

Seneca Valley School District



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium

MINUTES

September 17, 2007

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mr. Berkebile, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:12 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. Paul Adametz, Mr. Dean Berkebile, Mr. Kenneth Brennan, Mr. Anthony Evans, Mr. Robert J. Hill, Jr., Mr. William Paul, Mr. Thomas Roth, Mr. Anthony Storti, and Mr. Jeffrey Widdowson.

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; Col. Susan Oliver, JROTC Instructor; Mr. Greg Caprara, Athletic Director; Mrs. Geraldine Galat, Food Services Director; Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor; visitors on enclosed list; and press representatives.

2. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

A. **Student/Staff Recognition**

1. Eighth grader Caleb Galvin was awarded a United States Achievement Academy Scholarship grant for \$200 for his outstanding art work and academic efforts.

B. **Extra-Curricular Activities** - Mr. Berkebile wanted to reiterate that regardless of what was reported in the newspapers, extra-curricular activities will continue with administrative staff and volunteers if there is a work stoppage.

C. **Dates to Remember**

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| September 18 | Senior High School Open House, 6:30-9:00 p.m. |
| September 20 | Middle School Open House, 6:30-9:00 p.m. |
| September 26 | Recognition Dinner for Mr. Paul, Camelot II, 6:00 p.m. |
| September 27 | Intermediate High School Open House, 6:30-9:00 p.m. |

- D. **Legislative** - Mr. Brennan brought to the attention of the Board changes in No Child Left Behind, Act 45, and Accountability Block Grant legislation.
 - E. **Grant Programs**
 - 1. County Drug and Alcohol
 - 2. Title I - Improving America's Schools - Remedial Reading
 - 3. Title IIA - Improving Teacher Quality
 - 4. Title III - Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students
 - 5. Title IV - Drug Free Schools
 - 6. Title V - Innovative Education
 - F. **Budget Report** - A report on the 2006-07 budget is provided in the backup materials.
 - G. **Hall of Fame** - Mr. Caprara informed Mr. Roth that information on the proposed Seneca Valley Athletic Hall of Fame is available on the district website. No tax dollars are to be used for this project.
 - H. **MRSA** - Dr. Tyliniski stated that there has been one known case of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) on the secondary campus. There is no mass outbreak as implied in the media.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - The following individuals spoke at the meeting:
- A. Ms. Rebecca Yuille, Ms. Sue Platt, and Ms. Diane Devens commended the planning, organization, and implementation that provided the *Spirit of America* field trip for the entire 9th grade class. They each thought it was a worthwhile program providing history of the United States.
 - B. Ms. Lyle Wilson also acted as a chaperone of the program. Although she appreciates the trip preparation by the JROTC, she was not happy with the program. Ms. Wilson thought it was more a military recruitment than an educational experience.
 - C. Col. Oliver addressed all the comments saying that there were several informational programs and handouts provided to students and parents prior to the field trip. The program stressed the history of the country through venues such as actors, the drum and bugle corp., and the military band. Neither this program, nor the JROTC program, is a recruiting tool.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Approve the following Board minutes provided in the backup materials:
- A. **Work Session** - August 6, 2007
 - B. **Regular Meeting** - August 13, 2007
 - C. **Special Meeting** - August 17, 2007
5. **OPERATION REPORTS**
- A. **Treasurer's Report** - Approve the June treasurer's report provided in the backup.
 - B. **Financial Reports** - The following reports provided in the backup materials:
 - 1. Senior High Activities
 - 2. Intermediate High Activities
 - 3. Middle School Activities
 - 4. Tax Collection

5. Earned Income Tax

C. **Agency Reports**

1. ***Vo-Tech*** - There was no report given.
 2. ***I. U. IV*** - There was nothing new to report.
 3. ***Clarence Brown*** - Mr. Roth reported that the next meeting is September 18.
6. **PAYMENT OF BILLS** - Approve the General Fund bills provided in the backup materials which total \$2,545,879.20.
7. **ACTIVITIES FUND BILLS** - Approve the Activities Fund bills provided in the agenda which total \$13,724.99.
8. **CONSTRUCTION FUND BILLS** - Approve the Construction Fund bills provided in the backup which total \$162,394.58.

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

9. **ADMINISTRATION ACTION**

- A. **Conferences** - Approve conferences in backup.
- B. **Negotiator Increase** - Approve increased rate for contract negotiator from \$135 to \$140 per hour effective July 1, 2007.
- C. **Nutrition Guidelines** - Approve changes in nutrition guidelines.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Paul, to approve the conferences, negotiator increase, and nutrition guidelines as listed above. Mrs. Galat provided information and recommended that the district reject the guidelines. The second year of the program would be very restrictive and not be financially beneficial

Mr. Roth motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill to vote on administrative items separately. Motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Storti, to approve the conferences as listed in the backup. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative, except Mr. Adametz voting no, and Mr. Brennan abstaining.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Roth, to approve the negotiator increase as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative except Mr. Widdowson abstaining.

Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to reject the nutrition guidelines. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

10. INSTRUCTION ACTION

- A. **Glade Run Lutheran Services** - Approve the following contracts with Glade Run Lutheran Services for the 2007-08 school year:
 - 1. Title I
 - 2. Act 30 - PRRI
 - 3. Day Student - Education Placement
 - 4. Diagnostic Placement Program
- B. **Fireworks Contract** - Approve contract with Pyrotecnico for fireworks at October 11 homecoming carnival. Cost to be paid by the Senior High School Student Council.
- C. **Dictionary Donations** - Approve donation of dictionaries to students at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary from Zelienville Rotary Club.
- D. **Title I** - Approve receipt of academic achievement awards from Title I funds in the amount of \$2,076 each for Connoquenessing Valley, Evans City, and Haine Elementaries.
- E. **AARP Grant** - Authorize Intermediate High School to submit and disburse funds if awarded for The Ethel Percy Andrus Legacy Award for Innovation grant sponsored by AARP.

Mr. Storti motioned, seconded by Mr. Roth, to approve the Glade Run contracts, fireworks contract, donation, Title I awards, and AARP grant as listed above. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative.

11. BUSINESS/FINANCES ACTION

- A. **Audit Report** - Acknowledge Single Audit Report from the United States Department of Agriculture for year ending June 30, 2006.
- B. **Waste Management** - Reject waste management bids.
- C. **Real Estate Tax Refund** - Approve real estate tax refunds as indicated in backup.
- D. **Raider Spirit Club Sponsorship Agreement** - Approve the Raider Spirit Club Sponsorship Agreement with Moe's Southwest Grill for \$500.00 per year, for five years.
- E. **Use of Facility Requests**
 - 1. Approve request of NorthBridge Community Church of Cranberry Township to use Haine Elementary School.
 - 2. Waive use of facilities fee for American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure Bicycle event - June 20-22, 2008.
- F. **Appraisal Agreement** - Approve the retention of Paul Griffith of Integra Realty Resources for preparation of an appraisal of school property at a cost of \$1,900.
- G. **Easement Agreement** - Approve agreement with Harmony Borough Water Authority for a water line easement through Connoquenessing Valley Elementary property.

Mr. Paul motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to approve the audit report, bid rejection, refund, sponsorship agreement, facilities requests, retention of appraiser, and easement agreement as listed above. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

12. **PERSONNEL ACTION** (Details provided in the agenda.)

- A. **Resignations** - *Professional* - Barry Balaski; *Supplemental* - Lisa Tyson.
- B. **Appointments** - *Professional* - Amanda Wise Fleming and day-to day substitutes; *Classified* - Ann Killby; *Supplemental* - Albert Peluso, Karen Peltz, Bill Andrews, Koe Venasco, Robert Hamilton, Matt Martin, Tom Donati, Sharon Gilliland, Curt Johns, Ruth Johns, Chris Brown, Jane Leo, David Smolinski, Andra Urchuck.
- C. **Leaves** - Lynn Dobrick, Shay Houser.
- D. **Administrative Appointments**
 - 1. Appoint Richard Lipishka as Assistant Director for Buildings, Grounds, and Activities
Salary: \$50,000 (pro-rated in 2007-08 school year)
 - 2. Appoint Nanette Farmer as Elementary Assistant Principal (10 month)
Salary: \$65,000 (pro-rated in 2007-08 school year)

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

E. **Autistic Support Classroom Paraprofessional**

Mr. Widdowson motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill, to approve the appointment of Patricia Sturgis as autistic support classroom paraprofessional. Motion carried on a roll call vote with those present voting in the affirmative except Mr. Roth voting no.

F. **Information**

- 1. Ms. Sylvia Savakis will do a counseling internship at Rowan Elementary during the 2007-08 school year under the direction of Ms. Rozann Lamberto.

13. **COMMUNICATIONS** - Communications were received from the following:

- 1. Rebecca Moore
- 2. Gina DeCola
- 3. Christine Liston
- 4. Karen Moon
- 5. Anita Ritenour
- 6. Patricia Stair
- 7. Lori Carpenter
- 8. Chuck and Marianne Milcic
- 9. Kurt and Michelle Paschl
- 10. Donna Daniels
- 11. Heather Broerman
- 12. Patty Schillero

13. Charlene Plautz
 14. Paul and Kimberly Palmieri
 15. Mary Pearson
 16. Melissa and Joe Codd
 17. Cyndi Peluso
 18. Leslie Clarke
 19. Amy and Adam Swarts
 20. Jeff Alvin
 21. Sharie Errera
 22. Lynda Snyder Eagle
 23. Jen Dancisin
 24. Barb Sayti
 25. Dianne Rotz
 26. Jen Dancisin
 27. Keith & Ellen Colonna
 28. Tina Kooser
 29. Elaine & Rich Duggan
 30. Arleen Gaydos
 31. Judy Aikens
 32. Don Hodo
 33. Larry & Kathie DeVinney
 34. Randy Giancola
 35. Robert Clinton
 36. Tracey Morgan
 37. Keith & Ellen Colonna
 38. Erin Golen
 39. Susan Weber
 40. Mary Pearson
 41. Robert Ricci
 42. Pat Stair
 43. Terrie Sackett
 44. Jill Schulties
 45. Jennifer Coyle
 46. Pat Stair
 47. Tracy Kulak
 48. Sheryl Polite
 49. Richard Collins, Ph.D.
 50. Lyle Wilson
 51. Elaine Homison
 52. Larry & Kathy DeVinney
 53. Roger Pearson
14. **ADJOURNMENT** - With nothing further to come before the Board, Mr. Hill motioned, seconded by Mr. Widdowson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote with those present voting in the affirmative.
 15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Personnel items were discussed in an executive session prior to this meeting.

Mr. Dean Berkebile, Board President

Mrs. Joan Rinaman, Board Secretary