

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION SESSION

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

Minutes

August 10, 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 and Ms. Kari Zimmer. Mr. Savitt-Kraft was absent.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

- A. **Student/Staff Recognition** – Seneca Valley School District's Hope Squad and the family of fourth-grade student Roman Senft were recognized as the 2026 Cranberry CUP Inspirational Families during the tournament's Opening Ceremony on Saturday, Aug. 1, at Graham Park in Cranberry Township. Roman, a fourth-grade student at Seneca Valley, was diagnosed with brain cancer in April and is receiving treatment at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. The donation to the Senft family will help ease the financial burden of travel and medical expenses, while the \$11,000 donation to the Hope Squad will support education and training for students in grades 7-12 throughout the 2026-27 school year. The Seneca Valley Hope Squad is a peer-to-peer suicide prevention program that empowers students to recognize warning signs, promote mental wellness and connect classmates with trusted adults and available resources.
- B. **Dates to Remember** – Mr. Ian Hunter announced the following dates to remember:

August	
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

Mr. DiTullio shared that the annual SVF Golf Classic was on August 6 and raised over \$78,000, an increase of about \$3,000 from last year.

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. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Public comment was heard by Mr. Doug Boyd on the topic of IHS and PAC monthly report.

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: \$2,194,409.58
2026 - 2027 Grand Total: \$2,655,196.26

Mr. Brower motioned, seconded by Ms. Zimmer, to approve the minutes, treasurer’s report, general fund bills and construction fund bills. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

8. **ADMINISTRATION**

- A. **Food Service Department Incentive** - Approved 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.
- B. **School Bus Drivers** - Approved the bus driver list for the 2026-27 school year as provided by transportation vendor of First Student Inc.

Ms. Zimmer asked Dr. Babusci for an update on where the District is this year compared to last year at this time. Dr. Babusci shared that approximately 140 drivers are needed to cover each of the daily routes. We will be starting the school year relying on approximately 25 out of state drivers and the reasoning is that there are drivers that are in different stages of their hiring process. Some have applied, are in training, or approved non-CDL but are working towards their CDL license. First Student has increased their rate this year which has been successful in recruiting additional drivers resulting in us being in a much better position to start the school year.

Mr. Hester motioned, seconded by Ms. Zimmer, to approve the Food Service Department Incentive and School Bus Drivers. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. INSTRUCTION

- A. **Curing with Care Club** - Approved 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** – Approved conference requests.
- C. **Grant Disbursements** – Granted 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** - Approved the School Assist Consulting, LLC proposal to provide professional development leadership coaching during the 2026-27 school year.
- E. **Marching Band Uniform Disposal** – Approved the disposal of old, unusable marching band uniforms.
- F. **Consultant Agreement** - Approved 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** - Approved the agreement for provision of nursing services to North Catholic students for the 2026-2027 school year. Pending solicitor review.
- H. **Amergis Educational Staffing** - Approved 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** - Approved 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** - Approved 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.** - Approved 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** - Approved a special education agreement with one student.
- M. **JED Technical Assistance Program** - Approved 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** - Approved 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.
- O. **Pittsburgh Ballet House** – Approved the SV Academy of Choice Instructional Services Agreement with Pittsburgh Ballet House for the 2026-27 school year. Pending solicitor review.

Ms. Zimmer asked Dr. Doggrell for more information regarding the JED Technical Assistance Program. Dr. Doggrell explained that JED is a non-profit organization that helps support student mental health and suicide prevention. JED facilitates a needs assessment, resource alignment and sustainability plan for the components of mental health. Dr. Doggrell completed an application to be a part of one of the national schools involved in the JED initiative and our District was selected to be one of 20 nationwide to be partnered with JED. Over the course of the next three years, the District will work with JED to complete a five-step process that includes assessment, strategic planning, financial planning, sustainability planning and a final assessment. Over the course of the next three years, an in-depth review of our systems and supports will be conducted. Hopefully, since we are not starting from scratch, this will really be about refining, reviewing and enhancing the support that the students need. Dr. Doggrell also mentioned that this has been fully funded and is at no cost to the District.

Ms. Zimmer also asked if JED will be for students in K-12 or 7-12. Dr. Doggrell shared that this will be a comprehensive K-12 scope and articulation to ensure that we have continuity of offerings, supports and services for all the students in K-12.

Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Ms. Zimmer, to approve Curing with Care Club, conferences, grant disbursements, School Assist Consulting, LLC Proposal, March Band Uniform Disposal, consultant agreement, School Health Services Agreement, Amergis Educational Staffing, The School at McGuire Memorial, Watson Institute, Crossroads Speech and Hearing, Inc., settlement

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agreement, JED Technical Assistance Program, Unified Bocce Schools Memorandum of Understanding and Pittsburgh Ballet House. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

- A. **Budget Transfers** – Approved budget transfers.
- B. **Delinquent Real Estate Taxes** - Approved the resolution regarding the sale of delinquent real estate taxes for fiscal year 2027.
- C. **Settlement Agreement & Release** - Approved 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** - Approved 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** - Authorized 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.** – Approved the renewal of the cleaning agreement with B & T Building Services, Inc.
- G. **Central Maintenance & Service** – Approved the renewal of the cleaning agreement with Central Maintenance & Service.

