Seneca Valley School District

SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

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

Minutes

August 3, 2026

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Eric DiTullio, President

   A. **Moment of Silence** – The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.

   B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Mr. DiTullio led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

   C. **Roll Call** - by Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary, showed the following members in attendance: Mr. Nick Brower, Mr. Eric DiTullio, Mr. Mark Gartner, Ms. Susan Harrison, Mr. Tim Hester, Mr. Mike Jacobs, Ms. Allyson Mazzoni, Mr. Savitt-Kraft and Ms. Kari Zimmer.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

   A. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Nine students from Haine Elementary and Middle School represented Seneca Valley at the KidWind World Championship from May 17-20 on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The students earned their spot by qualifying at the state competition held at Penn State University in March. At the World Championship, students competed in multiple events, including wind turbine or solar structure performance testing, formal design presentations, engineering instant challenges and the Quiz Bowl, which required both technical knowledge and collaborative problem-solving skills. The 2026 World KidWind Challenge brought together 125 teams representing 21 U.S. states, as well as Estonia, Taiwan and Thailand, creating an international community of young engineers committed to innovation.

   B. **Dates to Remember** – Mr. Ian Hunter announced the following dates to remember:

August	
August 6	Seneca Valley Foundation Gift of Hope Golf Classic, presented by Massaro Corporation – Cranberry Highlands Golf Course
August 10	PIAA Start of Fall Sports for Golf & Football
August 10	School Board Regular Session, 7 p.m. – SVIHS Auditorium
August 11	Summer Academy for SV Professional Staff – SHS Library
August 12 and 13	New Teacher Induction – Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School
August 13	SV Pie Fest – NexTier Stadium – Gates open at 5:30 p.m.
August 17	PIAA Start of Fall Sports (All Other Sports)
August 17	All-Staff Welcome Back Event
August 17-19	Teacher In-Service/Professional Development

August 20	First Day of School for the 2026-27 School Year
September 7	Labor Day – No School for Students and Staff
September 11	Patriot Day
September 11	Rosh Hashanah begins
September 11	Veteran Recognition – NexTier Stadium – 5:30 p.m.
September 12	SAT Testing – SHS – 7:30 a.m.
September 14	School Board Regular Session, 7 p.m. – SVIHS Auditorium

C. **Agency Reports**

1. Vo-Tech - Mr. Hester shared that the upcoming meeting will be on August 4.
2. I.U. IV - Mr. Eric DiTullio reported that they should be hiring a new Executive Director at the upcoming meeting.

D. **Legislative** - Mr. Eric DiTullio will provide an update at the next meeting.

E. **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. **ACTION AGENDA**

A. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

B. **Personnel** – Approved the following personnel items that were discussed in executive session held prior to the meeting:

1. **Resignations** – *Professional* – Emily Christ, *Classified* – Brandi Ruiz, Kati Becker, Loretta McCafferty, Kelly Bulvin, Deborah Olayer, *Supplemental* – Gabriella Harding

2. **Appointments** – *Professional* – Nicholas Palermo, Katurah Eckstein, Alain Kalin, Lauren Walsh, Katy Nelson, Elizabeth Lindey, Evan Kaltenbach, Alaina Kosinski, Matthew Wallace, Madison Cossin, Amanda Longello, Karen Hezlep, Allison Moniot, Laura Vinski, Carly Weaver, Taylor Grosso, Heidi Hadley, Debrah Evans, Colin Milne, Nathan Presutti, Katelyn Mustovich, Samantha Casilli, Madison Zewe, Dana Mathews, *Professional Substitutes* – Richard Abbott, Mary Anderson, Josephine Angel, Elizabeth Babcock, Denyse Bruni, Leslie Bullis, Jennifer Bunofsky, Michele Camilli, Emma Conrad, Jill Deutsch, Michelle Follett, Sharon Gallas, Ann Hahn, Taylor Healy, Karen Helmeci, Geralynn Hood-Holt, Lisa Karasack, Christi Karcher, Jennifer Keefer, Hailey Kochan, Elizabeth Krumm, Kaylin Latkovic, Shannon Lesack, Leisa Lewis, K.

