

SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
929 Lakeshore Drive
Leesport, PA 19533-8631

MINUTES

April 27, 2026

1.0 The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, Carol E. Weyandt, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1.2 ROLL CALL

Members Present: Franklin M. Ammarell, Joseph M. Brown, Linda R. Lash, Lauren J. Matthews, David E. Moll, Alfonso F. Rossi, Kelly J. Steinke, Carol E. Weyandt, Daniel B. Weyandt

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Recording Secretary: Azucena Macedo

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Patrick Winters, Matt Ammons, Dr. Jennifer Gabryluk, Jennifer Godtfring, Jason Hansen, Jenny Rexrode, Jackie Rivas, Louisa Trumbore, Kristin Wallace,

Solicitor: Alicia Luke, Esq., Fox Rothschild LLP

Board President Carol Weyandt began the meeting by informing the public that although the agenda was posted on April 26, 2026, due to a BoardDocs issue the agenda was not viewable for portions of the 24 hours leading up to the meeting. Therefore, the motion to amend the agenda by adopting and incorporating the version of the agenda available at the meeting was necessary to ensure compliance with the Sunshine Act.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the amendment to the agenda by approving in full the agenda as made available at the meeting.

Mrs. Weyandt opened the floor to the public for comment on the amendment of the agenda as presented.

There was no public comment on this item.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Lauren Matthews and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 2026, and the special meeting of April 6, 2026, as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

1.4 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Weyandt reported that the Board met in executive session on April 20, 2026, following the Committee meeting, for legal, personnel and safety matters.

1.5 RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

There are no student or staff recognitions this evening.

1.6 PRESENTATIONS

This time is reserved for presentations:

1. SVHS April Student Council Presentation

Presented by Kate Bass & David Johnson, SVHS Student Council Representatives

Students from Student Council discussed events happening in Schuylkill Valley including Goggle Works 2026 BCIU's 44th Annual Secondary Art Exhibition, Junior County Festival held on April 11th. They invited board members to the FFA annual banquet on Sunday May 17th beginning at 6:00 p.m. and noted the keynote speaker would be Alexis Butler, the Pennsylvania FFA State Treasurer. Tractor Day this year will be held on Thursday May 21. PYEA will be sponsoring the annual Power Puff Football Game on May 18. SV TSA Competed in the State Leadership Conference from April 15-18, 2026. Mrs. Alderfer's 9th grade German 1 students have a e-Partner Project with a school in Minden, Germany. Students connect with mutual friends via email. The JH Track met at Muhlenberg High School on April 24th for the 69th Annual Boys County Meet. 8th Grade Lincoln Miller broke the previous meet record for the discus by 42 feet with a throw of 197 feet six (6) inches. They discussed Mackenna Holben's book.

Mackenna Holben gave an overview of her children's book coauthored with author Holly Garner and illustrator Stephanie Miller titled "Super Pups: Georgie, the Brave Giraffe." It taught children how to handle big emotions through social-emotional learning. She also discussed her many first-hand experiences and insights while working on this book.

2. Northern Berks Regional Police Department – Chief of Police Introduction:

Chief Wayne Holben, Northern Berks Regional Police Department

Chief Holben formally introduced himself to the board. He noted the safety of the student was a top priority to the Northern Berks Regional Police Department. The officers have an outstanding working relationship with students and staff at Schuylkill Valley School District. He thanked the board for the partnership, support and the opportunity to speak at the board meeting.

3. YMCA Summer Program:

Mr. Ken Borkey, President & CEO, YMCA of Reading & Berks County

Mr. Borkey provided an overview of the existing three (3) year partnership for the school-age program at the elementary school and shared enrollment data, noting it is the fourth largest program in their system. He stated enrollment has begun for the 2026-27 school year and that families had expressed interest in a summer program. He presented a proposal for the YMCA to operate a summer camp at the elementary school for ten (10) weeks, running five (5) days per week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the optional before and after-care available. The program is intended to complement the district's existing four (4) week summer program by providing full day coverage, including wrap-around services when the district program concludes each day. Mr. Borkey noted the potential to pilot expanded meal services in collaboration with the district's Food Service Department. He also shared that the YMCA would provide a 3% revenue share to the district for use of the facility, excluding refunds, scholarships, state subsidies, and donations. The YMCA proposed launching the program as a pilot with 24 student slots with current interest from 15 families. If approved, communication would be sent to interested families followed by broader district outreach. The program is scheduled to run from June 8 through August 14, and the YMCA indicated flexibility in accommodating any scheduling conflicts by utilizing alternative locations if needed.

