

DRAFT Board Minutes 4-13-15
Monday, April 13, 2015 7:00 AM
DRAFT Board Minutes 4-13-15, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. DRAFT Board Minutes 4-13-15

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – APRIL 13, 2015

Members Present: D. Palmer, R. Lees, Jr., S. Moynihan Bollinger, A. Kirkpatrick, K. McLellan, M. Rockett
Members Absent: B. Devlin, J. Formeister, M. Marquardt
Administrators Present: B. Boutwell, K. Pezza, Dr. D. Messina
Staff Present: M. Curran
Citizens Present:
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 Vice Chairman Palmer in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 23, 2015 – It was **MOVED** (K. McLellan), **SECONDED** (M. Rockett) to amend the March 23, 2015 Board of Education meeting minutes. **PASSED 6-0**. The March 23, 2015 minutes were amended as follows:

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISTRICT SECURITY MEASURES AND PLANS

Rationale: An Executive Session will be called to review and discuss the district's security measures and plans.

- It was **MOVED** (D. Palmer), **SECONDED** (K. McLellan) to enter into Executive Session to review and discuss the district's security measures and plans and to invite Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, as well as Lt. Jose Claudio, Somers Police, at 7:10 p.m. **Motion failed. PASSED 4-4, OPPOSED 4** (A. Kirkpatrick, J. Formeister, K. McLellan, M. Marquardt)
- It was **MOVED** (D. Palmer), **SECONDED** (K. McLellan) to enter into Executive Session to review and discuss the district's security measures and plans and to invite Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, as well as Lt. Jose Claudio, Somers Police, at 7:15 p.m. **PASSED 7-2, OPPOSED 2** (A. Kirkpatrick, J. Formeister).

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:18 p.m.

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

4.1. Curriculum Presentations – Tech Ed and Library Media

Kathleen Pezza, Director of Curriculum, reported on the Library/Media and Technology Education curricula at SES, MBA, and SHS:

Library/Media

- **SES:** The SES Library Media Specialists provide instruction in computer skills and integrating iPads into the classroom.
 - Grades K-2 visit the Media Center to select “just right” books, and there is no formal instruction on library science.
 - Grade 3 students begin learning how a library is organized and use the on-line catalog to search for books.
 - Grades 4-5 are introduced to the Dewey Decimal system, learn how to use a table of contents as well as the glossary and index. At the end of fifth grade, students take a nationwide Technology Literacy Assessment.
- **MBA:** The MBA Library Media Specialists assist students and teachers with iPad integration and mobile computing devices into the classroom.
 - Students learn skills such as basic citations, determining reliability of websites, accessing on-line databases, finding primary source materials, and using public access catalogs in school and community libraries. They also work with PowerPoint as well as other iPad applications to create projects and share work.
 - The WMBA is a daily morning broadcast incorporating approximately 50 students who learn various broadcasting skills. Experienced WMBA students mentor new students.
 - MBA is currently increasing its catalog of eBooks and audio books through grants.
 - The Media Center was awarded the Ronald McDonald Local Hero Award which granted \$1000 for a wireless printer to be used with iPads.
- **SHS:** The SHS Library Media Specialists support teachers in the roll-out of the iPad program; provide and teach non-academic/interpersonal skills with the Advisory Program; and, they supplement the school’s Safe School Climate Plan. The Library Media Specialists work with the English, Social Studies, and World Language departments teaching research and citation skills.
 - Students learn appropriate use and academic integrity through lessons on MLA, turnitin.com, and EasyBib-School Edition.
 - Students learn to use on-line reference catalogs.

Technology Education

- **MBA:** Sixth grade students learn about design, measurement accuracy, and transportation and movement through units on flight, mousetrap cars, and bridges. Seventh grade students focus on robotics learning about basic programming, design, and hydraulics using NXT LEGO kits. Eighth grade students continue their exploration of design and CADD by producing a piece of furniture using woodworking tools. MBA has a robotics club that meets after school and competes in competitions.
- **SHS:** There are a variety of technology courses available:
 - In the Robotics program, students learn to build VEX robots and program them using Basic C language and compete in regional VEX competitions.
 - In Engineering Graphics, students use CNC machines to bring the theoretical world of CADD into the practical world using equipment

and computers. The TIDE department is securing a grant through AT&T to acquire a CNC Plasma cutter for next year.

- In Graphic Design, students create interactive documents combining images, audio, video, and animation utilizing Adobe Flash CS5 and Dreamweaver. Beginning next year, Graphics 2 & 3 classes will start developing instructional and promotional items through the District's video streaming server.
- The Research and Development class produces an operational vehicle which is currently in the testing and training stages to compete in the CT Electrathon America Challenge on May 8, 2015. 3D printing was utilized to produce the steering wheel. Several local business members donated to the Research and Development class and helped them raise \$6650.00.
- 40 students are participating in the College Career Pathway (CCP) program that is managed by Mr. Niziolek.
- Mr. Kosloski is now teaching CAM at Goodwin College.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Board members received the CABA newspaper.

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1. Approval of Bills

It was **MOVED** (S. Bollinger), **SECONDED** (K. McLellan) to approve the 4/13/15 bills in the amount of \$515,000.05 as presented. **PASSED 6-0.**

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1. SHS Field Trip – NYC Art Museums

It was **MOVED** (A. Kirkpatrick), **SECONDED** (S. Bollinger) to approve an overnight SHS field trip to New York City art museums with 9 students on 5/8-5/9/15 as proposed by Mary Curran, Art Teacher at Somers High School. **PASSED 6-0.**

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

11.1. Budget – Bill Boutwell, Director of Business Services, reported on the BOF meeting held on 4/13/15 and stated that budgets were approved as presented. The Public Hearing date changed from 4/20/15 to 4/27/15. The town meeting will continue to be held on Tuesday, 5/5/2015. The referendum vote will continue to be held on Tuesday, 5/19/2015.

11.2. Curriculum – No report.

11.3. Policy – A. Kirkpatrick reported that the next committee meeting will be held on 4/30/15 at 7 p.m. She also stated that there will be a large packet for the next Board meeting.

11.4. Salary & Negotiations – No report.

11.5. Planning – No report.

11.6. Other Committees – None.

12.0 OTHER

A. Kirkpatrick voiced her concern with voter turnout for last year’s referendum vote. She has asked Board members to encourage citizens at the town meeting to vote on 5/19/15.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (S. Bollinger), SECONDED (K. McLellan) to adjourn the BOE meeting at 7:49 p.m. PASSED 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent

Minutes amended at the May 11, 2015 Board of Education meeting as follows:

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISTRICT SECURITY MEASURES AND PLANS

Rationale: An Executive Session will be called to review and discuss the district’s security measures and plans.

- It was MOVED (D. Palmer), SECONDED (K. McLellan) to enter into Executive Session to review and discuss the district’s security measures and plans and to invite Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, as well as Lt. Jose Claudio, Somers Police, at 7:10 p.m. Motion failed. VOTE 4-4, OPPOSED 4 (A. Kirkpatrick, J. Formeister, K. McLellan, M. Marquardt). Two-thirds vote needed to enter into Executive Session.**
- It was MOVED (D. Palmer), SECONDED (K. McLellan) to enter into Executive Session to review and discuss the district’s security measures and plans and to invite Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, as well as Lt. Jose Claudio, Somers Police, at 7:15 p.m. PASSED 7-2, OPPOSED 2 (A. Kirkpatrick, J. Formeister).**

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