

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

301 Grace Street  
Somerdale, NJ 08083

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**

**January 22, 2018  
6:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**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.

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL at 5:45 pm**

James Anderson – Present	Monique Howard - Present
Kim Barkoff – Present	Susan Lowden - Present
Jason Bishop – Present	Melissa Moore - Present
Alicia Conte – Present	James Walsh - Present
Colm Fidgeon - Present	

Also Present:  
Melissa Engelhardt, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Terri Lewis, NJ School Boards Association

**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Moore the board entered into executive session at 5:48pm.

**WHEREAS**, while the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 et seq.) requires all meetings of the Somerdale Park School District, Board of Education to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in Executive Session,” i.e. without the public being permitted to attend; and

**WHEREAS**, the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

**WHEREAS**, the nine exceptions to public meetings set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) are listed below, and next to each exception is a box within which the number of issues to be privately discussed that fall within that exception shall be written, and after each exception is a space where additional information that will disclose as much information about the decision as possible without undermining the purpose of the exception shall be written.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b):

- X   Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed in public;

**WHEREAS**, the length of the Executive Session is undetermined; however, the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will make every attempt to estimate the time of the session prior to convening the session after which the public meeting shall reconvene at 8:45 pm and the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will proceed with business.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will go into Executive Session for only the above stated reasons;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education attorney advises that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the school district or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the board secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Secretary on the next business day following this meeting, shall furnish a copy of this resolution to any member of the public who requests one at the fees allowed by N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

**III. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Fidgeon the board returned to public session at 8:44 pm.

ALL IN FAVOR: YES 6 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

**IV. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE at 8:44 pm**

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
Jason Bishop – Present	Melissa Moore - Present
Alicia Conte – Present	James Walsh - Present
Colm Fidgeon - Present	

Also Present:

Melissa Engelhardt, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Cleve Bryan Superintendent/Principal

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS** on any action items.: None at this time

**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. Wait to be recognized before you make your comment
5. Limit your comments to the specific resolution/items.
6. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

**VI. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**

- a. On a motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Fidgeon, Mr. Walsh is nominated for President of the Board of Education.

On a motion made by Mrs. Barkoff and seconded by Mrs. Conte, Mrs. Lowden is nominated for President of the Board of Education.

- b. On a motion made by Mr. Fidgeon and seconded by, Dr. Howard a request was made to close nominations for President and cast vote.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

James Anderson - Walsh	Monique Howard - Walsh
Kim Barkoff - Lowden	Susan Lowden - Lowden
Jason Bishop - Walsh	Melissa Moore - Lowden
Alicia Conte - Lowden	James Walsh - Walsh
Colm Fidgeon - Walsh	

- c. On a motion made by Mrs. Moore and seconded by, Mr. Anderson approval is made for Mr. Walsh for the Office of Board President.

**The Board meeting is officially turned over to the Board President.**

- d. On a motion made by Mr. Fidgeon and seconded by Mr. Anderson, Dr. Howard is nominated for Vice-President of the Board of Education.

On a motion made by Mrs. Conte and seconded by Mrs. Barkoff, Mrs. Lowden is nominated for Vice-President of the Board of Education.

- e. On a motion made by Mrs. Lowden and seconded by, Mr. Walsh a request was made to close nominations for Vice-President and cast vote

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

James Anderson - Howard	Monique Howard - Howard
Kim Barkoff - Lowden	Susan Lowden - Howard
Jason Bishop - Howard	Melissa Moore - Lowden
Alicia Conte - Lowden	James Walsh - Howard
Colm Fidgeon - Howard	

- f. On a motion made by Dr. Howard seconded by Mr. Anderson approval is made for Dr. Howard for the Office of Vice-President.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**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.**

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

The following item will be recommended for approval:

1. To approve the Memorandum of Agreement Addendum 3 between the Somerdale Board of Education and Somerdale Law Enforcement authorities;

WHEREAS the chief school administrator has reviewed with the Somerdale Board of Education the effectiveness of policies for Law Enforcement Operation for Alcohol, Drugs, Weapons, and Safety;

WHEREAS the chief school administrator has met with a Somerdale law enforcement official for discussion and review of the agreement;

BE IT RESOLVED the Somerdale Board of Education adopts the memorandum of agreement for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. (Attachment #1)

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 9 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on any item)**

Audience Recognition and Public Comment

The public is reminded that all public complaints against a district employee must be made through a specific grievance process.

A description of this process may be found in BOE policy (File Code 9130). This policy is available upon request in the office of the Board Secretary.

Any individual naming an employee in a complaint before the Board of Education, without the employee's permission, could be cited for violating that employee's civil and contractual rights.

Please respect the following procedures:

1. Be recognized by the Board President.
2. State your full name and address.
3. Wait to be recognized before you make your comment
4. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

**Dessy** – 202 Mill Road; Requesting Field Use to call home to the Knights football team consisting of the students of Magnolia, Somerdale, and Stratford school districts.

**Frank Loletta** – Developer, Parking Lot and Basin Project Review

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Mrs. Moore the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Engelhardt