

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Presiding Officer: Mr. Anthony Nicotera, President, called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m. in the high school library.

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

Members Absent: Cathy Pumilia.

Administration Present: David Stayton, Superintendent
Charles Cowen, Business Administrator
Brian Read, Director of Instructional Services

Ex-officio Student Board Member: Both Absent.

Others Present: Staff and community members signed in.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Presentation(s):

Noelle Arcuri, Dir. of Special Education gave a brief review of the Special Education Playbook which is a state requirement that this is presented to the school board of education and placed on school website annually.

Brian Read, Dir. of Instructional Services, gave a brief review of the Comprehensive School Counseling Plan which is also required annually. Many suggestions were made and noted. The Board appreciated both reports. They commented on how informative and detailed the reports were. They thanked both of them for a great presentation.

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

Policy Committee met on July 1. Those policies will be presented for board approval at tonight's meeting. Another policy meeting was held today, August 5 prior to this meeting. Those policies reviewed will be presented at the next board meeting scheduled for August 26, 2025. The other sub-committees will be scheduled to meet throughout the 2025-26 school year.

Superintendent's Report

- Sub-committee list was distributed. If there are any discrepancies, please let us know.
- The SBI calendar of meetings with topics was also distributed. This is only for informational purposes. But if anyone would like to attend a meeting or would like

to comment on a topic, please contact our representatives, Anthony Nicotera or Mike Sacco.

- Updates on grounds.
 - The capital project will be addressing the surfacing track, flooring and replacing roof top units. If funding is available, air conditioning in the high school will be done. This was not in the document when presented but added recently. On August 14 John Nicotera, Mike Sacco, Doug Jones and David Stayton will be visiting West Canada to view their steeple chase.
 - Fencing was moved for parking. Those few spaces will be marked off and labeled for emergency vehicles only by the entrance of the field.
- Back to school activities.
 - Aug 11 - Meet the coaches at 6:00 PM
 - Aug 21 - Freshman orientation 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
 - August 21 during Parent/Guardian night in the high school - cell phone discussion is scheduled at 6:00 PM
 - Aug 26 - Cupcakes & Classmates/Jared Campbell concert at 6:00 PM
 - Aug 27 - MS Orientation for incoming 5th graders 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 - Parents night for incoming 5th graders at 6:00 PM

Old Business

At the July 1, 2025 meeting the amount for the Racing Red Hawks advisors was reported out as \$712 each but the correct amount is \$1,047 each.

New Business: Mr. Nicotera stated that action 7.1 to 7.31 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.

Mr. Nicotera was pleased to hear that Megan Kempney will be coaching field hockey. Mr. Stayton thanked the New Hartford School District for sharing two sporting events for the fall, gymnastics and wrestling. Ms. Weibel jokingly stated that she would like to vote no to Mr. Charlie Cowen's request to retire. Mr. Nicotera announced that Mr. Cowen will stay on as a part-time capacity. This will be discussed at a later meeting. It was also stated that Mrs. Peters' resignation was sad to hear. She is a very good teacher. It will be sad to see her go. Mr. Stayton explained that the immunization agreement does not have a date for the distribution of the flu shots but will be determined at a later date. It is usually held at the end of September.

Resolution No. 8: made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Mike Makuszak,

- **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Karri Tibbitts to the position of Teacher Aide effective September 2, 2025. Probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on September 2, 2025 and to expire on March 3, 2026.
- to accept the resignation of Shania Taylor as part-time teacher aide effective August 30, 2025.
- **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation

of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Shania Taylor to the position of Teacher Aide effective September 2, 2025. Probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on September 2, 2025 and to expire on March 3, 2026.

- to appoint Stephanie Carbone as a per diem substitute teacher effective September 2, 2025.
- that Nita Cobane’s probationary period as teacher aide be permanent, effective June 11, 2025 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- that Amanda Del Medico’s probationary period as bus attendant be permanent, effective July 31, 2025 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- to create two (2) positions under the Civil Service title of custodian for the Sauquoit Valley Central School.
- to accept the resignation of Bernard Fehr as laborer effective August 5, 2025.
- **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Bernard Fehr to the 12 month position of custodian effective August 6, 2025 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on August 6, 2025 and to expire on February 4, 2026.
- to accept the resignation of Holly Snow as laborer effective August 5, 2025.
- **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Holly Snow to the 12 month position of custodian effective August 6, 2025 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on August 6, 2025 and to expire on February 4, 2026.
- to approve the retirement of Charles Cowen, Business Administrator, with regret effective September 27, 2025.
- to approve the resignation of Jessica Peters, elementary teacher effective July 30, 2025.
- that the following people be appointed to fall athletic coaching positions for the 2025-26 school year contingent upon student athlete participation in each sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.

| SPORT | LEVEL | BOYS or GIRLS | COACH NAME |
|--------------|---------|---------------|-------------------|
| Field Hockey | Varsity | Girls | Megan Kempney |
| Cheerleading | | | Savannah Robinson |

- to approve combination between Sauquoit Valley Central School and New Hartford Central School in the sport of girls’ gymnastics for the fall 2025 sport season.
- to approve combination between Sauquoit Valley Central School and New Hartford in the sport of boys’ wrestling for the fall 2025 sport season.
- to ratify the agreement with the Sauquoit Valley Administrators’ Association.
- to approve the revised/reviewed policies listed below:
 - a) Policy 0012 Code of Ethics for Board Members & Employees
 - b) Policy 1003 School Volunteer
 - c) Policy 1003.1 School Volunteer Form
 - d) Policy 1010 Code of Conduct
 - e) Policy 1040 Parent & Family Engagement if Title I Program
 - f) Policy 7108 Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Orders

- to approve the immunization (flu clinic) agreement between Garro's Drugs and Sauquoit Valley CSD.
- to execute the annual service (AS-7) contract between Sauquoit Valley Central School and BOCES for annual services for the 2025-2026 school year.
- to approve the lease agreement between Small Blessings Preschool and Sauquoit Valley Central School District for the rental of two classrooms.
- to approve the agreement between Sauquoit Valley Central School District and Small Blessings Preschool (UPK Program) for the 2025-26 school year.
- **RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education appoint Day Automation to complete an Energy Audit for the school district for the purposes of developing an Energy Performance Contract (EPC) for the board's consideration.

- to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance or exercise of services, functions, powers or activities on a cooperative or contract basis among themselves or one for the other, and

WHEREAS, Section 119-n of the General Municipal Law defines the term "municipal corporation" for the purposes of Article 5-G as a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, a fire district or a school district; and

WHEREAS, The Sauquoit Valley Central School District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Participant") is a "municipal corporation" as defined above; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes for this municipal corporation to become or remain a Participant pursuant to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement For Energy Purchasing Services dated the 1st day of May 2005 (the "Agreement"), among municipal corporations collectively identified as the New York School and Municipal Energy Consortium ("NYSMEC") upon the terms of the Agreement and further wishes to authorize participation as an energy consumer as specified below.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby determines that it is in the interests of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District to participate in the NYSMEC, and authorizes and directs the School Superintendent to sign the Agreement/and or the Billing Schedule and Agreement for electricity on its behalf; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board authorizes the Administrative Participant (as defined in the Agreement) to prepare, advertise, disseminate and open bids pursuant to the General Municipal Law and to award, execute and deliver binding contracts on behalf of this Board for the purchase of electricity delivered to the delivery point of the local utility distribution company for the Participant's facility or facilities, on a firm basis, for this Participant to the lowest responsible bidder as is determined by the Administrative Participant at a price for such commodity electricity not to exceed \$.094 per kWh for traditional pass-through energy price or not to exceed \$.107 per kWh for a fixed price, which includes all current pass through charges that you get billed for separately from the ESCO's for a term of at least one year and no more than three years commencing May 1, 2026, and other terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the Administrative Participant, or to reject any or all such bids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant agrees to advertise said bid as may be directed by the Administrative Participant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant authorizes receipt of bids and offers in electronic format pursuant to Section 103(1) of the General Municipal Law and other applicable law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and employees of this Participant are authorized to execute such other confirming agreements, certificates and other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

- to approve the following resolution (natural gas):

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance or exercise of services, functions, powers or activities on a cooperative or contract basis among themselves or one for the other, and

WHEREAS, Section 119-n of the General Municipal Law defines the term “municipal corporation”; for the purposes of Article 5-G as a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, a fire district or a school district; and

WHEREAS, The Sauquoit Valley Central School District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as “Participant”) is a “municipal corporation”; as defined above; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes for this municipal corporation to become or remain a Participant pursuant to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement For Energy Purchasing Services dated the 1st day of May, 2005 (the “Agreement”), among municipal corporations collectively identified as the New York School and Municipal Energy Consortium (“NYSMEC”) upon the terms of the Agreement and further wishes to authorize participation as an energy consumer as specified below.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby determines that it is in the interests of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District to participate in the NYSMEC, and authorizes and directs the School Superintendent to sign the Agreement/and or the Billing Schedule and Agreement for natural gas on its behalf; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board authorizes the Administrative Participant (as defined in the Agreement) to prepare, advertise, disseminate and open bids pursuant to the General Municipal Law and to award, execute and deliver binding contracts on behalf of this Board for the purchase of natural gas delivered to the city gate of the local utility distribution company for the Participant’s facility or facilities, on a firm basis, for this Participant to the lowest responsible bidder as is determined by the Administrative Participant at a price for such traditional commodity of natural gas to the city gate not to exceed \$.6450 per therm or for all in price not to exceed \$.7100 per therm to the burner tip, which would include line losses that are currently billed separately for a term of at least one year and no more than three years commencing May 1, 2026, and other terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the Administrative Participant, or to reject any or all such bids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant agrees to advertise said bid as may be directed by the Administrative Participant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant authorizes receipt of bids and offers in electronic format pursuant to Section 103(1) of the General Municipal Law and other applicable law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and employees of this Participant are authorized to execute such other confirming agreements, certificates and other

documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

- **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve Budget Transfer for the 2024-25 fiscal year as presented.
- that the quarterly (April 2025 – June 2025) extra-classroom activity report be approved as presented.
- that the minutes of the July 1, 2025 meeting be approved.
- that the Treasurer’s Reports of Balances for June 30, 2025 be approved as presented.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor.
- 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 1401413, 1401791, 1401695, 1401632, 1400316, 103252, 1402009, 1400625, 1400908, 1401082, 1041656, 1401062, 1400459, 1401828, 1401243, and 1402021 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education and agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0

Resolution No. 9: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mr. Ronald Critelli,

- to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM TAX ROLLS AND AUTHORIZE TAX LEVY

WHEREAS the Board of Education has been authorized by the voters of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District to raise for the 2025-2026 school year a sum not to exceed \$27,187,654.00

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board fix the equalized tax rates by towns and confirm the extension of the taxes as they appear on the following described tax roll:

SCHOOL TAX LEVY \$9,298,574

| TOWN | ASSESSED VALUE (levy purposes) | CLERGY EXEMPTION | ASSESSED Value (apportionment) | EQUALIZ RATE | TRUE VALUE (apportionment) | PROPORTION OF TRUE VALUE (apportionment) | PROPORTION USED | Assessed Value for Tax Rate Calculation | Tax Rate per thousand |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Paris | 241,720,456 | 1,500 | 241,721,956 | 0.5500 | 439,494,465.45 | 66.513246% | 6,184,783.43 | 241,720,456.00 | 25.586512 |
| New Hartford | 52,383,511 | | 52,383,511 | 0.4700 | 111,454,278.72 | 16.867530% | 1,568,439.72 | 52,383,511.00 | 29.941478 |
| Frankfort | 32,015,613 | | 32,015,613 | 0.4578 | 69,933,623.85 | 10.583779% | 984,140.53 | 32,015,613.00 | 30.739394 |
| Litchfield | 15,642,942 | | 15,642,942 | 0.5256 | 29,762,066.21 | 4.504202% | 418,826.51 | 15,642,942.00 | 26.774152 |
| Marshall | 2,944,192 | | 2,944,192 | 0.3200 | 9,200,600.00 | 1.392422% | 129,475.39 | 2,944,192.00 | 43.976545 |
| Kirkland | 279,994 | | 279,994 | 0.3530 | 793,184.14 | 0.120041% | 11,162.08 | 279,994.00 | 39.865423 |
| Bridgewater | 69,990 | | 69,990 | 0.5840 | 124,095.74 | 0.018781% | 1,746.34 | 69,990.00 | 24.951231 |
| | 345,056,698 | | 345,058,198 | | 660,762,314.12 | 1.00000000 | \$9,298,574.00 | 345,056,698 | |

