

DRAFT

Somers Board of Education Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2018 7:00 PM
Board of Education Room

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM:

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

Others: Bill Boutwell, Gary Cotzin, Daniel Carroll, Faith Sarisley, Sophia Carengo

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by B. Devlin in the Mabelle B. Avery Board of Education meeting room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rationale: The Board of Education will elect officers at this meeting.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla opened the floor for nominations for Chairman of the BOE.

Motion Passed: Bruce Devlin for Chairman of the BOE passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **9 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Motion Passed: David Palmer for Vice Chairman of the BOE passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Rick Lees. **9 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Motion Passed: Rick Lees for Secretary of the BOE passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **9 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Discussion: Faith Sarisley and Sophia Carengo updated the BOE on SHS events. The Senior's Dunk Tank at the Four Town Fair made over \$1400. They are planning for events such as the semi-formal, senior outing, and the prom. Seniors are meeting with counselors to discuss colleges. The Junior Food Booth sold fudge, candy, soda, and water at the Four Town Fair and made over \$1300. Junior year can be a stressful time for students because they recognize colleges tend to focus on this year academically.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1. Draft Minutes of September 10, 2018 Meeting

Rationale: The Board to review and approve the Draft Minutes of September 10, 2018 meeting.

Motion Passed: Draft minutes from the September 10, 2018 BOE meeting passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Kate McLellan. **9 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

6. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

Motion Passed: Motion to add agenda item 14.1 - CABA Convention and CREC Meeting passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Kate McLellan.

9 Yeas - 0 Nays.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion: The BOE thanked Dan Carroll, SHS Assistant Principal, and wished him well.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Barbara Capuano. **9 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

9.1. BOE Warrant for September 24, 2018

Rationale: Warrant for September 24, 2018 in the amount of \$134,871.87 for BOE consent.

9.2. Medical Leave for Sara DeMonti, Somers Elementary Reading Specialist

Rationale: Somers Elementary School's Reading Specialist, Sara DeMonti, is requesting medical leave effective 9/11/18 through approximately 5/10/19.

9.3. Maternity and Childrearing Leave for MBA English Teacher, Jacqueline Rivard

Rationale: Jacqueline Rivard, MBA English Teacher, is requesting maternity and childrearing leave beginning on or around 2/12/19 through the end of the 2018-19 school year.

9.4. Maternity Leave for SES Grade 1 Teacher, Emily Galloway

Rationale: Emily Galloway, Grade 1 Teacher, is requesting maternity leave effective 11/2/18 and will return after her six-week maternity leave.

9.5. Medical Leave for Kelly Chevalier, Somers Elementary School Custodian

Rationale: Kelly Chevalier, SES Custodian, is requesting a medical leave with unpaid time effective 9/6/18.

9.6. Resignation of Somers High School Assistant Principal, Daniel Carroll

Rationale: Resignation of Daniel Carroll, Somers High School Assistant Principal, effective October 10, 2018.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1. Somers Board of Education Approved Impartial Expulsion Hearing Officer List

Rationale: List of Somers BOE approved impartial expulsion hearing officer list for the Board to approve.

Discussion: Superintendent Czaplak explained to the BOE that the list contains names of education attorneys who have experience with expulsions. There is a limited timeline for expulsion hearings. BOE members may still attend hearings;

however, utilizing an attorney may remove any conflict of interest. Chairman Devlin stated that he would consult with all BOE members before making any decisions regarding expulsion hearings.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the BOE Impartial Expulsion Hearing List passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Sarah Bollinger.
9 Yeas - 0 Nays.

10.2. Somers BOE Approval 2018-19 Budget Revisions

Rationale: Board of Education to approve 2018-19 budget revisions.

Discussion: Mr. Bill Boutwell, Director of Business Services, discussed the revisions made to the budget from last spring including salary, new hires, health insurance, etc. to the BOE.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve budget revisions as presented passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **9 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

10.3. Primary Mental Health Care Provider Grant - Approval

Rationale: BOE to approve the Primary Mental Health Care Provider Grant.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve Primary Mental Health Care Provider Grant passed with a motion by Barbara Capuano and a second by Jan Martin.

