

BOE Meeting draft Minutes 11-13-17
Monday, November 13, 2017 7:00 PM
Board Room, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. Draft Minutes from 11-13-17 Meeting

DRAFT



Board of Education Meeting
November 13, 2017 7:00 PM
Board of Education Room

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM:

Present Board Members:

Ms. Barbara Capuano
Mrs. Kate McLellan
Sarah Bollinger
Bruce Devlin
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick
Rick Lees
Marybeth Marquardt
David Palmer

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Jeremy Anderson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Discussion:

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. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Passed: Draft minutes of 10/23/17 passed with a motion by Mrs. Kate McLellan and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

4. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7. CONSENT AGENDA

7.1. Donations

Rationale: Somers Public Schools has received donations in the past month. Somers Education Foundation has granted 14 staff requests and the Somers High School R & D Electrathon Program as also received donations.

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed the generous donations by SEF and sponsors supporting the CT Electrathon and passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

DRAFT

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

7.2. Warrant of November 13, 2017

Rationale: Warrant of November 13, 2017 for Board approval.

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed the 11/13/17 warrant in the amount of \$334,011.75 and passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

7.3. 2017-2018 Budget Revisions

Rationale:

The attached report will show revisions to the 2017-2018. Mr. Boutwell will be present for any questions.

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed the 2017-18 budget revisions as presented and passed with a motion by David Palmer and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - English novel "Things Fall Apart"

Rationale: 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - English novel "Things Fall Apart". The Curriculum Committee has met and is available for discussion. The 2nd warning will be November 27th.

8.2. 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - New Course - Mathematics Skills Intervention.

Rationale: 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - New Course - Mathematics Skills Intervention. The Curriculum Committee has met and is available for discussion. The 2nd warning will be November 27th.

DRAFT

8.3. 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - New Course - English - Literacy Skills.

Rationale: 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - New Course - English - Literacy Skills. The Curriculum Committee has met and is available for discussion. The 2nd warning will be November 27th.

8.4. 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - New Course - French 1.

Rationale: 1st Warning - SHS Curriculum Proposal - New Course - French 1. The Curriculum Committee has met and is available for discussion. The 2nd warning will be November 27th.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1. 2nd Warning - DBS 3520.13- Operations

Rationale: 2nd Warning of DBS Code 3520.13- Operations. The Policy Committee has reviewed this policy and is recommending the attached changes.

Discussion: A. Kirkpatrick noted that all corrections were made in red.

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed DBS Code 3520.13 - Operations as presented and passed with a motion by Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

9.2. 2nd Warning of DBS Code 4112.2 - Certification.

Rationale: 2nd Warning of DBS Code 4112.2 - Certification. The Policy Committee has reviewed this policy and is recommending the attached changes.

Discussion:

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed DBS Code 4112.2 - Certification as presented and passed with a motion by Ms. Barbara Capuano and a second by Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

9.3. 2nd Warning DBS Code 5144.1 - Use of Physical Force

Rationale: 2nd Warning of DBS Code 5144.1 - Use of Physical Force. The Policy Committee has reviewed this policy and is recommending the attached changes.

DRAFT

Discussion:

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed DBS Code 5144.1 - Use of Physical Force as presented and passed with a motion by Marybeth Marquardt and a second by David Palmer.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

9.4. 2nd Warning - DBS Code 6146.2 State Testing

Rationale: 2nd Warning of DBS Code 6146.2 State Testing. The Policy Committee has reviewed this policy and is recommending the attached changes.

Discussion:

Motion Passed: The BOE reviewed DBS Code 6146.2 - State Testing and passed with a motion by Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick and a second by Rick Lees.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

10.1. Curriculum Report on Art, Music and Business

Rationale: Dr. Irene Zytka will give presentation on the Art, Music and Business Curriculums.

Discussion:

Superintendent Czapla introduced Dr. I. Zytka, Director of Curriculum, to explain how they are working on standardizing the curriculum report by asking four questions: What is the sequence of courses in Grades K-12? Were there any major changes in the program's curriculum this past year? What are the long-term plans for change and direction in accordance with the current curriculum/program review? What program objectives (current and future) have financial implications for the upcoming year?

Music: Major changes include aligning professional goals with the curriculum and being purposeful from an interdisciplinary standpoint. The music department has altered their technology to conform with Chromebooks. Long-term plans include moving into higher level music and creating "Honors Level" courses. The department continues to search for ways to include music appreciation into MBA and increase learning at SHS including music technology, drama, theatre, and ECE UConn and AP Music Theory. The department is researching several method books to be used as a comprehensive warm-up system.