Mr. Jacobs motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to approve budget transfers, delinquent real estate taxes, settlement agreement & release, settlement agreement & release, bank account authorization, B & T Building Services, Inc., Central Maintenance & Service. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

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

- A. **Resignations** – *Classified* – Michele Kelly-Vitanza, Melissa Preininger, Danielle Magill
- B. **Appointments** – *Professionals* – Rachel Stone, Sarah Russell, Heather Laurent, *Professional Substitutes* – Avery Arena, Victoria Baldwin Veit, Lindsay Bowlin, Gracie Burgan, Anthony Chiappetta, Gerald DiPaola, Erin Ference, Francis Garland, Bethany Geary, Sara Hazen, Jennifer Hinchman, Patricia Jandrokovic, Julia Johnson, Susan Leake, Brittaney Lucas, Debroah Malley, Mikayla Miller, Fayth Petruzzelli, Souad Richani, Jennifer Richart, Amanda Snyder, Elizabeth Steele, Marybeth Strauch, Michelle Varlotta, Alden May, *Classified* – *Classified Substitutes* – Deanna Kolarosky, Ashwini Salunkhe, Christina Utter, Ava Vice-Griffiths, Richard Zimmer, *Internship* – Jeremy Womer, *Practicum* – Dr. Susan Himic, *Supplemental* – Ryan Balog, Gunner Murphy, Mark Franitti, Dimitri Martini, Jess Kavanaugh, Dyana Boosel, David Reichard, Dean Walker, Mike Stebbins, Michael Stebbins, Jeremiah Friday, Jeremiah Friday, George Williams, Aaron Shafer, Jason Woolslare, Laura Wise, Veronica

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Mortier, Dana Hadley, Renae Brown, Ed Senior, Victor Giannotta, Rebecca Mutschler, Shay Houser, Shay Houser, Rachel McGourty, Brienna Nassan, Caroline Combemale, Blake Walter, Madelyn Cornman, Diane Koegler, Caroline Combemale, Zeke Stroupe, Carrie Ehrenberger, Christina Hollowood, Heather Sibeto, Chris Titus, Joe Logsdon, Veronica Mortier, Sarah Deeds, Steve Fortunato, Amy Seelbaugh, Marissa Bitonti, Haley Landolina, Angie Kotula, Sara Snyder, Dean Leventopoulos, Kyle Masson, Rebecca Bosco, Bob Matchett, Jess Kavanagh, Amber Hugus, Chessa Crum, Megan Bonistalli, Caroline Combemale, Laura Lugarich, Michael Flood, Jen Exler, Shay Houser, Torrie LaMantia, Kyle Masson, Amber Hugus, Amber Hugus, Jess Kavanagh, Megan Bonistalli, Kelly Weston, Ashley Porter, Jaden Miller, Jennifer Durst, Karissa Lambert, Michael Flood, Dean Walker, Kurt McNaught, Oliver Wiehe, Dean Leventopoulos, LaVarr Stephens-Howling, Staci Hughes, Rebecca Mutschler, Steve Fortunato, Zach Cene, Kara Andres, Amber Hugus, Sarah Miller, Renae Brown, Lisa Ridenour, Tim Cammisa, Bobbi Lynn Cooper, Eric Cupp, Shelly Droz, Jen Exler, Hannah Gonzales, John Hickman, Mackenzie Kacsur, Maria Landolina, Billie Jo Peffer, Robin Presco, Wanda Reynolds, Scott Rupik, Ashley Salman

- C. **Leaves – Professional** – Hannah Gonzales, Carolyn Cox
- D. **SV Academy of Choice Contracted Services – Pittsburgh Ballet House** – Lindsay Peters, Julia Lotz, Emily McGoey, Robyn Naugle, *Artists in Residence* – Ashley Babick, William Brewer, Perry Gatch, Mila Shadel, Brian Stahurski, Mark Jackovic
- E. **Memorandum of Understanding** – Approved MOU with Seneca Valley Education Association.

Ms. Zimmer motioned, seconded by Mr. Brower, to approve resignations, appointments, leaves, SV Academy of Choice Contracted Services and Memorandum of Understanding. The motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

- 12. **LETTERS SENT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD** – The following constituents communicated through the SVSD school board email account after posting the August 3, 2026, public agenda:
 - a. Tim Gascoigne
 - b. Julie Jones
- 13. **ADJOURNMENT** With nothing further to come before the board, Ms. Harrison motioned, seconded by Mr. Hester, to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 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



Ms. Julia Benson, School Board Secretary