

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
November 6, 2025-6:00 PM
Robert McKeveny Board/Training Room

Deborah Corsner, Anthony Ferrara, Cara Lajewski, Matthew Lando, Denise Lorenzetti, Joseph McNamara, Michael Mirras, Erica Sinicropi, Heather Zellers and Kyah Lajewski, Student BOE member

BOE Absent

None

Others present

Dr. Michelle Reed, James Bruni, Jodie Verkey, Kevin Rhinehart, Kevin Korzeniewski, Gerald Macaluso, Robert McKeveny, Ted Novak, Jared Federman, Jesse Federman, Anna Luisi Ellis, Jennifer Brown, James Mirras, Noah Butler, Emily Brown, and Jameson Olschewske

Michael Mirras called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum of the Board of Education was present; the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approval of Agenda

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addendums as listed.

Add under X. Consent Agenda

3. 2025-2026 Winter Coaching

Employee	Sport/Position	Stipend
Tony Ryrko	Varsity Girls Basketball -PAID Assistant	\$2,000.00
Ashley Leederman	Varsity Girls Basketball -Non-Paid Assistant	n/a
Mike Miller	Varsity Girls Basketball -Non-Paid Assistant	n/a
Nick Sciotti	JV Girls Basketball -Non-Paid Assistant	n/a
McKenzie Barber	7 th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	\$2,234.11
Deanna Connelly	Varsity Bowling	\$3,465.00
Kyle Bower	Varsity Bowling Non-Paid Assistant -	n/a

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Approve or Amend

Board Minutes

October 23, 2025

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes dated October 23, 2025.

Deborah Corsner made the motion, seconded by Matthew Lando.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Treasurer's Reports

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the following Treasurer Reports as listed:

July 2025

August 2025

September 2025

Joseph McNamara made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Extra-Curricular Treasurer's Report

None at this time

Recognitions, Celebrations and Presentations

MA Students- MA Fall Play "The Festival of Ten"

Anna Luisi-Ellis was present with three of her MA Drama Students who were present to perform a small skit. Noah Butler, Emily Brown and Jameson Olschewske. The MA play is this weekend and it is called Play "The Festival of Ten" which is ten one act plays in one night. The fall play will be directed by Anna Luisi-Ellis with the help of Assistant Director, James Mirras.

Seneca Falls Education Foundation Update

Robert McKeveny reported that the Seneca Falls Education Foundation is honored to be the recipient of a \$250,000 donation to the foundation to establish the "Learning Beyond the Classroom Walls Donor Advised Fund". The gift's objective is to promote learning beyond the classroom walls to create and facilitate education and cultural activities outside the classroom for middle school and high school students in the Seneca Falls Central School District. To accomplish this, the annual interest generated from the gift's principal-which should remain intact-can be used to subsidize pretexting or new educational and cultural opportunities and financially assist students who cannot participate because of the economic situation.

The intended activity should expose students to knowledge of the work beyond the classroom, whether it is art, music, technology, history or nature. It does not include recreational activities such as sporting contests, amusement parks or Senior Trips.

The Seneca Falls Education Foundation will be the custodian and fiduciary of the "Learning Beyond the Classroom Walls" fund.

A school district employee, preferably a person with intimate knowledge of the district's curriculum, should be chosen to promote, nurture and oversee the fund's mission in the schools and communicate with the foundation as to expenditures from the fund. It is the foundations' hope and intent that a broad range of activities and students receive financial support.

The gift is not intended to replace fund raising by students. Students requiring financial assistance should demonstrate their interest in the intended activity by participating in fund raising.

The foundation agrees to provide a report at the end of the school year showing how much money from the fund was allocated.

Ted Novak reported that the Education Foundation is doing well financially. The total funds stand at \$1.3 million dollars (64% is in the Rochester Community Foundation; 25% are stand-alone awards in the Generation Bank; and 11% is interest. The foundation started with roughly \$750,000 and the fund has increased well. The Education Foundation Board would then need to decide what to do with extra funds.

Gerald Macaluso reported that the Education Foundation Board takes their roles as fiduciary of the monies very seriously. There was a number of discussions, and in order to do their due diligence, Director's & Officers (D&O) insurance for the Education Foundation's Board of Directors was taken out (\$2 million-dollar policy).

Robert McKeveny also presented a \$2300 check to the Board of Education for the Frank Knight library. The Mertz Fund provided the check. The Mertz Fund is monies strictly for the Frank Knight library.

SFMS Report

Kevin Rhinehart reported on the following:

Goal #1- Based on I-Ready reading scores, SF Middle School will increase the number of students reading in grades 6-8 to 75%.

