

**Somers Board of Education Meeting
Board of Education Room
December 10, 2018
7:00 PM**

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM:

Present Board Members: Sarah Bollinger (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Barbara Capuano, David Palmer, Bruce Devlin, Rick Lees, Jeremy Anderson, Anne Kirkpatrick

Absent Board Members: Jan Martin, Kate McLellan

Others: Brian Czapla, Bill Boutwell, Dr. Irene Zytka, Marion Creamer, Dina Senecal, Joan Jaquith, Jenn DePlank, Katy Zraunig, Betsy Walsh, Annalisa Deal, Tom Forma, Kevin Nichols

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 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. The Board will recognize Joan Jaquith for her work for the last 23 years with the Network Against Domestic Abuse.

Rationale: The Board will recognize Joan Jaquith for her work for the last 23 years with the Network Against Domestic Abuse.

Discussion: The Board of Education and Superintendent Czapla recognized Joan Jaquith for her volunteer work over the past 23 years for the Network Against Domestic Abuse. Annalisa Deal from the Network Against Domestic Abuse presented Ms. Jaquith with flowers and explained how her contributions and volunteer work over the years has impacted the families and children. Superintendent Czapla stated that Ms. Jaquith's genuine sense of caring and giving has translated to the rest of the staff at SPS, and he is very appreciative of her service. The BOE presented Joan Jaquith with a gift. Ms. Jaquith stated that she gets more pleasure volunteering for the Network Against Domestic Abuse and that without the staff and community it would never be a success.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Draft Minutes of November 26, 2018

Rationale: Draft Minutes of November 26, 2018

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the minutes of the 11/26/18 Board of

Education Meeting passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Barbara Capuano. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

5. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion Passed: Motion to approve Consent Agenda passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

8.1. Warrant of December 10, 2018

Rationale: Board will review and consent to the warrant of December 10, 2018 in the amount of \$385,387.54.

8.2. Resignation of Mrs. Susan Murphy, ParaEducator at Somers High School.

Rationale: Mrs. Susan Murphy is resigning from her position of ParaEducator at Somers High School.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Approval of Overnight Field Trip Request - Somers High School's US History Teacher, Phil Goduti, to take students to Washington DC from March 29-31st, 2019.

Rationale: The Board will review request and approve for Overnight Field Trip of Somers High School's US History Teacher, Phil Goduti, to take students to Washington DC from March 29-31st, 2019.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the overnight field trip request from SHS's US History Teacher, Phil Goduti, to take students to Washington DC from March 29-31st, 2019 passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Rick Lees. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

9.2. 1st Warning of Somers Public Schools Calendar for 2019-2020

Rationale: Attached is the 1st Warning of the Somers Public Schools Calendar for 2019-2020 for the Board to review. It will be voted on in the January 14, 2019 meeting.

Discussion: Superintendent Czaplá reported to the BOE that the 2019-20 Professional Development day typically held in December has been moved to August 28, 2019. This was discussed with SEA. There is no change to the total number of school days.

9.3. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 5118.1 - Admission of Resident Students

Rationale: The Board will review the 1st warning of Somers Policy DBS 5118.1-Admission of Resident Students.

Discussion: Questions may be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or any member of the Policy Committee.

9.4. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 5131.7 - Students Weapons & Dangerous Instruments

Rationale: The Board will review the first warning of Somers Policy DBS 5131.7-Students Weapons & Dangerous Instruments.

Discussion: Questions may be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or any member of the Policy Committee.

9.5. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 5131.111 - Student Conduct and Surveillance

Rationale: The Board will review the 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 5131.111 - Student Conduct and Surveillance.

Discussion: Questions may be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or any member of the Policy Committee.

9.6. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 5131.913 - Students Bullying

Rationale: The Board will review the 1st Warning of the Somers Policy DBS 5131.913 - Students Bullying.

Discussion: Questions may be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or any member of the Policy Committee.

9.7. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 6141.312 - Instruction Migrant Students

Rationale: The Board will review the Somers Policy DBS 6141.312 - Instruction Migrant Students.

Discussion: Questions may be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or any member of the Policy Committee.

