No. 1: made by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia and seconded by Ms. Lynn Weibel, to appoint Mr. Anthony Nicotera as President of the Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0 and Abstain 1 (Mr. Anthony Nicotera).

Mr. Ronald Critelli nominated Ms. Lynn Weibel as Vice-President.

Resolution No. 2: made by Mr. Ronald Critelli and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco, that Ms. Lynn Weibel be Vice-President of the Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0, Abstain 1 (Ms. Lynn Weibel).

Mr. Stayton turned the meeting over to Mr. Anthony Nicotera the re-elected President of the Sauquoit Valley Central School Board of education for the 2025-2026 school year.

Presiding Officer: Mr. Anthony Nicotera took over the meeting after he thanked everyone for their recommendation and support of him as president.

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

Members Absent: No one.

Administration Present: David Stayton, Superintendent
Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator

Others Present: Staff and community members signed in.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Presentation(s): Brian Read, Director of Instructional Services presented the District Safety Plan and stated that it is posted on Sauquoit Valley Central School District's website as required for 30 days for the anyone including the public to review. If anyone would like clarification or request a change they may do so by contacting him. At the August 5th, 2025 board meeting the District Safety Plan can be approved by the board. The district has a crisis plan as well. BOCES establishes a template which schools can modify to suit their setting and safety of students, teachers and staff. The term commander is used which refers to the principal of the building. The principal will be the one who will call the situation. Drills are held throughout the year for every building.

Brian Read gave a brief description of his duties and what he has accomplished this year.

Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports: Mr. David Stayton

1. Extra-Curricular Activities subcommittee meet on June 16. Ryan Decker and the music department staff presented several awards to students at the last board meeting. He also announced the title of the next presentation "The Sister Act" and the dates of auditions have been posted. Colleen Luczak is thinking of an art club in the elementary school as one has been approved for the middle school. The kiln is still being delivered but no set date for arrival as of yet. Discussion on having one senior night instead of holding one for each sporting event. When an official removes a parent from a sporting event, that parent cannot return for the next contest unless they watch a video pertaining to behavior is watched. The process to collect uniforms is being reviewed.
2. Policy committee submitted some policies to be approved tonight. They also met prior to this meeting and will submit more for approval at the next meeting August 5, 2025.

Superintendent's Report

- ❖ Board of Education contact information will be distributed.
- ❖ List of Representatives for Board of Education Sub-Committee Meetings was reviewed and changes to some sub-committees have been agreed upon.
- ❖ SBI representative and alternate was discussed and will be voted on later in the meeting (Motion 9.15).

Old Business

- 1) A. Energy Performance Contract (EPC) – Mr. Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator gave a brief summary of two companies giving a bid on conducting ways to save money on environmental projects such as lighting. This may take time to see the return on savings but it will be worth it.
B. Capital Project – Mr. Cowen explained that the capital project is mainly repairs and upkeep. The track does need repair as well and further review as to what and how that will be handle is under discussion. Right now the capital project will not be an increase to the tax payers. Questions were raised about the steeple chase. More information would have to be compiled before looking into it.

- 2) Mr. Stayton thanked everyone for attending the graduation. The weather turned out to be pleasant to have outside on the stadium. The noise from the park was a little distracting. A suggestion to ask the town to close it for a few hours to hold the ceremony and use that area for parking was made. Mr. Stayton also took time to thank Scott Gillette, Facilities Supervisor, his staff and everyone who assisted in the preparations for the memorable event for our seniors and their families.
- 3) In August, the student board members will be attending the board meetings.

New Business: Mr. Nicotera stated that action 9.1 to 9.43 will be read as a consent motion and take one vote. If there are any questions or comments, members can do so prior to voting or pulling a motion for further discussion.

