

**Somers Board of Education Meeting
Somers Elementary School Auditorium
March 11, 2019
7:00 PM**

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

Others: Brian Czapla, Bill Boutwell, Dr. Denise Messina, Dr. Irene Zytka, Rob Wilson, Clay Krevolin, Jackie Nappo, Richard Cashman, Tracey Cashman, Cheryl Gustafson, Jeff Keener, Cole Ferro, Lindsay Cashman, Braden Rogers, Addie Stanton, Julie Rogers, Tenley Stoltz, Kristen Angelica, Mary Curran, Phil Goduti and family

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Devlin at 7:03 p.m. in the Somers Elementary School auditorium.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

3.1. Board of Education will honor Mr. Philip Goduti

Rationale: The Somers Board of Education will honor Mr. Philip Goduti, a Social Studies teacher at Somers High School.

Discussion: The Board of Education recognized Mr. Philip Goduti, Somers High School Social Studies teacher, for his many accomplishments as well as his service to the students in Somers. Mr. Goduti has been teaching at SHS for nearly 16 years and taught at Quinnipiac University. He was SPS's Teacher of the Year in 2017. For the past ten years, he has taken the AP SS class to Washington D.C. He is pursuing his Ph.D. in History at UCONN and has published three books. He has written numerous articles and has made appearances in State and local television shows as well as radio shows. He has also appeared in the documentary, "RFK: America's Lost President." Mr. Goduti thanked the superintendent and BOE for being supportive in his endeavors and stated that teaching has been one of the great joys in his life.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Board of Education Draft Minutes from February 11, 2019

Rationale: Board will review and approve the draft minutes from the February 11, 2019 meeting.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve minutes from the 2/11/19 Board of Education meeting passed with a motion by Kate McLellan and a second by Jan Martin.

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 the entire Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Jeremy Anderson and a second by Barbara Capuano. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

8.1. Warrant of March 11, 2019

Rationale: The Board is to review Warrant of March 11, 2019 in the amount of \$394,734.43 and give consent.

8.2. Warrant of February 28, 2019

Rationale: The Board is to review Warrant of February 28, 2019 in the amount of \$126,199.73 and give consent.

8.3. Retirement

Rationale: Mrs. Holly Sawtelle has submitted her retirement letter effective June 30, 2019. Mrs. Sawtelle has been with Somers Public Schools at MBA since 1982 as a World Language teacher.

8.4. Retirement

Rationale: Ms. Nancy Ingram has submitted her retirement letter effective June 30, 2019. Ms. Ingram has taught in General Education, Special Education and Intervention from K-6 for her 32-year tenure with Somers Public Schools.

8.5. Resignation

Rationale: Mrs. Kelly Giannuzzi, Somers High School Guidance Counselor, has put in her resignation.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. 1st Warning of Somers DBS 5131.81 - Students Electronic Devices

Rationale: Board will ask Policy Committee any questions they have on 1st Warning of Somers DBS 5131.81 - Students Electronic Devices.

9.2. 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 9325.2 - Board ByLaws Meeting

Rationale: Board will ask Policy Committee if they have any questions on 1st Warning of Somers Policy DBS 9325.2 - Board ByLaws Meeting.

9.3. 1st Warning on Somers Policy DBS 4112 (4212) Personnel - Employment

Rationale: Board will ask Policy Committee if they have any questions on Somers Policy DBS 4112 (4212) Personnel - Employment.

9.4. 1st Warning on Textbook for Somers High School English

Rationale: 1st Warning on Textbook for Somers High School English. This is Grade 12 Academic English - "The Things They Carried."

9.5. Field Trip - Overnight Field Trip for the Art Department at Somers High School.

Rationale: The Board is to review the Somers High School Overnight Art Department field trip to New York City on May 3rd & 4th, 2019.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the SHS Art Department's field trip to NYC on 5/3/19 and 5/4/19 passed with a motion by Barbara Capuano and a second by Anne Kirkpatrick. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

10. OLD BUSINESS

10.1. 2019-2020 Budget Approval

Rationale: The Board is to approve and to send to the Board of Finance the 2019-2020 Budget.

Discussion: Chairman Devlin thanked the superintendent and administrators for creating a thoughtful budget.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the 2019-20 budget as presented to send to the BOF passed with a motion by Kate McLellan and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1. MBA Technology

Rationale: Mr. Jeff Keener, MBA Technology Teacher, will do a presentation of Robotics with his students.

Discussion: Mr. Clay Krevolin, MBA Principal, introduced Mr. Jeff Keener, MBA Technology Teacher. Mr. Krevolin has observed the students' excitement about learning, problem solving, and utilizing the latest technology. Mr. Keener stated that robotics is in constant transformation with STEM jobs exploding in exploration, medicine, defense, driverless vehicles, and manufacturing. Students are utilizing VEX IQ, a new robotics platform. The product is made from durable plastic which holds together very well. Students are exposed to robotics from 6th grade to 8th grade with each year developing more skills. Robotics in MBA introduces programming as well as developing a sense of construction. Mr. Keener introduced students who participate in the Robotics Club once a week

after school. Cole Ferro, Lindsey Cashman, Braden Rogers, and Addie Stanton presented their robots to the BOE and explained how they became interested in robotics. All students attend technology education for one-third of the school year. Mr. Krevolin and Mr. Keener appreciate the support from the superintendent, BOE, and IT department to advance the technology education at MBA.

11.2. Superintendent Update

Rationale: Superintendent Update

Discussion: No report.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1. CURRICULUM

Discussion: Kate McLellan stated that the committee met on 3/11/19 and voted on a new textbook for 12th grade Academic English.

12.2. POLICY

Discussion: Anne Kirkpatrick reported that the committee is currently on hold.

12.3. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion: No report.

12.4. PLANNING

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that there will be a meeting with SMRT this week. He will present the details to the BOE. Other projects in the long-range plan are in the process of finalizing bid specifications. The chosen contract will be brought forth for BOE approval. The oil tank project will most likely not get done this summer.

13. CREC UPDATE

Discussion: Anne Kirkpatrick stated that she provided a report to the BOE members. Patrice McCarthy attended the hearing regarding the resolution from CREC asking the State to meet its obligation. There was a large turnout. She will update the BOE next month.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **7 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Rick Lees, Board of Education Secretary

Date

Shannin Burns, BOE Recording Secretary