9 Yeas - 0 Nays.

10.4. 1st Warning - Somers Board of Education 2019 Meeting Schedule

Rationale: The Board to review the 2019 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

10.5. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 1340 - Community Relations - Access to School Procedures and Materials

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 1340 - Community Relations - Access to School Procedures and Materials. Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.6. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3110 - Business - Budget Planning

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3110 - Business - Budget Planning. The Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.7. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3112 - Business - Budget Calendar

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3112 - Business - Budget Calendar. The Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.8. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3120 - Business - Preparation of Budget

Document

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3120 - Business - Preparation of Budget Document. The Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy. The committee recommends deleting this policy: redundant with policy 3112.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.9. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3130 - Business - Budget Publication

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3130 - Business - Budget Publication. The Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy. The committee recommends deleting this policy: redundant with policy 3112.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.10. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3140 - Business - Public Review of Budget

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3140 - Business - Public Review of Budget. The Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy. The committee recommends deleting this policy: redundant with policy 3112.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.11. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3150 - Business - Adoption of Budget

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3150 - Business - Adoption of Budget. Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy. The committee recommends deleting this policy: redundant with policy 3112.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.12. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3310 - Business - Expenditures/Expending Authority - Purchasing Guides

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3310 - Business - Expenditures/Expending Authority - Purchasing Guides. Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.13. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3326 - Business - Paying for Goods and Services

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3326 - Business - Paying for Goods and Services. Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.14. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3430 - Business - Periodic Financial Reports

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 3430 - Business - Periodic Financial Reports. Board Policy Committee will answer any questions on the policy.

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

10.15. 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 4117.2 - Personnel - Certificated: Resignation

Rationale: 1st Warning - Somers DBS Code 4117.2 - Personnel - Certificated: Resignation

Discussion: All questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or the Policy Committee.

11. OLD BUSINESS

12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

12.1. Somers High School Building Goals

Rationale: Mr. Gary Cotzin, SHS Principal, will present the SHS building goals to the BOE.

Discussion: Mr. Gary Cotzin, SHS Principal, and Mr. Dan Carroll, SHS Assistant Principal, updated the BOE on four building goals: students improving math skills as measured by PSAT/SAT tests by 15 points from 10/2018-04/2019; students improving literacy skills as measured by PSAT/SAT tests by 15 points from 10/2018-04/2019; sophomores and intervention students improving their math and literacy NWEA scores by 3 points; and, students will complete a sufficient number of credits each year to graduate. Mr. Cotzin explained that the English and Math departments are focusing on teaching students problem-solving skills. Test scores are used to help teachers analyze areas to improve as well as enabling them to design instructional methods.

12.2. Somers High School Exit Survey Results

Rationale: Mr. Gary Cotzin, Somer High School Principal, will present exit survey results to the BOE.

Discussion: Mr. Gary Cotzin, SHS Principal, and Mr. Dan Carroll, SHS Assistant Principal, updated the BOE on Senior Exit Survey results and compared 2018 to 2017. Issues with alcohol continue to show improvement; students feel less discriminated against; bullying is less of an issue; and, students continue to feel respected by staff. Mr. Cotzin reported that there were less favorable responses regarding students feeling safe; students feeling that rules are not clearly defined; and, a decreased positive perception of the Nurse/Health Services. Mr. Cotzin addressed the school safety issues which included the increased number of security cameras, the doorway monitors, and anonymous alerts that will be implemented soon. Class-wide meetings were held at the start of the year to help define the rules, and the handbook discipline policy is now online. There was also a change made last year in the Nurse/Health Services which will hopefully improve feedback this

year. Superintendent Czaplá recommended updating the survey questions in order

to make them more relevant for the students.

12.3. Superintendent Update

Rationale: The Superintendent will update the BOE on recent events.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla updated the BOE on recent events. A draft of the Campus View was made available to each member of the BOE to review. He reported that the first Strategic Planning Meeting was held last week. They discussed an overview of the planning process and the future of education which will play a role in developing SPS's strategic plan. The next Strategic Planning Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2018. A. Kirkpatrick attended the meeting last week and thought the reaction from the staff was very positive.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

13.1. BUDGET

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that administrators are working with staff to generate budget requests. Requests are due on 10/12/18 at which time the process will begin and will continue through December/January. The budget will then be presented to the BOE.

13.2. CURRICULUM

Discussion: K. McLellan reported that the Curriculum Committee met prior to the BOE meeting on 9/24/18. Two textbooks will be warned at the next BOE meeting.

13.3. POLICY

Discussion: No report.

13.4. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that they are meeting with consultants. There will be future reports on insurance premiums and pensions. Meetings will occur later in the fall or early winter.

13.5. PLANNING

Discussion: J. Anderson voiced his concern on information he has heard as well as information that has been posted on social media from citizens regarding the track renovation, location, and the process. S. Bollinger avowed that she has heard of similar information. Superintendent Czapla reported that he brought in a firm to give their opinion on costs in preparation for the bonding budget. The quote was for one location; however, the final location will be determined after a thorough analysis of all submitted proposals. The BOE will be involved in the decision-making process. S. Bollinger also requested further information on items under the revised budget. Answers will be reported at the next BOE meeting on 10/15/18.

13.6. OTHER COMMITTEES

