

BOE Meeting Template
Monday, March 25, 2013 7:00 PM

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

1. SPECIAL BOE MEETING
REMINDER - SPECIAL BOE MEETING @ 6:45 TO INTERVIEW BOE CANDIDATE(S)
2. CALL TO ORDER
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 3
5. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS 6
 1. School Wellness Report
Carol Meagher, Head Nurse, will update the board on the status of the School Wellness Committee. She will be available to answer any questions board members may have.
6. CORRESPONDENCE
7. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS
8. CONSENT AGENDA 7
 1. Approval of Bills 13
 2. Resignation (J. Brown) 14
Ms. Julie Brown, SES Nurse, has submitted her resignation effective 3/22/13. Ms. Brown has been employed by the district since 8/12.
 3. Retirement Notification (T. Burgess) 15
Mr. Thomas Burgess, SES Custodian has submitted his retirement notification effective 4/26/13. Mr. Burgess has been employed by the district since 1999.
 4. Request for Child-Rearing Leave 15
Mrs. Stephanie Jodice, SES Speech/Language Pathologist is requesting a child-rearing leave through approximately 11/1/13 following her maternity leave in August.
9. NEW BUSINESS
 1. Appointment of the New BOE Member to Fill Vacancy
A special meeting took place before the BOE meeting to discuss the appointment of a new BOE member to fill the current vacancy.

2. Nonrenewals

In my capacity as Superintendent of Schools, I recommend that the Board of Education nonrenew the teaching contracts of:

Amy Avery
Tracy Brastow
Daniel Brownell
Daniel Clement
Amy Cunningham
Laura DiScipio
Kimberly Doran
Bryan Hull
Kyle Kipfer
Charles Lewis
Sarah McNamee
Colleen Meier

Melissa Nadeau
Loretta Nelson
Jennifer Ohlund
Sandi Plocharczyk
Tammany Reynold
David Rollinson
Robert Rossetti
Natalie Ryan
Alicia Santavenere
Alicia Simoes
Brianna Stronk
Joni Swarts
Michael Szafir
Sharon Yarrows

at the end of the 2012-2013 school year in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, and that the board authorize me to furnish written notice of the action. I am making this recommendation for the following reasons, any one or all of which I view to be a sufficient basis for the recommended action: - the elimination of the position or loss of position to another teacher. You should know that have been advised that I intended to make this recommendation. If the board takes action, the teacher has the right under Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151 to request the reasons for the board's action to nonrenew his/her contract of employment. Further, depending upon those reasons, the teacher may be entitled to a due-process hearing to seek reconsideration of the board's decision to nonrenew the contract of employment. I also recommend that I be authorized and instructed to communicate notice of this action in writing to the affected teacher and to respond for the board to any appropriate requests that may be forthcoming from the teacher or his/her representatives as provided in the Teacher Tenure Law.

3. Review of 2013-2014 School Calendar 16
With the recent history of increased school cancellations, it is becoming more difficult to schedule the school year in order to accommodate the additional days. The superintendent is requesting that the board review the recently approved 2013-2014 school calendar and vote to eliminate the February 2014 recess from this calendar in order to pickup additional school days.

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Budget
2. Curriculum
3. Policy
4. Salary & Negotiations
5. Planning
6. Other Committees

13. OTHER

14. ADJOURNMENT

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – March 11, 2013

Members Present: D.Palmer, J.Formeister, R.Lees, B.Pellissier, A.Kirkpatrick, B.Devlin, S.Bollinger (left at 7:36 p.m.),
Members Absent: M.Cicciarella, M.Maniscalco
Administrators Present: M.Suffredini, K.Pezza, B.Boutwell, D.Messina, G.Cotzin, P.Bryzgel
Staff Present:
Citizens Present: B.Capuano
Students Present: J.Albert, C.Eastwood, M.Kopec, M.Casciano, A.Kerr, B.Rossini, K.Lockyer, E.Pfeifer, K.Prucker
Others:

1.0 BOE BUDGET HEARING

The Board of Education presented the 2013-2014 Budget to the Town of Somers at 6:30 p.m. at Somers Elementary School.

2.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:26 p.m. by Chairman Palmer in the Somers Elementary School Media Center.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 25, 2013 – It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (B.Devlin) to approve the February 25, 2013 Board of Education meeting minutes. PASSED 7-0

5.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

BOE member Mark Maniscalco submitted a letter of resignation effective February 25th due to personal schedule constraints.