4. PDE DATA Summit

Presented by Jenny Rexrode, Director of Curriculum & Learning

Mrs. Rexrode thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the PDE Data Summit held March 30 through April 1. She noted this was her second year attending and highlighted a variety of sessions focused on administration leadership, curriculum and special education. She shared that the sessions emphasized the effective use of data for decision-making. She attended

presentations by the Souderton Area School District on literacy data and early assessment practices, as well as a PIMS session on critical reporting. Hamish Brewer served as a keynote speaker and participated in a Q&A session. She also attended multiple sessions on Pennsylvania Valued-Added Assessment System (PVAAS), including how the state measures student growth and its connection to Act 13 teacher evaluations.

2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

2.1 PRESIDENT – Carol E. Weyandt

Mrs. Weyandt reminded the public that the Board holds five (5) Committee Work Sessions during the first two (2) weeks of each month and that the meeting schedule is available on the district website. She added that reminders for these meetings would be posted on the district's Facebook page to improve communication. She clarified that the recent donation to the POP program was verified and that funds were received by the middle and high school productions through a fundraiser. As such, the donation did not require separate Board acceptance. Mrs. Weyandt also discussed the district's club account structure, noting there were 54 account codes. She emphasized that many student groups raise funds through donations and fundraisers, which support student activities and reflect strong community involvement from families, businesses, and the district. She noted that anyone seeking additional information regarding fundraising should bring the topic forward for discussion at a Policy and Personnel Committee Workshop meeting.

2.2 SECRETARY – Linda R. Lash

No report.

2.3 BERKS COUNTY I.U. BOARD – Linda R. Lash

Mrs. Lash reported that the Annie Sullivan Award winner was Peter Suppa, Building Trades Instructor at the Reading Muhlenberg Career and Technology Center. She thanked the Schuylkill Valley School District nominee Jennfier Vroman, gifted ed teacher and to the IU representative Amy Slovick. She discussed a Regional STEM Design Challenge that was held at UGI Training Center. There were 45 teams from 12 school systems in attendance. She attended the COLA Meeting, and the budget should be finalized at the beginning of July due to the election year. There was a Career Ready Berks Night that connected students with local employers in partnership with the Reading Royals. They recognized the retiring Chief Financial Officer, Mrs. Lucille Gallace, along with the retirement of Dan Richards, school professional, in the late summer. She attended a headstart meeting for an annual review of the Head Start Program at the IU. She added that Camp Connect would be held again this year. This was a bereavement camp for children ages six (6) to 16 who had experienced the death of someone close.

2.4 BERKS CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER – David E. Moll

Mr. Moll reported that enrollment procedures have been revised to better track students exiting program and to allow for backfilling of vacancies. Current enrollment exceeds 2,100 students. He noted that the center is pursuing several grants, including support for a precision machining program, and has been collaborating with NASA for the past two (2) years. He added that demand remains high, with a waitlist of approximately 300 to 400 students, and programs continue to fill quickly.

2.5 TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – Joseph M. Brown

Mr. Brown reported that the most recent reports received were sent out for distribution for review.

2.6 PA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION LIAISON – Linda R. Lash

Mrs. Lash shared that Leon Smith, a social studies teacher at Haverford High School was named the 2026 National Teacher of the Year. She reported that during a recent Liaison Zoom meeting, there was an emphasis on completing a Board self-assessment aligned with board principles. She also noted an upcoming AI workshop for school leaders and three (3) sessions offered through the PSBA Institute in partnership with Millersville University, with the first session beginning in August through September. Mrs. Lash reminded Board members to complete the

required State School Board training and noted that two (2) online courses would be available in May through the PSBA website.

2.7 SCHUYLKILL VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION – Linda R. Lash

Mrs. Lash reported that she received an update from Courtne Clay regarding the recent Red and Black Event, which raised nearly \$10,000.00 to support grant opportunities across the district. She noted that the event serves as the Foundation's primary fundraiser and continues to strengthen its mission. She shared that the Foundation is exploring a smaller fall fundraiser to expand its impact and support innovative educational opportunities. Several projects are already being funded, with additional grants anticipated next school year in increments of \$500.00 to support classroom innovation, student enrichment, and educational experiences. Mrs. Lash thanked all individuals and organizations involved in the donations, sponsorships, volunteering and overall support of the event. She also noted that businesses are encouraged to learn more about the EITC program and consider contributing directly to the Foundation for specific initiatives.

3.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Emmy Oveslati, Schuylkill Valley Student – Student perspective on the Athletic Fieldhouse
Jeff Golden, Leesport Borough – Fieldhouse/District Communication
Tania Salaneck, Leesport Borough – District Performance/Facility Concerns
Kelly Picclioni, Bern Township – Donations
Fred Harrison, Ontelaunee Township – Fieldhouse Project Communication/District Building Maintenance

4.0 BOARD

There were no items for Board approval.

4.1 SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Luke noted that the agenda includes an agreement with the Leesport Borough for the Ashley Way waterline installation. It included some provisions requested for Borough Council to include which they did, and included some drawings that Mr. Rossi assisted in reviewing.

5.0 SUPERINTENDENT

Monthly Reports

5.1 The following monthly reports have been provided to the Board:

- 5.1.1** Enrollment Year-To-Date
- 5.1.2** Principals' Dashboard Reports

5.2 Superintendent's Updates:

Dr. Winters shared district highlights from the past month, including Schuylkill Valley Night at the Reading Fightin Phils and attendance at the Annie Sullivan Award event. Fourth-grade students visited the Pennsylvania Capitol and met with State Representative Eric Weaknecht. At the elementary school, students participated in a reading initiative based on *Saving Winslow*, with SV alumni supporting the kickoff by bringing donkeys to the school. He recognized the 7th grade gifted team for earning the Outstanding Creativity Award and highlighted student participation in the Berks Junior County Music Festival and the BCIU's 44th Annual Secondary Art Exhibition. At the TSA State Leadership Conference, SV students placed the top three (3) for the first time in school history, earning two (2) second-place medals. At the Earth Day Berks Celebration, the high school Environmental Science Club hosted a booth focused on recycling and created a mural using recycled materials. FFA activities included participation in the Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow Veterinary Science Experience, the PA FFA State Legislative Conference, the Ontelaunee Grange Meeting, and the Fleetwood Bank Agricultural Dinner. Athletic recognitions included Adalynn Casper for her 100th strikeout, Lilah Gilmore for breaking the school long jump record (18 feet, 7

inches), and Grace Wysocki for recording her 100th assist in girls' lacrosse. Two (2) eighth-grade students, Lincoln Miller and Landon Gauby, placed first and second, respectively, at the Nike Indoor Nationals Shot Put competition. Dr. Winters noted that Pride of Schuylkill Valley nominations were open through May 31 for 2026 and shared information on summer opportunities available within the district.

6.0 POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Franklin M. Ammarell

The Policy, Personnel and Public Relations Committee held a work session Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the LeRoy Seip Meeting Room. The Committee met as a whole at 6:34 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2026, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next work session will be held on Tuesday May 5, 2026, and the Committee will meet as a whole on Monday May 18, 2026.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved That the Board of School Directors:

The Board consolidated items 6.1 through 6.3 for Board approval as presented.

- 6.1** Approves the following resignation due to retirement effective with the last day of the 2025-26 school year unless otherwise noted:

Mr. Matt Ammons, Director of Pupil Services (Effective June 1, 2026)

- 6.2** Accepts with best wishes for the future, the following resignations due to retirement effective with the last day of the 2025-26 school year unless otherwise noted:

Ms. Debra Bittner, Special Education Paraprofessional (Effective June 30, 2026)

Mr. Jeffrey Chillot, Mathematics Teacher

Mr. Mitchell Gaul, Science Teacher

Mrs. Patricia Lacey, Business Education Teacher (Effective August 21, 2026)

- 6.3** Accepts with regret and best wishes for the future the following resignation:

Amelia Herbert, Special Education Teacher at the Middle School (Effective June 5, 2026)

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Frank Ammarell to approve items 6.1 to 6.3 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board consolidated items 6.4.1 through 6.4.9 for Board approval as presented.

