

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Sauquoit, NY 13456

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026

**Kind of Meeting:** Budget Workshop & Regular

**Presiding Officer:** Mr. Anthony Nicotera, President called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

**Members Present:** Anthony Nicotera, President; Lynn Weibel, Vice President; 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:** Madalyn Fredericks and Kaylyn Dreidel.

**Others Present:** Staff and community members signed in.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Presentation(s):** Charles Cowen, Business Administrator, gave an update of the proposed 2026-2027 budget process. Proposed revisions from the original budget, that had a gap of \$1,031,444, were presented to the Board. The proposed revisions would reduce the budget gap to \$182,265. Reductions, to this point, have included only the elimination of positions that are being vacated due to retirements. Additionally, proposed reductions to athletic, co-curricular and BOCES programs were reviewed. Options for the reconciliation of the remaining budget gap that were discussed included; the reduction of existing staff, an increase to the tax levy above the levy limit and, additional appropriation of fund balance. Administration stated that the staff under consideration for reduction might include a Music position as well as a PE position. Comments and discussions with the public present at the meeting were received as part of the presentation.

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

- The Curriculum and Instruction sub-committee will meet in the next few weeks.
- School Boards Institute (SBI) has invited everyone to the Herkimer BOCES program showcase on March 26.
- The Policy Committee met today, March 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

**Superintendent's Report: Mr. David Stayton**

- 5.1 Upcoming Tenure Appointment are listed on the agenda. The teachers' names will be in the News & Views and the board will vote on their approval at the May board meeting.

NAME	JOB TITLE	END DATE OF PROBATIONARY PERIOD	DATE RECOMMENDATION PRESENTED TO BOARD
Alyssa Orsino	English (MS)	4/30/2026	4/28/2026
Sara Reale	English as 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	8/31/2026	9/1/2026
Vanessa Dykstra	ENL (ES)	8/31/2026	9/1/2026
Savannah Malerba	Title I Math	8/31/2026	9/1/2026
Brittney Kuhn	PE (MS)	8/31/2026	9/1/2026
Victoria Miller	Social Worker	8/31/2026	9/1/2026
Jackie Corleto	Library Media	8/31/2026	9/1/2026

- 5.2 Reminder of the BOCES Annual meeting. Scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2026. Check in starts at 5pm in the Howard Mettelman Learning Center on Middle Settlement Road in New Hartford.
- 5.3 Blood Drive in the High School on March 25, 2026 with American Red Cross.
- 5.4 SBI Program Showcase at Herkimer BOCES on March 26, 2026.
- 5.5 The elementary school science fair will be held March 26 at 6:00 p.m.
- 5.6 Several SV students were inducted into the CTE honor society on March 24.

**Old Business:** There was none.

**New Business:** Mr. Nicotera stated that action 7.1 to 7.13 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.

Ms. Patricia Collins gave praise to Mrs. Purrington on her being such a wonderful teacher and she will be missed. Ms. Weibel chimed in with agreement. Mr. Stayton also committed that the school is losing a great teacher but we support Mrs. Purrington's decision and wish her the best.

Mr. Stayton also thanked the Foundation for their donation to the baseball organization to purchase a new batting cage. He then took a moment to also thank the Town of Paris for the collaboration working to keep up the safety and beauty with the district by helping clean the roadways around the school buildings.

**Resolution No. 56:** made by Mr. Mike Makuszak, and seconded by Mr. Ronald Critelli,

- to approve Tammy Purrington's retirement as a teacher effective June 30, 2026.
- to appoint Carolyn Manna as a per diem substitute teacher effective March 25, 2026.
- to approve Mason Jacobs as a long-term substitute teacher effective March 16, 2026 until May 4, 2026 or until teacher returns.
- to accept Carolyn Stafford's resignation as a teacher aide effective March 25, 2026.
- to approve Carolyn Stafford as a per diem substitute teacher aide effective March 26, 2026.
- to approve Jessica Ayari's probationary period as school nurse become permanent effective March 24, 2026 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period
- to approve Tiffany Riker's probationary period as teacher aide become permanent effective March 24, 2026 based upon her successful completion of her probationary period.
- 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
Billie Mays	Asst. Track
Nicole Viti	Modified Softball
Richard DePerno	Boys' JV Baseball Volunteer effective March 9, 2026
Kristen Willson	Volunteer Girls'/Boys' Modified Track effective March 9, 2026

- to approve the agreement between the Sauquoit Valley Central School District and the Town of Paris to provide annual cleaning and sweeping of the school parking lots and access roads.
- **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the donation received from the Sauquoit Valley Foundation in the amount of \$2,010.00 for the purpose of purchasing a batting cage for the boys' baseball program and that the Board also authorizes a budget modification to increase account code A2855.200- 00 in the amount of \$2,010.00 to fund the purchase of the equipment.
- that the minutes of the March 10, 2026 meeting be approved.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor signed March 18, 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 141660, 1401687, 1401997, 1401791, 1402036, 1401838, 1401888, 1401793, 1400774, 1400155, 1400437, 1400148, 1401289, 1400753, 1400646, 1401081, 1401082, 1401001, 1401251, 1400904, 1401895, 1402096, 1402095, 1401668, 1402012, 1402091, 1402092, and 1401888.

**Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.**

**Resolution No. 57:** made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Mrs. Cathy Pumilia,  
**Diesel School Bus Proposition**

PROPOSITION #\_\_

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The following notice shall be added to the notice of annual meeting and election:

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the following propositions will be submitted for voter approval at such time:

PROPOSITION # \_\_\_\_\_

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of school buses, including, without limitation, three (3) school buses at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$530,000, less trade-in value, if any, such cost, or so much

thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$530,000 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

2. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed for authorized indebtedness providing for payment of the acquisition of school buses at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of not to exceed \$530,000. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.

3. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to add the above to the notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

**Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.**

**Miscellaneous Topics:** There was none.

**Public to Be Heard:** Mr. Ryan Decker, Director of Music invited everyone to the "Ball In The House" musical event. A group of musicians from Boston will perform and our Sauquoit Valley students along with Whitesboro and Clinton students will be performing. It will be held in the high school auditorium on April 27. Tickets are \$10.

**Resolution No. 58:** made by Ms. Patricia Collins and seconded by Mr. Sacco that the Board of Education go into executive session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss personnel.

**Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.**

**Resolution No. 59:** made by Mr. Mike Sacco, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Collins that executive session was declared over at 8:14 p.m.

**Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.**

**Resolution No. 60:** made by Ms. Patricia Collins, and seconded by Mr. Mike Sacco that the meeting be adjourned. Anthony Nicotera, President called the meeting over at 8:15 p.m.

**Carried: Ayes 6, Nays 0.**

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Goodman  
Board Clerk