

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education
301 Grace Street
Somerdale, NJ 08083

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

April 6, 2017

6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE at 6:33 pm

BOE Mission Statement

The mission of the Somerdale School District, in active partnership with the community and staff, is to provide a safe and supportive environment which offers all students the opportunity to develop academically, socially, physically and emotionally, and to create students who are inquisitive and value learning not, only now, but also in the future.

We aspire to provide a broad range of educational opportunities in a nurturing environment designed to challenge all students to strive for personal excellence, achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards and become responsible citizens in this rapidly changing world.

II. SUNSHINE LAW/ROLL CALL

Sunshine Law:

The Somerdale Board of Education Meeting is called to order. The Board of Education is in compliance with the sunshine regulations. This meeting was appropriately advertised by notifying The Courier Post and The Philadelphia Inquirer, as well as posting notices in Borough Hall, the Somerdale Post Office and the Somerdale Park School.

Our attorney has advised us that we cannot prevent you from making remarks about our employees. He has requested we advise you that our employees are not Public Officials and you are not immune from civil actions they may bring as a result of your remarks whether vocal, by e-mail, or social media such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.

James Anderson – Present	Monique Howard - Present
Kim Barkoff - Present	Susan Lowden - Present
Alicia Conte – Present	Melissa Moore - Absent
Colm Fidgeon - Present	John Phillips - Present
	James Walsh - Present

Also Present:

Dr. Dennis M. Vespe, Superintendent/Principal
Melissa Engelhardt, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Chris Long, Solicitor

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS on any action items. - None

NOTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The Board President will recognize those individuals in the audience whom wish to comment **on any action items on this Agenda.**

Please respect the following procedures:

1. Be recognized by the Board President.
2. State your full name and address.
3. Identify the resolution/item number on which you wish to comment.
4. Limit your comments to the specific resolution/items.
5. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Fidgeon and seconded by Mrs. Conte the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the regular and executive session minutes of the March 9, 2017 BOE Meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

Guest Speaker: Jim Beech, NJ Senator spoke on difficulties for state mandates and corresponding funding. Open to ideas from parents for fair school funding.

V. REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

- Third marking period concluded March 30th, final grades will be available tomorrow on power school.
- Spring Sports Season has begun
- Dodgeball was March 15th; Drama/Musical was March 23rd, great job; Student Faculty game was March 30th, faculty won
- Talent Show tomorrow 5:30 basket auction, 6:30 show; PTA meeting April 11th 7; PTA Painting night, Friday April 28th in the café
- Spring break begins Thursday, April 13th
- The week of May 8-12th PARCC week, under the sun will be offering after care to all students. Voice blasts and website ad will be going out.
- Graduation has been moved to Friday, June 16th due to weather

B. Business Administrator's Report

- I've completed all Requests for Proposals for the District's professional services for the 2017/2018 school year. They can be found on our website under the public tab. Vendor responses are due on April 27th. Working on remaining Bids for next year including, transportation, technology, HVAC repairs, etc.
- Working on a Safety Grant application sponsored by our insurance company. The grant is worth a little over \$3,500.00. The grant is to be used for increasing safety in and around the school. Since our intent for use is part of the application, I have it written to be utilized for dead tree removal around school grounds. Approval for submission is found on the agenda this evening.
- Security camera installation is scheduled to start during spring break.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary) - None

VII. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION - N/A

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

BUSINESS AFFAIRS, John Phillips, Chairperson, James Walsh, Alternate Chairperson, Kim Barkoff, Administrative Liaisons: Dr. Dennis Vespe, Melissa Engelhardt

A. Finance – Reviews and monitors the school district budget and assumes other fiscal responsibilities

Report by Finance Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Dr. Howard the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 1-5:

1. Financial Reports:

To approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports for February 2017 (attachment #1).

The Board Secretary’s Report is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of February 2017. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The Treasurer’s Report is in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of February 2017. The Treasurer’s Report and Secretary’s report are in agreement for the month of February 2017.

Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A - 16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. To approve the following bill lists (attachment #2):

- a. Vendor Bill List 1 and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$88.49
- b. Vendor Bill List 2 and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$15,932.56
- c. Vendor Bill List 3 and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$255,305.59
- d. March Student Activities Bill List totaling: \$2,628.85
- e. March Joint Purchasing Bill List totaling: \$136,467.99
- f. March 15, 2017 Payroll Check Journal totaling: \$216,520.87
- g. March 30, 2017 Payroll Check Journal totaling: \$205,713.21

3. To approve the Transfers/Adjustments for the month of February 2017 (attachment #3).

4. To approve a contract with Sterling High School for their Pride Program for student #7947221861 in grade 8 from March 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017, tuition paid in the amount of \$5,408.07

5. To approve the contract to Stratford Board of Education for student #8017010691 in 2nd grade from January 30, 2017 to June 30, 2017 with revenue in the amount of \$26,665.07.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Conte the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 6-9:

6. To dispose/sell a 13.3 inch MacBook Pro serial number C02MPBRWFGYY with anticipated revenue of \$900.00.
7. To post approve Gina Horiates, Charity Knecht, Jenna Van Derzee to attend the Apple Workshop on March 30, 2017 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District, West Windsor, NJ. No charge for workshop however mile reimbursement may be paid.
8. To approve the attached Camden County Elementary League Membership Resolution for participation in the interschool athletic program sponsored by the Camden County Elementary League for the 2017-2018 school year. (attachment #4)
9. To approve 2017 Safety Grant Resolution as follows:

