

SOUTHERN CAYUGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting Minutes
High School Library

February 12, 2024
6:00 pm

1.0 Call to Order at 6:00 PM Board President Kelsey Rossbach called the meeting to order.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance Board President Kelsey Rossbach led the pledge.

Board members present: Matthew Bennett, Dave Harvatine, Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy, Timothy Pallokat, Heather Rejman, Kelsey Rossbach

Board members absent: None

Administrators present: Patrick Jensen, Loretta Van Horn, Luke Carnicelli, Caitlin Wasielewski, Michael Naylor

Others present: Nynette Adams, Jim Burkett, CJ Calarco, Linda Clark, Julia Dunsmoor, Mark Ferrari, Marcy Hand, Mary Hemans, Robb Jetty, Lori Knopp, Gary Mutchler, Mary Napier, Jeanette Owens, Michael Simons, Bill Speck, Carin Townsend Kopp, Liz Tyrrell, Guy Van Benschoten

3.0 Approval of the Agenda

On a motion made by Matthew Bennett, seconded by Rachel McCarthy, the agenda was approved.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

4.0 Questions from the audience regarding agenda items – None

5.0 Presentations:

A. King Ferry Food Pantry – Bill Speck shared information about the King Ferry Food Pantry, which is located in the Ag wing in the high school. He spoke about their mission, programs and services along with the Southern Cayuga Central School partnership.

B. School Improvement Updates – Luke Carnicelli, Caitlin Wasielewski, Michael Naylor, Michael Simons, and Liz Tyrrell each shared data, testing results, initiative updates, and program information.

C. Grant Updates & SCCS Budget Updates – Superintendent Jensen walked the Board through each grant's expenses as he prepares for their completions. Assistant Superintendent Loretta Van Horn shared information about the Governor's budget proposal and its impact on Southern Cayuga Central School. There are grant funded positions that will be eliminated along with possible additional proposed staff reductions if the Hold Harmless is not reinstated by the Governor.

6.0 New Business/Action Items; Consent Agenda

RESOLVED that the SCCS Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the action items listed in section 6.0 A through E.

Motion made by Matt Bennett, seconded by Rachel McCarthy

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

- A. Minutes; Board of Education meeting January 22, 2024
- B. Minutes; Board of Education meeting February 5, 2024
- C. CSE Recommendations; 2023/2024
- D. Overnight Field Trip Request – Boston, MA; forty-five (45) students to travel on Thursday, June 20 through Friday, June 21, 2024; students will be accompanied by Renee Barone, Julia Dunsmoor, Emma Greenfield, Jess Hurd, Dennis Johnson, Lindsay Osborne, Heather Snyder and Nate Van Hall
- E. Policies, First Reading; as recommended by the Policy Committee

E.1	Policy #5750 School Bus Safety Program; revisions recommended
E.2	Policy #8260 Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan; revisions recommended
E.3	Policy #7110 Comprehensive Student Attendance; revisions recommended

Janet Lehman noted Policy # 5770 is now obsolete.

7.0 Personnel/Consent Items; Consent Agenda

RESOLVED that the SCCS Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the personnel items listed in section 7.0 A through G, for the 2023/24 school year or for the term as indicated.

Motion made by Matt Bennett, seconded by Rachel McCarthy

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0 Abstain – 1 (Janet Lehman)

A. Resignation

A.1	Ian Murray , Teaching Assistant, effective February 5, 2024
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B. Leave of Absence/Unpaid Leave of Absence Request

B.1	Kirsten Potter , Teacher Aide; for maternity purposes; from Monday, January 22, 2024 through June 30, 2024 and to go unpaid from February 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.
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C. Appointments 2023-2024

C.1	Substitute Teacher, uncertified, Substitute Teaching Assistant, Substitute Teacher Aide; Abigail Lader , effective February 13, 2024
C.2	6 th Teaching Section: Becky Davis , \$3,031.60 stipend, effective February 13, 2024
C.3	Substitute Food Service Helper, Jessica Stowell , effective February 13, 2024

D. Spring Sports Appointments 2023-2024

D.1	Varsity Baseball Coach	Aaron Dingy	\$3,626
D.2	Modified Baseball Coach <i>split stipend</i>	Brett Jillson	\$1,117.50
D.3	Modified Baseball Coach <i>split stipend</i>	Christopher Zappolo	\$1,117.50
D.4	Varsity Softball Coach	Harold Van Horn	\$3,989
D.5	Modified Softball Coach	Justine Phillips Heiner	\$2,235
D.6	Varsity Tennis Coach	George Murphy	\$3,626
D.7	Varsity Golf Coach	Dennis Johnson	\$3,989

E. Co-Curricular Appointments 2023-2024

E.1	ELL Tutor	Sarah Allen	\$ per contract
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F. Volunteers 2023-2024

F.1	Varsity Baseball & Modified Baseball Volunteer	Aaron Brozon
F.2	Varsity Baseball & Modified Baseball Volunteer	Joe Shelton

G. Salary Adjustments; 2023/2024 school year, based on verification of completed Masters level classes and/or Masters level classes previously approved.

