

BOE Meeting Template
Monday, April 9, 2012 7:00 PM

Mabelle Avery Middle School District Offices Board Room, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2
4. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS 5
 1. Curriculum Presentations - Quest/Virtual High School
Kathleen Pezza, Director of Curriculum, will provide two curriculum presentations to the board - Quest and Virtual High School. She will be available to answer any questions board members may have.
5. CORRESPONDENCE 19
6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS
7. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Approval of Bills
 2. Retirement Notification - J. Machacek 24
Joan Machacek, MBA/SHS Music teacher, has submitted her retirement notification effective at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. Ms. Machacek has been employed by the Somers Public Schools since 1999.
8. NEW BUSINESS
 1. Technology Education Department Donation 25
Hamilton Sundstrand recently made a \$3,000.00 donation to the SHS Technology Ed VEX robotic program. These funds will be used to purchase supplies for the program.
 2. Approval of Regional Interdistrict Collaborative Bus Contract 26
Mr. Boutwell's report is included in the packet. He will be available to answer any questions board members may have.
9. OLD BUSINESS
10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
11. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 1. Budget
 2. Curriculum
 3. Policy
 4. Salary & Negotiations
 5. Planning
 6. Other Committees
12. OTHER
13. ADJOURNMENT 28

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – March 26, 2012

Members Present: J.Formeister, R.Lees, B.Pellissier, A.Kirkpatrick, S.Bollinger (arrived at 7:18 p.m.) *(all official votes took place after the quorum was established)*

Members Absent: D.Palmer, B.Devlin, M.Cicciarella, M.Maniscalco

Administrators Present: M.Suffredini, K.Pezza, B.Boutwell

Staff Present: M.Niziolek, R.Slater, C.Meagher

Citizens Present: P.Palmer, G.Crandall

Students Present: A.Astone, B.Coraballo, K.Phiden, S.Sullivan, S.Palmer, P.Chusid

Others:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Vice Chairman Formeister in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 12, 2012 – It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (A.Kirkpatrick) to approve the March 12, 2012 Board of Education meeting minutes. PASSED 5-0

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- The Board of Education received a Thank You Note from Mr. Devlin, thanking them for the flowers sent and get well wishes.

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Approval of Bills 03/26/12 (\$184,255.85)

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) to approve the 03/26/12 Bills in the amount of \$184,255.85 as presented. PASSED 5-0

7.2 Somers Wrestling Donation

The Somers Youth Wrestling organization has made a donation of \$2,000.00 to the Somers High School Wrestling team to cover some partial travel costs for this year and apparel for next season. The Board thanked the Somers Youth Wrestling Organization for their generous contribution as Somers has had great success with the wrestling program.

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) to approve the Somers Youth Wrestling organization donation in the amount of \$2,000.00 toward SHS Wrestling team to cover partial travel costs and next season's apparel as presented. PASSED 5-0

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

10.1 Recognition of SHS Technology Education Program

Mr. Roy Slater and Mr. Mike Niziolek presented to the Board on behalf of the SHS Tech Ed program. Mr. Slater, Mr. Kosloski and Mr. Niziolek were in Long Beach, California on March 15, 2012 as the SHS Technology Education and Engineering Program was presented and honored by the International Technology and Engineering Education Association (ITEEA) at their international conference. Mr. Slater and Mr. Niziolek noted that the international recognition was rewarding, fulfilling and informative on many levels. The conference was split into workshops and it was noted that STEM was highlighted, incorporating the concepts of engineering, math, and technology.

Mr. Slater and Mr. Niziolek thank the Board on behalf of the SHS Tech Ed program for their continuous support and gave an overview of their trip. The SHS Tech Ed program was able to meet the Darien High School Tech program and they discussed similarities and possible collaborations in the future. Mr. Kosloski was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to his participation the previous night in Connecticut's CTEA Vex State Championship (presented by CCSU) in New Britain, Connecticut. SHS Tech Ed program received the Judge's Award, and the Alliance Factor award – teams may join alliances as Somers joined an alliance that made it to the end and received the tournament championship trophy.