- Students complete the iReady diagnostic 3X. Department/team minutes reflect conversations about data. Students are assigned to Reading Support
- Grade-level discussions at grade-level meetings. Students who are not meeting grade-level benchmarks will be screened for support. Students who are not meeting grade-level benchmarks will be screened for support. Students meeting support criteria will receive the intervention. Students assigned to Reading Support. Action Steps aligned to Strategic Plan (Data-Informed Decision Making) and the District's DCIP plan (Priority #3)

Goal #2- Improve social/emotional health and well-being of students by decreasing negative behaviors as measured by a 20% reduction of referrals in the following categories: insubordination, disruption of education/disruptive behavior, disrespect to staff members, and fighting.

- Social awareness lessons are developed to promote an understanding of how disruptive behaviors impact others and the classroom. There were meetings after surveys in October and will have meeting in January to create interventions for students showing to be at-risk on survey
- Continued focus on Tier 1 PBIS framework with lessons targeted toward students' needs
- Use Panorama social/emotional survey data to identify tier 2/3 interventions
- Action Steps aligned to Strategic Plan (Engaged & Empowered Lifelong Learners and the District's DCIP plan (Priority #2)
- Additional action steps are to be determined after the School Improvement Team meets in August

Goal #3- The chronic absenteeism rate for SFMS will decrease for all students (10 or more absences) 15% or less

Communicate with all parents in September of those who were chronically absent last year

Faculty meeting discussions to review ideas/suggestions to improve attendance rate.

Communicate with families regarding attendance concerns through various modes (calls, letters, email, parent square, home visits).

- Communicate with all parents in September of those who were chronically absent last year
- Additional action steps to be determined after the School Improvement Team meets in August
- MTSS Meeting notes
- Copies of letters to families
- Building notes for communication with families

Intervention Plans

- Attendance information shared with families during Parent/Teacher conferences
- Staff meetings to discuss root causes for individual cases.
- Monthly meetings with the mental health team to review cases.
- Implement attendance intervention plans and monitor during monthly mental health team meetings.
- Promote/celebrate positive attendance trends by sending attendance certificates home to recognize students with positive attendance patterns (this includes improving attendance patterns)
- Monitor attendance at MTSS meetings

Provide PD on best instructional practices.

- Action Steps aligned to the Strategic Plan (Engaged & Empowered Lifelong Learners & School/Community Connections) and the District's DCIP plan (Priority #1 & #2)

Celebrations:

Power of Peace—program implemented at the MS

Grade 8 - 9 - Transition program

Kevin Korzeniewski reported on the following:

Cross Country

- All students who participated had a great season, continuously beating their previous times. Great improvements were made by all the runners who competed in league meets on Saturday, November 1. Modified numbers (4) are still a concern.
- Varsity Sectional Meet is November 8th at Letchworth State Park.

Golf

- Varsity team finished second in the FL West (overall record was 11-5).
- The team will play in Team Sectionals from May 22- June 1st, and seeding will be released in May.
1st Team All-Stars- Harrison Wirth
2nd Team All-Stars- Brandt Schweitz
3rd Team All-Starr- Josh Hutchins

Football

- The football team finished the season 4-4 in the Wayne Finger Lakes Independent League.
- The team culture and climate remained very positive.
- The league was such a success that the Section will be going back to regional league schedules for all. This means all teams will be eligible for sectionals in 2026.
- The championship game will be returning to Bracht Field on Friday, November 7th, at 7:00 pm for the 3rd straight year.
- WFL All League: Meeting not until week of 11/20

Boys' Soccer

- Varsity Boys finished their FL East season with an overall record of 13-3-1 and secured an FL East championship.
- Peter Doell was named FL East Coach of the Year.
- The team lost 1-0 in the semi-finals to LeRoy/Cal-Mum.
- Elijah Doell set the single-season goal record with 34 goals, which led all of Section V.
- 1st Team All-League
Elijah Doell(Finger Lakes East Player of the year), Isaac Jang, Alex Kaminski, Trace Parish
- 2nd Team All-League
Noah Butler, Ethan Olmstead, Brody Tanner
- Honorable Mention
Long Cao, Aiden Lopez
- Section V All-Tourney Team
Long Cao, Brody Tanner
- Finger Lakes Exceptional Senior All-Stars
Isaac Jang, Alex Kaminski, Trace Parish, Brody Tanner

Girls' Soccer

- Varsity Team finished 4th in the FL East with an overall record of 10-9.
- The girls lost in the Sectional Semi-Final game in Penn Yan to Haverling High School.
- 1st Team All-League
Kyah Lajewski and Peyton Verkey
- 2nd Team All-League
Danielle McDermott
- Honorable Mention
Reese Markel and Haley Young
- Section V Class B2 All-Tournament Team
- Exceptional Senior Game
Kyah Lajewski, Peyton Verkey, and Haley Young

Tennis

Won the Finger Lakes West Championship.

