

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

301 Grace Street  
Somerdale, NJ 08083

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**

**March 22, 2018  
6:30 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/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE at 6:34 pm**

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

Also Present:

Cleve Bryan, Superintendent/Principal

Melissa Engelhardt, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**III. 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.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**BUSINESS AFFAIRS**, Colm Fidgeon, Chairperson, Susan Lowden, Alternate Chairperson, Jason Bishop, Administrative Liaisons: Cleve Bryan, 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. Fidgeon and seconded by Mrs. Lowden the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following item 1:

1. To approve the proposed 2018-19 Budget in the amount of \$8,957,593 for submission to the Camden County Executive Superintendent, pending the review and approval of same. In conjunction with the submission of the proposed 2018-19 budget, to hold a Public Hearing of same on May 3, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., in conjunction with the regular Board Meeting, to be held following the Public Hearing.

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the Somerdale Borough Board of Education budget for the FY 2018-2019 School Year for submission to the county as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
Total General Fund Budget	\$8,298,697	\$4,628,926
Total Special Revenue Budget	\$403,483	
Total Debt Service Fund	<u>\$255,413</u>	<u>\$168,555</u>
Totals	\$8,957,593	\$4,797,481

WHEREAS, an amount not to exceed \$2,000 may be utilized for professional development travel expenses,

WHEREAS, general fund budget includes utilization of \$119,165 in capital reserve funds for HVAC upgrades and phase two of the drainage/paving project;

WHEREAS, general fund budget includes utilization of fund balance in the amount of \$289,417;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board has approved that there should be raised a total tax levy of \$4,797,481 whereas bank cap of \$54,426 is utilized for the purpose of hiring another world language teacher and meeting the 3.5% salary increase as negotiated with the SEA.

NOW IT THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That there should be a General Fund tax levy of \$4,628,926 and a Debt Service Fund tax levy of \$168,555 for the ensuing FY 2018-19 School Year.

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

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion made by Mr. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Fidgeon the board entered into executive session at 6:38 pm

**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 8:30 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.

**VI. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

On a motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Dr. Howard the board returned to public session at 7:20 pm

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Mr. Fidgeon and seconded by Dr. Howard the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Engelhardt