- 6.4** Approves the employment of the following (all elections are contingent upon receipt and district approval of all necessary pre-employment forms, certifications, state-mandated physical examinations, clearances, etc.):

6.4.1 Approves Ms. Brittany Cassidy, Part-Time Food Services Worker, at an hourly rate of \$18.87, effective April 13, 2026, to fill the vacancy created by her own resignation.

6.4.2 Approves Mr. Brandon VanSchaick, Science Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the Middle School, Bachelor's Step 1, \$56,303.00 (prorated for actual days worked), effective

February 9, 2026, through approximately May 6, 2026, to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mr. Mitchell Gaul.

- 6.4.3** Approves the following mentor for the 2025-26 school year at a stipend of \$1,175.00 for full-year mentors and \$587.50 for half-year mentors:

Nedra Koller for Laura Schaeffer: Half-Year

- 6.4.4** Approves the following substitute for the 2025-26 school year:

Shelby Hinsey – Guest Teacher
 Chloe Moyer – Guest Teacher
 Luke Rissinger – Guest Teacher

- 6.4.5** Approves the following extracurricular appointments for the 2026-27 school year. Approval is subject to the satisfactory receipt of all required clearances, background checks, and executed employment contracts:

Daniel Gassert: Varsity Football High School Assistant Coach - \$6,530.00

- 6.4.6** Approves the following co-curricular appointments for the 2025-26 school year:

Catalina Lassen: Art Activities Director (ES) - \$576.00
 Leanne Moyer: Middle School Set Design Painting - \$305.00

- 6.4.7** Approves the following Community Aquatics Staff for the 2025-26 school year:

| <u>Last Name</u> | <u>First Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Base Sal</u> | <u>Yrs Exp</u> | <u>Exp Bonus</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Huggard | Connor | Student Lifeguard | \$15.00 | 0 | \$0.00 | \$15.00 |

- 6.4.8** Approves the following game workers for the 2025-26 school year to be paid \$40.00 per event:

Kevin Avery
 Laura Schaeffer

- 6.4.9** Approves the following volunteers for the 2025-26 school year:

Megan Antonucci – ES
 Salvatore Azzolina – ES
 Kelly Eaton – ES
 Sarah Felts – ES/MS
 Shannon Heist-Sellers – ES/MS
 Tiffany Lopez – ES
 Arlenys Paulino – ES
 Joshua Santos – HS (Student Internship – Bern Township Police Department)
 Andrew Smyre – ES/MS

Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Kelly Steinke to approve items 6.4.1 through 6.4.9 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.5** Considered and acknowledged the following Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leaves of absence:

Jonathan Jenkins, Social Studies Teacher – Effective approximately April 24, 2026, through May 1, 2026

Kelly Zimmerman, 4th Grade Teacher – Effective March 30, 2026, through approximately May 12, 2026

Amanda Poland, Operations Secretary – effective March 9, 2026, Intermittently through March 9, 2027

Board Action: Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Kelly Steinke to acknowledge the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leaves of absence as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board consolidated items 6.6 through 6.9 for Board approval as presented.

- 6.6 Approves the renewal agreement with Frontline Education for the Absence & Time, Recruiting & Hiring, and Professional Learning Management products at a total cost of \$39,672.83 for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
- 6.7 Approves the Capital Blue Cross Benefit Renewal Plan for the Schuylkill Valley School District Senior Product for the period of 07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027, which reflects an increase of \$35.15 monthly premiums paid by seniors, and the Capital Blue Cross Benefit Renewal Plan for the change in monthly premiums paid by the district.
- 6.8 Approves the renewal agreement with Docusign for the eSignature Business Pro Edition System at a total cost of \$3,042.00 for the period of May 6, 2026, through May 5, 2027.
- 6.9 Approves the renewal of the agreement with the Berks County Intermediate Unit for the Guest Teacher Program for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, at a total cost to the district of \$900.00.

Board Action: Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Linda Lash to approve items 6.6 through 6.9 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board consolidated items 6.10 through 6.11 for Board approval as presented.