Dr. Suffredini thanked Mr. Slater, Mr. Kosloski and Mr. Niziolek for making the SHS Technology Education and Engineering program as successful as it is. He remarked on their outstanding teaching and assistance with keeping the program on the cutting edge.

10.2 Wellness Committee Update

Mrs. Meagher, MBA Nurse and Chair of the District's Wellness Committee, presented to the Board an update on the Wellness Committee. They are monitoring the new allergy policy to see how things are working and will make the necessary adjustments. Changes will be implemented regarding school lunches in order to bring them in line with the new United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines that will be phased in over a 3-year period, starting in 2012-2013. Changes include: offered fruit and vegetables every day of the week, whole grain-rich foods, low-fat or fat-free milk varieties, calories and portion size based on the age of children, and reducing amounts of saturated fat, trans fats, and sodium.

An example of the new Elementary School Lunch menu for one day is as follows: whole-wheat spaghetti with ½ cup of meat sauce, whole-wheat roll, ½ cup of green beans, ½ cup of broccoli, ½ cup of cauliflower, ½ cup of raw kiwi halves, 8oz of 1% milk, low fat ranch dip, and soft margarine.

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

11.1 Budget – No Update

12.2 Curriculum – No Update

12.3 Policy – The Policy Committee will meet Monday, April 9th at 6:30 p.m. before the regular BOE meeting.

12.4 Salary & Negotiations – No Update

12.5 Planning Committee – No Update

12.6 Other Committees
Technology Ad Hoc Committee – No Update

13.0 OTHER

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (A.Kirkpatrick) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:25 p.m. PASSED 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary
Leah Cook, Recording Secretary

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.



QUEST

Somers Talented and Gifted
Program



What Is Quest?

- Quest is the Somers Elementary School program that serves students identified as academically gifted.
- It is open to students in grades 3-5 who meet the entrance criteria.



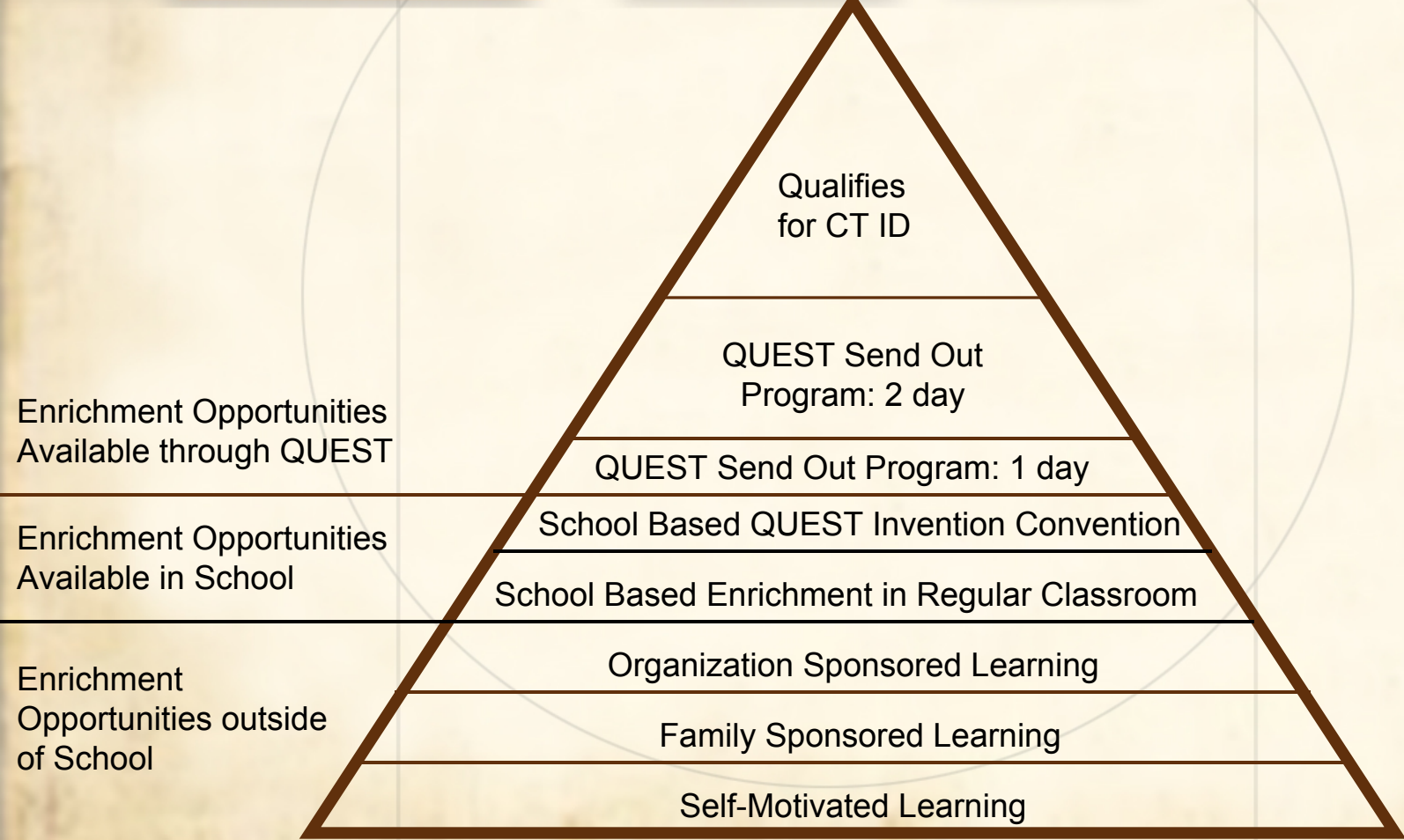
How Are Students Selected?