It was MOVED (B.Pellissier) SECONDED (A.Kirkpatrick) to regretfully accept the resignation letter of BOE member Mark Maniscalco as presented. PASSED 6-0

7.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

Joan Formeister added her resignation as the position of Vice Chairman of the Board to the agenda under NEW BUSINESS, Item 9.1. Board elections for the vacant position of Vice Chairman of the Board will be added to the agenda under NEW BUSINESS, Item 9.2. Mrs. Formeister will remain on the Board.

It was MOVED (J.Formeister) SECONDED (B.Devlin) to add BOE member J.Formeister's resignation as Vice Chairman of the Board, and subsequent elections for the vacant position of Vice Chair, to the agenda under NEW BUSINESS, Items 9.1 and 9.2 as presented. PASSED 7-0

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Approval of Bills 03/11/13 (\$108, 566.52)

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) to approve the 03/11/13 Bills in the amount of \$108,566.52 as presented. PASSED 7-0

8.2 Retirement Notification (D. Gunsten)

Deborah Gunsten, MBA Language Arts teacher, has submitted her retirement notification at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Mrs. Gunsten has been employed by the district since 1981.

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (B.Pellissier) to regretfully accept the retirement notification of Deborah Gunsten, MBA Language Arts teacher, effective at the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year as presented. PASSED 7-0

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Resignation of J.Formeister as Vice Chairman of the Board

Vice Chairman J.Formeister has added her resignation as Vice Chairman to the BOE agenda. The Board thanks J.Formeister for her service as Vice Chairman of the Board for over four years.

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (R.Lees) to accept with regret the resignation of Joan Formeister as Vice Chairman of the Board as presented. PASSED 7-0

9.2 Election of Vice Chairman of the Board

Chairman Palmer opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board.
S.Bollinger nominated Anne Kirkpatrick for Vice Chairman of the Board, seconded by B.Pellissier. J.Formeister nominated Bruce Devlin, seconded by R.Lees.

Chairman Palmer opened the floor to voting on the two nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board.

Members B.Pellissier, S.Bollinger, and A.Kirkpatrick voted for nominee Anne Kirkpatrick for Vice Chairman of the Board. Members B.Devlin, R.Lees, J.Formeister, and D.Palmer voted for nominee Bruce Devlin for Vice Chairman of the Board. Bruce Devlin was elected Vice Chairman of the Board by a majority vote.

10.0 OLD BUSINESS

11.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1 Annual Scheduling – Class Size

Mr. Cotzin, Somers High School Principal, presented to the Board a preliminary look at the SHS class schedule for the 2013-2014 school year. A working draft of the master schedule was given to the Board for their review, and some balancing adjustments may be made over the next few months.

11.2 Superintendent’s Report

- Dr. Suffredini recommended that the Board consider revising the 2013-2014 school year calendar to eliminate the February vacation break. Monday, February 17th will be off due to President’s Day. This review will be done at the next BOE meeting.
- The Superintendent met with the Department of Corrections & Tactical Force on Friday, March 8th to go over the security assessment of Somers’ schools. The department was pleased with the process and planning currently in place, and will

meet with the district's Administrative Council to go through their assessment, and discuss safety procedures and any recommendations made.

12.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

12.1 Budget – The BOE presented the 2013-2014 Budget as a public hearing prior to the BOE meeting. The 2013-2014 Budget will be presented to the Board of Finance on 3/12/13 at 7:00 p.m. in Somers Town Hall.

12.2 Curriculum – No Update

12.3 Policy – The Policy Committee is in the process of setting up their next meeting.

12.4 Salary & Negotiations – Mr. Case and Mr. Caso from the Pension Committee will be attending May 13th's BOE meeting.

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.Devlin) SECONDED (A.Kirkpatrick) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:14 p.m. PASSED 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

Wellness Committee

2012 - 2013

Monitoring the new allergy policy to see how things are working and will make adjustments if necessary.

Allergy Policy reviewed, all feel it is working well in all buildings.

