Seneca Township High School Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 11 AM Superintendent's Conference Room

Present: Dan Stecken, Stacey Gould, Jason Eltrevoog, Rich Hamilton, Ron Frye

A. Public Comment - None

B. Finance

- 2024 Levy and 2025-26 Budget Dan Stecken presented the 2024 levy and fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. Dan mentioned there will not be a truth in taxation hearing before the December Board meeting due to coming in at a 4.85% increase over last year's extension which is under the limit of 5%. Dan stated that the District needs to watch the balance of the IMRF fund as the balance continues to grow and the unfunded liability has been paid down. Stacey Gould mentioned there were a couple small changes since the Board had seen the previous budget including the potential cost of a new bus at around \$170K and some additional transfers to save up for future capital projects. Dan added this bus will not have air brakes since only two of the District's drivers are certified to drive a bus with air brakes. Lastly, Stacey added the goal is to pay part of the capital projects in this fiscal year and the rest next year.
- 2. Turf Project Update Dan presented the project status report from ATG regarding the baseball and softball fields. Dan mentioned that the completion date has moved from the beginning of January to February 1st. Dan also presented the 3rd pay app from ATG which will be approved for payment at the December board meeting. After the December payment, the project will be at 45% completion.
- 3. Health Life Safety Projects Update Dan mentioned the need for tuckpointing at the main campus and the future plan is to do small portions of the building each summer.
- 4. Facility Plan Update Dan presented an internal document that lists current, past, and future projects. Current projects include the Seneca/Mazon history mural and the turf softball and baseball fields. Future projects include the land lab building, roof work, media center and science labs remodel, main office upgrades, chillers, football press box, courtyard renovation, tuckpointing, and parking lot resealing.

C. Personnel

- 1. Non-Tenured Teachers Dan presented a list of non-tenured teachers and stated that one teacher will acquire tenure this year. Dan also listed future openings including Math and Science in FY26, English in FY27, and Principal, Spanish, and Guidance Counselor in FY28.
- 2. Summer School- Dan presented a list of potential summer school teachers and

courses for the summer of 2025. Currently, dual credit speech has the potential to be cancelled due to lack of a qualified instructor available. Dan also mentioned that the compensation will increase slightly over last year.

- 3. New Courses Dan gave an overview of the new dual credit Sociology course that will be offered and taught by one of our teachers next year.
- 4. District Communications Dan presented a memo that summarized two seminars from the annual school board convention regarding the importance of a Communications Director at a school district. Dan stated that currently, all District communications are done by himself, Nadine, the IT department, and Matt Houchin, the District's long-term sub. Dan mentioned moving Matt to this position which would allow the District to streamline the communications process and make it more efficient, while also using Matt as a fill-in substitute, as needed. Dan also discussed moving website hosting companies from SOCS to Apptegy for its streamlined communications and social media impacts. Finally, Dan presented a potential community outreach magazine through Journeys 12, a professional version of our newsletter mailed to all residents of the district.
- D. Other-None
- E. Executive Session Collective Bargaining - The committee discussed the ongoing CBA negotiations.
- Adjourn-The meeting ended at 12:45 PM. F.

President, Board of Education

<u>/2-18-24</u> Date

Secretary, Board of Education

2/18/24