- 6.10 Approves the PSBA Membership Renewal for the 2026-27 school year in the amount of \$16,602.47.
- 6.11 Approves appointing Mrs. Linda Lash, current PSBA Liaison, as the PSBA Delegate Assembly Participant representing the school district on November 7, 2026.

Board Action: Moved by Kelly Steinke and seconded by Frank Ammarell to approve items 6.10 through 6.11, as presented.

Mrs. Lash reminded the board that the district can take another delegate to the Delegate Assembly in November at Cumberland Valley School. If anyone is interested, they should notify Acting Superintendent Dr. Winters.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board consolidated items 6.12 through 6.13 for Board approval as presented.

6.12 Approves Policy 620 Fund Balance for a 1st Reading.

6.13 Approves Policy 010 Board Hiring for a 1st Reading.

Board Action: Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Kelly Steinke to approve items 6.12 through 6.13 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Nays: Moll

Motion passed 8-1.

The Board consolidated items 6.14 through 6.15 for Board approval as presented.

6.14 Approves and adopts Policy 325 Dress & Grooming following its 1st and 2nd Readings.

6.15 Approves and adopts Policy 707 Use of Facilities following its 1st and 2nd Readings.

Board Action: Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve items 6.14 through 6.15 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

6.16 Approves the PSBA State Funding Resolution.

Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve the PSBA State Funding Resolution, as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

6.17 Consistent with the Public-School Code of 1949, the Board of Directors of the Schuylkill Valley School District hereby makes a motion to elect Dr. Denis Quirk Superintendent of Schools for a time period commencing on June 8, 2026, through June 30, 2029, and approving an employment contract with Dr. Quirk for the same time period herein.

Board Action: Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Linda Lash, consistent with the Public-Schools Code of 1949, the Board of Directors of the Schuylkill Valley School District hereby makes a motion to elect Dr. Denis Quirk Superintendent of Schools for a time period commencing on June 8, 2026, through June 30, 2029, and approving an employment contract with Dr. Quirk for the same time period herein.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 6.18 Approves the layoff of Michelle Viera effective June 30, 2026, for purposes of economics and reorganization of the Human Resources Department.

Board Action: Moved by Frank Ammarell and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve the layoff of Michelle Viera effective June 30, 2026, for purposes of economics and reorganization of the Human Resources Department.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Nays: Moll

Motion passed 8-1.

7.0 CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Linda R. Lash

The Curriculum and Technology Committee held a work session on Thursday April 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the LeRoy K. Seip Meeting Room. The Committee met as a whole at 6:55 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2026, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next work session will be held on Thursday May 7, 2026, and the Committee will meet as a whole on Monday, April 20, 2026.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

The Board consolidated items 7.1 through 7.5 for Board approval as presented.

- 7.1 Approves the quote from PowerSchool Group LLC in the amount of \$15,622.16 for the license and subscription of Schoology for the term of July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, as presented.
- 7.2 Approves the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Reading Area Community College (RACC) for Schuylkill Valley High School for the 2026-27 academic year at a cost of \$99.00 per credit, as presented.
- 7.3 Approves the ECA Educational Services Science Kit Rental Agreement for the 2026-27 school year.
- 7.4 Approves the three (3) year (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2029) Cybersecurity Software Agreement, as presented.
- 7.5 Approves the three (3) year (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2029) proposed subscription for web content filtering, as presented.

Moved by Joseph Brown and seconded by Kelly Steinke to approve items 7.1 through 7.5 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 7.6 Approves the participation in a free trial of the Wayfinder PreK-12 Program for potential implementation at the Middle School level to support the delivery of structured Advisory lessons.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve the participation in a free trial of the Wayfinder PreK-12 Program for potential implementation at the Middle School level to support the delivery of structured Advisory lessons.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

8.0 BUDGET AND FINANCE

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Joseph M. Brown

The Budget and Finance Committee held a work session on Tuesday April 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the LeRoy Seip Meeting Room. The Committee met as a whole at 7:16 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2026, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next work session will be held on Tuesday May 12, 2026, and the Committee will meet as a whole on Monday May 18, 2026.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 8.1** Approves Option B the proposed Final General Fund Budget in the amount of \$50,735,730.00 that includes a tax increase of 0.85 mills (3.06%) and adds \$242,000.00 to budgetary reserve to balance.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Frank Ammarell to approve the proposed Final General Fund Budget in the amount of \$50,735,730.00 that includes a tax increase of 0.85 mill (3.06%) and adds \$242,000.00 to budgetary reserve to balance.

