

Somers Board of Education Meeting

Board of Education Room

October 15, 2019

7:00 PM

Attendance Taken at 6:59 PM:

Present Board Members: Sarah Bollinger, Bruce Devlin, Anne Kirkpatrick, Jan Martin, Kate McLellan

Absent Board Members: David Palmer, Jeremy Anderson, Rick Lees, Barbara Capuano

Others: Brian Czaplá, Dr. Irene Zytka, Bill Boutwell, Giovanna Gioscia, Anthony Gioscia, Charlene Gioscia, Elizabeth O'Toole, Melissa Mucci, Dina Senecal, Fiona Cheyney, Gabby Tullock, Patrick Soucy, Jackie Nappo

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 & RECOGNITIONS

3.1. The Board to honor Giovanna Gioscia from Somers High School

Rationale: Giovanna Gioscia, a Junior at Somers High, has been selected for the National Association for Music Education's 2019 All National Honor Ensemble.

Discussion: The BOE recognized Giovanna Gioscia, SHS Junior, who has been selected for the National Association for Music Education's 2019 All National Honor Ensemble to perform in Florida next month. Chairman Devlin read a letter from Mrs. Jessica Wolf, MBA and SHS Music Instrumental Teacher, to the BOE stating that Giovanna's contributions to band have been invaluable. She leads by example and encourages other students to become the best versions of themselves. To perform in the National Honor Ensemble is a testament to her hard work and dedication. The BOE presented Miss Gioscia with a gift.

SHS student representatives, Fiona Cheyney and Gabby Tullock, reported on SHS events to the BOE. PSAT's are scheduled for 10/16/19 with Seniors arriving at 11 a.m. Girls Soccer has an away game on Thursday. Spanish Heritage Week was held last week. SADD will hold their annual red ribbon awareness next week. Field hockey had an away game on 10/15/19, and Cross Country NCCC will occur on Thursday.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Board of Education Draft Minutes of September 9, 2019

Rationale: Board to approve the Draft Minutes of September 9, 2019.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the BOE draft minutes from 9/9/19 passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Kate McLellan. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

4.2. Board of Education Draft Minutes of September 23, 2019

Rationale: Board to approve the Draft Minutes of September 23, 2019.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the BOE draft minutes from 9/23/19 passed with a motion by Kate McLellan and a second by Jan Martin. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

5. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the entire Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

7.1. Warrant of September 23, 2019

Rationale: Board to consent to Warrant of September 23, 2019 in the amount of \$232,571.33.

7.2. Warrant of October 15, 2019

Rationale: Board to consent to Warrant of October 15, 2019 in the amount of \$342,181.06.

7.3. 2nd Warning of 2020 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Rationale: The Board will review and approve the 2020 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

7.4. 2nd Warning - Curriculum Course Proposal - SHS Robotics

Rationale: 2nd Warning - Curriculum Course Proposal - SHS Robotics for the Board to approve.

7.5. 2nd Warning - Curriculum Proposal - Book - "Unbroken"

Rationale: Board to approve 2nd Warning - Curriculum - Book - "Unbroken"

7.6. 2nd Warning - Curriculum - Book - "Woods Runner"

Rationale: Board to approve 2nd Warning - Curriculum - Book - "Woods Runner."

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Update on Track Project

Rationale: The Superintendent will update the Board on the Track Project.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that the track project is coming along well and is on schedule for completion around the middle of November. He provided an updated financial form to the BOE. The BOE had approved the projected \$2.73 million budget; however, there have been other services to pay for and change orders to be applied. The change orders amounted to \$78,000 which is good for a project this size. After working with a local vendor regarding the scoreboard, the original bid of \$135,000 was brought down to \$96,000. The Class of 2017 and the Somers Park and Recreation Department generously made donations for the sound system. There are a number of projects that are coming in under budget which will offset some additional costs (i.e. oil tank, column repair savings at SES, and recycling track topsoil to be used for the baseball field).

