

DRAFT

Somers Board of Education Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2018 7:00 PM

Board of Education Room

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM:

Present Board Members: Jan Martin, Sarah Bollinger, Barbara Capuano, Bruce Devlin, Jeremy Anderson, Kate McLellan, Anne Kirkpatrick

Absent Board Members: David Palmer, Rick Lees

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Devlin in the Mabelle B. Avery Board of Education meeting room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

3.1. Teacher of the Year and ParaEducator of the Year will be honored

Rationale: Stephanie Toney, Teacher of the Year and Liz Scanlon, Paraeducator of the Year both from SES will be honored by the Board of Education.

Discussion: The Board of Education recognized ParaEducator of the Year, Liz Scanlon, and Teacher of the Year, Stephanie Toney. Chairman Devlin described their strengths, creativity, and compassion. They were presented with gifts. Superintendent Czapla thanked them for their service and acknowledged them as valuable assets to SPS.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Draft Minutes of August 27, 2018

Rationale: Draft Minutes of August 27, 2018

Motion Passed: The BOE Draft Minutes of the August 27, 2018 meeting passed with a motion by Jeremy Anderson and a second by Anne Kirkpatrick. **Passed 7-0.**

5. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion: J. Anderson had a couple of questions regarding two of the policies. Discussion ensued.

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Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda in its totality passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **Passed 7-0.**

8.1. Warrant of 9/10/18

Rationale: Warrant of 9/10/18 in the amount of \$265,621.16 for Board of Education consent.

8.2. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 2120

Rationale: Board to consent on 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 2120 – to delete this policy

8.3. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 2131- Appointment of Superintendent

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 2131- Appointment of Superintendent

8.4. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 2400 - Evaluation of Administrative Personnel

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 2400 - Evaluation of Administrative Personnel

8.5. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 4111 - Recruitment of Personnel

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 4111 - Recruitment of Personnel

8.6. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 5113.2 - Student attendance

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 5113.2 - Student attendance

8.7. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion

8.8. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 5141.4 - Reporting Abuse

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 5141.4 - Reporting Abuse

8.9. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 9030 - Bylaws of Board

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 9030 - Bylaws of Board

8.10. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 9123 - Bylaws of Board - Secretary of Board

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 9123 - Bylaws of Board – Secretary of Board

8.11. 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 9125 - Bylaws of Board - Custodian of Monies

Rationale: 2nd Warning on Somers DBS Policy 9125 - Bylaws of Board – Custodian of Monies

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Approval of Caroline Gamble, Tutor at Somers High School

Rationale: Approval of Caroline Gamble, Tutor at Somers High School

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla discussed Caroline Gamble's relation to Karen Regan, SHS School Counselor, with the BOE. She is a certified teacher who is replacing the Math Tutor who resigned over the summer. He stated that he does not feel there will be conflict and that she will not be supervised or report to her mother.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve Caroline Gamble, Tutor at SHS, passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Barbara Capuano. **Passed 7-0.**

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1. Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Building Goals

Rationale: Mr. Clay Krevolin, Principal of Mabelle B. Avery Middle School will present the Board the Middle School Building Goals

Discussion: Mr. C. Krevolin, MBA Principal, and Mr. R. Kapner, MBA Assistant Principal, presented the MBA Building Goals for the 2018-19 school year in Literacy, Math, and Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS). In Literacy and Math, the goals are for all students to meet or exceed their individual MAP Projected Growth Goal. The focus will be on students who are falling behind and targeting interventions as well as monitoring high-performing students and encouraging them to perform at a high level. Strategies to achieve these goals were discussed. Student assessment data will be readily available to teachers at the beginning of the year to review in data team meetings. These meetings are held every six days. Students may be targeted who were not previously identified for intervention. Progress monitoring will occur four times a year to make sure that the interventions applied are appropriate and that the student is growing. Teachers will work with students to establish individual improvement goals. MAP assessments in Language Arts and Math will occur with the students' academic teachers. An additional section of seventh grade math will help to decrease class size. Interventions will be targeted and continually evaluated to measure their effectiveness. MBA will determine trends in student results to inform curricular decisions. Testing results (SBAC, MAP) will be correlated for individual students. Mr. Kapner discussed the Power of Growth Mindset which is a movement that started a few years ago empowering students to understand that their growth and their qualities can be cultivated through sustained effort and coaching from others while acknowledging differences in talents, aptitudes, interests, and temperaments. The third goal involves Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS). MBA is looking for a 20% reduction in office referrals. PBIS is currently being revised to be more universal throughout the school. Objectives include to improve school climate for staff and students with a universal approach to discipline. There will be a clear expectation of positive behavior as well as procedures for teaching and modeling behaviors.

11.2. Extended School Year Report

Rationale: Dr. Denise Messina will present her report of the Extended School Year Program

Discussion: Dr. D. Messina, Director of Pupil Services, and M. Steidler, SES Special Education Teacher, discussed Extended School Year (ESY) at SES, MBA, SHS, and Out of District to the BOE. ESY is not required for every student on an IEP. The ESY as an IEP service is a BOE obligation. The PPT (Planning and Placement Team) determines eligibility for ESY based on a student's regression, recoupment, and the nature and severity of the disability. This is a service that is determined annually by the PPT. It is also not mandatory for parents to participate in this service. M. Steidler described the SES ESY/Summer SLAM 2018 program. A number of staff and SHS student volunteers participated in the four-week program. SLAM (Supporting Language Arts and Math) ran for two sessions. Students may attend all four weeks for a tuition. Forty-six students participated in total (15 SLAM tuition students; 35 students attended session 1 and 33 students attended session 2; 25 students on IEP's with ESY; 4 Walk-in Speech services; 3 qualifying students did not show; 1 Homebound PreK Tutoring SLP; and 13 ESY students required transportation while only 11 utilized it). IEP goals were supported and met with daily reading and math, daily PE sessions, weekly focus on executive functioning, and weekly summer themes. There were 20 students recommended for MBA/SHS ESY tutoring. Fourteen students attended the Somers Public Library for tutoring. Eight out of ten Out of District students participated. Tuition is set per site and included Ellington High School, IEA, Gengras, River Street, Speech Academy/JCC, and CREC Southbridge. This program ran from 7/2-8/10/18, five days a week.

11.3. Superintendent Goals for 2018-2019

Rationale: Superintendent Goals for 2018-2019

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla presented the 2018-19 goals to the BOE. He stated he will develop a new five-year strategic plan focused on the instructional model which will be presented in the spring. He wants to work with the BOE and parent groups (PTO) in order to inform the public about the long-range facilities plan. He wants to conduct in-depth analysis on students to increase achievement levels on standardized tests. He will also continue to maintain a visible presence in the schools.

11.4. Superintendent Updates

Rationale: Mr. Czapla will present the Board with Updates.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla will be participating in the Dunking Booth on Friday, 9/14/18, at the Four Town Fair at 6 p.m.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1. BUDGET

Discussion: No report.

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12.2. CURRICULUM

Discussion: No report.

12.3. POLICY

Discussion: A. Kirkpatrick reported that the committee met tonight prior to the BOE meeting and that there will be policies for the next BOE meeting agenda. The next committee meeting will be held on 9/24/18 at 6 p.m.

12.4. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion: No report.

12.5. PLANNING

Discussion: Chairman Devlin reported that there will be a meeting next Monday, 9/17/18, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Education meeting room. All BOE members were encouraged to attend.

13. OTHER

Discussion: None.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **Passed 7-0.**

Rick Lees, Board of Education Secretary Date

Shannin Burns, BOE Recording Secretary