

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Kind of Meeting: Budget Workshop & Regular

Presiding Officer: Mr. Anthony Nicotera, President called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Mr. Stayton stated due to technological difficulty the agenda sequence will be altered.

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

Members Absent: No one.

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

Ex-officio Student Board Members Present: Madalyn Fredericks & Kaylyn Dreidel

Others Present: Staff and community members signed in.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

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

- ❖ Curriculum and Instruction will meet later this month or early April.
- ❖ Policy Committee was scheduled for today but is postponed until 5:30 p.m. March 24, 2025, prior to the next board meeting.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. Stayton gave a brief comment on:

- ❖ Staff Development Day Agenda for Friday, March 20, 2026.
- ❖ Board Candidate Petitions – Due **Monday, April 20, 2026** by 5pm to the Board Clerk. Anyone interested can stop in the Superintendent's office and pick up a packet.
- ❖ School Board Institute is offering a "How to Become a School Board of Education Candidate and What You Need to Know" zoom meeting for anyone interested in running as school board. It will run on March 17, 2026 at 6p.m. until 8p.m. Call Marie Goodman for instructions on registering.
- ❖ Board members of Sauquoit Valley to be determined to serve on the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Cooperative Board for a three (3) year term. Motion below.

- ❖ Chobani distribution is scheduled for March 20. He will be sending out a ParentSquare reminder.
- ❖ PTO Middle School March Madness – March 20

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: Mr. Nicotera stated that action 8.1 to 8.35 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. Stayton recognized those teachers and staff who are retiring. He noted in total there is over 85 years of service to Sauquoit Valley District. He wished them the best.

Mr. Stayton explained the reasoning for the motion of a title change for an administrator. This will reduce one administrative position as Charlie Cowen retires and will save in the budget as well.

Mr. Stayton also thanked those who have offered to be volunteer assistants in the athletic program. The school and players appreciate their help and support.

Resolution No. 51: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia,

- to appoint Devin Clive as a teacher on special assignment to serve as the District's Athletic Director for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.
- the approval to create a title position of Director of Instructional and Business Services.
- to accept the retirement of Keith Hatch, teacher, with regret, effective June 30, 2026.
- to appoint Amanda Hartnett to the position of teacher in the visual arts tenure area in the high school, for a probationary period of three (3) years to commence September 1, 2026, and to expire September 1, 2029.
- to accept the retirement of Patricia Monaco, teacher, with regret, effective June 30, 2026.
- to accept the retirement of Mary Stout, clerk, with regret, effective July 3, 2026.
- to accept the resignation of Brian Premo, laborer, effective February 20, 2026.
- 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 Philip DeAngelo as a laborer effective March 11, 2026 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on March 11, 2026 and to expire on September 9, 2026.
- to accept the resignation of Mary Bridge, Bus Driver/Cleaner effective February 27, 2026.
- 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 Mary Bridge as a bus driver effective March 2, 2026 for a probationary period of 26 weeks to commence on March 2, 2026 and to expire on August 24, 2026.

- to approve Vincent Elacqua as a per diem substitute teacher effective March 11, 2026.
- to accept the retirement of Laura Loomis, teacher aide, with regret, effective June 30, 2026.
- that Karri Tibbitts' probationary period as teacher-aide become permanent effective March 3, 2026 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- that Amanda Rogowski's probationary period as teacher-aide become permanent effective March 3, 2026 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- that Carolyn Stafford's probationary period as part-time teacher-aide become permanent effective March 3, 2026 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- that Stefanie Roberts' probationary period as part-time teacher-aide become permanent effective March 3, 2026 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- to approve Aubrey Bradbury as a per diem substitute teacher effective March 11, 2026.
- to appoint Olivia Nole-Malpezzi as a long-term substitute teacher in elementary, 1st grade, effective April 2, 2026, or sooner pending on delivery until June 26, 2026 unless teacher returns at an earlier date.
- to appoint Jeanice Gigliotti as a mentor teacher to Nole-Malpezzi for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year, unless the teacher returns.
- to accept the resignation of Kory Lewandrowski as coach of boys' varsity baseball effective March 6, 2026.
- that the following people be appointed to athletic coaching positions for the spring 2025-26 school year contingent upon student participation in each sport and pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.

NAME	SPORT
Allan Lallier	Varsity Boys' Baseball
Greg Cuthbertson	Volunteer Softball
Kory Lewandrowski	Volunteer Varsity Boys' Baseball
Kristy Houseman	Volunteer Modified Track Pending fingerprint clearance

- that the annual election and budget vote be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the high school auditorium lobby, and the public hearing regarding the budget be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library. Petitions nominating candidates for office the Board of Education must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2026.
- to appoint the following individuals as election officials for the annual election and budget vote on Tuesday, May 19, 2026. Rate of pay as noted.
 - Marilou Loomis, Coordinator \$275.00
 - Beverly Stefanik, Inspector \$250.00