Looking at the 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 3 years starting with the 2012 - 2013. The changes will:

- Ensure that students are offered both fruit and vegetables every day of the week.
- Increase offerings of whole grain-rich foods.
- Offering only fat-free or low-fat milk varieties.
- Limiting calories based on the age of children being served to ensure proper portion size.
- Increase the focus on reducing the amounts of saturated fat, trans fats and sodium.

It was also discussed getting rid of snack items such as Oreos, pop tarts etc.

The biggest factor in the changes will be its impact on cost in terms of purchasing food to cost per meal for students. This can ultimately have an effect on the number of children who will purchase meals in the cafeterias.

Kathy Smith went over healthy changes made in the last year:

- Wheat rolls
- Turkey bacon
- Fresh vegetables
- Use of low fat cheeses
- Low fat milk
- Low fat ice cream

Kathy Smith went over April lunch offerings.

Always discussing increasing physical activity in school, recess through grade 8 and increasing lunchtime for middle and high school, health curriculum. These items are more complex as they involve adding to the day and curriculum committees.

Somers Board of Education General Budget Treasury Warrant

Report # 21949

Check Batch: 7883
 Check Header: (N / A)
 Check Numbers: (First) - (Last)
 Check Dates: (Earliest) - (Latest)
 Cash Account Numbers: (First) - (Last)
 Bank Account Code: (N/A)
 Check Authorization Code: AP GB
 Minimum Check Amount: \$0.00
 Sorted By:
 Include Payable Information: No
 Include Payable Dist Information: No
 Include Authorization Information: Yes

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
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Approved by:  Date: 3/20/13
 William B. Boutwell, Director of Business Services

7883	5839	03/25/2013	V00010	ACES	0.00	150.00
	5840	03/25/2013	V60813	Ad Tech Systems, Inc	0.00	112.00
	5841	03/25/2013	V58674	Administrator, Unemployment Compensation	0.00	2,441.00
	5842	03/25/2013	V60028	Airex Filter Corporation	0.00	338.15
	5843	03/25/2013	V02129	Alarm New England LLC	0.00	521.19
	5844	03/25/2013	V52670	Amazon	0.00	2,420.64
	5846	03/25/2013	V01217	American International College	0.00	80.00
	5847	03/25/2013	V60041	Anthem BCBS	0.00	192,495.24
	5848	03/25/2013	V52029	Anytime Sewer & Drain Service	0.00	305.00
	5849	03/25/2013	V02141	Apple Inc.	0.00	290.00
	5850	03/25/2013	V00555	AT&T	0.00	927.97
	5851	03/25/2013	V53541	Aves Audio Visual Systems, Inc.	0.00	401.50
	5852	03/25/2013	E00025	Boutwell, Bill	0.00	28.82
	5853	03/25/2013	E00694	Brownell, Daniel	0.00	154.52
	5854	03/25/2013	V02157	Calloway House, Inc.	0.00	41.93
	5855	03/25/2013	E00047	Campanelli, Anthony	0.00	4.52
	5856	03/25/2013	V60812	Cascade School Supplies	0.00	451.50
	5857	03/25/2013	V60720	CCPA	0.00	106.96
	5858	03/25/2013	V54308	CENGAGE Learning	0.00	116.86
	5859	03/25/2013	V53390	CIRMA	0.00	37,811.00

Somers Board of Education General Budget Treasury Warrant

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
	5860	03/25/2013	V00159	Connecticut Light & Power	0.00	15,585.81
	5861	03/25/2013	V60574	CLG Electric LLC	0.00	265.00
	5862	03/25/2013	V02426	Coastal Tool & Supply	0.00	1,493.00
	5863	03/25/2013	V60740	Connecticut Piano Company, The	0.00	300.00
	5864	03/25/2013	V02474	Connecticut Radio, Inc	0.00	250.00
	5865	03/25/2013	V00204	CREC	0.00	1,100.60
	5866	03/25/2013	V60811	D. Lawless Hardware	0.00	50.10
	5867	03/25/2013	V60089	Dime Oil Company LLC	0.00	601.66
	5868	03/25/2013	E00096	Duffy, Margaret	0.00	28.25
	5869	03/25/2013	V60640	Educational Electronics	0.00	906.75
	5870	03/25/2013	V54168	First Student, Inc	0.00	70,831.96
	5871	03/25/2013	V02186	Flinn Scientific, Inc.	0.00	51.45
	5872	03/25/2013	V60035	Google, Inc.	0.00	5.15
	5873	03/25/2013	V54081	Graduate Pest Solutions, Inc.	0.00	158.00
	5874	03/25/2013	V60804	Granite City Electric Supply	0.00	1,989.79
	5875	03/25/2013	V51232	Hartford Hospital	0.00	1,890.00
	5876	03/25/2013	V00639	HB Communications Inc.	0.00	116.00
	5877	03/25/2013	E00163	Kapner, Rob	0.00	27.12
	5878	03/25/2013	V51467	Kids Discover	0.00	167.58
	5879	03/25/2013	V01777	Lakeshore Learning	0.00	233.98
	5880	03/25/2013	V60721	Learning Incentive Inc, The	0.00	5,000.00
	5881	03/25/2013	V60152	LeisureTime Canvas Inc.	0.00	109.46
	5882	03/25/2013	V60361	Marlin Leasing Corp	0.00	399.84
	5883	03/25/2013	V54159	Vernon Printing Co, Inc.	0.00	2,417.00
	5884	03/25/2013	V01911	Natchaug Hospital	0.00	11,560.00
	5885	03/25/2013	V60186	PCMG, Inc	0.00	1,066.99
	5886	03/25/2013	V53849	NCS Pearson, Inc.	0.00	95.40
	5887	03/25/2013	V00206	NCS Pearson, Inc.	0.00	151.40
	5888	03/25/2013	V60568	Pediatric Services of America Inc	0.00	1,147.50
	5889	03/25/2013	E00267	Porter, Marjorie	0.00	11.80
	5890	03/25/2013	V60803	Prestwick House, Inc	0.00	359.88
	5891	03/25/2013	V52074	Really Good Stuff, Inc.	0.00	447.45
	5892	03/25/2013	E00280	Reilly, Lisa	0.00	37.00
	5893	03/25/2013	V60143	Sartorius Sports Limited	0.00	586.00
	5894	03/25/2013	V00615	Scholastic, Inc.	0.00	596.00
	5895	03/25/2013	V01292	School Specialty, Inc.	0.00	764.98
	5896	03/25/2013	V02404	Somers Ace Hardware	0.00	381.76

Somers Board of Education General Budget Treasury Warrant

Report # 21949

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
	5897	03/25/2013	V00886	Somers Lunch Program	0.00	10.50
	5898	03/25/2013	V60616	Somers Public Schools	0.00	10,825.18
	5899	03/25/2013	V02225	Staples Credit Plan	0.00	126.43
	5900	03/25/2013	V60815	Tradesmen of New England, LLC	0.00	749.00
	5901	03/25/2013	V53945	Transcanda Power Marketing LTD	0.00	2,882.63
	5902	03/25/2013	V01638	Tree House, The	0.00	62.95
	5903	03/25/2013	V21164	Unum Life Insurance Company of America	0.00	3,736.72
	5904	03/25/2013	V53413	W. B. Mason Co., Inc.	0.00	1,489.97
	5905	03/25/2013	E00342	Walker, Alan	0.00	257.07
Totals:					0.00	\$380,523.91

66 Checks Listed.

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 21947
Batch: 7841
Transaction: N/A
Show Summary Only: Yes

Batch # 7841	Control Total \$380,523.91	Status Posted	Created By lbergamini	Created On 03/18/2013	Last Updated By lbergamini	Last Updated On 03/21/2013
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General Ledger Distribution Summary

Period, Fiscal Year Account Number	Account Description	DTF Base	Over Budget	Debits	Credits
March, 2013					
Generated Distributions					
10-000-0-0-00-000-710-00-0-00000	ENCUMBRANCE CONTROL			377,910.30	0.00
10-000-0-0-00-000-720-00-0-00000	RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCE			0.00	377,910.30
	Total Generated Distributions			\$377,910.30	\$377,910.30
User-Entered Distributions					
10-000-0-0-00-000-241-00-0-00000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			0.00	380,523.91
10-100-2-2-00-242-611-01-5-01183	K-5 FIFTH GRADE SUPPLIES			106.20	0.00
10-100-2-2-14-241-611-01-5-00155	K-5 - GENERAL SUPPLIES			522.85	0.00
10-100-2-2-16-242-611-01-5-00722	K-5 - LANGUAGE ARTS SUPPLIES			674.93	0.00
10-100-2-2-18-242-611-01-5-00187	K-5 - MATH SUPPLIES			598.85	0.00
10-100-2-2-18-242-611-01-5-01149	K-5 INTERVENTION - MATH			95.40	0.00
10-100-2-2-20-242-611-01-5-00169	K-5 - MUSIC SUPPLIES			186.86	0.00
10-100-2-2-30-242-611-01-5-00208	K-5 - SOCIAL STUDIES SUPPLIES			233.98	0.00
10-100-2-3-12-242-611-01-5-00182	MA - TECHNOLOGY ED SUPPLIES			189.16	0.00
10-100-2-3-14-241-611-01-5-00157	MA - GENERAL SUPPLIES			1,370.58	0.00
10-100-2-3-28-242-611-01-5-00204	MA - SCIENCE SUPPLIES			63.25	0.00
10-100-2-3-30-242-611-01-5-00210	MA - SOCIAL STUDIES SUPPLIES			116.86	0.00
10-100-2-3-30-243-611-01-5-01074	MA - SOCIAL STUDIES WORKBOOKS			167.58	0.00
10-100-2-4-08-243-611-01-5-01581	HS - WORLD LANGUAGE			46.64	0.00
10-100-2-4-12-242-611-01-5-00183	HS - TECHNOLOGY ED SUPPLIES			70.00	0.00
10-100-2-4-14-241-611-01-5-00159	HS - GENERAL SUPPLIES			166.49	0.00
10-100-2-4-18-242-611-01-5-00191	HS - MATH SUPPLIES			846.44	0.00
10-100-2-4-26-242-611-01-5-01070	HS - ENGLISH SUPPLIES			361.59	0.00
10-100-2-4-30-242-611-01-5-01644	HS - SOCIAL STUDIES SUPPLIES			0.03	0.00
10-100-2-4-48-242-611-01-5-00721	HS - HEALTH ED SUPPLIES			10.35	0.00
10-100-2-4-99-242-611-01-5-00180	HS - SAT PREP			906.75	0.00
10-100-2-5-14-241-611-01-5-00873	SW - GENERAL COMPUTER SUPPLIES			1,411.95	0.00
10-100-2-5-44-242-611-03-5-00222	SW - A.V. SUPPLIES			451.50	0.00
10-100-8-4-66-910-730-01-5-00965	HS - TECH ED CAPITAL OUTLAY			2,491.65	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-955-330-02-5-01142	SPED - CONSULTANT FEES			80.00	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-955-330-02-5-01674	SP ED - CONTRACTED SERVICES	Yes		1,147.50	0.00
		Yes			

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
7841	\$380,523.91	Posted	lbergamini	03/18/2013	lbergamini	03/21/2013
					269.38	0.00
					27.12	0.00
					285.32	0.00
					150.00	0.00
				Yes	2,417.00	0.00
					10.50	0.00
				Yes	1,920.00	0.00
					28.82	0.00
					186.45	0.00
					119.39	0.00
				Yes	250.00	0.00
				Yes	109.46	0.00
					274.66	0.00
				Yes	110.56	0.00
					300.00	0.00
					288.98	0.00
					253.77	0.00
					629.50	0.00
					106.96	0.00
					7.99	0.00
				Yes	1,392.15	0.00
				Yes	204.92	0.00
					37.78	0.00
				Yes	158.00	0.00
					265.00	0.00
				Yes	1,989.79	0.00
					601.66	0.00
				Yes	5,961.70	0.00
					7,847.61	0.00
					4,903.83	0.00
					155.14	0.00
					521.19	0.00
				Yes	13,469.00	0.00
					5.15	0.00
					22,788.18	0.00
					27,350.09	0.00
					2,456.74	0.00
					18,236.95	0.00

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 21947

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
7841	\$380,523.91	Posted	lbergamini	03/18/2013	lbergamini	03/21/2013
		HS - FIELD TRIPS			85.00	0.00
		HS - BAND TRAVEL			74.04	0.00
		DENTAL			13,199.26	0.00
		L.T.D.			3,736.72	0.00
		WORKER'S COMPENSATION			19,392.00	0.00
		UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			2,441.00	0.00
		SW - HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORG.			49,832.92	0.00
		SW - PREFERRED PROVIDER ORG.			128,448.30	0.00
		SW - HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT			1,014.76	0.00
		UMBRELLA LIABILITY INSURANCE		Yes	3,030.00	0.00
		HS - OFFICIALS			10,825.18	0.00
		HS - ATHLETIC SUPPLIES			586.00	0.00
		SP ED - CREC HEARING PROGRAM		Yes	1,000.60	0.00
		SP ED - TUITION			18,450.00	0.00
				Total User-Entered Distributions	<u>\$380,523.91</u>	<u>\$380,523.91</u>
				Total for March, 2013	<u>\$758,434.21</u>	<u>\$758,434.21</u>
				Grand Total for Batch # 7841	<u>\$758,434.21</u>	<u>\$758,434.21</u>

265 Transactions Listed.

Julie M. Brown
11 Aspen Ridge
Somers, CT. 06071

March 5, 2013

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

Dear Dr. Suffredini:

In accordance with section 18.6 of the collective bargaining agreement between the Somers Board of Education and Somers Nurses Local 1303-290 Council 4 AFSCME, please accept this letter as my written notice of resignation from the position of school nurse effective Friday, March 22, 2013.

I have contemplated this decision for some time. There have been several situations which have led me to the conclusion that the level of liability and resulting frustration exceeds what I am willing to endure.

From the onset, it was difficult due to a lack of introductory training. While attempting to learn the job, I found that the student to nurse ratio overwhelmingly exceeds national standards. Current proposals to extend kindergarten will only magnify this issue in an environment where we already have a significant population of students with complex medical needs.

It is my opinion that some parental expectations exceed what any reasonable person can accomplish with limited resources and lack of assistance.

While Ralph Riola and Jennifer Oliver, Corinne Bouchard and Judy Sizer have been very supportive, there has been a lack of support and respect from several members of the teaching staff which have only complicated the situation.

At your convenience, I will be glad to discuss the reassignment of my work to others. I wish you good luck and continued success.

Sincerely,



Julie M. Brown

February 28, 2013

To the Somers Board of Education:

I am announcing my retirement from my position with the Somers Public Schools, effective April 26, 2013. It has been my pleasure to work to dedicated professionals, but the time has come to begin the next chapter of my life. Please wish me well as I embark on that journey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas R. Burgess". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Thomas R. Burgess

SOMERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4 Vision Blvd., Somers, CT 06071-1937

Ralph J. Riola - Principal

Jennifer W. Oliver - Assistant Principal

January 30, 2013:

Dr. Maynard Suffredini:

I am writing to you from a unique position as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the Somers Public School system for five years. I would like to start by expressing my sincere gratitude for my current employment at Somers Elementary School. I feel grateful everyday to have the opportunity to work with wonderful children, families, and gifted staff in Somers. Over the five years at Somers Elementary School the administration has offered me several opportunities to grow as a professional and as a person.

My husband and I have been married for over a year and we are living in the nearby community of Ellington. We recently received the exciting news that we are expecting our first child in August. We are overcome with joy.

After careful consideration, I decided to plan on using paid sick time for child-bearing leave through approximately mid-September. I would like to remain on unpaid child rearing leave until approximately November 1st.

I would like to talk to you about returning to work on a part-time basis (up to .5) for the remainder of the school year. I have talked to my principals and the Director of Pupil Services about my desire.

I look forward to discussing this in person at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Jodice, M.S., SLP-CCC

		JULY '13						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
4	Independence Day		1	2	3	4	5	6
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		28	29	30	31			

		JANUARY '14 (21)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1 20	Holiday Recess M.L. King Jr. Day				1	2	3	4
		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		26	27	28	29	30	31	

		AUGUST '13 (2)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
26 27 28 29	Staff Orientation Day Teacher Work Day Teacher Work Day SCHOOLS OPEN					1	2	3
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31

		FEBRUARY '14 (19)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
17	President's Day							1
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		23	24	25	26	27	28	

		SEPTEMBER '13 (20)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
2	Labor Day							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		29	30					

		MARCH '14 (20)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
19 20 21 28	K-5 Early Release K-5 Early Release K-5 Early Release Teacher Work Day							1
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		30	31					

		OCTOBER '13 (21)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
3 14 15	9-12 Early Release Columbus Day Teacher Work Day			1	2	3	4	5
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		27	28	29	30	31		