- All third graders are screened using a non-verbal reasoning test, the DRP and a teacher survey of gifted behaviors exhibited in the regular classroom.
- Scores for each of the three tests are combined using a point matrix and the top 20% of each 3rd grade class is given the opportunity to participate.



How Are Students Selected?

- Of the 20% of students selected to participate, the top 10% participate twice per cycle.
- The students in the 11-20% range participate once per cycle.
- All students in grades 2-5, regardless of their gifted eligibility can participate in the CT Invention Convention each year.





Quest in Grade 3

Students in Grade 3 complete three major projects during the year:

- Process Flowcharting
- Family Stories
- Viking Archeology



Quest in Grade 4

Students in Grade 4 complete one major project and one minor project during the year:

- Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences
- Artifact Box Exchange



Quest in Grade 5

Students in Grade 5 complete one major and one smaller project during the year:

- Washington State Career Aptitude Survey
- Running a Real Business



Virtual High School

On-Line Learning for Middle and High School Students

What Is VHS?

- Virtual High School is an on-line school that offers high school, middle school, AP, International Baccalaureate and credit recovery courses.
- Classes are offered during the fall and spring semesters as well as over the summer.
- VHS allows students to take specialized courses that are not available at SHS or that they couldn't take due to scheduling constraints.

VHS Membership

- Schools sign up as members of VHS.
 - Schools can pay per student enrolled: up to a total of 10 students per semester.
 - Schools can donate 0.2 FTE in exchange for 20 “free” seats per semester. The 0.2 teacher teaches one VHS course.
- Students can sign up as individuals without being enrolled at a member school.
- 60 Connecticut schools participate in VHS.

What is offered on VHS?

Subjects	Number of Classes
Advanced Placement	18
International Baccalaureate	8
Fine Arts	10
Business	9
World Language	7
English	28
Life Skills and Health	8
Mathematics	13
Science	32
Social Studies	39
Tech Ed.	15
Middle School	8

How Does VHS Work?

- Each member school has an on-site coordinator that handles all of the scheduling and grade reporting associated with VHS.
- Students are enrolled in classes by the on-site coordinator.
- Students are expected to login each day and participate in their class through on-line discussions, research and classwork. Assignments are usually due once a week.

VHS at Somers High School

- In the last two years, 21 SHS students have enrolled in 32 VHS classes (25 different courses).