	<i>Staff Member</i>	<i>Current Step</i>	<i>Masters Level Credits Earned</i>	<i>New Step</i>	<i>Adjustment Amount</i>
G.1	Elishia Hoatland	Step 17 + 48M	6	Step 17 + 54M	\$638
G.2	Hannah Jewell	Step 2 + 17	9	Step 2 + 26	\$838
G.3	Michele Robin	Step 2 + 0	6	Step 2 + 6	\$419
G.4	Chelsea Munson	Step 2 + 0	9	Step 2 + 9	\$419
G.5	Elizabeth Tyrrell	Step 20 + 45M	6	Step 20 + 51M	\$638
G.6	Halee Wasson	Step 6 + 24	9	Step 6 + 33M	\$2,000

8.0 Business Office Reports/Informational Items – Assistant Superintendent Loretta Van Horn confirmed the audit topic with the Audit Committee

9.0 Superintendent’s Report/Informational Items – Superintendent Jensen inquired whether the Board wanted to participate in a social media lawsuit proposed by the school’s attorneys. Board discussion ensued.

Board President Kelsey Rossbach shared the Board of Education is still waiting for some information from local fire houses in order to determine the impact of a partial property tax exemption for active volunteer fire and EMS providers.

Dave Harvatine made a motion to not participate in the proposed social media lawsuit, motion was seconded by Matt Bennett.

Motion carried: Yes – 4 (Matt Bennett, Dave Harvatine, Tim Pallokat, Kelsey Rossbach)

No – 0

Abstain – 3 (Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy, Heather Rejman)

The Southern Cayuga Central School Board of Education needs to approve an individual as a representative to the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES Board of Education at the first meeting in March because Dave Wiemann's term expires on June 30, 2024. Matt Bennett will follow up with Dave to inquire whether he is still interested in serving. The representative is to be one of our current Board of Education members if Dave is not interested in continuing.

Dave Harvatine shared the Ag Advisory Board has resumed meeting and he is their liaison to the Southern Cayuga Central School Board of Education, he will periodically update the Board of Education with the happenings of the Ag Advisory Board.

10.0 Board of Education/Committees

A. Committees

A.1	<i>Athletics</i> ; Matt Bennett, Rachel McCarthy, Heather Rejman
No report.	
A.2	<i>Audit</i> ; Tim Pallokat, Heather Rejman, Kelsey Rossbach
Assistant Superintendent Loretta Van Horn shared the Board may want to cut the internal audit in 2024-2025 fiscal year due to the expense, since we are not obligated to have it.	
A.3	<i>Budget/Finance</i> ; Dave Harvatine, Janet Lehman, Tim Pallokat
Will meet on Tuesday, February 13 th at 12:15 pm.	
A.4	<i>Directions/Long-Range Education</i> ; Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy, Kelsey Rossbach
Superintendent Jensen will start a group email to set a meeting date. Janet Lehman needs feedback regarding proposed Board goals. There was more discussion regarding a partial property tax exemption for active volunteer fire and EMS providers. Board President Kelsey Rossbach shared this Committee will also look at district communications.	
A.5	<i>Facilities</i> ; Matt Bennett, Dave Harvatine, Kelsey Rossbach
Superintendent Jensen shared the Capital Outlay Project of continued door replacements is underway. Dave Harvatine was asked by the Ag Advisory Board to approach the Board of Education regarding the wall between the food pantry and the ag space. The Facilities Committee will look into this.	
A.6	<i>Policy</i> ; Rachel McCarthy, Heather Rejman
Met on Monday, January 22 nd , meeting minutes provided.	
A.7	<i>Safety/Wellness</i> ; Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy
Will meet in the spring.	
A.8	<i>Transportation</i> ; Matt Bennett, Tim Pallokat
Met on Thursday, January 25 th , meeting minutes provided. Assistant Superintendent Loretta Van Horn spoke regarding the recent meeting with our local highway Superintendents. She also spoke about school bus warranties.	
A.9	<i>Cayuga Onondaga School Boards Association (COSBA)</i> ; Dave Wiemann
No report.	

11.0 Visitor Recognition; Residents Wishing to Address the Board

Guy Van Benschoten spoke in favor of a partial property tax exemption for active volunteer fire and EMS providers.

12.0 Executive Session

On a motion by Dave Harvatine, seconded by Matt Bennett, the Board of Education entered executive session at 8:26 pm to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

13.0 Return to Open Session

On a motion by Rachel McCarthy, seconded by Matt Bennett, the Board of Education returned to open session at 9:34 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

The Board of Education held a discussion about the mascot.

Heather Rejman made a motion to appoint Rob Jetty to create a process and lead the mascot committee, motion was seconded by Tim Pallokat.

There was additional Board of Education discussion about the process and the mascot committee.

Kelsey Rossbach then made a motion to postpone the motion on the floor to appoint Rob Jetty to create a process and lead the mascot committee, motion was seconded by Matt Bennett.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

More Board discussion ensued.

Kelsey Rossbach then asked for a motion to appoint Rob Jetty as the chairperson for the mascot committee.

Motion was made by Matt Bennett, seconded by Rachel McCarthy.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

14.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Matt Bennett, seconded by Tim Pallokat, the Board of Education meeting adjourned at 10:13 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Hand, District Clerk