		APRIL '14 (17)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
14-17 18	April Recess Good Friday			1	2	3	4	5
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		27	28	29	30			

		NOVEMBER '13 (18)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
6 7 11 13 14 15 27 28-29	6-8 Early Release 6-8 Early Release Veterans Day K-5 Early Release K-5 Early Release K-5 Early Release Early Release Thanksgiving Recess						1	2
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		24	25	26	27	28	29	30

		MAY '14 (21)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
26	Memorial Day					1	2	3
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31

		DECEMBER '13 (14)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
6 23-31	Teacher Work Day Holiday Recess							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		29	30	31				

		JUNE '14 (7)						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
10 11	SCHOOLS CLOSING— Early Release Teacher Work Day							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		29	30					

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – March 25, 2013

Members Present: D.Palmer, J.Formeister, R.Lees, A.Kirkpatrick, M.Cicciarella, S.Bollinger
Members Absent: B.Pellissier, B.Devlin
Administrators Present: M.Suffredini, K.Pezza, D.Messina,
Staff Present: K. Jones, L.Reilly, C.Meagher
Citizens Present: R.Schmidt, M.Splain, D.Stone, B.Capuano
Students Present: *Students present at this meeting but did not sign attendance sheet*
Others:

1.0 SPECIAL BOE MEETING

A special BOE meeting was held at 6:45 p.m. in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room to interview BOE candidate(s).

2.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Palmer in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 11, 2013 – It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (J.Formeister) to approve the March 11, 2013 Board of Education meeting minutes. PASSED 6-0

5.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

Karen Jones, SEA President, addressed the Board regarding item 9.3 under NEW BUSINESS, discussion and possible revision of the 2013-2014 school calendar by eliminating 2014 February recess based on the Superintendent's recommendation. Ms. Jones polled 143 certified staff members and 109 responded (76%). 78% voted not to eliminate February recess with 22% voting in favor of its' elimination. 98% voted to keep April vacation, with 2% voting to remove it. Ms. Jones discussed staff relying on the school calendar once it is voted and approved by the Board.

5.1 School Wellness Report

Carol Meagher, Head Nurse, provided an update on the status of the School Wellness Committee. Talking points included: new allergy policy and its' monitoring; school lunches changes lining up with the new USDA guidelines; snack items and possible elimination; increased costs of purchasing food which will impact the number of children who will purchase meals in cafeterias; and healthy food changes such as wheat rolls, more fruits and vegetables, and uses of low fat dairy products.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

A. Kirkpatrick noted that she signed up for a Common Core workshop to take place on April 2nd.

7.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Approval of Bills 03/25/13 (\$380,523.91)

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (M.Cicciarella) to approve the 03/25/13 Bills in the amount of \$380,523.91 as presented. PASSED 6-0

8.2 Resignation (J. Brown)

Ms. Julie Brown, SES Nurse, has submitted her resignation effective 3/22/2013. Ms. Brown has been employed by the district since August 2012.

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (M.Cicciarella) to regretfully accept the resignation of Julie Brown, SES Nurse, effective 3/22/2013 as presented. PASSED 6-0

8.3 Retirement Notification (T. Burgess)

Mr. Thomas Burgess, SES Custodian, has submitted his retirement notification effective 4/26/2013. Mr. Burgess has been employed by the district since 1999.

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (M.Cicciarella) to regretfully accept the retirement notification of Mr. Thomas Burgess, SES Custodian, effective 4/26/2013 as presented. PASSED 6-0

8.4 Request for Child-Rearing Leave

Mrs. Stephanie Jodice, SES Speech Language Pathologist, is requesting child-rearing leave through approximately 11/1/2013 following her maternity leave in August.

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (M.Cicciarella) to accept SES Speech Language Pathologist Mrs. Stephanie Jodice's request for child-rearing leave through approximately 11/1/2013, following maternity leave in August, as presented. PASSED 6-0

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Appointment of the new BOE Member to Fill Vacancy

A special meeting was held at 6:45 p.m. to interview candidate(s) to fill BOE vacancy, previously held by M.Maniscalco. An interview was held with Mr. Robert Schmidt, and a motion was made by the Board.