Content Area	Number of Students
Business	6
English	3
Health	1
Art	1
Science	9
Social Studies	10
Technology	1
World Language	1

Somers Board of Education General Budget Treasury Warrant

Report # 16920

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
	4318	04/09/2012	V60104	Nixon Company Inc., The	0.00	535.00
	4319	04/09/2012	V60359	Palos Sports	0.00	85.99
	4320	04/09/2012	V60568	Pediatric Services of America Inc	0.00	1,035.00
	4321	04/09/2012	V53356	ProCom Telecommunications Corp	0.00	2,056.75
	4322	04/09/2012	V53811	RJ Mase, LLC	0.00	48.00
	4323	04/09/2012	V01292	School Specialty, Inc.	0.00	260.98
	4324	04/09/2012	E00300	Selley, Su	0.00	41.63
	4325	04/09/2012	V00886	Somers Lunch Program	0.00	10.50
	4326	04/09/2012	V00548	Somers Sanitation Service, Inc.	0.00	1,189.70
	4327	04/09/2012	V01591	Town of Somers	0.00	12,742.10
	4328	04/09/2012	E00322	Suffredini, Dr. Maynard	0.00	95.46
	4329	04/09/2012	V53945	Transcanda Power Marketing LTD	0.00	18,162.52
	4330	04/09/2012	V53987	U.S. Bancorp Equipment Finance, Inc	0.00	1,662.67
	4331	04/09/2012	V53926	Ultimate Office	0.00	75.37
	4332	04/09/2012	V54059	Verizon Wireless	0.00	478.25
	4333	04/09/2012	V53413	W. B. Mason Co., Inc.	0.00	872.90
	4334	04/09/2012	E00342	Walker, Alan	0.00	266.32
	4335	04/09/2012	V51409	Wendell G. Haire Piano Services	0.00	210.00
	4336	04/09/2012	V00882	West Music Company	0.00	1,254.68
	4337	04/09/2012	V02738	William V. MacGill & Co.	0.00	130.05
	4338	04/09/2012	V60463	Woodpen Pro	0.00	103.84
Totals:					0.00	\$269,037.09

41 Checks Listed.

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 16919
Batch: 6065
Transaction: N/A
Show Summary Only: Yes

Batch # 6065	Control Total \$269,037.09	Status Posted	Created By lbergamini	Created On 04/02/2012	Last Updated By lbergamini	Last Updated On 04/05/2012
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General Ledger Distribution Summary

