

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

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

Minutes

June 2, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
 - A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Haine Elementary School Second Grade Students, continued the board initiative, “I Led the Pledge” by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. **Roll Call** - by Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Ms. Nick Brower, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Fred Peterson, Mr. Jeff Widdowson and Ms. Kari Zimmer. Ms. Leslie Bredl and Ms. Susan Harrison were absent.

The Haine Elementary School Second Grade Students performed two selections from their Memorial Day music for the School Board and those in attendance. The Board was thrilled that the second grade teachers brought the students to sing.

2. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. **Student/Staff Recognition**

1. Seneca Valley had 15 students from various grade levels compete against hundreds of other students from across the country in the Academic Games League of America (AGLOA) National Tournament, which took place in Washington, D.C., April 25-29. Our student teams earned numerous honors, including top 10 individual and team placements in multiple categories. Notably, the district saw high placements in Current Events, Propaganda and Theme, with one team earning a national championship title in Current Events. The team was led by Ryan Gloyer Middle School Teacher Julie Smith and SV Senior High School Librarian Mike Stebbins.
2. Four sophomores from Seneca Valley Intermediate High School were recognized on May 14 at Chatham University for their award-winning entries in the 2025 Waldman Arts & Writing Competition, hosted by the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. This year’s theme, “Local Legacies: Holocaust Survivors of the Pittsburgh Region,” invited students to commemorate, honor and connect with survivors who settled in our communities after enduring unimaginable hardship. Participants demonstrated their learning through poetry, essays and 2-D or 3-D artwork.

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The top projects in each category were selected to represent Seneca Valley in the competition. A special congratulations goes to Aubri Holland, who was named the grand prize winner of the overall competition.

3. Dr. Kathleen Mahon, School Psychologist at Haine Elementary School, was recently named Best Buddies Advisor of the Year for the Pittsburgh region by Best Buddies International. The award honors her leadership and dedication to promoting inclusion through Haine's Best Buddies chapter, which pairs students with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities for friendship and group activities. Since its launch in 2023, the program has grown steadily and continues to thrive under Dr. Mahon's guidance.

4. The Seneca Valley Academic Decathlon team earned third place in the nation and brought home 23 individual medals at the 2025 United States Academic Decathlon® National Competition in Des Moines, Iowa. The team set a new district record with a score of 45,497.3 - the highest in Seneca Valley history—and received the district's first-ever National Banner, awarded to the top three teams in the country. Students prepared extensively for this rigorous competition, which required participation in 10 academic events centered around the theme "Our Changing Climate." The team was led by Seneca Valley Senior High School teacher and Academic Decathlon coach Mr. David Reichard.

Mr. Bob Ceh announced and recognized the Seneca Valley Academic Decathlon team.

Mr. Reichard recognized and shared that Academic Decathlon is not just an academic competition, it is an academic marathon. He shared that students compete in ten disciplines; literature, art, music, science, social science, economics, math, essay, speech and interview where they prepare all year around a unified theme; this year's theme, "A Changing Climate." The team advanced through regionals, states and nationals! He shared that this team made school history by earning third place in nationals. Additionally, the team earned 23 individual medals. Mr. Reichard thanked the School Board members and Administration for their continued support.

Many students from the Academic Decathlon team shared remarks. Some remarks were that this team changed their life, that they will be lifelong learners, that this team pushed them out of their comfort zone, and that they discovered a new level of academic excellence.

Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Zimmer and Mr. DiTullio all congratulated the team for their achievements and also thanked Mr. Reichard for his dedication to the program and students.

Dr. Vitale echoed the comments shared by the Board members, congratulating the team and thanking the students for being open and honest with how this team has changed them for the better. Additionally, she thanked Mr. Reichard for making a difference in these students' lives.

