Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting
Somers Board of Education Chambers
Monday, November 9, 2026
7:00 PM

(The recorded livestream may be viewed on SPS' YouTube channel on the school website)

Present BOE Members: Mike Briggs, Dr. Sharon Goulet, Anne Kirkpatrick, Shane Manning, Kim Radziewicz, Derek Zelek

Absent BOE Members: Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Gina Olearczyk

Others: Dr. Sam Galloway, Julie Hinkley

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

   The regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chair Briggs at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Chambers.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

   3.1. Approval of the October 26, 2026 Meeting Minutes

   Rationale: The Board to review and approve the minutes from the October 26, 2026 Board meeting.

   Motion to approve minutes from October 26, 2026 Meeting. This motion, made by Kim Radziewicz and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3 (Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Gina Olearczyk)**

4. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

   4.1. Superintendent Update

   Superintendent Galloway provided an update to the Board. The transportation RFP was posted on the district website and Instagram on 10/30/26 and emailed to vendors. Approximately 40 questions were submitted by the 11/6/26 deadline. A consolidated Q&A document is being prepared for publication by 4:00 p.m. on 11/13/26. Final proposals are due to the Business Office by 2:00 p.m. on 11/23/26.

   An athletics update included recognition of the MBA girls' cross-country team for winning the NCCC Championship and the boys' team for placing third. Superintendent Galloway highlighted the significant growth of the girls' field hockey program under Coach Tim Percoski, along with the middle school team's recent championship victory. Board Member Kim Radziewicz noted that just three years ago, the middle school team struggled to field enough players.

Discussion emphasized the importance of sustaining athletic programs through challenging seasons and developing strong feeder programs.

4.2. Monthly Budget Report

Rationale: Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will update the Board on the monthly budget report.

Discussion: Superintendent Galloway presented the monthly budget report on behalf of Ms. Stephanie Levin. A budget adjustment of $291,800 was made from salaries to administrative overhead to reflect the district's use of ESS for substitute staffing. This arrangement relieves the district of certain costs associated with workers' compensation, sick leave, and unemployment while expanding the available substitute pool.

A vacant Business Education position will be filled by a long-term substitute who previously interned at SHS. Two positions remain vacant in custodial and maintenance services. A new groundskeeper began work this month.

A potential midyear out-of-district placement could impact tuition expenditures.

Ms. Jessica Wood will continue to assess staff and student equipment replacement needs. The Board previously approved $45,000 in equipment upgrades related to cybersecurity and insurance requirements.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

Motion to add item 8.5 regarding coaching evaluations. This motion, made by Anne Kirkpatrick and seconded by Kim Radziewicz, Carried. **Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3 (Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Gina Olearczyk)**

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Anne Kirkpatrick and seconded by Sharon Goulet, Carried. **Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3 (Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Gina Olearczyk)**

6.1. Warrant of November 2, 2026

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of November 2, 2026.

6.2. Warrant of November 9, 2026

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of November 9, 2026.

6.3. 2nd Posting of CIP Projects

Rationale: The Board to approve to move projects to CIP.

6.4. 2nd Posting 2027 BOE Meeting Schedule

6.5. Retirement

Rationale: Katherine Stutz, MBA Paraeducator, will retire at the end of the 2026-2027 school year after 8 years of service at SPS.

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. 1st Posting DBS Code 1140 - Budget/Referendum Materials

8.2. 1st Posting DBS Code 3100 - Board Budget Procedures and Line-Item Transfers

8.3. 1st Posting DBS Code 3260 - Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment Materials

8.4. 1st Postings of Policies to be Deleted:
DBS Code 3260 - Sale & Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies (2009)
DBS Code 3110 - Budget Planning (2018)
DBS Code 3111 - Budget Fiscal Year (1998)
DBS Code 3112 - Budget Calendar (2018)
DBS Code 3113 - Determination of Budget Priorities
DBS Code 3160 - Transfer of Funds Between Categories; Amendments
DBS Code 3170 - Budget Administration (2009)
DBS Code 3430 - Periodic Financial Reports (2018)
DBS Code 3430.1 - Periodic Financial Reports/Mandated Reports
DBS Code 3432 - Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement (2014)
DBS Code 3434 - Periodic Audit

8.5. Coaching Evaluation Process

Rationale: The Board to discuss the current evaluation process for athletic coaches.

Discussion: The Board discussed the frequency, criteria, and process for evaluating athletic coaches, including professional conduct and how student and parent concerns are addressed. Superintendent Galloway reported that coaches, including JV and assistant coaches, are formally evaluated annually by athletic and school administration using 25 performance indicators. Coaches are marked as Above Satisfactory, Satisfactory, or Needs Improvement based on these indicators. Evaluations are informed by administrative observations and feedback received from students and parents, although no formal student feedback process is in place. Board members discussed the importance of addressing both positive experiences and concerns, fostering a supportive athletic environment, and recognizing the impact coaches have on student-athletes at all levels.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1. Curriculum

The next meeting will be held on 11/18/26 at 5:30 p.m.

9.2. Policy

The committee met on 11/9/26 and will meet again in December. A potential change to the start times of regular Board and committee meetings will be brought to the full Board for discussion.

9.3. Planning/Finance

The Budget committee will meet before 12/4/26. A preliminary budget will be available by 11/19/26.

9.4. Salary & Negotiations

The committee is waiting to ratify the teachers' contract.

9.5. Building

The project contract and plan have not yet been approved for the SES HVAC project. Builders risk insurance remains a hurdle, as coverage cannot be secured without an approved plan. Alternative insurance options are being explored. The next project meeting is scheduled for 11/17/26.

10. CIP/CREC/SEF

The next CIP meeting is scheduled for 11/12/26. No CREC updates were reported. SEF recently reviewed grants totaling $21,911. The Board recognized the foundation's commitment to aligning grant awards with its mission and vision.

11. ADVANCE CALENDAR

The Advance Calendar was reviewed. The following events were highlighted:

- 11/10/26: PTO Meeting; Girls' Field Hockey vs. Northwest Catholic
- 11/11/26: Veterans Day Assemblies: SES at 9:30 a.m.; MBA/SHS at 10:00 a.m.
- 11/12/26: POPs Concert at SHS
- 11/19/26: NHS Induction Ceremony at SHS
- 11/20/26-11/21/26: CABE Convention at Mystic Marriott
- 11/25/26: Early Release
- 11/26/26-11/27/26: Thanksgiving Break
- 12/09/26: MBS Winter Concert - Grade 6 at 6:30 p.m.; Grades 7-8 at 7:30 p.m. (Snow Date: 12/16/26)
- 12/14/26: BOE Photo
- 12/23/26: Early Release

12. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

Community member Julie Hinkley noted that other districts use anonymous surveys to gather feedback from student-athletes and parents about their athletic program experiences.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Derek Zelek, Carried. **Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3 (Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Gina Olearczyk)**

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Dr. Sharon Goulet, BOE Secretary Date

Jenna McDermott, BOE Recording Secretary