It was MOVED (A.Kirkpatrick) SECONDED (S.Bollinger) to approve the new appointment of Mr. Robert Schmidt as presented. PASSED 6-0

9.2 Nonrenewal Notices

Due to funding uncertainty, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Maynard M. Suffredini Jr. has made the following recommendation for the following reasons, of which he considers to be a sufficient basis for the recommended action: (1) The elimination of the position or loss of position to another teacher.

In my capacity as Superintendent of Schools, I recommend that the Board of Education nonrenew the teaching contracts of Amy Avery, Tracy Brastow, Daniel Brownell, Daniel Clement, Amy Cunningham, Laura DiScipio, Kimberly Doran, Bryan Hull, Kyle Kipfer, Charles Lewis, Sarah McNamee, Colleen Meier, Melissa Nadeau, Loretta Nelson, Jennifer Ohlund, Sandi Plocharczyk, Tammany Reynolds, David Rollinson, Robert Rossetti, Natalie Ryan, Alicia Santavenere, Alicia Simoes, Brianna Stronk, Joni Swarts, Michael Szafir, Sharon Yarrowsat the end of the 2012-2013 school year in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, and that the Board authorize me to furnish written notice of the action. I also recommend that I be authorized and instructed to communicate notice of this action in writing to the affected teachers and to respond for the

Board to any appropriate requests that may be forthcoming from each teacher or his/her representatives as provided in the Teacher Tenure Law.

Dr. Suffredini informed the Board that each teacher previously stated has been advised that he intended to make this recommendation. Each teacher has the right under Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151 to request the reasons for the board's action to non-renew his/her contract of employment. Further, depending upon those reasons, each teacher may be entitled to a due-process hearing to seek reconsideration of the board's decision to non-renew the contract of employment.

It was MOVED (D.Palmer) SECONDED (J.Formeister) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to nonrenew the teaching contracts of Amy Avery, Tracy Brastow, Daniel Brownell, Daniel Clement, Amy Cunningham, Laura DiScipio, Kimberly Doran, Bryan Hull, Kyle Kipfer, Charles Lewis, Sarah McNamee, Colleen Meier, Melissa Nadeau, Loretta Nelson, Jennifer Ohlund, Sandi Plocharczyk, Tammany Reynolds, David Rollinson, Robert Rossetti, Natalie Ryan, Alicia Santavenere, Alicia Simoes, Brianna Stronk, Joni Swarts, Michael Szafir, Sharon Yarrowsat the end of the 2012-2013 school year in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, and to authorize the Superintendent to furnish written notice of the action.

It was further moved to authorize and instruct the Superintendent to communicate notice of this action in writing to the affected teachers and to respond for the Board to any appropriate requests that may be forthcoming from each teacher or his/her representatives as provided in the Teacher Tenure Law. PASSED 6-0

9.3 Review of the 2013-2014 School Calendar

With recent history of increased school cancellation, it is becoming more difficult to schedule the school year to accommodate the additional days. The Superintendent has recommended that the Board review the recently approved 2013-2014 school calendar and vote to eliminate the February 2014 recess in order to pick up additional school days. The Board discussed this possibility and other options. The Board is in agreement to keep the 2013-2014 school calendar as it was previously approved. The Board will discuss the possible elimination of February recess the following school year.

10.0 OLD BUSINESS

11.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Suffredini discussed with the Board a new program Dr. Messina, Director of Pupil Services, has been working on implementing at Somers Elementary School. The program, Fostering Adaptive Behavior (FAB), will establish goals and criteria for the accommodation and inclusion of students with behavioral challenges, exhausting efforts at keeping students in district with higher level supports in the least restrictive environment, as opposed to sending to out of district special education schools. There are many components of the program that Dr. Messina shared with the Board, and the process of developing adaptive behavior through higher-level supports were discussed.

12.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

12.1 Budget – No Update

12.2 Curriculum – No Update

12.3 Policy – The next Policy Committee meeting will be April 1st at 7:00 p.m.

12.4 Salary & Negotiations – Mr. Case and Mr. Caso from the Pension Committee will be attending May 13th's BOE meeting.

12.5 Planning Committee – No Update

12.6 Other Committees
Technology Ad Hoc Committee – No Update

13.0 OTHER

The Board was invited to the Security Meeting taking place on Thursday, March 28th at 9:00 a.m. in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (M.Cicciarella) SECONDED (J.Formeister) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:17 p.m. PASSED 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

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

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