8.2. Approval of Track Scoreboard

Rationale: The Board will approve the Track Scoreboard.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Track Scoreboard passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Kate McLellan. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

8.3. Approval of Track Sound System

Rationale: The Board will review and approve the Track Sound System.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Track Sound System passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Kate McLellan. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

8.4. Donation from the Somers Recreation Department towards the Sound System at the new high school track.

Rationale: The Board will review and approve the Somers Recreation Department donation of \$12,000 towards the Sound System at the new high school track.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Somers Recreation Department's \$12,000 donation towards the Sound System at the new SHS track passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Jan Martin. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

8.5. Donation from Somers High School Class of 2017 towards the Sound System for the high school track.

Rationale: The Board will review and approve the donation of \$11,071 from the Somers High School Class of 2017 towards the Sound System for the high school track.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the SHS Class of 2017's donation of \$11,071 towards the Sound System at the new SHS track passed with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Kate McLellan. **5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

8.6. 1st Warning - Policy - DBS 5131.911 - Hazing/Bullying

Rationale: The Board is to review the policy 5131.911 on Hazing/Bullying. Policy members can answer any questions. October 28th will be the consent of this policy.

8.7. 1st Warning of DBS Policy 5131.11 - Students - Conduct/Bullying

Rationale: The Board is to review the policy 5131.11 on Students – Conduct/Bullying. Policy members can answer any questions. October 28th will be the consent of this policy.

8.8. 1st Warning - DBS 0100 - Mission-Goals-Objectives

Rationale: The Board is to review the policy 0100 - Mission-Goals Objectives. Policy members can answer any questions. October 28th will be the consent of this policy.

8.9. 1st Warning - DBS Policy 6146 - Instruction Requirements/Standards of Proficiency

Rationale: The Board is to review the policy 6146 – Instruction Requirements/Standards of Proficiency. Policy committee members can answer any questions. October 28th will be the consent of this policy.

8.10. Approval of 2019-2020 Budget Revision Report

Rationale: The Board will review and approve the 2019-2020 Budget Revision Report.

Discussion: Mr. Bill Boutwell, Director of Business Services, provided a packet to BOE members regarding the revised approved budget. Changes recommended since the approved budget in May are predominantly under salary and benefits. There has been nothing major or out of the ordinary. Sarah Bollinger questioned if there has been any savings in utility cost due to solar panels. Mr. Boutwell stated that SPS is under a three-year contract with NG through December 2021.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the 2019-2020 budget revision as presented passed with a motion by Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

8.11. Somers Public Schools Organization Chart w/ Summary

Rationale: The Board will review and approve the Somers Public Schools Organization Chart w/ summary.

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the SPS Organization Chart subject to modification passed with a motion by Kate McLellan and a second by Jan Martin.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

9. OLD BUSINESS**10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

10.1. Summer Curriculum Writing 2019

Rationale: Dr. Zytka will be present to answer any questions.

Discussion: Dr. Irene Zytka, Director of Curriculum, updated the BOE on the summer 2019 curriculum writing. Teachers completed 326 hours of curriculum writing with the majority at the high school. SHS worked on revamping the Advisory program due to the growing need for diversity and equity. The Frontline RTI system was implemented to capture interventions done within the district. Staff at SHS updated the Atlas curriculum in a variety of subjects. At MBA, Dr. Zytka and Ms. Lynn Sakos worked on creating a curriculum for the new 6th grade Skills for Success Seminar. MBA staff also worked on updating the Physical Education, Science, and English curricula. At SES, the preschool worked on their curriculum, and the first grade worked on pacing charts in Atlas. Mrs. Melissa Mucci, SES Assistant Principal, worked on inputting data into the Frontline RTI system.

10.2. 2019 SBAC Performance Report

Rationale: Dr. Zytka will present the Board the 2019 SBAC Performance Report and answer any questions.

Discussion: Dr. Irene Zytka, Director of Curriculum, updated the BOE on the 2019 SBAC performance. There were some areas of growth and decline. She discussed the three data charts that were included in the report. She highlighted the last chart which demonstrated a growth trend among the same students tested. She stated that it is important to recognize that the students are making progress. Fountas & Pinnell implementation at SES has been reported to be favorable among staff. SES and MBA are also piloting three math programs. The math program that is chosen should follow the Common Core and be progressive. The fifth grade has implemented a double literacy block which has had positive feedback from staff. There will also be implementation of Sadlier vocabulary instruction for grades 5-10.

10.3. Superintendent's Update

Rationale: Mr. Czapla will update the Board on current events.

Discussion: No report.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1. CURRICULUM

Discussion: Kate McLellan reported that the next meeting will be in two weeks.

11.2. POLICY

Discussion: Anne Kirkpatrick reported that the next meeting will be in November.

11.3. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that the first meeting was held about a week ago. The second meeting will be held at the end of October. There is