- Over 10 girls participate on the team.
- Calliette Sawtell finished 3rd overall in singles sectional play, qualifying for a spot in state qualifiers.
- The team finished 12-5 overall.
- Lost in the semi-final round to champion HAC.
- FL West 1st Team All-League
1st Singles: Calliette Sawtelle
2nd Singles: Georgia Beach
2nd Doubles: Sera Lux/Joey Mclean

Volleyball

- Finished with an overall record of 7-13 in the FL West
- Team was seeded #6 in the Class C1 tournament.
- The girls lost in the Sectional
- 1st Team All-League:
Hannah O'Brien
- 2nd Team All-League:
Gabby Higby and Mercedes Santana
- Honorable Mention:

Ryleigh Ryrko

- Exceptional Seniors:

Maddy Brown, Gabby Higby, Hannah O'Brien, and Sienna Love

Athletes of the Month sponsored by Mark's Pizzeria:

September: Peyton Verkey (Soccer) and Trace Parish (Soccer)

October: Calliette Sawtelle (Tennis) and Jeremiah Furman (Football)

Board of Education Workshop-Goal Setting

Dr. Reed facilitated the workshop. The Board was divided into three groups. Each group was to list what the Board of Education does well (what strengths can the Board build upon). The Board members were then tasked with listing what challenges they face as a Board (opportunities for growth).
Dr. Reed will compile the answers. The Board will solidify their goals at the November 20, 2025 BOE meeting.

Public Comment

The Seneca Falls Board of Education welcomes public comment. Speakers may comment on matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than three (3) minutes. Public comments will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated. In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored.

Persons addressing the Board of Education during public comment should not expect to engage in discussion with the Board. The Board will not permit any comments involving specific individual personnel or students.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be referred to the Superintendent. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

Committee Reports
None at this time

Information

Warrants 10/01/2025-10/31/2025

Warrant A (27)	\$ 51,737.12
Warrant A (28)	\$ 21,689.21
Warrant C (12)	\$ 9,549.33
Warrant C (13)	\$ 6,774.75
Warrant F (7)	\$ 19,000.00
Warrant H (16)	\$ 75,210.00
Warrant H (17)	\$ 764,885.75

Student Board Member

Kyah Lajewski reported the following:

- The next peer meeting is November 18th. Time management and how to avoid conflicts are the topics to be discussed.
- The Costa Rica trip is Nov. 21. Kyah will ask fellow students if they would like to come to a Board meeting and present on the trip.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jodie Verkey reported on the following:

- The Music Department is requesting an additional course-"Music Theatre 2". The recommended course will be presented at the Nov. 20th BOE meeting.
- Kimberly Stevers, Career Coordinator, is getting established in the district.
- Literacy (LTRS): K-5 release time, the teachers are planning ahead and reviewing data. The students are rising to the occasion; vocabulary development is strong. The transition into the 3rd module will happen this month.
- Thanked the Board for funding the two Teacher Ambassador positions. It's a great investment from within. Students interested in the teaching field could possibly come back to the district to work one day.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Reed reported on the following:

- The Frank Knight Veteran's Assembly is Monday, Nov. 10 at 9:45 am.
- There is no school on Tuesday, Nov. 11th.
- Attended the RSA Forum at WFL BOCES along with Heather Zeller, Joseph McNamara and Deborah Corsner.
- Met with Jeff Shipley and Casey Bouch from the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce. One of the Superintendent's goals is to collaborate with the community.

BOE President Report

Michael Mirras reminded the Board of the

BOE Member Comments

Heather Zellers stated that she highly recommended members to attend the meeting where Rick Timbs is speaking. He is very knowledgeable.
NYS representation from Senator Gillibrand and Senator Schumer's offices are interested in coming to the district. It is a point of pride that leadership is elevated outside of the district.

Denise Lorenzetti reported that the NYSSBA Annual Conference was a success.

November 8, 2025-Legislative Committee

November 10, 2025-Frank Knight Veteran’s Day Assembly (9:45-10:45 am)

November 11, 2025-Veteran’s Day-No school

November 14-16, 2025-MA Fall Play “The Festival of Ten”

November 20, 2025- BOE Meeting/MA Roundtable

November 25-General Membership Meeting-Presenter: Dr. Rick Timbs- “Sustainability-Issues and Suggestions”

November 26-28, 2025 -Thanksgiving Break

Consent Agenda

Resignations/Retirements/Terminations

None at this time

Appointments

Professional Appointment(s)

None at this time

2025-2026 Annual Appointment(s)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves following annual appointments for the 2025-2026 school year.

