



SOMERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, Connecticut 06071

(860)749-2270 Fax (860)763-0748

Mr. Brian P. Czapla
Superintendent of Schools

Minutes (DRAFT)
Board of Education Meeting
April 20, 2020

Held via video teleconference

Meeting convened at 7:04 pm

In attendance: Anne Kirkpatrick, Kate McLellan, Jeremy Anderson, Jan Martin, Bruce Devlin, Brian Czapla, David Palmer, Marissa Marks, Krista Cherry, Bill Boutwell, Dina Senecal, Fiona Cheyney

Somers High School Student Report: Fiona Cheyney provided the BOE with a status report on the distance learning program at the high school.

A motion was made by Kate McLellan to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2020 Public Hearing (seconded by David Palmer). There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Jan Martin to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2020 BOE meeting (seconded by Kate McLellan). There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by David Palmer to approve the consent agenda (seconded by Jeremy Anderson). The motion passed unanimously.

Seven policies received a first warning. Any questions should be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick. Jeremy Anderson indicated that an edit needed to be done to DPS 1250 to remove some notes. This would be done for the May 11, 2020 BOE meeting.

Dina Senecal (Principal, Somers Elementary School) presented drafts of the new standards-based report cards to be implemented in September. She answered questions from BOE members.

Brian Czapla (Superintendent) provided the BOE with updates. The bus contract amendment was successfully negotiated. The BOE will pay 61% of the remaining contract, subject to renegotiation if schools reopen this school year. This equates to a \$100,000 cost savings. Current end of the year budget projections shows a \$300,000 surplus (subject to change) due to the COVID-19 situation. This will be given back to the town. Grading policies for the 4th quarter are being finalized and will be made public by the end of the week. Summer school will be developed free of charge for students in June and/or July.

Committee Reports:

- Curriculum – no report
 - Policy – no meetings scheduled. Brian P. Czapla review the April CAFE policy updates. No BOE policy updates are necessary.
 - Salary and Negotiations – David Palmer shared the administration is currently in negotiations with the nurses for a new contract. We hope to have this finalized by the end of April. A sub-committee meeting will be set up in mid-May to discuss non-affiliated general wage increases and the Superintendent's contract.
 - Planning – no report
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CREC Update – Anne Kirkpatrick gave an update on a recent meeting.

- Vaccination legislation is stalled in the legislature due to the COVID-19 crisis.
- The decision to close schools to May 20 was made to maintain student engagement.
- Many school districts are looking to provide free summer school. Some schools are considering a session in late August prior to the opening of the 2020-21 school year.

Jan Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting (seconded by Kate McLellan). The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Video Recording of the meeting can be found at
<https://www.somers.k12.ct.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=61378&pageId=26537794>