Period, Fiscal Year Account Number	Account Description	DTF Base	Over Budget	Debits	Credits
April, 2012					
Generated Distributions					
10-000-0-0-00-000-710-00-0-00000	ENCUMBRANCE CONTROL			265,845.53	0.00
10-000-0-0-00-000-720-00-0-00000	RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCE			0.00	265,845.53
	Total Generated Distributions			\$265,845.53	\$265,845.53
User-Entered Distributions					
10-000-0-0-00-000-241-00-0-00000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			62.50	0.00
10-000-0-0-00-000-241-00-0-00000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			0.00	269,099.59
10-100-2-2-20-242-611-01-5-00169	K-5 - MUSIC SUPPLIES			1,254.68	0.00
10-100-2-2-30-242-611-01-5-00208	K-5 - SOCIAL STUDIES SUPPLIES			197.45	0.00
10-100-2-3-14-241-611-01-5-00157	MA - GENERAL SUPPLIES			1,133.88	0.00
10-100-2-3-16-242-611-01-5-00184	MA - LANGUAGE ARTS SUPPLIES			438.53	0.00
10-100-2-4-12-242-611-01-5-00183	HS - TECHNOLOGY ED SUPPLIES			1,318.34	0.00
10-100-2-5-48-220-641-01-5-00966	SW - HEALTH TEXT			187.95	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-955-330-02-5-01674	SP ED - CONTRACTED SERVICES			1,035.00	0.00
10-213-3-4-48-421-323-02-5-01146	SW HEALTH SUPPLIES			130.05	0.00
10-221-1-4-50-251-580-05-5-00267	HS - TRAVEL/IN-SERVICE			264.75	0.00
10-221-2-5-50-214-111-05-5-00659	SW - PROF DEVELOPMENT/CEU		Yes	521.18	0.00
10-221-2-5-50-251-322-01-5-00300	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT			78.82	0.00
10-231-1-5-74-134-330-10-5-00045	B.O.E. - OTHER PROF. SERVICES		Yes	32.00	0.00
10-231-1-5-74-134-590-10-5-00049	B.O.E. - PRINTING		Yes	18.81	0.00
10-231-1-5-74-134-690-10-5-00047	B.O.E. - SUPPLIES			10.50	0.00
10-232-1-5-72-251-580-05-5-00271	CO - TRAVEL/IN-SERVICE			173.72	0.00
10-232-5-5-66-830-430-04-5-00454	CO - COPIER MAINTENANCE			218.71	0.00
10-232-6-5-66-830-440-04-5-00525	CO - COPIER RENTAL		Yes	415.66	0.00
10-240-1-3-40-258-690-04-5-00303	MA - OFFICE SUPPLIES			0.00	0.00
10-240-1-4-40-258-690-04-5-00304	HS - OFFICE SUPPLIES			75.37	0.00
10-240-6-2-66-830-440-04-5-00523	K-5 - COPIER RENTAL			415.67	0.00
10-240-6-2-66-830-440-04-5-01011	K-5 - COPIER MAINTENANCE			1,373.05	0.00
10-240-6-3-66-830-440-03-5-00527	MA - COPIER RENTAL			415.67	0.00
10-240-6-3-66-830-440-04-5-01013	MA - COPIER MAINTENANCE			1,564.22	0.00
10-240-6-4-66-830-440-04-5-00763	HS - COPIER RENTAL			415.67	0.00

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 16919

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
6065	\$269,037.09	Posted	Ibergamini	04/02/2012	Ibergamini	04/05/2012
		HS - COPIER MAINTENANCE			2,297.38	0.00
		SW - COMMUNICATION SUPPLIES			2,056.75	0.00
		K-5 - TELEPHONE		Yes	73.08	0.00
		MA - MUSIC MAINTENANCE			105.00	0.00
		MA - TELEPHONE		Yes	72.85	0.00
		HS - MUSIC MAINTENANCE			105.00	0.00
		HS - QUANTITY FOODS MAINT.			48.00	0.00
		HS - TELEPHONE			104.23	0.00
		CO - TELEPHONE		Yes	228.09	0.00
		SW - CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES			325.50	0.00
		MA - BUILDING MAINTENANCE		Yes	106.47	0.00
		MA - BUILDING MAINTENANCE		Yes	0.00	62.50
		SW - RUBBISH REMOVAL			1,189.70	0.00
		K-5 - ELECTRICITY			4,042.01	0.00
		MA - ELECTRICITY		Yes	15,180.90	0.00
		HS - ELECTRICITY			6,055.73	0.00
		SW - WATER		Yes	3,370.80	0.00
		BUS FUEL			12,244.33	0.00
		SW - GASOLINE SCHOOL VEHICLES		Yes	497.77	0.00
		SW - FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCT		Yes	72.15	0.00
		DENTAL			11,772.07	0.00
		LIFE AND AD&D INSURANCE		Yes	2,153.20	0.00
		SW - HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORG.		Yes	55,127.91	0.00
		SW - PREFERRED PROVIDER ORG.			127,928.43	0.00
		SW - HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT		Yes	2,866.64	0.00
		MA - ATHLETIC SUPPLIES			85.99	0.00
		HS - ATHLETIC SUPPLIES			1,821.67	0.00
		HS - ATHLETIC AWARDS			535.00	0.00
		TUITION-NON SPECIAL EDUCATION		Yes	1,713.46	0.00
		SP ED - CREC HEARING PROGRAM		Yes	5,229.80	0.00
					269,162.09	269,162.09
					\$535,007.62	\$535,007.62
					535,007.62	535,007.62
					\$535,007.62	\$535,007.62

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
6065	\$269,037.09	Posted	lbergamini	04/02/2012	lbergamini	04/05/2012

187 Transactions Listed.

Dr. Maynard Suffredini, Superintendent
Somers Public Schools
1 Vision Boulevard
Somers, CT 06071

March 28, 2012

Dear Dr. Suffredini,

Please accept this letter as formal notice of my retirement, effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

I want to thank you for your support and advice during these last few years. I truly appreciated the time you always had available for me.

