

Draft BOE Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 10, 2014 7:00 PM
MBA Board Room, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. DRAFT BOE Meeting Minutes - 11/10/14

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – NOVEMBER 10, 2014

Members Present: B. Devlin, R. Lees, Jr., S. Moynihan Bollinger, J. Formeister, M. Marquardt (arrived at 7:23 p.m.), K. McLellan, M. Rockett
Members Absent: D. Palmer, A. Kirkpatrick
Administrators Present: Dr. M. Suffredini, B. Boutwell, Dr. D. Messina, R. Wilson
Staff Present:
Citizens Present: C. Astone, B. Capuano, A. Allen, T. Casciano, L. Pruden
Students Present:
Others:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Devlin in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 27, 2014 – It was **MOVED** (M. Rockett), **SECONDED** (R. Lees) to approve the October 27, 2014 Board of Education meeting minutes as presented. **PASSED** 6-0.

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

A few parents were present and spoke of their concern regarding the safety of the lacrosse and soccer field bleachers as well as conditions of the high school baseball field. Pictures were distributed to the Board members and to the superintendent.

4.1. Curriculum Presentations

Kathleen Pezza, Director of Curriculum, was not available to update the Board on the literacy/English curriculum. Rob Wilson, Director of Technology, updated the Board on the technology integration curriculum at SES, MBA, and SHS:

- At SES, technology is used to engage students' creations through eBooks for math and science as well as for book report presentations through iMovie. Learning A-Z and Raz-Kids are programs used for reading where teachers are able to monitor students' progress. There are program tutorials to enable fifth graders to learn logical thinking and chess via Mimeo to help kindergarten students learn math and problem solving strategies. Parents or classmates may view students' work by using the Reflection and/or Showbie app on iPads.
- At MBA, teachers use apps such as Showbie, Nearpod, and Quia to access students' real-time results. Student Council elections were done electronically that provided real-time feedback. Students are able to

create Lego robots and program them to perform certain tasks. iPads are used for on-line research for subjects, and students created a video about the Ski Club that aired on WMBA. Students are also able to access on-line copies of their textbooks as well as support materials.

- At SHS, students are utilizing eBackpack, a classroom management tool, to receive and submit assignments, receive feedback from teachers, view presentations, etc. Teachers are able to video themselves and post the lesson on-line for students to access later for homework in order for the skill to be practiced or applied in class on a more one-to-one basis. Students are able to use Google Apps to create projects and complete class work. iPads are used to complete and turn in assignments. Teachers use PDF annotators to grade students, make comments, and return the work to the student. This provides ease of content sharing and paperless workflow.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

It was **MOVED (B. Devlin)**, **SECONDED (R. Lees)** to postpone agenda item 10.1 – Long-Range Plan Review until the Long-Range Planning Committee has had a chance to reconvene. **PASSED 7-0.**

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1. Approval of Bills

It was **MOVED (J. Formeister)**, **SECONDED (R. Lees)** to approve the 11/10/14 bills in the amount of \$302,943.36 as presented. **PASSED 7-0.**

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Actuarial and Consulting Services

It was **MOVED (M. Marquardt)**, **SECONDED (J. Formeister)** to approve switching to Hooker & Holcombe (H&H) for actuarial services for the non-certified staff pension plan effective July 1, 2015. **PASSED 7-0.**

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Suffredini indicated that the state has awarded Somers the Safety Grant he submitted in September. The total grant is \$298,636.00. The state's share will be \$178,106.51

10.1. Long-Range Plan Review

A motion was made under agenda item 6 to postpone the long-range plan review until the committee has had a chance to reconvene.

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1. Budget – Dr. Suffredini reported that the committee is working closely with the BOF and that everything is going well while in the early stages for 2015.

11.2. Curriculum – No report.

11.3. Policy – Dr. Suffredini will submit to the policy subcommittee a newly drafted public participation policy in board meetings for their review and action.

11.4. Salary & Negotiations – Dr. Suffredini reported that negotiations with both SESA and SAA are progressing.

11.5. Planning – Dr. Suffredini reported that he and Bill Boutwell met with the subcommittee and noted recommendations regarding regenerating the document and improving it concerning budget items and long-range plan items. The committee will reconvene.

11.6. Other Committees – None.

12.0 OTHER

The Board discussed the citizens' safety concerns regarding the bleachers. It will be discussed in the Long-Range Planning Committee.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (M. Marquardt), SECONDED (M. Rockett) to adjourn the BOE meeting at 7:45 p.m. PASSED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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