- B. **Dates to Remember** - Ms. Linda Andreassi announced the following dates to remember:

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June	
June 6	Last Day of School for K-11
June 9	Professional Development (Act 80) Day
June 9	School Board Regular Meeting
June 13	Release of K-6 Student Reports of Progress and 7-12 Report Cards
June 14	Flag Day
June 15	Father's Day
June 16-August 7	SVAOC Cyber Sessions and Summer Camps
June 19	Juneteenth
June 20	Summer Begins
June 20	Seneca Valley's Kennywood Day
July 4	Independence Day
July 8	Summer Drug Testing, Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals
July 9	Summer Drug Testing, Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals
July 29	Summer Drug Testing, Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals
July 30	Summer Drug Testing, Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals
July 31	Due date for all Fall Sport Athletic Paperwork
August 4	PIAA Start of Fall Sports (Football, Golf)
August 4	School Board Work Session
August 7	Seneca Valley Foundation Gift of Hope Golf Classic
August 8	Summer Academy for SV Professional Staff
August 11	PIAA Start of Fall Sports (All Other Sports)
August 11	School Board Regular Session
August 11	Summer Academy for SV Professional Staff
August 13	New Teacher Induction
August 14	New Teacher Induction
August 18	All-Staff Welcome Back Event
August 21	First Day of School for the 2025-26 School Year

C. **Agency Reports**

1. Vo-Tech - Mr. Hester will provide an update at the August meeting.
2. I.U. IV - Mr. DiTullio shared that there are openings that they are looking to fill.

- D. **Legislative** – Ms. Zimmer shared information regarding House Bill 1500, a bill focused on reforming cyber charter schools. This bill has gone to the committee and it has been passed out of committee. She shared the audit that was conducted from 2021-2023 on five charter schools with approximately 44,000 students. They found that there is revenue of \$898 million with a fund balance of \$618 million. For reference, the Legislature holds public schools accountable and they can have 8% of total revenue in fund balance. House Bill 1500 says that cyber charter schools will have to limit their fund balance to 12%; establishes a tuition rate of \$8,000 per student; requires that cyber charter schools notify families when their school is designated a low achieving school, along with some additional changes.

Mr. DiTullio reported that Public School Retirement System (PSERS) executive director is retiring, and they will begin the interview process. 57.75

- E. **Drug Testing Results** – Dr. McKinley provided a report with results collected from July 1, 2024 -May 14, 2025, noting that there were 4,310 tests given, and that the District’s positive rate was 0.9% with the national average being 3.4%. Last year, the District’s positive rate was 1.7%. He shared that, additionally, students who test positive have to do five consecutive weeks of follow-up testing and out of 124 attempts, there were 11 students who tested positive at 8.8% with a national average at 20%. He believes that this number is a direct result of the intervention methods that are in place. Dr. McKinley thanked the board for supporting this program for more than 20 years.

Mr. Hester asked if the number of tests given this year was the same as the previous year. Dr. McKinley shared that the amount given in 24-25 is very similar to what was given in 23-24.

Mr. Peterson recognized and thanked Dr. McKinley and others who have implemented this procedure and the positive difference that it has made over the years.

Mr. DiTullio thanked Dr. McKinley for all he has done for this program.

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** – There was no public comment.
- B. **Student Trip** – Approved the Science Honor Society to have gone to the PJAS State Competition at Penn State University May 18-20, 2025, under the supervision of Ms. Kelly Weston and Ms. Rebecca Finch. Students missed two days of instruction and the trip was at no cost to the District.
- C. **Personnel** – Approved the following personnel items that were discussed in executive session held prior to the meeting:
1. **Resignations** – Classified – Sara Nicklas, Supplemental – Jeff Fraser, Barry Murray, Christine Cooper, Julie Smith
 2. **Appointments** – *Professional Substitutes* – Shannon Kennedy, *Classified* – Gretchen Haburjak, Deanna Kolarosky, Paige Miller, Lisa Recce, *Classified*

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Substitutes – Alexis Baney, Frederick Buchanan, Mary Rasmussen, Christina Utter, Carrie Young, *Supplementals*, Clare Calhoun, Victor Giannotta, Valerie McGee, Kathleen Greppi, Danielle Fagan, Todd Winter, Michael Manipole, Alex Krajniak, Emily Cramer, Erin Scott, Julie Parenti, Christopher Titus, Erik Carlberg, Madelyn Cornman, Tisha Konvolinka, Haley Landolina

3. **Leaves – Professional** – Ashley Pile, *Classified* – Jennifer Smith
 4. **Memorandum of Understanding** – Approved an MOU with Seneca Valley Education Association.
- D. **Conferences** – Approved conference requests.
- E. **Student Adjudications** – Approved the following student adjudications:
1. #2024-25-15
 2. #2024-25-16
- F. **Board Policy** – Approved board policy 008 - Organization Chart - revised, first and final reading.
- G. **Flexible Instructional Days (FIDS) Affirmation** - Approved the Flexible Instructional Days (FIDs) application and granted permission for the administration to implement the Flexible Instructional Days (FIDs) Program for the 2025-26, 2026-27, and 2027-28 school years in accordance with Act 64 of 2019.

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to approve the student trip, personnel, conferences, student adjudications, board policy and Flexible Instructional Days (FIDS) Affirmation. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. **Work Session** – May 5, 2025
- B. **Action Meeting** – May 12, 2025

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$3,278,002.72

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**
Grand Total: \$637,279.94

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

- A. **Board Policy** – Approve board policy 626.2 – Conflict of Interest – revised, second and final reading.
- B. **Food Service Department Incentive** - Approve the incentive program for Food Service Department employees, effective August 21, 2025, which provides free

reimbursable school meals for the children of eligible employees as a measure to attract new employees and retain current staff.

- C. **Research Study** – Approve Doctoral Candidate, Heather Morningstar, to conduct dissertation study on gender and educational leadership. This study aims to investigate the extent to which perceptions of gendered leadership contribute to the underrepresentation of women in K-12 superintendent positions in Pennsylvania.

9. **INSTRUCTION**

- A. **Book Disposal** – Approve the sale, donation, or recycling of obsolete books from Haine Middle School.
- B. **Imagine Learning Agreement** – Approve the renewal of the agreement between Imagine Learning K-12 and Seneca Valley School District to operate our cyber program to be paid in five equal installments over five years.
- C. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Agreement** - Approve the comprehensive services agreement with the AIU to receive services if requested during the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- D. **Student Trip** - Approve the secondary band trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee from March 26-29, 2026, under the supervision of Mr. Varden Armstrong, Mr. Robert Babick and Ms. Sara Snyder. Students will miss two days of instruction. This will be at no cost to the district.
- E. **2025 Graduates** – Approve the list of Seneca Valley graduates for 2025.
- F. **Pittsburgh Ballet House** – Approve the SV Academy of Choice Instructional Services Agreement with Pittsburgh Ballet House for the 2025-26 school year.
- G. **Student Assistance Program (SAP) Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Butler County Human Services Center for Community Resources to provide consultative, pre-assessments, and referrals through SAP Liaison services for the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- H. **Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) Agreement** - Approve the agreement to participate and comply with the PA Medical Assistance Program for the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- I. **Glade Run Lutheran Services Agreement** – Approve the agreement with Glade Run Lutheran Services to provide mental health services for students during the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- J. **Glade Run Day Student Education Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Glade Run Lutheran Services (dba St. Stephen’s Lutheran Academy) to provide special education programming for students during the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.