Position	Employee	Stipend
Teacher Ambassador	Justin Pawlak	\$500
Teacher Ambassador	Gwyneth Breeze-Hrycko	\$500

2025-2026 Winter Coaching

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education appoints the following coaches. (All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared).

Employee	Sport/Position	Stipend	Certification
Tony Ryrko	Varsity Girls Basketball -PAID Assistant	S2,000.00	
Ashley Leederman	Varsity Girls Basketball -Non-Paid Assistan	n/a	Physical Educ. Teacher
Mike Miller	Varsity Girls Basketball -Non-Paid Assistan	n/a	Physical Educ. Teacher
Nick Sciotti	JV Girls Basketball -Non-Paid Assistant	n/a	
McKenzie Barber	7 th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	\$	

Civil Service Appointments

None at this time.

Substitute Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following substitute appointment(s) (All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared).

Name: Patricia Ward

Position: Substitute Account Clerk

Effective date: 11/07/2025

Name: Thomas Davis

Position: Substitute Teacher

NYSED Certification: Uncertified

Effective date: 11/07/2025

CSE Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following CSE Minutes: 09/25/2025, 10/01/2025, 10/06/2025, 10/14/2025, 10/16/2025, 10/17/2025, 10/20/2025, 10/21/2025, 10/24/2025(1), 10/24/2025(2), 10/27/2025(1), 10/27/2025(2), 10/28/2025, 10/29/2025

Gifts and Donations

None at this time

Transportation Requests

None at this time

Overnight Conference Requests/Field Trips

None at this time

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.

Matthew Lando made the motion, seconded by Cara Lajewski.

Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Old Business

None at this time

New Business
Policy-1st Reading

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the first reading of the following policies:

- Policy 0000- Mission Statement and Vision
- Policy 5500- Student Records (Required)
- Regulation 5500- Student Records
- Policy 5550-Student Privacy (Required)
- Policy 8635-Information and Data Privacy Security, Breach and Notification (Required)
- Regulation 8635- Information and Data Privacy Security, Breach and Notification
- Regulation 1120-School District Records

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

Internal Auditing Report for April/May 2024-2025

Michael Mirras asked for a motion that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following corrective action plans as listed by the Internal Claims Auditor:

Discovered		Internal Claims Auditor Action	Corrective Action Plan
04/04/25 – Incorrect amt. on ck# 612037 for Lexia Learning. Check \$49,258.00/Invoice \$49,258.10	Contacted AP	Voided Check #612037, issued correct one	Mailed check after being audited.
04/18/25 – needed approval signature on Mileage claim for employee.	Contacted AP	Received signed copy of employee claim	Mailed check.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.
Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Motion carried

2026-2027 Budget Workshop-Reserve Funds

Capital Building Reserve Fund
Capital Building Reserve was Board approved to establish a building reserve for ten years, expiring in 2032 for \$11,500,000. The reserve will need to be renewed for future capital project. Current balance of Capital Building Reserve as of June 30, 2025 is \$6,391,032.
Capital Building Reserve Usage: The District has completed capital projects in 2005, 2010, 2017, 2023. The capital reserve would need about \$6.3M to \$7.3M to prepare for a potential \$37.5M to \$43M project referendum in 2028.

Capital Bus Reserve Fund
Jared Federman, Administrative Intern, presented the information on the Capital Bus Reserve Fund. Capital Bus Reserve Fund is used to purchase buses without having to Bond and eliminate interest payments on the loan. Current balance of Capital Bus Reserve as of June 30, 2025 is \$3,382,021.

2025 - 2026 School Year
Purchased 5 buses (2 x 66 passenger) (2 x 72 passenger) (1 x 60 passenger w/wheelchair) \$912,000
Bus Fleet - 24 Buses 19 active, 5 spares
38% Diesel
62%
Gas 75%
Warranty until 2032

2026 – 2027 School Year
Proposes purchasing 5 buses (5 x 66 passenger) \$942,505
Bus Fleet - 24 Buses 19 active, 5 spares
58% Diesel,
42% Gas
100% Warranty until 2032

2027 – 2028 school Year
NYS Zero-Emission Vehicle Mandate New buses must be zero-emission
By 2035, entire fleet zero-emission
District has been purposefully increasing fleet size now to avoid a future spike in costs later
Still need future capital planning for charging/hookups, housing, etc.
Current EV Bus cost is \$475,000
Recommended goal of ten (10) EV bus purchases in reserve (\$4,750,000)

Executive Session
None at this time

Adjourn

Michael Mirras asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 pm.

Cara Lajewski made the motion, seconded by Deborah Corsner.

Yes	9	No	0	Abstain	0	Motion carried
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