9.8. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 6141.322 - Instruction Computer Web/Social Media

Rationale: The Board will review Somers Policy DBS 6141.322 - Instruction Computer Web/Social Media.

Discussion: Questions may be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or any member of the Policy Committee.

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1. SESA Pension Update

Rationale: Forma Group will be giving an update to the Board on the SESA Pension.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla introduced Tom Forma and Kevin Nichols, investment advisors from Morgan Stanley, to the BOE. They provided information regarding the status of the pension and assured the BOE that although

the fluctuating market hasn't been favorable (currently down 6.57% since August), it is historically normal. Chairman Devlin stated that this is a long-term investment and modifications may be made as recommended.

11.2. SES Language Arts Program

Rationale: Mrs. Dina Senecal will present to the Board of Education the Fountas and Pinnell Classroom.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla introduced Dina Senecal, Principal at Somers Elementary School, to present Fountas & Pinnell Classroom to the BOE. Mrs. Senecal stated that Fountas & Pinnell may be one of the potential solutions to achieving higher test scores. Currently, reading materials at SES are more than ten years old and no longer relevant. Test scores have been inconsistent if not stagnant or declining. F&P materials will help to standardize current reading instruction and help to vertically align content among grades. Mrs. Senecal provided a timeline in purchasing and implementing materials over four years. In 2018-19, BAS reading assessment materials were updated. There will be a PD day in February 2019 on F&P Learning Continuum. In 2019-20, Interactive Read-Alouds (K-5) and Reading Mini-lessons (K-5) will be introduced into the curriculum. Interactive Read-Alouds include 120 trade titles for K-5. All students will be exposed to the same text. Each kit will be purchased by the teacher. Reading Mini-lessons are systematic, progressive lesson plans for teachers grades K-5. They are actual lessons taught based upon the Interactive Read-Alouds which focus on skills that students will model, practice, and apply. In 2020-21, Shared Reading will roll out for Pre-K to Grade 2 with 200 titles. This consists of large books that come with a set of mini books. Shared reading allows students to have explicit instructions within a small group and the teacher. The mini books may be read alone or listened to through an auditory piece through F&P. Another component of F&P Classroom for 2021-22 is Guided Reading for K-5 to be implemented in two rounds. It's a reading library for students with a collection of 1300 new titles. There are six copies per title which will allow the teacher to pull small groups reading at the same level as well as provide independent reading. These new texts will be a replacement of the current texts available. Mrs. Senecal is looking to purchase 3-5 kits per grade level. The total cost over the four-year roll out would be approximately \$100,000. Mrs. Senecal distributed F&P booklets to each BOE member tabbing the components to be purchased. Not all components have to be purchased at once with F&P. Other districts are using F&P Classroom. Language Arts assessments are performed three times a year at SES. Mrs. Senecal proposed a new full-time position, a Reading Consultant, to the BOE to provide support for teachers, provide PD for staff, organize tutor and intervention schedules, oversee reading interventionists, oversee ELA in Atlas, and be a representative for the district.

11.3. Superintendent's Update

Rationale: The Superintendent will update the Board of current issues/events.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla updated the BOE on two issues. He reported

that Bus #3 malfunctioned on 12/10/18, and he was notified that students exited the bus in order to find alternate modes of transportation. MBA and SHS administrators personally called each student's parent/guardian. First Student will be meeting with the Superintendent. He also updated the BOE on his recent fact-finding visit to Hillsdale College.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1. CURRICULUM

Discussion: No report.

12.2. POLICY

Discussion: No report. The next meeting is TBD.

12.3. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion: No report.

12.4. PLANNING

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that meetings will be held in early January. Bill Boutwell, Director of Business Services, stated that proposals are due Wednesday. Packets will be available on Friday for members of the Planning Committee. Members who will not be available to collect the packet on Friday may email the superintendent.

13. OTHER

13.1. Executive Session - Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation

Rationale: The Board will vote to go into Executive Session for the Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation. The Superintendent will be invited in.

Motion Passed: Motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation and invite Superintendent Czapla into Executive Session passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Passed: The Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. Motion to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Rick Lees, Board of Education Secretary Date

Shannin Burns, BOE Recording Secretary