Adele Marks, Susan Meyers, Jamie Meyers, Kaylie Mignanelli, John Nicotra, Kathryn Olson, Amy Parkinson, Rachel Petelin, Jenna Pierce, Jeanna Pournaras, Sophia Puricelli, Kara Reade, Angela Rebovich, Calynn Rosenbaum, Barbara Rosenbaum, Deborah Santilo, Maria Schley, Erin Scott, Jaclyn Shibata, Sonya Snow, Nancy St. Clair, Carla Stark, Joya Stebbins, Rachel Stephany, Megan Stover, Karli Szweda, Kaylyn Talton, Robert Taylor, Anissa Tekelenburg, Toni von Rintelen, Susan Weber, Douglas Williamson, Meghan Witwer, Dale Zacherl, Carly Renwick, Julietta Gill, *Classified – Classified Substitutes* – Connor Benson, Rhys Clements, Nicole Driscoll, Wyatt Schenck, Elizabeth Steele, Erica Yingling, *Supplementals* – Ben Cary, Elliott Pater, Aaron Parker, Aaron Parker, Tim Dubovi, Tim Dubovi, Jack Krug, Justin Burgh, Matt Martin, Gabe Miller, Josh McLean, Kevin Holman, Logan Burnsworth, Mason Baldwin, Laura Sauers, Rosa Salgado Sinclair, Alicia Scopelite, Steve Lodovico, Steve Lodovico, Hayley Gruber, Emma O'Connor, Ashley Paschl, Hannah Gonzales, Melissa Mitro, Bobbi Lyn Cooper, Tammie Wylie, Adelina DiTullio

3. **Leaves** – *Supervisor* – Scott Lowery, Scott Lowery, *Professionals* – Abigail Trithart, Jessica Rupolo, Samantha Stewart, Alaina Coon, Leah Kalan, *Classified* – Michelle Spatafore, Michelle Spatafore, Michelle Spatafore, Kelly Bommer

4. **Tenure** – Marissa Bitonti, Anyah Booker, Camryn Camp, Leah Carlin, Jennifer Curry, Jaynna DeJohn, Dr. Katherine Flach, Bria Giovanelli, Jennifer Guidice, Kevin Holman, Taylor Kockler, Carly Magnotta, Taylor Marsinetti, Kristen McClintock, Angela Reaves, Gianna Serignese, Abigail Trithart, Susan Werner, Dalashay Williams, Ari Zahavi

5. **Sabbatical** – Jamie Badaracco

6. **Retirement** – *Classified* – Robert Jacobs

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve resignations, appointments, leaves, tenure, sabbatical and retirement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative and Mr. DiTullio abstaining.

C. **Grant Disbursement** - Granted permission to apply for and disburse, if approved, The Public-School Facility Improvement Grant through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. This grant requires a 25% match from the District and approval of the resolution.

Ms. Mazzoni motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to approve the grant disbursement. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. **Work Session** – June 3, 2026
B. **Action Meeting** – June 10, 2026

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

6. **GENERAL FUND BILLS**
2025 – 2026 Grand Total: $7,200,556.70
2026 – 2027 Grand Total: $5,555,065.76

7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS**
2025 – 2026 Grand Total: $2,053,324.20
2026 - 2027 Grand Total: $2,471,202.43

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

A. **Food Service Department Incentive** - Approve the incentive program for Food Service Department employees for the 2026-27 school year, which provides free reimbursable school meals for the children of eligible employees as a measure to attract new employees and retain current staff.

9. **INSTRUCTION**

A. **Curing with Care Club** - Approve the establishment of the Senior High School Curing with Care Club at no cost to the District and under the supervision of volunteer sponsor Mr. David Lowe, effective for 2026-27 school year.

B. **Conferences** – Approve conference requests.

C. **Grant Disbursements** – Grant permission to apply for and to disburse the following grants:
1. The STEM Adventures: Learning Beyond the Classroom Grant in the amount of $30,000, funded by the Arconic Foundation and requested by Dr. Palano. Funds will be used to support the staffing and materials necessary to sustain the after-school robotics program and the materials needed to support ongoing outdoor learning experiences.
2. The School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Grant administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, COPS Office, in the amount of $230,000. Funds will be used to further support district safety initiatives. If awarded, this grant requires a 25% match from the District in the amount of $57,500.

D. **School Assist Consulting, LLC Proposal** - Approve the School Assist Consulting, LLC proposal to provide professional development leadership coaching during the 2026-27 school year.

E. **Marching Band Uniform Disposal** – Approve the disposal of old, unusable marching band uniforms.

F. **Consultant Agreement** - Approve the consultant agreement with Latitia Lattanzio-Paros to provide psychological evaluation services for special education evaluations, gifted evaluations, and requested consultation as needed for the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.

G. **School Health Services Agreement** - Approve the agreement for provision of nursing services to North Catholic students for the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.

H. **Amergis Educational Staffing** - Approve the education master service agreement with Amergis Educational Staffing to provide specialty and related services for students for the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.

I. **The School at McGuire Memorial** - Approve the educational services agreement with The Schools at McGuire Memorial to provide special educational programming for students during the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.

J. **Watson Institute** - Approve the service agreement with The Watson Institute to provide training and consultation as needed for the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.

K. **Crossroads Speech and Hearing, Inc.** - Approve the agreement with Crossroads to provide occupational therapy and physical therapy for students during the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school year. Pending solicitor review.

L. **Settlement Agreement** - Approve a special education agreement with one student.

M. **JED Technical Assistance Program** - Approve the agreement for JED Technical Assistance Program for implementation beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and concluding in the 2028-2029 school year. Pending solicitor review.

N. **Unified Champion Schools Memorandum of Understanding** - Approve the MOU between the Special Olympics Pennsylvania and Rowan Elementary School, Ehrman Crest Elementary School, Ehrman Crest Middle School, Haine Middle School, and Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School for Unified Champion Schools Indoor Bocce and Inclusive Young Athletes program for the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.

Mr. Brower asked Ms. Lewis for clarification on the difference between the Curing with Care Club and Hope Squad. Ms. Lewis shared that the Curing with Care Club is a club run by students that is centered around cancer, helping bring awareness, empathy and compassion to affected by cancer. Hope Squad is centered around mental health.

Mr. DiTullio asked Dr. Doggrell for additional information about the Indoor Bocce and Inclusive Young Athletes programs. Dr. Doggrell shared that the Unified Champion School MOU is already established at the secondary level grades 7-12. Last year, the Inclusive Young Athletes program for students in grades K–2, and the bocce program for students in grades 3–4, were piloted at Haine Elementary School.

The pilot programs were very successful, and the hope is to expand these opportunities across the District in all elementary schools. The goal is to become a K–12 Unified Champion District, which would be an outstanding achievement. This designation would provide students in all District schools with access to the Unified Champion Programs, creating a comprehensive continuum of inclusive sports experiences for students from kindergarten through graduation.

Mr. DiTullio expressed his excitement and appreciation for the work that has gone into developing these programs. He asked how many districts in the area currently offer Unified programming across grades K–12. Dr. Doggrell shared that there are very few districts in Pennsylvania offering a K–12 model, and Seneca Valley would be among the first to provide this level of programming.

She also noted that Special Olympics organization is very proud of the District's progress toward this accomplishment.

Dr. Doggrell shared her excitement about the possibility of hosting an intra-district bocce competition in the future, with additional details to follow.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

A. **Budget Transfers** – Approve budget transfers.

B. **Delinquent Real Estate Taxes** - Approve the resolution regarding the sale of delinquent real estate taxes for fiscal year 2027.

C. **Settlement Agreement & Release** - Approve the settlement agreement and mutual release of claims between Seneca Valley School District & Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School in the amount of $5,316.97.

D. **Settlement Agreement & Release** - Approve settlement agreement and mutual release of claims between Seneca Valley School District & Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School in the amount of $5,715.92.

E. **Bank Account Authorization** - Authorize administration to open a money market account at Peoples Security Bank for the General Fund as a liquid investment.

F. **B & T Building Services, Inc.** – Approve the renewal of the cleaning agreement with B & T Building Services, Inc.

G. **Central Maintenance & Service** – Approve the renewal of the cleaning agreement with Central Maintenance & Service.

11. **PERSONNEL**

12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the June 8, 2026, public agenda:

a. Mike Trauman
b. Nancy Duerring
c. Eric Goucher
d. Dicky Nassar
e. Julie Jones
f. Jesus and Hannah Origel
g. Raven Edinger

Mr. DiTullio asked for an update from Ms. Bobak regarding the application and hiring process that took place this summer. Ms. Bobak shared that the process began in March and over 1,600 applications were received for the open professional positions. There were 30 total full-time professional positions available, with 24 were appointed earlier this meeting. The plan is to bring the additional recommendations to an upcoming meeting. Additionally, two out of seven long-term substitute positions were also appointed earlier this meeting with the additional ones in process for the next meeting.

There is a three-step process for hiring:

1. Step one - screening interview
2. Step two - is a building level interview with building level administrators that lasts up to an hour long.
3. Step three – consists of building level administrators as well as assistant superintendents, deputy superintendent, directors, etc., lasting up to an hour.

A total of 308 screening interviews were conducted for the seven open elementary positions. Additionally, 64 screening interviews were conducted for the social studies position, 71 for the elementary special education positions, 45 for the secondary special education positions and 20 for the speech position. The totals reflect only the screening interviews identified and do not include screening interviews for other open professional positions or any additional rounds of interviews.

There were 79 applicants interviewed at the final step for just the open elementary positions. Ms. Bobak shared that this process is a team effort from everyone in administration and the Human Resource Department in bringing forth the best and most qualified candidates.

Mr. DiTullio thanked Ms. Bobak and the team. He recognized and welcomed those in attendance that were hired earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Bobak also welcomed each of them and shared that Teacher Induction will be on August 12 and 13.

Ms. Zimmer shared that it is sad when veteran teachers retire because we lose so much knowledge and experience, but when she looked through the caliber of the people that were hired, she is very impressed and excited. As she read through the letters of recommendation, she found that there are some very stellar teachers joining the SV family.

13. **ADJOURNMENT** With nothing further to come before the board, Mr. Savitt-Kraft motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. Eric DiTullio, President

Julia Benson

Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary