



# Seneca Valley School District

## SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

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

### Minutes

**September 15, 2025**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President, called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.
  - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
  - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Carson Coles, fifth grader at Haine Middle School, 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: Mr. Nick Brower, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Mr. Fred Peterson, Mr. Jeff Widdowson and Ms. Kari Zimmer. Ms. Leslie Bredl was absent.

### 2. INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Ehrman Crest Elementary School in Cranberry Township was awarded a \$10,000 grant for a gym equipment makeover as part of a national initiative by the American Heart Association and the NFL Foundation. Physical Education Teacher Sara Coon led the effort that helped the school win this grant by encouraging students to learn Hands-Only CPR through the Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge. Participating schools received funding to promote physical activity and lifesaving skills. The collaboration aims to empower students with CPR knowledge to improve cardiac emergency survival rates.
- B. **Dates to Remember** – Mr. Ian Hunter announced the following dates to remember:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 16 | National Information Technology (IT) Professionals Day                |
| September 17 | Intermediate High School Open House/Senior High School Open House     |
| September 18 | Ryan Gloyer Middle School Open House                                  |
| September 22 | Rosh Hashana Begins   |
| September 22 | Autumn Begins   |
| September 25 | SV Homecoming Carnival (5 p.m.) and Parade (7 p.m.), Secondary Campus |
| September 26 | SV Homecoming Court Recognition, 6:30 p.m., NexTier Stadium           |
| September 27 | SV Homecoming Dances, 7-10 p.m., IHS & SHS                            |
| October 1    | Yom Kippur Begins   |
| October 2    | National Custodial Workers Recognition Day                            |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| October 2 | In-Service Day – No School for Students  |
| October 3 | Professional Development (Act 80) Day and K-6 Parent-Teacher Conference Day – No School for Students |
| October 4 | SAT Testing, 7:30 a.m., SHS  |
| October 6 | School Board Work Session Meeting, 7 p.m., SVSHS Auditorium  |

- C. **All-Star Award, Winner, September 2025** – Mr. Logan Ellsworth, Security, was recognized and presented the All-Star Award by Mr. Bob Ceh, Senior High School Principal. Mr. Ceh shared that Mr. Ellsworth approaches his job positively and professionally. Mr. Ellsworth is the one who you will find directing traffic on and off campus each school day, walking the campus to ensure student and staff safety and at after-school events. He continued by sharing that the students look up to him and respect him because he respects them. Mr. Ceh thanked Mr. Ellsworth for all that he does and congratulated him for this achievement.

Mr. Jacobs, Ms. Zimmer and Mr. DiTullio each thanked him for all that he does to ensure that the students feel safe, cared for and for being so attentive.

Dr. McCarty commented on how Mr. Ellsworth has grown as a leader and that he is building leaders throughout the entire security team with this quiet, logical approach.

Ms. Linda Andreassi addressed the Board and administration, thanking them for their service, making children their number one priority and sharing that she is forever grateful for the past 30 years as the Communications Director.

Each Board member and member of administration in attendance, shared remarks of gratitude, encouragement and well wishes for her retirement.

D. **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. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Public comment was heard from Mr. Jack McMillin regarding the IHS school project, Ms. Julie Jones regarding vo-tech and Ms. Yvonne Dobrzanski regarding well wishes for Ms. Andreassi.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- A. **Work Session** – August 4, 2025
  - B. **Action Meeting** – August 11, 2025

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**

2024-2025 Grand Total: \$392,204.40

2025-2026 Grand Total: \$3,908,289.52

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**

Grand Total: \$970,691.78

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the minutes, treasurer's report, general fund bills and construction fund bills. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

- A. **PSBA 2026 Officer Elections Slate of Candidates** - Elected the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) officers.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to approve the PSBA 2026 Officer Slate of Candidates. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative and Mr. DiTullio abstaining.

- B. **Board Policy** – Approved board policy 611 – Purchases Budgeted, revised, first reading.

- C. **School Bus Drivers** - Approved additional bus driver list for the 2025-26 school year as provided by transportation vendor of First Student Inc.

- D. **Student Adjudication** – Approved student adjudication #2025-26-01.

Ms. Harrison, motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to approve the board policy, school bus drivers and student adjudication. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. **INSTRUCTION**

- A. **Conferences** – Approved conference requests.

- B. **Student Trips** –

1. Approved the Orchestra trip to Washington, D.C., March 19-21, 2026, under the supervision of Ms. Sarah Miller. Students will miss two days of instruction and the trip is at no cost to the District.
2. Approved the Seneca Valley Raider Baseball program (Varsity & JV) to Jackie Robinson Complex in Vero Beach, FL. from March 13-March 16, 2026, under the supervision of coaches Mr. Eric Semega, Mr. Tom Magill and Mr. Greg Hayward. Students will miss up to two days of school and the trip is at no cost to the District.
3. Acknowledged Mr. Jeremiah Friday and Mr. Kenneth Cahall to take interested sixth grade students to Yellowstone National Park to conduct scientific research,

February 14-19, 2026. Students will miss three days of instruction and the trip is at no cost to the District.

- C. **Children’s Institute Agreement** - Approved the agreement with The Children’s Institute, The Day School, to provide special education programming and services for students during the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- D. **Children’s Institute Agreement** - Approved the tuition agreement with The Children’s Institute, The Day School, for enrolled students during the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- E. **The Watson Institute** - Approved the tuition agreement with The Watson Institute, Education Center Sewickley, for enrolled students during the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- F. **The Watson Institute** - Approved the tuition agreement with The Watson Institute, Social Center for Academic Achievement (WISA-Sewickley), for enrolled students during the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- G. **PA Connecting Communities Memorandum of Understanding** - Approved the MOU with PA Connecting Communities to provide individual transition services to students and address employment and independent living skills for the 2025-2026 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- H. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Title I Services Agreement** - Approved the AIU services agreement for Title I Non-Public services for the 2025-2026 school year.
- I. **Non-Public Title I Services Agreement** - Approved the Third-Party Letter of Agreement for Nonpublic Title I Services with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for the 2025-26 school year.
- J. **Research Studies** – Approved the following research studies:
  1. Doctoral Candidate, Daniel Guerra, Intermediate High School Assistant Principal, to conduct research enhancing classroom practices to address school connectedness. This is an Iterative Design Study that investigates how participating teachers experience, implement, and sustain pedagogical practices through a three-phase workshop series grounded in the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) improvement cycle.
  2. Doctoral Candidate, Malika Christopher, Intermediate High School Counselor, to conduct a study that explores the effectiveness of a pilot professional development session designed to help educators better understand the barriers that can limit students’ access to educational opportunities.

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, to approve conferences, student trips, the Children’s Institute Agreement, the Children’s Institute Agreement, Watson Institute Agreement, Watson Institute Agreement, PA Connecting Communities Memorandum of Understanding, Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Title I Services Agreement, Non-Public Title I Services Agreement and research studies. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. **PERSONNEL** – Approved the following personnel items that were discussed in executive session held prior to the meeting:
- A. **Resignation** – *Supplemental* – Sarah White
  - B. **Appointments** – *Professional Substitutes* – Ronald Butschle, Chelsea Mesisca, Alexandra Reed, *Classified* – Michael Corrigan, Elaine Acosta, Tiffany Dick, *Classified Substitutes* – Connor Benson
  - C. **Leaves** – *Professionals* – Alicia Scopellite, Carly Magnotta, *Classified* – Sarah Schneider
  - D. **Retirement** – *Classified* – Rosalie Bentley

Ms. Zimmer motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to approve the resignation, appointments, leaves and retirement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

11. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** - The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the September 8, 2025, public agenda:
- a. Nicole Boone
  - b. Julie Jones
  - c. Andrea Braganza Jardini
  - d. Sue Ann Jones
  - e. Kayla McGregor
  - f. Shannon Mihalacki
  - g. Bob Perkins
  - h. Jack McMillin
  - i. Kevin O’Neill
  - j. Susan Oliver-Stough
  - k. Linda Sherman

12. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.
13. **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