

# Seneca Valley School District



## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium

### MINUTES

March 14, 2005

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mr. Berkebile, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.
  - A. **Moment of Silence** - The meeting was opened with a moment of silence.
  - B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Mr. Berkebile led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
  - C. **Roll Call** - Roll call by Joan Rinaman, Board Secretary, showed the following Board members present: Mr. Paul Adametz, Mr. Dean Berkebile, Mr. Kenneth Brennan, Mr. Anthony Evans, Mr. Robert Hill, Jr., Mr. William Paul, Mrs. Ann Reale, Mr. Anthony Storti, and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson.

Others present included Dr. Donald Tylinski, Superintendent; Dr. Denise Chappell, Assistant Superintendent Secondary; Dr. Mary Ann Marchi, Assistant Superintendent Elementary; Mr. Lynn Stewart, Administrative Assistant for Financial Affairs; Mr. Ronald Lamneck, Supervisor of Buildings, Grounds, and Security; Mrs. Linda Andreassi, Public Relations Coordinator; Mr. Jerome Straughter, Human Resources Coordinator; Mr. Greg Caprara, Athletic Director; Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; Mr. Robert Aumer, Parker Hunter; Mr. Chris Brewer, Tucker Armstrong; visitors on enclosed list; and press representatives.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Randy Anno asked what would be included in the turf bid--guarantee, equipment needed, service, longevity, upkeep, replacement and disposal of old turf. When bids are received, he asked the Board to review the value of both turf and a natural surface with proper upkeep.
- B. Properly maintained natural turf would be the best choice in Donald Ord's opinion. The current surface has not performed because it was not maintained properly.
- C. Pat Schillero read her comments, which are provided in the communications section, regarding the citizenship award program at Evans City.
- D. Cindy Starr stated she does not know how to explain the citizenship award to her kindergartener when she does not receive it.
- E. Citing an article in the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette* on the Moon School District's turf, Bruce Powell said the turf surface would not have the same problems as a natural surface.
- F. Representing Seneca Valley Junior Football, Jeff Fyock stated a turf surface would allow all students a chance to play first string on the field. There would also be a chance to host WPIAL other championship events.

- G. Jeff Elser's son completed his senior project on artificial surfaces. He feels the Board needs to move forward with bidding to see if there are any obstacles and solve any problems. The Board also needs to find creative solutions to problems.
  - H. Chris Meurer stated that it all comes down to infrastructure. Additions to the buildings improve the infrastructure for the number of students. Need to do the same thing for the athletes in the district in providing more playing surfaces for more students.
  - I. Allison Steele handed out cost analysis for the turf which is included in communications.
3. **STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT** - Shannon Stauffer reported that student council to host an overnight volleyball tournament this Friday to benefit the American Cancer Society.
  4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - The following minutes provided in the backup materials:
    - A. **Work Session** - February 7, 2005
    - B. **Regular Meeting** - February 14, 2005
    - C. **Curriculum Committee** - February 7, 2005
  5. **OPERATION REPORTS**
    - A. **Financial Reports** - The following reports provided in the backup materials:
      1. Senior High Activities/Athletic Fund Reports
      2. Intermediate High Activities Report
      3. Middle School Activities Report
      4. Tax Collection Report
      5. Earned Income Tax Report
      6. Cafeteria Report
    - B. **Agency Reports**
      1. *Vo-Tech* - Mr. Paul had nothing new to report.
      2. *I. U. IV* - Mr. Hill encouraged Board members to attend the IU convention in April.
      3. *Clarence Brown* - Next meeting scheduled for Thursday. Information provided in the backup materials.
  6. **PAYMENT OF BILLS** - The General Fund bills provided in the backup total \$4,711,399.07.
  7. **CONSTRUCTION FUND** - The Construction Fund bills provided in the backup total \$58,384.00.
  8. **ACTIVITIES FUND BILLS** - The Activities Fund bills provided in the agenda total \$30,128.41.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Storti, to approve the minutes, financial reports, and payment of bills as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

9. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

- A. **Superintendent** - Dr. Donald Tylinski
  1. *Student/Staff Recognition*

- a. Senior High students Danny Iachini, Tim Knapton, and Mary Ann Bell took first place in the Computer Science Bowl at the University of Pittsburgh. Tim was in attendance and Dr. Tylinski presented him with a certificate from the Board. He thanked the Board for allowing him to participate in this activity.
- b. Sixty-four students from the Middle School Lions team raised \$2,318.25 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital by participating in a math-a-thon.
- c. Intermediate High School students participated in 2005 Pennsylvania statewide High School Mock Trial Competition.
- d. The following students achieved first place awards at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Region 9 competition at Slippery Rock University on February 26: Ryan Hestin, Adam Dobson, Elisha Fleig, Maggie Gignac, Janelle Hestin, Nicole Lusty, Whitney Mayer, Zach Piso, Samantha Bell, and Heather Endler. Brandon Edwards and Kristie Hilliard received second place awards. Maggie Gignac, Whitney Mayer, and Zach Piso received special awards for perfect scores in all judged categories.
- e. Alex Goldsberry placed first, Nathan Boros placed fifth, Kevin Hinerman placed sixth and Andrew Berkebile placed eighth in Midwestern Region MATHCOUNTS competition at Grove City College on February 12.
- f. Teachers Anne Koch and Mary Wildman will be recognized at the Teacher Excellence Center’s Celebration of Teaching Program on April 28. Mrs. Koch and Mrs. Wildman were presented with a certificate from the Board.
- g. Dr. Tylinski applauded the directors and students for the outstanding musical *Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat*.

2. ***Dates to Remember***

<b>March 14</b>	PSBA Act 72 Presentation, SVIHS auditorium, 6:00 p.m.
<b>March 25-30</b>	No School
<b>March 31-April 1</b>	Make-up Days for March 1 & 2 Cancellations
<b>April 27</b>	IU Convention, Grove City
<b>May 13</b>	Make-up Day for February 28

3. ***Enrollment Update*** - The latest numbers provided in the backup materials.
4. ***IU Convention*** - The convention to be held April 27 at Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m., followed by the convention at 8:00 p.m. Call Joan Rinaman to make reservations.
5. ***Act 72 Deadline*** - Mr. Brennan would like the Board to join other Butler County districts in legal action to extend deadline date to opt into Act 72 gambling revenues. Mr. Hill and Mr. Paul expressed support in this action. Mr. Evans questioned if there would be any cost. At this time, Mr. Stewart not aware of the actual cost but sure there would be something involved.

Mr. Brennan motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to join the suit to extend the Act 72 deadline up to \$10,000 limit on our fees, with participation to be split between all participants. Motion carried with those present voting in the affirmative except Messrs. Evans and Adametz voting no.

B. **Assistant Superintendents’ Reports**

1. ***Secondary***

- a. Principal Reports - Principals' reports included in the backup materials.
- b. Grant Programs
  - Title IV - Drug Free Schools
  - County Drug and Alcohol
- c. Scholarship - Ruth Varner Otto scholarship applications now available in guidance office along with other local scholarship applications
- d. Program of Studies - The Middle School Program of Studies was handed out.

2. ***Elementary***

- a. Principal Reports - Principals' reports provided in the backup materials.
- b. Federal Programs Report
  - Title I - Improving America's Schools - Remedial Reading
  - Title IIA - Improving Teacher Quality
  - Title IID - Educational Technology
  - Title III - Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students
  - Title V - Innovative Education

**C. Business/Finances**

- 1. ***Budget Report*** - The December budget report provided in the backup materials.

10. **ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Administration**

- 1. ***Conferences*** - Approve conferences.
- 2. ***Student Adjudications*** - Approve the following student adjudications:
  - a. 2004-05-15
  - b. 2004-05-16
  - c. 2004-05-17
  - d. 2004-05-18
  - e. 2004-05-19
- 3. ***2005-06 Calendar*** - Approve 2005-06 School Calendar (option 2).
- 4. ***SRO Conference*** - Approve expenditure for SRO (Officer Rob Berg) to attend Child Interview Techniques in Harrisburg on March 29, 30, and 31. The cost of \$602 will be split between the district and Jackson Township.
- 5. ***I.U. Representative*** - Nominate Mr. Hill for consideration as Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV Board member and recommend his election at the annual convention on April 27, 2005.

Mr. Evans motioned, seconded by Mr. Paul, to approve the conferences, student adjudications, calendar, SRO conference, and I.U. nomination as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

6. ***Board Policy*** - Approve first reading of revised Board Policy #201, Admission of Students, effective for the 2006-07 school year.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mrs. Reale, to approve the revised policy as provided in the backup.

Mr. Widdowson left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Adametz motioned, seconded by Mr. Storti, to amend the motion to include school code information regarding exemption to vaccinations due to religious beliefs. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Widdowson absent.

The original motion failed to carry with Mr. Hill, Mrs. Reale, Mr. Paul, and Mr. Berkebile voting in the affirmative; Mr. Evans, Mr. Storti, Mr. Adametz, and Mr. Brennan voting no; and Mr. Widdowson absent.

Mr. Paul left the meeting at this time.

B. **Instruction**

1. ***Secondary***

- a. Approve new textbook adoptions for Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry contingent on approval of 2005-06 budget. (See February 2005 Curriculum Minutes.)
- b. Approve the following student participation:
  - Academic Games Tri-Bowl Tournament at Geneva College on March 10 at a cost of \$220.
  - PMEA All-State Band Festival in Hershey on April 20-23 at a cost of \$1,960.
  - Regional chorus at Norwin High School on March 17-19 at a cost of \$195.00.

2. ***Elementary***

- a. Approve new textbook adoption for general music for K-6 contingent on approval of 2005-06 budget. (See February 2005 Curriculum Minutes.)
- b. Approve participation in the Midwestern Intermediate Unit's consolidated Federal Programs Cooperative in the 2005-06 school year at a fee of 2.4% of the district entitlements for Title I, Title A, Title IID, and Title V.
- c. Approve the Title I documents for the Seneca Valley School District and St. Stephens' Academy to comply with No Child Left Behind guidelines.

Mrs. Reale motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to approve the mathematics textbook adoptions, student activities, music textbooks, I.U. cooperative, and Title I documents as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Paul and Mr. Widdowson absent.

Mr. Paul returned to the meeting.

**C. Business/Finances**

**1. *Buildings and Grounds***

- a. Senior High Design Services - Approve contract with Eckles Architects for design services for movable furnishings at a cost of 10% of the responsible low bid total.

Mr. Paul motioned, seconded by Mr. Storti, to approve the design contract with Eckles. The cost of 10% includes all design services, bidding, and installation oversight. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative except Mr. Brennan voting no, and Mr. Widdowson absent.

- b. Turf Bids - Authorize administration to seek bids to install a synthetic turf surface on the playing field of Raider Stadium.

Mr. Paul motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to authorize seeking bids for turf surface as listed above. It was stipulated that the bidding process should not exceed \$4,000 plus advertising costs. Mr. Caprara provided some options for funding the turf installation. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Widdowson absent.

- c. Senior High Project/Building Costs - Adopt the maximum project costs for the Senior High School addition and alterations project as \$8,541,524 and the Act 34 maximum building construction costs at \$7,118,671.

Mr. Paul motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to approve maximum project costs and maximum building costs as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative except Mr. Adametz voting no, and Mr. Widdowson absent.

2. ***Budget Transfers*** - Approve budget transfers.
3. ***Vo-Tech Budget*** - Approve Butler County Area Vocational Technical School budget in the amount of \$3,574,675 with Seneca Valley's portion of \$317,380.
4. ***I.U. Budget*** - Approve Midwestern Intermediate Unit budget in the amount of \$3,986,367 with Seneca Valley's portion \$124,111.
5. ***Supply Bids*** - Award 2005-06 bids for General, Art, and Industrial Technology supplies.
6. ***Tax Refunds*** - Approve real estate tax refunds.
7. ***COBRA Administrator*** - Appoint PSBA School Claims Service to administer the District's COBRA claims.
8. ***Athletic Supplies and Equipment*** - Authorize administration to bid fall and winter athletic supplies and equipment.

Mr. Paul motioned, seconded by Mr. Storti, to approve the transfers, Vo-Tech and I.U. budgets, supply bids, tax refunds, COBRA administrator, and athletic supplies and equipment bids as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Widdowson absent.

9. ***Bond Refinancing*** - Authorize bond refinance. Mr. Aumer and Mr. Brewer presented the current bond climate. The market rates were favorable, but the rates have fallen. To avoid this time lag in the future, they asked if the Board would authorize the administration to act on their behalf.

Mrs. Reale motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to authorize the administration to proceed with bond refinance when a savings of at least \$600,000 can be realized. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Widdowson absent.

**D. Personnel** (Details provided in agenda.)

1. ***Resignations*** - Professional Retirement (with regrets and recognition of their many years of service) - Karen Barbati, Dr. Denise Chappell, Joyce Cuffia, Alice Green, Carol Korn, Margaret Mauro, David Ruffaner, Dr. Robert Thomas; Supplemental - Randy Huey, Vicki Jennings, Randy Huey; Classified - Lisa Kelly, Kendra Betroti.
2. ***Appointments*** - Professional - Lisa Campbell, day-to-day substitutes; Supplemental - Alicia MacMillan, Amanda Boyd, Heather Perella; Classified - Susan Berlin, Edith Holman, Susan McCoy, day-to-day substitutes; Classified Transfers - Randolph Pfeifer.
3. ***Leaves*** - Ashley Watkiss, Lisa O'Brien, Debra Hill.
4. ***Information***

Rescinding Intent To Retire - William Allen, Deborah Casaday, Linda Clark, Rose Dancu, John Mooney, Carolyn Snyder.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mrs. Reale, to approve the resignations, appointments, and leaves as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

**11. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Mark Salopek
- B. Lisa Davidson
- C. Mary Jane Salopek
- D. Logan Kallop
- E. Dean Zipf
- F. Jeff Elser
- G. Cathy Cortazzo
- H. George and Barbara Pacinda
- I. Stephen Kerr
- J. Anita Harvey
- K. Monica Vakiner
- L. Harmony/Zelienople Ministerium

12. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the Board, Mr. Paul motioned, seconded by Mrs. Reale, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative, with Mr. Widdowson absent. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Mr. Dean Berkebile, Board President

Mrs. Joan Rinaman, Board Secretary