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- K. **MHY Family Services Agreement** – Approve the agreement with MHY Family Services to provide educational programming at Longmore Academy for students during the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
 - L. **Cray Youth and Family Services Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Cray Youth and Family Services to provide educational programming at Cray Education Center Private Academic School for students during the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
 - M. **Cray Youth and Family Services Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Cray Youth and Family Services to provide alternative education programming at Cray Challenges for students during the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
 - N. **Robert Morris University High School Enrollment Agreement** - Approve the concurrent enrollment agreement with Robert Morris University for the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
 - O. **BC3 College Within the High School (CWHS) Agreement** - Approve the concurrent enrollment agreement with Butler County Community College for the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
 - P. **BC3 College Now Agreement** - Approve the agreement with Butler County Community College for the College Now concurrent enrollment program for the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.
 - Q. **Athletic Uniform Sale & Disposal** – Approve the sale of obsolete athletic uniforms & warm-ups and the disposal of old, unusable athletic uniforms & warm-ups.
 - R. **La Roche University Concurrent Enrollment Agreement** - Approve the concurrent enrollment agreement with La Roche University for the 2025-26 school year. Pending solicitor review.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approve budget transfers.
- B. **Consultant Agreement - jmA** - Approve the Consulting Services Agreement with jmA, LLC for the 2025-26 fiscal year for payroll training and payroll support services.
- C. **Homestead and Farmstead Resolution** - Approve the 2025-26 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution per Act 1 - Taxpayer Relief Act.
- D. **Summer Actions** - Authorize the administration to approve:
 1. Year-end budget transfers
 2. Outreach Partnership of Technology (OPT) agreements
 3. June and July bills
- E. **Act 511 Taxes** - Approve re-enactment of the following Act 511 Taxes:
 1. Flat Rate Occupation Tax - \$10
 2. Earned Income Tax - 1%

- F. **Exterior Painting of Haine Elementary School, Haine Middle School and Rowan Elementary School** - Award the General Construction Contract to E&G Development, New Castle PA, in the amount of \$234,700. Pending solicitor review.
- G. **Districtwide Concrete Curb and Sidewalk Repairs** - Award the General Construction Contract to E&G Development, New Castle PA, in the amount of \$194,347. Pending solicitor review.
- H. **Exterior Improvements to West Fieldhouse** - Award the General Construction Contract to E&G Development, New Castle PA, in the amount of \$147,743. Pending solicitor review.
- I. **Liability Insurance** – Approve the sanction of the following groups to work on behalf of the Seneca Valley School District and intention to provide that the District’s liability insurance cover these groups for the 2025-26 school year: PTA, PTO, SV Boys’ Lacrosse, SV Indoor Track and Field, SV Ice Hockey, SV Inline Hockey, SV Slow Pitch Softball, SV Bowling, SV Competitive Cheer, SV Fencing, SV Ultimate Frisbee, SV Unified Bocce, JROTC, After Prom Committee, Booster groups, Seneca Valley Foundation and all Board approved student clubs.
- J. **Booster Group Resolution** – Approve the Booster Group Resolution for the 2025-26 school year.
- K. **Ticket Prices**
1. Approve the athletic ticket prices for the 2025-26 school year with no changes as follows: football reserved seating \$8.00/entry; football pre-sale adult general admission \$6.00/entry; football pre-sale student general admission \$4.00/entry; all football tickets at the gate \$6.00/entry; all other sports adult general admission \$5.00/entry; all other sports student general admission \$3.00/entry.
 2. Approve a student or adult annual athletic pass for the 2025-26 school year at a cost of \$50.00 for the year. The pass will allow entry into all Seneca Valley sponsored home athletic events. Pass does not allow for entry to any away or any WPIAL and/or PIAA playoff event.
- L. **Facilities Rental Fees** – Approve the facilities rental fees for the 2025-26 school year with no changes.
- M. **Naming Rights Agreement** – Approve the agreement with the Khara Family for naming rights of the baseball field for Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), payable in ten annual installments of Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) each year, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2035.

- N. **Stepping Stones Agreement** – Approve the one-year renewal agreement with Stepping Stones, Inc to provide extended-day services in each elementary school for the 2025-26 school year.
- O. **Milk RFP Approval** – Approve the contract proposal from Marburger Farm Dairy, Inc. for the purchase and delivery of milk products for the 2025-26 school year.
- P. **Final 2025-2026 General Fund Budget** - Approve the final general fund budget for 2025-26 in the amount of \$179,867,685 with a proposed millage increase of 5.53 mills (4%).

11. **PERSONNEL**

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the May 12, 2025, public agenda:

- a. Beckie Prible
- b. Lori Harvey

13. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. Eric DiTullio, President

Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary