

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

Seneca Valley Senior High School Auditorium

MINUTES

March 3, 2008

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mr. Berkebile, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:14 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 in attendance: Mr. Dean Berkebile, Mr. Kenneth Brennan, Dr. Sally Hanley, Mr. Robert J. Hill, Jr., Mr. Thomas Roth, Mr. Joseph Scalamogna, and Mr. Anthony Storti.

Others present included Dr. Donald Tylinski, Superintendent; Dr. Matthew McKinley, Assistant Superintendent Secondary; Mr. Jeffrey Fuller, Assistant Superintendent Elementary; Ms. Tracy Vitale, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources and Pupil Services; Mr. Lynn Stewart, Business Manager; Mrs. Linda Andreassi, Communications Director; Mr. Ronald Lamneck, Buildings/Grounds/Security Director; Mr. Greg Caprara, Athletic Director; Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; Dr. Joseph Cunningham, Director of the Butler County Area Vocational Technical School; visitors on enclosed list; and press representatives.

2. **STUDENT COUNCIL** - Intermediate High School student council president Alycia Acquaviva and secretary treasurer Meghan Wilson updated the Board on their activities.

3. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

A. **Student/Staff Recognition**

1. Four Seneca Valley Intermediate High School students performed well at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science regional competition at Slippery Rock University on February 23. Sophomores Jessica Glas and Alexandra Fortunato, and freshmen D'Ann Schneider and Adam Lovette, each came home with a first place award and will move on to the state competition. In addition, Jessica and Adam received the Special Award for best in their respective categories, and Jessica received a rare perfect score.
2. The Seneca Valley Senior High School Mock Trial Team was named the winner of the Butler County Bar Association's 2008 Mock Trial Competition. Team members are Adam Byko, Melanie Francis, Alexandra Frund, Kristen Guckes, and Whitney Mayer.

3. Sophomore Freesia Fassbach won first place in photography at The Pittsburgh Technical Institute's Visions and Voices Art Show. In addition, senior Allison Fisher won second place in ceramics.
 4. Eight Seneca Valley musicians were selected by audition at Region I Band to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators All-State Band Festival and Conference being held in Hershey from April 16-19. They are Katie Acton, Greg Ference, Kevin Jackson, Sarah Knapp, Niki Kukeiza, Chris Nutter, Alexis Shea, and Becca Wilson.
 5. The following sixth grade Evans City Middle School students received awards at the 19th Annual Very Special Arts Exhibit at Slippery Rock University and sponsored through Intermediate Unit: Frank Boring, Cade Corey, Trisha Donaldson, Jessie Miller, Sydney Older, and Nicole Wisniewski. Jessie Miller's project is featured on the cover of the flyer for the exhibit.
 6. Mr. James Lucot, a senior high school social studies teacher, has been named a 2007-08 Teacher Excellence Center Honoree. Seven winners will be announced during the Celebration of Teaching banquet on Thursday, April 24.
 7. Senior Maggie Gignac was named Cranberry Rotary's Service Above Self Community Servant, senior Lauren Balmert was named Student of the Year, and Assistant Superintendent Jeff Fuller was named the Service Above Self Educator for 2008.
- B. **Legislative** - Mr. Brennan spoke on the proposed graduation standards and encouraged the Board and audience to contact their legislators.
- C. **Strategic Plan** - Seneca Valley is a phase 2 district and is currently working on the six-year plan for 2007-2013. A steering committee is being put together.
- D. **Enrollment Update** - The latest numbers are provided in the backup materials.
- E. **Principal Reports** - The building reports are provided in the backup materials.
- F. **Grant Programs** - There was nothing new to report on grant programs.
- G. **Athletic Report** - Mr. Caprara reviewed the sports program over the last several years.
- H. **Budget Report** - The December report is provided in the backup materials.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Approve the following Board minutes:
- A. **Work Session** - February 4, 2008
 - B. **Regular Meeting** - February 11, 2008
5. **OPERATION REPORTS**
- A. **Treasurer's Report** - The December treasurer's report provided in the backup materials.
 - B. **Financial Reports** - The following reports are provided in the backup materials:
 1. Senior High School Activities
 2. Intermediate High Activities
 3. Middle School Activities
 4. Food Service
 5. Athletics
 6. Real Estate Tax

