

DRAFT BOE Meeting Minutes 5-12-14

Monday, May 12, 2014 6:00 PM

DRAFT BOE Meeting Minutes 3-10-14, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. DRAFT BOE Meeting Minutes 5-12-14

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – May 12, 2014

Members Present: D. Palmer, B. Devlin (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), R. Lees, Jr., S. Moynihan Bollinger (arrived at 7:08 p.m.), J. Formeister, A. Kirkpatrick, M. Marquardt (arrived at 7:15 p.m.), K. McLellan (arrived at 7:13 p.m.), M. Rockett

Members Absent:

Administrators Present: Dr. M. Suffredini, B. Boutwell, Dr. D. Messina

Staff Present: C. Smith, L. Gengenbach, R. Wilson

Citizens Present: B. Capuano

Students Present:

Others:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 21, 2014 – It was **MOVED** (M. Rockett), **SECONDED** (A. Kirkpatrick) to approve the April 21, 2014 Board of Education meeting minutes as presented. **PASSED 5-0.**

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

4.1. Lunch Program Report

C. Smith and L. Gengenbach, Cafeteria Co-Managers, updated the Board on the district's lunch program. C. Smith reported that SES added another half-hour to the lunch schedule due to full-day kindergarten. A major change that will be implemented as soon as the government updates their guidelines will be to provide lunches with a lower sodium content. The hot lunch price changed in all three schools: \$2.50 in the Somers Elementary School and \$2.25 in Mabelle B. Avery and Somers High School (they do not provide milk in their hot lunch). Annual inspections were completed with no problems reported. C. Smith and B. Boutwell reported that the transition program has been successful with two students who assist in the MBA cafeteria and two students who help with mail delivery between the buildings under the supervision of a staff member. B. Boutwell reported on the program costs (salary, supply costs, utilities, and insurance) and stated that the pricing continues to be at or below average compared to other school systems. Pricing will be reviewed for the fall.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- Chairman Palmer received a brochure and circulated it to Board members.
- Chairman Palmer reported that a thank you card was received from Mr. Barnett.
- An email was received by Board members.
- Chairman Palmer acknowledged correspondence and discussed the situation with Dr. Suffredini and Board members.

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

It was **MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (R. Lees)** to add agenda item 8.5: Ratification of Custodians' Contract. **PASSED 9-0.**

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1. Approval of Bills

It was **MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (R. Lees)** to approve the 5/12/14 bills in the amount of \$399,306.06 as presented. **PASSED 9-0.**

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Letter of Resignation – L. Albertson

It was **MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (M. Marquardt)** to accept with regret the resignation of Luke Albertson, English teacher at Somers High School. **PASSED 9-0.**

8.2. Letter of Resignation – M. Beirn

It was **MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (M. Marquardt)** to accept with regret the resignation of Meghan Beirn, English teacher at Somers High School. **PASSED 9-0.**

8.3. First Warning of Adoption of New Textbook – Mathematics Textbook

The Curriculum Committee presented the first warning of adoption of the new SES textbook – Mathematics. J. Formeister encouraged the Board members to examine the textbook's content. K. McLellan reported that the teachers have had favorable responses.

8.4. Superintendent Evaluation

Dr. Suffredini outlined the evaluation process for the BOE and an explanation of forms and information was distributed. He reported that he included his goals that were established for this year and wrote responses and a brief narrative in the subcategories. The Board is to review the information and meet with Dr. Suffredini in Executive Session at the next BOE meeting scheduled Tuesday, May 27, 2014.

8.5. Ratification of Custodians' Contract

It was **MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (M. Rockett)** to approve the ratification of the custodians' contract as presented. **PASSED 9-0.**

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

9.1. Review 2014-2015 School Calendar

Dr. Suffredini reported that the legislature has approved a CREC unified regional calendar which is to be implemented for 2016-2017. A. Kirkpatrick reported that every Connecticut public school will end up with the exact week for April vacation with employees in every school district on the same schedule and with the same vacation.

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

10.1. Technology Presentation and Update

Dr. Suffredini brought to the Board's attention that due to R. Wilson's efforts, the school has been able to purchase a sizeable amount of equipment for expanded infrastructure. Additional funds were voted in: \$109,000 from CIP in addition to \$55,000 from the grant.

R. Wilson, Director of Technology and Information Services, updated the Board on district technology use and programs. Technology categories that were discussed include:

- Network: The Cisco equipment will be updated by the start of the new school year with faster speed and Power-over-Ethernet.**
- Wireless: Currently, the system cannot handle many users. Access Points will be able to redirect lines with many users so the system will not be oversaturated.**
- Servers: Currently, data is housed at a vendor site rather than at the school. There are only a few file servers used at the school. Proper server configuration and proper back-ups will be addressed.**
- Client Devices—Staff: Desktops and laptops were last replenished in the fall of 2010 at SHS, the fall of 2010 at MBA, and spring of 2012 at SES. They are currently in decent shape. There are 90 iPad2s for teachers and staff.**
- Client Devices—Students: There are 215 iPad Minis and 420 iPad2s.**
- Classroom Technology: Carts, labs, projectors, and Mimio will be phased out.**
- Server Room/Closets: Currently, equipment is stored in janitorial closets without proper cooling or ventilation, and there are security concerns. Proper storage will be investigated.**
- Phones: The phones are currently stable and are roughly eight years old. They will be upgraded when funding becomes available.**
- Video Systems: No major upgrades are needed; however, flat-screen TVs and decentralizing DVD players are being discussed.**
- The iPad lease program will take effect at the beginning of the school year in the fall with 800 iPad Airs and 60 iPad Minis. It will take a few weeks before they are fully distributed. Professional development workshops and the Apple Lease Program will include on-site training to help staff become comfortable with the new technology. Training for the parents will also be considered.**

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

11.1. Budget – Dr. Suffredini reported that the budget is fine as we approach the year's end and that we are looking forward to a favorable vote on the town referendum on May 20, 2014.

11.2. Curriculum – No report.

- 11.3. Policy – A. Kirkpatrick reported that no meeting is scheduled but that policies will be included in the next packet.**
- 11.4. Salary & Negotiations – B. Devlin reported that the next nurses’ meeting will be held on 5/15/14. The last meeting was on 5/5/14.**
- 11.5. Planning – B. Boutwell reported that the committee is waiting to hear from the State regarding the roof project.**
- 11.6 Other Committees – No report.**

12.0 OTHER

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (M. Marquardt) to adjourn the BOE meeting at 8:30 p.m. PASSED 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

**Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary
Shannin Burns, Recording Secretary**

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