The Somerdale Board of Education hereby approves the digital submission of the grant application for the 2015-2016 Safety Grant Program through the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group for the purposes described in the application, in the amount of \$3,591.02 for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 and hereby grants authority to Melissa Engelhardt, Board Secretary/Business Administrator to submit the final required documents and digitally submit the application for review by the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

B. Facilities – Reviews the needs and uses of district buildings and grounds

Report by Facilities Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mrs. Conte and seconded by Mr. Anderson the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following item 1 for Use of Facilities as per Somerdale Board of Education Policy 7510:

1. To approve Catholic Charities building request to use the Cafeteria and Ward Field on Saturday, June 17, 2017 from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm to hold World Refugee Day.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

INSTRUCTIONAL, Dr. Monique Howard, Chairperson, Melissa Moore, Alternate Chairperson, James Anderson, Administrative Liaisons: Dr. Dennis Vespe, Robert Ford

A. Curriculum – Reviews and evaluates standardized test results as a district and monitors direction of curriculum.

Report by Curriculum Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Conte the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following items 1 - 2:

1. To approve the amended 2016-2017 Somerdale Park School Calendar adjusting the Students last day of school changed from June 15, 2017 to June 16, 2017 and Staff's last day changed from June 16, 2017 to June 19, 2017 due to used inclement weather days. (Attachment #1)
2. The following field trips:
 - a.) To approve Renaissance Reward Trip for 3rd – 4th grade students to walk to Somerdale Cinemark Movie Theater on May 26, 2017 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Cost per student \$10.20 to be paid from Renaissance Fund.
 - b.) Student Council trip to Hershey Park, Hershey, PA on May 25, 2017 cost per student to be paid by Student Council and a transportation cost of \$5.00 per student to be paid by students.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

B. Personnel – Assists in the interviewing process of district administrators and reviews hiring recommendations of the Superintendent. Also, reviews and approves staff policies and job descriptions

Report by Personnel Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Conte the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following items 1-3:

1. To approve FMLA Leave, to run concurrently with paid sick leave, for Steven Terry scheduled to commence on April 10, 2017 through May 19, 2017. This leave is not eligible for NJFLA.
2. To post approve Lisa Rollick, Middle School Teacher, to serve as a Homebound Tutor for an 8th Grade Student #4850934399 starting April 3, 2017 for 10 hours per week until further notice.
3. To approve Mr. Jeffrey Euler as a Middle School Science Teacher for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year starting on or before May 22, 2017 at a pro-rated salary of \$49,755.00 at a level BA Step 1.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, Alicia Conte, Chairperson, James Anderson, Alternate Chairperson, Kim Barkoff, Administrative Liaison: Robert Ford

A. Policy – Reviews, updates and creates district policies with Superintendent and presents them to the board.

Report by Policy Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Fidgeon the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following items 1:

1. For First Reading:
 - a. Policy 1510 – American with Disabilities Act
 - b. Policy 2415.30 – Title I – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care
 - c. Policy 2418 – Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 - d. Policy 5116 – Education of Homeless Children

- e. Policy 8330 – Student Records
- f. R 1510 – American with Disabilities Act
- g. R 2418 – Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- h. R 8330 – Student Records

2. For Second Reading:

- a. **none at this time**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

- B. Community Affairs – Participation in community events to educate the public on programs the district offers. Also educates the public on the school board policies and responsibilities.**

Report by Community Affairs Committee Chair

A recommendation is requested to approve the following:

- 1. None at this time

BOND REFERENDUM, Colm Fidgeon, Chairperson, Alicia Conte, Alternate Chair, James Walsh, Administrative Liaison: Dr. Dennis Vespe, Melissa Engelhardt

The Bond Referendum Committee’s function it to meet and develop a framework for moving a referendum forward and to address project and budgetary issues.

Report by Bond Referendum Committee Chair

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following items:

- 1. None at this time

IX. DISCUSSION ITEM:

- 1. Discussion of School Board Members’ Code of Ethics:
 - a. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
 - b. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- 2. April 20th 6 pm – social with Somerdale Borough

X. REPORTS:

The following item will be recommended for approval:

- 1. Acknowledge and accept the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Report for:
_____ 2017 - **none at this time**

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bigger than him. Reported numerous times to Mr. Claybourn and he said, he's just one of those kids and there is nothing he can do about it. He now has low self-esteem. Of course my son and the kid are friends and says we're just playing. Last week at the dance he and the kid were horse playing around and he got a detention. I emailed Mr. Ford saying its not fair that after fight at a dance he gets detention and is banned from talent show that his sister is in and cops would be called if we showed up. I was prepared to be arrested but Administration conceded on attendance at talent show. I have a lot of feedback on Facebook stating how people's kids are being wrongfully punished. My daughter was singled out and was told to move to a trouble table. She got up and moved to the trouble table. She shouldn't have done that. I do not feel my children are being treated fairly at the school district.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Fidgeon the meeting was adjourned at 7:11

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Engelhardt