- to appoint the following individuals as election officials for the annual election and budget vote on Tuesday, May 19, 2026. Rate of pay as noted.
 - Clarissa Hoyland \$105.00
 - Linda Monescalchi \$105.00
 - Joan Lallier \$105.00
 - Elizabeth Mathy \$105.00
- the Board Clerk has the authorization to choose alternate election officials in the event the approved election officials are unable to fulfill their duties at the annual election and budget vote on Tuesday, May 19, 2026.
- to appoint Lynn Weibel as chairperson of the annual election and budget vote on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 to report the results of the vote.
- to adopt the 185 day calendar for the 2026-27 school year as recommended by the Superintendents of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison counties.
- to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE SAUQUOIT VALLEY
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District desires to enter into a 4 year contract with the Madison-Oneida BOCES in order for the Regional Information Center to furnish certain services to the District pursuant to Education Law 1950(4)(jj), those services being: CoSer 602-7710 Administrative Computer Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District agrees to enter into a contract with the Madison-Oneida BOCES for the provision of said services to the District not to exceed \$308,747.25 plus related borrowing fees, plus Regional Information Center support during the term of this contract, finalized by the Superintendent, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education, for a period of 4 year(s); 2026-27, 2027-28, 2028-29, 2029-30.

- to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICPATION IN OSWEGO COUNTY BOCES'
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Purchasing Service is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services Area in New York (known as the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation [CiTi]), to bid jointly for water testing and sampling services, and

WHEREAS, Sauquoit Valley Central School (hereinafter the "Participant") is desirous of participating with Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi and other Boards of Cooperative Educational Services and public school districts in the joint bidding of the services mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

WHEREAS, The participant wishes to appoint the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi to advertise for bids, accept bids, tabulate bids and award bids on their behalf; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, The participant hereby appoints Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi to represent it in all matters relating above, and designates the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi designated newspaper(s) as the legal publication(s) for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The participant authorizes the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned services, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The participant agrees to (1) assume its equitable share of the costs of the Cooperative Bidding; (2) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts; (3) abide by the Award of the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi; (4) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

- **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education authorize a budget modification to increase account code A2110.201 in the amount of \$8,220.00 to allow for the purchase of a piano for the music department. Funds for this purchase are provided by an inter-fund transfer from the Scholarship Fund and were bequeathed to the district per the Last Will and Testament of Rosemary Facchini.
- that the minutes of the February 10, 2026 meeting be approved.
- that the Treasurer's Reports of Balances for February 28, 2026 be approved as presented.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor signed February 17, 2026 and March 2, 2026.
- 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 1401035, 1401928, 1401791, 1402094, 1401399, 1400621, 1400269, 1401950, 1401504, 103303, 141790, 1400315, 1400543, and 1400318.

CARRIED: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 52: made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia,

- to nominate Anthony Nicotera to serve on the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Cooperative Board for a three (3) year term to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term of Mr. Anthony Nicotera, Sauquoit Valley Central School District.

CARRIED: Ayes 6, Nays 0, Abstain 1 (Anthony Nicotera).

Budget Workshop: Charlie Cowen, Business Administrator, gave an update of the proposed 2026-2027 budget. After discussion with the administration on estimates of expenditures and revenues, the budget is at \$28,495,855. A budget gap of \$1,031,444 that

was presented at the February 10 BOE meeting was discussed and options to address the deficit were reviewed. Proposed reductions were presented if the district moved forward with reconfiguring of grade levels in 2026-27 and if the district were to not move forward with the reshaping. Each option presents some very difficult recommendations that include not replacing a number of staff who are retiring at the end of the 2025-26 school year. Nothing new has come out of the governor's office as to any increase to the Foundation Aid. The extra money allotted for the schools are toward the establishment of schools offering a Pre-Kindergarten program. At this time the recommendations include staying within the tax cap for 2026-27 which would be an increase to the levy of 2.94%. Mr. Cowen reviewed the requirements and scenarios if the district did ask the community to approve a budget that exceeded the tax cap and it was defeated at the budget vote. A number of questions and comments were received from the attendees and answers were given. Budget discussions will continue at the next BOE meeting on 2/24/26.

Public to be Heard: Public spoke freely during and at the end of the budget presentation.

Resolution No. 53: made by Cathy Pumilia, and seconded by Mike Makuszak,

- to approve the District to move forward with the proposal to assume ownership and direct operation of the Universal Pre-kindergarten program, effective July 1, 2026.

Carried: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

Resolution No. 54:

Before the resolution was brought to a motion each Board Member took a moment to voice their opinion on why and how they feel about the district restructuring.

Anthony Nicotera	No	Patricia Collins	No
Ronald Critelli	No	Cathy Pumilia	Yes
Mike Sacco	Yes	Lynn Weibel	No
Mike Makuszak	No		

- to approve the transition of students in grades 7 and 8 from the middle school to the high school, effective July 1, 2026, with the high school to be re-designated as the Sauquoit Valley Junior-Senior High School.

DECLINED: Ayes 2, Nays 5.

Miscellaneous Topics: There was none.

Resolution No. 55: motion made by Mr. Ronald Critelli, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Carried: Ayes 7, and Nays 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Goodman
Board Clerk