Resolution No. 3: made by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia, and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco,

- to appoint Charles Cowen to the position of School District Treasurer in the Sauquoit Valley Central School District for the 2025-2026 school year effective July 1, 2025.
- that the following school district officers be appointed for the 2025-2026 school year:

Tax Collector	Kathryn Wakefield
Clerk	Marie Goodman
Records Access Officer	Marie Goodman
School Attorneys	Timothy R. McGill – Bonding Ferrara Fiorenza PC – Other Matters The Law Firm of Frank W. Miller–Other Matters
School Physician	Dr. Christopher Alinea
School Auditors	Bonadio & Co., LLP
- to authorize Cheryl Richards as claims auditor for the 2025-2026 school year.
- to authorize Brenda Kuhn as deputy claims auditor for the 2025-2026 school year.
- that Key Bank, M&T Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, NBT Bank and NYSLYAS be designated as depositories for the 2025-2026 school year.
- that the following individuals be authorized to sign checks for the distribution of funds: Charles Cowen, Treasurer; David Stayton, Superintendent; President of the Board of Education; and Vice President of the Board of Education and that the use of the two signature check for non-payroll checks over \$1,000 (all other checks, one signature required) be continued.
- that Kathryn Wakefield be appointed school purchasing agent for the 2025-2026 school year.
- that Charles Cowen be appointed as coordinator of federal funds for the 2025-2026 school year.
- that the practice of previous years be continued to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to grant approval of staff members attending professional meetings and conferences held during the 2025-2026 school year.
- that the Superintendent of Schools be designated to certify payrolls for the 2025-2026 school year.
- that the Superintendent of School be authorized to approve budget transfers up to a limit of \$5,000.00.

- that the Observer-Dispatch be designed as the official newspaper for legal notices during the 2025-2026 school year.
- that Mike Flagg and Peter Madden be appointed custodians of the extra-classroom activities fund and that Cheryl Tibbitts and Katie Buckingham be appointed treasurer of the extra-classroom activities fund during the 2025-2026 school year.
- that the Treasurer, Charles Cowen be authorized to supervise deposits and investments for the school funds during the 2025-2026 school year in accordance with school district policy and General Municipal Law.
- that Mr. Anthony Nicotera be appointed as the Sauquoit Valley Central School Board's representative to the School Boards Institute Executive Committee and that Mr. Mike Sacco be appointed as an alternate to this committee.
- that the General Fund petty cash fund be replenished as follows for the 2025-2026 school year:

Middle School \$25
District Office \$50

- that the Sauquoit Valley Central School Board of Education designates the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services Advisory Council for Career & Technical Education to serve the Sauquoit Valley Central School as its advisory council for the 2025-2026 school year.
- to take all monies that are accumulated in the interest accounts of the high school and middle school student activities funds as of June 30, 2025 and distribute them to student accounts in the following manner: (a) 70% of the interest total to the High School Student Council and (b) 30% of the interest to the Middle School Student Council.
- to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to declare items as surplus equipment when needed and to dispose of accordingly for the 2025-2026 school year.
- to approve all credit cards used by the district for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:

CARD	AUTHORIZED USER
Mastercard	David Stayton, Charles Cowen
Home Depot	Joe Corleto, Keith Kempney & Scott Gillette

- to appoint the following as Dignity Act Coordinators for the 2025-2026 school year per the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) signed into law on September 13, 2010 which took effect on July 1, 2012:

NAME	TITLE
Mark Putnam	Elementary School Principal
Paul Dischiavo	Elementary School Social Worker
Peter Madden	Middle School Principal
Ed Ryan	Middle School Guidance Counselor
Ashley Morat	Middle School Guidance Counselor
Victoria Miller	District Social Worker
Mike Flagg	High School Principal
Peter Scialdone	High School Guidance Counselor
Laura Flagg	High School Guidance Counselor

- to appoint Scott Gillette, Director of Facilities II, as the district’s asbestos Local Educational Agency (LEA) designee for the 2025-2026 school year.
- to establish substitute teacher pay rates as follows for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - \$100 for uncertified
 - \$110 for certified
 - \$120 for retired
 - \$500 for Lead Teacher
 - \$850 for Mentor Teacher
- to establish substitute pay rates, unless otherwise stated per contract, for positions in the school related professionals unit for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:

POSITION	RATE
Aide	\$16.00
Nurse	\$22.50
Bus Driver	\$21.00
School Bus Attendant	\$17.50
Laborer	\$16.50
Clerk/Office Specialist I	\$17.50
Payroll Clerk/Account Clerk	\$18.00
Office Specialist II	\$18.00

- that the hourly rate for tutoring for 2025-2026 school year be determined by Step 8 (Bachelor’s only) of the teacher’s contract; divided by 200 (days/year): divided by 6.5 (hours/day).
- to extend the term and approve the addendum of the existing employment agreement between Sauquoit Valley Central School and David Stayton dated July 1, 2025 to expire June 30, 2030.
- to approve the salary of the Superintendent of Schools for the 2025-2026 school year at \$173,643.
- to adopt the Lead Evaluator Certification/Teachers resolution:

WHEREAS, THE Board of Education has been provided evidence that Mike Flagg, Peter Madden, Mark Putnam, Brian Read, Noelle Arcuri and David Stayton have completed all three sessions of training which meets the requirements of 8 NYCRR 30-2.9 and the Sauquoit Valley Central School District Annual Professional Performance Review Plan for certification as a Lead Evaluator of teachers, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, Mike Flagg, Peter Madden, Mark Putnam, Brian Read, Noelle Arcuri and David Stayton be certified as a Lead Evaluator of teachers.
- to adopt the Lead Evaluator Certification/Principals resolution:

WHEREAS, THE Board of Education has been provided evidence that David Stayton has completed training which meets the requirements of 8 NYCRR 30-2.9 and the Sauquoit Valley Central School District Annual Professional Performance Review Plan for certification as a Lead Evaluator of principals, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, David Stayton be certified as a Lead Evaluator of principals.

- to accept the resignation of Sarah Camacho, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2025.
- to appoint Kristen Willson as a long-term art teacher (part-time) in the middle school, effective September 1, 2025.
- to appoint Jeffrey Houck as a long-term secondary math teacher, to commence September 1, 2025 and to expire June 26, 2026.
- to appoint Jessica Ayari as a per diem substitute nurse effective September 1, 2025.
- that the following people be appointed to extra-curricular positions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Jamie Leigh Accordino	Racing Red Hawks (MS)
Sara Hanna	Racing Red Hawks (Elem)
Ryan Miller	Dungeons & Dragons (Co-chair)
Benjamin Nelson	Dungeons & Dragons (Co-chair)

- to approve the revised/reviewed policies listed below:
 - a) Policy 5002 Extreme Heat Condition Day
 - b) Policy 7208 Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor.
- that the minutes of the June 10, 2025 meeting be approved.
- 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 1400997, 1400755, 1401651, 1401814, 1401838, 1401570, 1401484, 1401399, 103092, 102886, 1400470, 1401790, 1400542, 1401244, 1401941, 1400572, 1400889, 1401287, 1401092, 1401529, 1401723, 103130, 1400503, 1401785, 1401923, 1401781, 1400420, 1401841, 102989, 1401653, and 1401812 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education and agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students and Pre-School Special Education.
- to appoint Amanda Goodenough, elementary teacher, for probationary period of three (3) years to commence September 1, 2025 and to expire September 1, 2028.
- to appoint Jessica Roark as lead teacher to Amanda Goodenough for the 2025-26 school year.
- to accept the resignation of Jennifer Siniscarco, laborer effective June 27, 2025.
- to appoint Jennifer Siniscarco as a custodian, effective June 30, 2025.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 4: made by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia, and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco,

- to approve the Athletic Appointments for fall 2025-26

POSITION	LEVEL	GENDER	NAME
Cross Country	Head Coach	Boys/Girls	John Nicotera
Cross Country	Modified	Boys/Girls	Scott Prichard
Football	Assistant Varsity	Boys	Nathaniel DePerno
Football -	Assistant Varsity Vol.	Boys	Jonathon DelMedico
Football	Modified	Boys	Doug Jones
Football	Modified Assistant	Boys	Steve Messenger
Soccer	Varsity	Boys	Devin Clive
Soccer	Varsity	Girls	Daniel George
Soccer	Modified	Girls	Scot Alsante
Tennis	Varsity	Girls	Lindsay Kidder
Tennis	Varsity (Volunteer)	Girls	Isabella Arrigo

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0, and Abstain 1 (Mr. Anthony Nicotera).

Miscellaneous Topics: Mr. Mike Sacco asked if the ROTC representative will be returning to make a presentation to the students. Once attended can a survey be given to see if there is interest.

Public to be Heard: There was no one.

Resolution No. 5: made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Mike Makuszak that the Board of Education go into executive session at 7:06 p.m. to discuss personnel.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0

Resolution No. 6: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mr. Mike Makuszak, that the executive session was declared over at 8:00 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 7: made by Mr. Ronald Critelli, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Collins, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Goodman
Board Clerk