

DRAFT Board Minutes

Monday, September 9, 2013 6:30 PM

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

1. Draft Meeting Minutes 9/9/2013 BOE Meeting

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – September 9, 2013

Members Present: D. Palmer, J. Formeister (arrived 7:03 p.m.), B. Devlin, M. Ciccarella (arrived 7:03 p.m.), R. Schmidt, S. Bollinger and A. Kirkpatrick
Members Absent: B. Capuano
Administrators Present: M. Suffredini, K. Pezza, B. Boutwell, G. Cotzin
Staff Present: S. French
Citizens Present: D. Stone
Students Present: None
Others: M. Callahan (JI), T. Vaghini (intern SHS)

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Palmer in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:33 p.m. (by B. Devlin) I hereby move that the Board enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a pending federal civil rights lawsuit, and I further move that the Board invite into Executive Session the Superintendent of Schools, Dr Maynard Suffredini, Jr., SECONDED (A. Kirkpatrick) PASSED 5-0

Attendees Include: D. Palmer, B. Devlin, R. Lees, S. Bollinger, A.Kirkpatrick, R. Schmidt and M. Suffredini.

The Board came out of Executive session at 6:44 p.m.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was MOVED (B. Devlin) SECONDED (R. Schmidt) to approve the August 26, 2013 Board of Education meeting minutes as presented. PASSED 5-0

5.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 It was MOVED (B. Devlin) SECONDED (R. Lees) to approve maternity leave for Melissa Cianci (leave will begin in January, 2014). PASSED 7-0

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

10.0 OLD BUSINESS

10.1 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 4131-Staff Development

It was MOVED (R. Lees) SECONDED (A. Kirkpatrick) to approve Policy 4131 as presented. PASSED 7-0

10.2 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 5113 Somers Revised Student Attendance Policy

It was MOVED (A. Kirkpatrick) SECONDED (R. Schmidt) to approve Policy 5113 as presented. PASSED 7-0

10.3 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 1700- Otherwise Lawful Possession of Firearms on School Property

It was MOVED (S. Bollinger) SECONDED (R. Schmidt) to approve Policy 1700, as presented. PASSED 7-0

10.4 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 6142.61- Physical Activity

It was MOVED (A. Kirkpatrick) SECONDED (S. Bollinger) to approve Policy 6142.61, as presented. PASSED 7-0

10.5 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 5131.111- Student Conduct- Video Surveillance

It was MOVED (S. Bollinger) SECONDED (R. Schmidt) to approve Policy 5131.111, as presented. PASSED 7-0

10.6 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 5131.7- Students- Weapons and Dangerous Instruments Policy

It was MOVED (S. Bollinger) SECONDED (A. Kirkpatrick) to approve Policy 5131.7, as presented. PASSED 7-0

10.7 Second Warning/Adoption of DBS Code 5131.911- Revised Bullying Policy

It was MOVED (S. Bollinger) SECONDED (R. Schmidt) to approve Policy 5131.911, as presented. PASSED 7-0

11.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Suffredini updated the Board on the implementation of full-day kindergarten. The feedback of staff and parents has been positive. Transportation has run smoothly as has the student's adjustments to the longer school day. Classroom size averages fourteen students per class.

Dr. Suffredini updated the Board on the progress of the new teacher evaluation program (SEED). At this time administrators and teachers have completed their initial professional development.

Dr. Suffredini received notification from the Board of Selectmen that the bond for the Capital Plan has been approved for SES and SHS roof replacement, fire alarm replacements and a new generator for SES.

Dr. Suffredini reported the results of the first year of summer school. Thirteen students in grades 9-12 participated in the Odyssey based online program. Eleven students received course credits. Included in those eleven were two seniors who were able to receive their diplomas. The salary for the teacher of the program was paid by the tuition students paid for

access to the courses. Surplus funds were used to purchase additional usage licenses which will allow the program to be offered to more students in the future.

12.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

- 12.1** Budget – Dr. Suffredini met with the Administrative Team to inform them that in the upcoming weeks the 2014-2015 Budget will be created.
- 12.2** Curriculum – No update
- 12.3** Policy – Policy Committee met this evening, September 9, 2013, and will have one policy to present as a first warning at the September 23, 2013 meeting. At that point, the policies will be caught up until November 2013 and a year-end report will be submitted to the Board of Education.
- 12.4** Salary & Negotiations – R. Schmidt, B. Devlin and Dr. Suffredini attended the initial meeting with the Board of Education Attorney. Currently, the committee is in the process of scheduling the first meeting with the teachers' union, which must commence by October 3, 2013. Dr. Suffredini provided the Board members with the current contract and encouraged them to contact members of the sub-committee with any questions or input.
- 12.5** Planning Committee – No update
- 12.6** Other Committees
Technology Ad Hoc Committee – No update

13.0 OTHER

- 13.1** Principal G. Cotzin reiterated the success of the summer school program. He also introduced the SHS intern who he is mentoring, Thomas Vaghini, from the University of Connecticut.
- 13.2** S. Bollinger asked if there was an update on the amount saved by the District as a result of utilizing solar panels at SES during the last school year. An exact amount was provided to the Board of Finance but was not available at this meeting.
- 13.3** The September 23, 2013 Board of Education meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will include two Executive Sessions.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (B. Devlin) SECONDED (J. Formeister) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:30 p.m. PASSED 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary
Beth Ann Morhardt, Recording Secretary

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