Mr. Weyandt stated he supported a 1.00 mill increase, noting the district had operated with deficits for the past two (2) years and should address the issue proactively to avoid a third year of deficit spending. He expressed hope that building reserves now would reduce the need for future tax increases. He also noted that any increase would support operating costs and not the Fieldhouse Project.

Mr. Rossi stated he preferred a 0.85 increase, noting it would move the district in the right direction while allowing time to stabilize financially. He referenced anticipated retirements and the hiring of a new superintendent as potential factors in improving the district's financial position.

Mrs. Wallace provided updated estimates of the annual tax impact per household based on average assessed value of \$150,000.00:

- 0.75 mills: \$112.50 increase
- 0.85 mills: \$127.50 increase
- 1.00 mills: \$150.00 increase

Mr. Ammarell stated he considered both the 0.85 and 1.00 mill options. While acknowledging the benefit of a larger increase to potentially avoid future increases, he supported a 0.85 mill increase as a balanced approach. He noted the district has not raised taxes in 11 of the past 13 years and clarified that bond funds designated for the Fieldhouse Project were restricted to capital use.

Mr. Moll agreed that a tax increase was necessary but emphasized the importance of selecting an appropriate amount. He noted that recent financial challenges were driven by unexpected expenses and supported a 0.85 mill increase.

Mrs. Lash stated that a tax increase was necessary due to rising costs, particularly in special education and cyber tuition, as well as unreimbursed expenses related to the Schuylkill Valley Education Center (SVEC). She noted that prior budgets were maintained without increases, but current conditions required adjustment.

Mrs. Steinke emphasized concerns regarding SVEC funding and urged engagement with county officials regarding cost responsibilities. She supported a 0.85 mill increase and stressed the importance of maintaining adequate funding for student programs.

Yeas: Ammarell, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt,

Nays: Brown, D. Weyandt

Motion passed 7-2.

The Board consolidated items 8.2 through 8.3 for Board approval as presented.

- 8.2** Approves/ratifies the payment of bills in the following amounts from March 9, 2026, to April 28, 2026, as presented:

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| GENERAL FUND | \$3,936,573.35 |
| CAFETERIA FUND | \$115,736.76 |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND | \$40,685.33 |
| CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND | \$22,550.00 |
| MS/HS ACTIVITY FUND | \$5,033.68 |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$4,120,579.12 |

- 8.3** Approves the budgetary transfers, as presented.

Board Action: Moved by Joseph Brown and seconded by Kelly Steinke to approve items 8.2 through 8.3 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.4** Approves the Quadient Leasing USA, Inc. Lease Extension Agreement for the mail machine for a 12-month term effective April 27, 2026, through April 27, 2027, with no increase, as presented.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve the Quadient Leasing, USA, Inc. Lease Extension Agreement for the mail machine for a 12-month term effective April 27, 2026, through April 27, 2027, with no increase, as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 8.5** Approves the authorization of a contract through Gordian with S.J. Thomas Company, Inc. for the replacement of dishwashing machines at both the MS & HS buildings for a total cost of \$182,503.70, pending legal review and approval of the final contract terms.

Board Action: Moved by Joseph Brown and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the authorization of a contract through Gordian with S.J. Thomas Company, Inc. for the replacement of dishwashing machines at both the MS & HS buildings for a total cost of \$182,503.70, pending legal review and approval of the final contract terms.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 8.6 Approves the Proposal from Singer Equipment Co. to remove and replace dishwashing machines at both the MS & HS buildings for a total cost of \$155,585.14.

Board Action: Moved by Joseph Brown and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the Proposal from Singer Equipment Co. to remove and replace dishwashing machines at both the MS & HS buildings for a total cost of \$155,585.14.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

8.7 **OTHER (OLD/NEW BUSINESS)**

Mrs. Weyandt stated that the board would hold a Special Budget Meeting on June 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. She stated the budget would be available for public comment for the next 30 days and the official final vote would be done on June 8, 2026.

9.0 **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Alfonso F. Rossi

The Buildings and Grounds Committee held a work session on Tuesday April 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the LeRoy K. Seip Meeting Room. The Committee met as a whole at 8:18 p.m. on Monday April 20, 2026, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next work session will be held on Tuesday May 12, 2026, and the Committee will meet as a whole on Monday May 18, 2026.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

The Board consolidated items 9.1 through 9.2 for Board approval as presented.

- 9.1 Approves an agreement with the Borough of Leesport for Ashley Way waterline installation as presented.

- 9.2 Approves the quote from Tents & Events for 200 additional chairs for the 2026 Commencement Ceremony on Thursday June 4, 2026.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve items 9.1 through 9.2 as presented.

Dr. Winters reported that the committee had met bi-weekly to plan the 2026 graduation. He noted discussion regarding the field setup due to construction related to the Fieldhouse and potential sightline concerns if the stage remained in the previous year's location. He also noted that placing the stage at the opposite end would present challenges with sun exposure during the ceremony. The proposed setup placed the stage at the 50-yard line with the graduating class seated at an

angle on either side. Additional seating would extend along the front, and the configuration would still allow spectators to sit on both sides of the stadium.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board consolidated items 9.2 through 9.6 for Board approval, as presented.

- 9.3 Approves Full Landscaping & Tree Service LLC to install a scoreboard at the High School Varsity Softball Field at a cost of \$7,500.00, inclusive of materials and labor.
- 9.4 Approves the quote from A.G. Mauro Company in the amount of \$6,420.00 for parts and repairs to multiple doors in the High School and Middle School.
- 9.5 Approves the proposal from Weaver Commercial in the amount of \$8,995.00 for repairs of the Middle School roof identified through a recent inspection.
- 9.6 Approves the disposal of the refrigerator in the High School Athletic Training Room.

Board Action: Moved by Franklin Ammarell and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve items 9.2 to 9.5 as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 9.7 Approves the rental contract with 101 Mobility for the rental and installation of (2) 18' modular ramps affixed to the stage at the 2026 Commencement Ceremony in the amount of \$850.00.

Moved by Kelly Steinke and seconded by David Moll to approve the rental contract with 101 Mobility for the rental and installation of (2) 18' modular ramps affixed to the stage at the 2026 Commencement Ceremony in the amount of \$850.00.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.8 **THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:**

Approves and ratifies the quote from Berkshire Mechanical to replace the failed blower motors in the Middle School classrooms A211 and A219 for the amount of \$4,790.00.

Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Linda Lash to approve and ratify the quote from Berkshire Mechanical to replace the failed blower motors in the Middle School classrooms A211 and A219 for the amount of \$4,790.00.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE xx, 2025, BOARD MEETING:

- 9.9 Approves the Schlouch Incorporated General Construction Change Order 01 in the amount of \$2,624.00 for removal of the waterline as part of Phase I of the Fieldhouse Project.

Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the Schlouch Incorporated General Construction Change Order 01 in the amount of \$2,624.00 for removal of the waterline as part of Phase I of the Fieldhouse Project.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 9.10** Approves the Schlouch Incorporated Change Order 02 for a time extension as part of Phase I of the Fieldhouse Project.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by David Moll to approve the Schlouch Incorporated Change Order 02 for a time extension as part of Phase I of the Fieldhouse Project.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING:

- 9.11** Approves the Schipsi Electric LLC Electrical Construction Change Order 01 for a Time Extension as part of Phase I of the Fieldhouse Project.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by David Moll to approve the Schipsi Electrical LLC Electrical Construction Change Order 01 for a Time Extension as part of Phase I of the Fieldhouse Project.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

10.0 STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Kelly J. Steinke

The Student Services and Activities Committee held a work session on Monday April 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the LeRoy Seip Meeting Room. The Committee met as a whole at 8:34 p.m. on Monday April 20, 2026, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next work session will be held on Thursday May 14, 2026, and the Committee will meet as a whole on Monday May 18, 2026.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 10.1** Approves the SVHS Art Mural Project in the amount of \$1,200.00 funded by two awarded grants.

Board Action: Moved by Kelly Steinke and seconded by Lauren Matthews to approve the SVHS Art Mural Project in the amount of \$1,200.00 funded by two awarded grants.