C. **Agency Reports**

1. ***Vo-Tech*** - The next meeting is scheduled for March 6. Dr. Joseph Cunningham reviewed the Vocational Technical School budget and asked for the Board's support.
 2. ***I. U. IV*** - Mr. Hill reminded the Board of the IU convention on April 23. Reservations can be made through Mrs. Rinaman. He also asked the Board members to support a resolution to appoint him to the IU Board.
 3. ***Clarence Brown*** - Dr. Hanley had nothing new to report.
6. **PAYMENT OF BILLS** - Approve the General Fund bills provided in the backup materials which total \$3,183,006.72.
7. **ACTIVITIES FUND BILLS** - Approve the Activities Fund bills provided in the agenda which total \$12,806.99.
8. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**
- A. **Conferences** - Approve conferences in backup.
 - B. **Board Policies** - Approve the following revised Board policies:
 1. #226 - Searches, adoption.
 2. #906 - Public Complaints, second reading.
 - C. **SRO Training** - Approve expenditure for training school resource officer, John Marn. The \$1,227.20 cost is to be split with Jackson Township.
9. **INSTRUCTION ACTION**
- A. **Summer Band** - Approve elementary summer band program (self-sustaining).
 - B. **Elementary Summer School** - Approve elementary summer school program (ABG funded).
 - C. **Secondary Summer School** - Approve secondary summer school program (self-sustaining).
 - D. **Workforce Investment Board Grant** - Authorize the submission and disbursement of the Tri-County Workforce Investment Board grant in the amount of \$1,000 for the Senior High School.
10. **BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION**
- A. **Vo-Tech Budget** - Approve Butler County Area Vocational Technical School budget in the amount of \$3,976,222 with Seneca Valley's portion \$453,696.
 - B. **Intermediate Unit Budget** - Approve Midwestern Intermediate Unit budget in the amount of \$3,898,592 with Seneca Valley's portion \$125,068.
 - C. **Single Audit Report** - Acknowledge PDE approval of federal financial assistance programs Single Audit Report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2006.

- D. **Red Cross Agreement** - Approve agreement with American Red Cross for use of school facilities as mass care centers in the event of a disaster.
 - E. **Budget Transfers** - Approve budget transfers.
 - F. **Elementary Art, Secondary Art, and General Supply Bids** - Award bids for elementary art, secondary art, and general supplies for the 2008-09 school year.
11. **PERSONNEL ACTION** - Personnel items were discussed in executive session.
12. **COMMUNICATIONS** - Communications were received from the following:
- A. Julie Carney
 - B. Debra DiCianna
 - C. Ted Deitch
 - D. Nancy Triscuit
 - E. Christine Maynard
 - F. Carole O'Rourke
 - G. Tracy Ekstam
 - H. Kris Uher
 - I. Geralynn Hood-Holt
 - J. Alan Wojdyla
 - K. Mark and Kerry Gragg
 - L. Karen Hale
13. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- A. Wrestlers Zach Eckstrom, Nate Cully, Eric Stanley, and Grant Evans thanked the Board for their support and all they do to make the wrestling program successful.
 - B. Sue Ann Jones questioned the PSSA testing. If students do not score proficient on the test they are to be tutored and take the SVAA test or they do not receive a diploma. She feels the PSSA test should not be a graduation requirement if not every student can pass it.
14. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the Board, Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Storti, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative with Mr. Evans and Mr. Widdowson absent.
15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Personnel, negotiations, and legal matters were discussed in executive session prior to this meeting.

Mr. Dean Berkebile, Board President

Mrs. Joan Rinaman, Board Secretary