LIBRARY TAX LEVY \$89,775

| TOWN | ASSESSED VALUE (levy purposes) | CLERGY EXEMPTION | ASSESSED Value (apportionment) | EQUALIZ. RATE | TRUE VALUE (apportionment) | PROPORTION OF TRUE VALUE (apportionment) | PROPORTION USED | Assessed Value for Tax Rate Calculation | Tax Rate per thousand |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Paris | 241,720,456 | 1,500 | 241,721,956 | 0.5500 | 439,494,465.45 | 66.513246% | 59,712.27 | 241,720,456.00 | 0.247030 |
| New Hartford | 52,383,511 | | 52,383,511 | 0.4700 | 111,454,278.72 | 16.867530% | 15,142.82 | 52,383,511.00 | 0.289076 |
| Frankfort | 32,015,613 | | 32,015,613 | 0.4578 | 69,933,623.85 | 10.583779% | 9,501.59 | 32,015,613.00 | 0.296780 |
| Litchfield | 15,642,942 | | 15,642,942 | 0.5256 | 29,762,066.21 | 4.504202% | 4,043.65 | 15,642,942.00 | 0.258497 |
| Marshall | 2,944,192 | | 2,944,192 | 0.3200 | 9,200,600.00 | 1.392422% | 1,250.05 | 2,944,192.00 | 0.424581 |
| Kirkland | 279,994 | | 279,994 | 0.3530 | 793,184.14 | 0.120041% | 107.77 | 279,994.00 | 0.384889 |
| Bridgewater | 69,990 | | 69,990 | 0.5640 | 124,095.74 | 0.018781% | 16.86 | 69,990.00 | 0.240897 |
| | 345,056,698 | | 345,058,198 | | 660,762,314.12 | 1.00000000 | \$89,775.00 | 345,056,698 | |

AND BE IT HEREBY DIRECTED THAT the tax warrant of this board, duly signed shall be affixed to the above-described tax rolls authorizing the collection of said taxes to begin September 1, 2025 and end October 31, 2025 giving the tax warrant an effective period of 61 days at the expiration of which time the tax collector shall make an accounting in writing to the board;

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED THAT the delinquent tax penalties shall be fixed as follows:

- 1st month free period,
- 2nd month interest of 2 percent added.

- to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS; to the collector of Sauquoit Valley Central School District, Oneida County, State of New York.

You are hereby commanded:

To give notice and start collection on September 1, 2025 in accordance with the provisions of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.

To give notice that tax collection will end on October 31, 2025.

To collect taxes in the total sum of \$9,388,349 (inclusive of STAR funds and Library Levy of \$89,775) in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.

To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the tax rolls but shall return the same to the board of education. The board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law.

To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within ten days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his/her property on tax bills provided by the school district in accordance with provisions of Section 922 of Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the county treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of Sections 540 and 544 of the real Property Tax Law.

To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sum listed on the tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection and to account for such sums as income due to the school district.

To issue receipts provided by the school district in acknowledgement of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file such receipts as required by Section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law.

To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 912 and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the board of education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 1318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 10: made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco,

- Resolution Regarding State Environmental Quality Review (2025 capital improvement project and EPC project).

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District (the "Board") has considered the effect upon the environment of the proposed 2025 Capital Improvement Project work, which will include, but is not limited to the following: Renovations, replacements and improvements at the High School to also include air conditioning, Middle School, Elementary School and bus garage to include not be limited to athletic surface, field and playground replacement, roof replacement, and building infrastructure improvements.

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the scope of the project and has further received and considered the advice of its architects with respect to the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Proposed Action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c), now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education as follows:

1. The Proposed Action does not exceed thresholds established under 6 NYCRR Part 617, the State Environmental Quality Review Act, (SEQRA).
2. The Board hereby determines the Proposed Action as a Type II action in accordance with the SEQRA regulations involving replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or property.
3. No further review of the Proposed Action is required under SEQRA.
4. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

- State Environmental Quality Review for Energy Performance Contract

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District (the "Board") has considered the effect upon the environment of proposed work, including, but not limited to the following: An energy performance project at all District buildings to enact energy conservation measures including but not limited to weatherization, boiler replacement, lighting upgrades and control replacements.

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the scope of the project and has further received and considered the advice of its architects and Day Automation with respect to the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Proposed Action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c), now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education as follows:

1. The Proposed Action does not exceed thresholds established under 6 NYCRR Part 617 of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, (SEQRA).
2. The Board hereby determines the Proposed Action as a Type II action in accordance with the SEQRA regulations.
3. No further review of the Proposed Action is required under SEQRA.
4. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Miscellaneous Topics: Mr. Mike Makuszak praised the Chobani business for doing such a wonderful job with milk product donations to families in the district. He was wondering about the details of the distribution. Mr. Stayton explained that it is bi-weekly but more details are being worked on. Updated information will be sent out through ParentSquare.

Public to be Heard: There was no one.

Resolution No. 11: made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco, that the Board of Education go into executive session at 7:07 p.m. to discuss personnel.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 12: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mr. Mike Makuszak, that the executive session was declared the over at 7:44 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 13: made by Mr. Ronald Critelli, and seconded by Ms. Lynn Weibel, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.

Sincerely submitted,



Marie Goodman
Board Clerk