Dr. Winters thanked the Board members and community partners involved in securing the grant. He recognized Mrs. Matthews for her involvement through the Schuylkill Valley Education Foundation, noting that a portion of the funding was provided through the Foundation. He also thanked Mr. Brown, his family, and the Fraternal Order of Police for their financial support.

Mrs. Lash inquired whether a protective coating would be applied to the mural to preserve it from the elements.

Dr. Winters stated he would look into this.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.2** Approves the YMCA Summer Program Agreement and Appendix C, as presented.

Board Action: Moved by Joe Brown and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the YMCA Summer Program Agreement and Appendix C, as presented.

Mrs. Weyandt opened the floor to the public for anyone who wished to speak on the YMCA Summer Program Agreement.

There was no public comment on this item.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.3** Approves authorizing the Acting Superintendent, Dr. Patrick Winters, to sign the 2026-27 School District Notice of Adoption to be submitted with the BCIU IDEA Grant Application.

Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Franklin Ammarell to approve authorizing Acting Superintendent, Dr. Patrick Winters, to sign the 2026-27 School District Notice of Adoption to be submitted with the BCIU IDEA Grant application.

Dr. Winters explained that the BCIU submits an annual special education grant, which includes pass-through funding distributed to member districts. As part of the process, districts must approve an adoption notice authorizing the IU to proceed with the grant. He noted that the item for approval authorizes Dr. Patrick Winters to execute the required Docusign document on behalf of Schuylkill Valley School District to allow the district's portion of the grant to be processed.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.4** Approves the International Trip to France for a Cuisine and Culture Career-Readiness Tour

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Kelly Steinke to approve the International Trip to France for a Cuisine and Culture Career-Readiness Tour, as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board consolidated items 10.5 through 10.7 for Board approval as presented.

- 10.5** Approves the contract with Arethusa Designs for audio systems for the Commencement Ceremonies for 2027, 2028, and 2029.

- 10.6** Approves the BCIU Berks County Safety and Security Consortium Services in the amount of \$6,500.00 for the 2026-27 school year.

- 10.7** Approves purchase of 500 Standard Response Protocol ID Badge Reminders as printed by the BCIU Print Service Center at a cost of \$275.79.

Board Action: Moved by Franklin Ammarell and seconded by Kelly Steinke to approve items 10.5 through 10.7, as presented.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.8 Approves the two (2) year Settlement Agreement for Student #3702 at AIM Academy.

Board Action: Moved by Daniel Weyandt and seconded by Lauren Matthews to approve the two (2) year Settlement Agreement for Student #3702 at AIM Academy.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.9 **THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2025, BOARD MEETING:**
Approves a resolution in support of House Bill (HB) 41 regarding boundary and non-boundary schools for PIAA interscholastic athletics.

Board Action: Moved by Franklin Ammarell and seconded by Daniel Weyandt to approve a resolution in support of HB 41 regarding boundary and non-boundary schools for PIAA interscholastic athletics.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.10 **THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE APRIL 20, 2025, BOARD MEETING:**
Approves the Field Trip Request Form for the Special Track & Field Invitational in Hamburg Area School District

Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the Filed Trip Request Form for the Special Track & Field Invitational in Hamburg Area School District.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.11 **OTHER (OLD/NEW BUSINESS)**
Mrs. Matthews thanked Mrs. Cammauf, Mr. Bagenstose, the high school admin team and the prom committee, for putting together a wonderful prom.

Dr. Winters on behalf of administration and the class advisors thanked the board for their contribution towards prom and allowing the event to take place at this venue.

- 11.0 **OTHER BUSINESS/GOOD OF THE ORDER**
Mr. Ammarell thanked everyone involved in the past weekend's track team's invitational track meet and noted it took a lot of individuals to make it a success and especially thanked the track coaches, their staff, the athletic and training department, the building administration, volunteers and the custodians for their efforts.

- 12.0 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**


13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Franklin Ammarell and seconded by Alfonso Rossi, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Ammarell, Brown, Lash, Matthews, Moll, Rossi, Steinke, C. Weyandt, D. Weyandt

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.


Linda R. Lash, Secretary
Board of School Directors