My best to you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Machacek". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joan Machacek

Hamilton Sundstrand
One Hamilton Road
Windsor Locks, CT 06096-10
(860) 654-6000



Hamilton Sundstrand
A United Technologies Company

March 28, 2012

Mr. Gary Cotzin, Principal
Somers High School
5 Vision Boulevard
Somers, CT 06071

Dear Mr. Cotzin,

Hamilton Sundstrand is pleased to donate to the recently developed VEX robotic program at Somers High School. I recently met with Mr. Nicholas Kosloski to discuss the plans for the program and the very positive response by students to the new robotics class offerings. Please accept this \$3,000 donation targeted at assuring adequate supplies and funding are available to make the Somers robotics program a success.

I would also like to congratulate you and your staff on being awarded this year's Connecticut Technology Association program of the year. Strong STEM related programs, such as that at Somers High School, are critical to keeping our state and our technology-based industries healthy and growing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. E. Bosomworth', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Charles E. Bosomworth
Engineering Director, Space Systems
Hamilton Sundstrand Corporation

Dpm
Enclosure



SOMERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, Connecticut 06071

(860) 749-2270 • Fax (860) 763-0748

"Our commitment to the future"

Dr. Maynard M. Suffredini, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

To: Board of Education
From: William Boutwell, Director of Business Services
Re: Transportation Contract
Date: April 5, 2012

Working with Mason Thrall, Director of Transportation at CREC, Somers has participated in a collaborative bidding process for student transportation services. The other districts participating in the collaborative are Ellington, Manchester and Vernon. Due to the fact that each of the four districts had a transportation contract expiring 6/30/12, it was agreed to enlist the services of CREC, at no cost, to solicit a transportation bid as a collaborative and as individual districts.

Five transportation companies responded with bids (First Student, M&J, Student Transportation of America, Specialty Transportation and Dattco). All five provided individual district bids while two (First Student and Student Transportation of America) of the five also provided collaborative bids. Following an analysis of all the bids, and subsequent discussions with the companies, the recommendation is to award a five-year contract to First Student based upon their collaborative bid.

Attached are the bid results for Somers. The "First RIC" column represents the collaborative bid. An estimated savings of approximately 2-3% from the current budget is projected based upon the First RIC bid.

I look forward to responding to any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me prior to the meeting if I can provide additional information.

I would be remiss in not recognizing the tremendous job CREC performed, and in particular Mason Thrall, in coordinating and managing this process from beginning to end.

cc: Dr. Suffredini, Jr.

PROPOSAL FOR REGIONAL INTERDISTRICT COLLABORATIVE TRANSPORTATION - SOMERS

DAILY RATE		# OF BUSES							ANNUAL RATE								
TYPE I	Current	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco	12	TYPE I	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco
1	274.31	215	239.99	252	282.54	289.67	309.5	312.86		Year 1	464,400	518,378	544,320	610,286	625,687	668,520	675,778
2		221.24	247.19	259.31	289.6	298.36	318.79	321.62		Year 2	477,878	533,930	560,110	625,536	644,458	688,586	694,699
3		227.66	254.11	266.83	296.84	307.31	328.35	330.62		Year 3	491,746	548,878	576,353	641,174	663,790	709,236	714,139
4		234.26	261.48	274.57	305.75	318.07	338.2	341.2		Year 4	506,002	564,797	593,071	660,420	687,031	730,512	736,992
5		241.05	269.32	282.53	314.92	329.2	348.34	353.15		Year 5	520,668	581,731	610,265	680,227	711,072	752,414	762,804
											\$2,460,694	\$2,747,714	\$2,884,118	\$3,217,644	\$3,332,038	\$3,549,269	\$3,584,412
TYPE II	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco	1	TYPE II	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco	
1	195	239.99	232	282.54	289.67	279.5	294.62		Year 1	35,100	43,198	41,760	50,857	52,141	50,310	53,032	
2	200.66	247.19	238.73	289.6	298.36	287.89	302.87		Year 2	36,119	44,494	42,971	52,128	53,705	51,820	54,517	
3	206.48	254.11	245.65	296.84	307.31	296.52	311.35		Year 3	37,166	45,740	44,217	53,431	55,316	53,374	56,043	
4	212.47	261.48	252.77	305.75	318.07	305.42	321.31		Year 4	38,245	47,066	45,499	55,035	57,253	54,976	57,836	
5	218.63	269.32	260.1	314.92	329.2	314.58	332.56		Year 5	39,353	48,478	46,818	56,686	59,256	56,624	59,861	
											\$185,983	\$228,976	\$221,265	\$268,137	\$277,670	\$267,104	\$281,288
TYPE I	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco	2	TYPE I	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco	
1	215	239.99	252	282.54	289.67	289.5	299.13		Year 1	77,400	86,396	90,720	101,714	104,281	104,220	107,687	
2	221.24	247.19	259.31	289.6	298.36	298.19	307.51		Year 2	79,646	88,988	93,352	104,256	107,410	107,348	110,704	
3	227.66	254.11	266.83	296.84	307.31	307.13	316.12		Year 3	81,958	91,480	96,059	106,862	110,632	110,567	113,803	
4	234.26	261.48	274.57	305.75	318.07	316.34	326.23		Year 4	84,334	94,133	98,845	110,070	114,505	113,882	117,443	
5	241.05	269.32	282.53	314.92	329.2	325.83	337.65		Year 5	86,778	96,955	101,711	113,371	118,512	117,299	121,554	
											\$410,116	\$457,952	\$480,686	\$536,274	\$555,340	\$553,316	\$571,190
5 YR TOTAL											\$3,056,792	\$3,434,643	\$3,586,070	\$3,599,152	\$4,165,047	\$4,369,689	\$4,436,890

DURATION TIME								
TYPE I	Current	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco
1	45.53	42	36	42	62.9	64.08	49.5	50
2		43.22	36.5	43.22	64.47	66	51	51.5
3		44.47	37	44.47	66.08	67.98	52.5	53
4		45.76	37.5	45.76	68.06	70.36	54	54.59
5		47.09	38	47.09	70.1	72.82	55.5	56.23
TYPE II	First RIC	M&J	First	STA if all 4	STA	Specialty	Dattco	
1	42	36	42	62.9	64.08	49.5	50	
2	43.22	36.5	43.22	64.47	66	51	51.5	
3	44.47	37	44.47	66.08	67.98	52.5	53	
4	45.76	37.5	45.76	68.06	70.36	54	54.59	
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SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – April 9, 2012

Members Present: J.Formeister (arrived at 8:05 p.m.), R.Lees, B.Pellissier, A.Kirkpatrick, S.Bollinger, M.Cicciarella, M.Maniscalco
Members Absent: D.Palmer, B.Devlin
Administrators Present: M.Suffredini, K.Pezza, B.Boutwell, B.Bunnell
Staff Present:
Citizens Present: R.Stone
Students Present: J.Lipton, L.Cormier
Others:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Board Secretary Lees in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 26, 2012 – It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (S.Bollinger) to approve the March 26, 2012 Board of Education meeting minutes. PASSED 6-0

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

Jacob Lipton, Somers resident, spoke to the Board on behalf of the Agricultural Education Program featured at Rockville High School that he is a part of. The program is an opportunity for students to pursue their agricultural interest as part of a comprehensive, four-year high school education. The program is closely associated with the FFA (Future Farmers of America), and many different agricultural, animal, and mechanical classes are offered. Jacob noted that about a quarter of the students enrolled in the program actually grew up on farms.

4.1 Curriculum Presentations – Quest/Virtual High School

K.Pezza, Director of Curriculum, presented to the Board on the Quest program and Virtual High School. Quest, Somers Elementary School's gifted and talented program, is open to students in grades 3-5 who meet the entrance criteria. All 3rd graders are screened using a non-verbal reasoning test, the DRP and a teacher survey of gifted behaviors exhibited in the regular classroom. The top 20% of each 3rd grade class is given the opportunity to participate. Of the 20% of students, the top 10% participate twice per 6-day cycle (with 11-20% range participating once per cycle). Students in Quest in grade 3 complete three major projects during the year: process flowcharting, family stories, and Viking archeology. Quest students in grade 4 complete one major project and one minor during the year. Quest in grade 5 completes one major and one smaller project as well.

Virtual High School (VHS) is on-line learning organization that offers online learning courses for middle and high school students, offered in three semesters: fall, spring, and summer. It is an on-line school that offers high school, middle school, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and credit recovery courses. The benefit of VHS is a 200-course catalog that allows students to take specialized courses that are not available at Somers High

School or that they couldn't take due to scheduling constraints. In the last two years, 21 SHS students have enrolled in 32 VHS classes spanning 25 different courses.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Approval of Bills 04/09/12 (\$269,037.09)

It was MOVED (M.Cicciarella) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) to approve the 04/09/12 Bills in the amount of \$269,037.09 as presented. PASSED 6-0

7.2 Retirement Notification – J. Machacek

Joan Machacek, MBA/SHS Music teacher, has submitted her retirement notification effective at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. Ms. Machacek has been employed by Somers Public Schools since 1999.

It was MOVED (M.Cicciarella) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) to accept Joan Machacek's retirement notification with regrets effective at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year as presented. PASSED 6-0

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Technology Education Department Donation

Hamilton Sundstrand recently made a \$3,000.00 donation to the SHS Technology Ed VEX robotic program. These funds will be used to purchase supplies for the program. It is the district's hope to expand upon the program at MBA and SHS.

It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (S.Bollinger) to graciously accept the Hamilton Sundstrand donation to the SHS Technology Ed VEX robotic program in the amount of \$3,000.00 as presented. PASSED 6-0

8.2 Approval of Regional Interdistrict Collaborative Bus Contract

B.Boutwell, Director of Business Services, presented to the Board regarding the collaborative bidding process Somers participated in for student transportation services. The other districts participating in the collaborative are Ellington, Vernon, and Manchester. Each of the four districts had a transportation contract expiring 6/30/12; it was agreed to enlist the services of CREC, at no cost, to solicit a transportation bid as a collaborative and as individual districts.

Five transportation companies responded with bids: First Student, M&J, Student Transportation of America, Specialty Transportation, and Dattco. All five provided individual district bids while two (First Student and Student Transportation of America) of the five also provided collaborative bids. Upon analysis of all the bids and subsequent discussions with the companies, Mr. Boutwell's recommendation is to award a five-year contract to First Student based upon their collaborative bid. An estimated savings of approximately 2-3% from the current budget is projected based upon the regional interdistrict collaborative bid (provided by First Student). Projected rates include \$215 dollars per six-hour period with \$42 dollars per hour for overtime.

It was MOVED (M.Cicciarella) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) approve the Regional Interdistrict Collaborative Bus Contract as presented. PASSED 6-0

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Suffredini notified the Board that the 4/23/12 Board of Education meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Somers Elementary School media center. The meeting will run from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., as the Somers public hearing for budget talks will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the SES auditorium.

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

11.1 Budget – No Update

11.2 Curriculum – No Update

11.3 Policy – The Policy Committee met prior to tonight’s 4/9/12 BOE meeting.

11.4 Salary & Negotiations – No Update

11.5 Planning Committee – No Update

11.6 Other Committees
Technology Ad Hoc Committee – No Update

12.0 OTHER

The solar panels at Somers Elementary School were turned on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 and are currently up and running.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (S.Bollinger) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:17 p.m. PASSED 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary
Leah Cook, Recording Secretary

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.