Financially, SES music is stable with their instruments and maintenance. MBA and SHS are looking at long-range instrument replacement(s)

DRAFT

Art: There continues to be a variety of courses offered, especially in the upper levels. Achievements included a District Art Show which attracted over 500 guests. Students also participated in the Square 1 Art Fundraiser supporting student field trips. SES invited a Fast Painter Artist and a former SES student who published and illustrated a book thus melding the Arts and Literacy curricula. Staff is currently working on a preschool art curriculum. MBA 8th grade students worked on an interdisciplinary project with Mr. Estes in science class regarding Monarch butterflies. The art room complimented the Monarch Butterfly Unit by creating origami butterflies. Math will also be involved with art by creating buildings with measurement. SHS has students who excel in art and create their portfolios. The State has new national standards for art which are rigorous and encourage interdisciplinary work at a high level of engagement. An SEF grant came through providing a new kiln for

SHS.Business: The sequence of courses begin at SHS. The SHS Yearbook team was recognized in both regional and national competitions. Business and Technology departments collaborated to prototype, engineer, market, and sell a new product in the marketplace and yielded the highest level of sales the program has seen since its first year. There haven't been any major changes in the curriculum. The department is running an Effective Leadership Independent Study online course. The long-range plan is to build upon the collaboration with the journalism class. A teacher has also agreed to attend a yearbook conference at Columbia University every other year and will speak if requested. Dr. Zytka reported that staff are currently utilizing the Atlas Program, an interdisciplinary curriculum management system. This program has several features. Teachers can write their curriculum, search a curriculum, find references, upload units to their library, and develop a unit calendar where other teachers may align their curriculum with each other. Essential questions, knowledge, skills, and resources are listed. All students will learn the same skill sets with the same standards. It is a Cloud-based program that can be accessed anywhere.

10.2. Professional Development

Rationale: Dr. Irene Zytka will present the Board of Education a summary of Professional Development for staff for the 2017-18 school year.

Discussion:

Dr. I. Zytka reported the Professional Development offerings for the 2017-18 school year to the BOE. The two main objectives include designing a rigorous curriculum aligned to the Common Core Standards and Diversity/Equity training. Staff are able to choose what they want to take; however, some workshops are mandatory. Staff have a week to sign up for Professional Development via a Google form. A spreadsheet is then created displaying all of the different sessions and who will be attending. SurveyMonkey is also utilized in order to provide feedback.

10.3. Superintendent's Update

Rationale: Superintendent Czapla will give the Board of Education an update.

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that he visited all three schools on Friday, 11/10/17, celebrating Veterans Day. SHS had over 50 veterans visit; MBA students participated in activities including writing postcards to active military personnel; and, SES had veterans attend and songs sung by SES students. Superintendent Czapla wished the SHS Boys Soccer team well as they play Coventry in Suffield at 6:30 p.m. on 11/14/17. If the team advances, finals will be on Saturday, 11/18/17. He will be attending the Teacher of the Year Recognition Ceremony with C. Gustafson, SHS World Language Teacher, and other colleagues being honored on 11/15/17. Superintendent Czapla reported that he and Mr. B. Boutwell, Director of Business Services, have been working on next year's budget. He also reported that SEF provided funds for School Messenger to enhance communications with parents and the community effective on or before January 1, 2018.

DRAFT

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1. BUDGET

Discussion:

As stated under agenda item 10.3.

11.2. CURRICULUM

Discussion:

No report.

11.3. POLICY

Discussion:

A. Kirkpatrick reported that the next meeting will be held on 11/27/17 at 6 p.m.

11.4. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion:

D. Palmer reported that Administrators' negotiations have commenced. The next session will be held on 11/14/17 at 2:30 p.m.

11.5. PLANNING

Discussion:

D. Palmer reported that the next meeting will be held on 12/5/17.

11.6. OTHER COMMITTEES

12. OTHER

Discussion:

Chairman Devlin thanked M. Marquardt for her many years of service on the BOE. Chairman Devlin also suggested inviting students/staff from all three schools to demonstrate how they use their iPads and Chromebooks.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Passed: Adjournment at 8:11 p.m. passed with a motion by Marybeth Marquardt and a second by Sarah Bollinger.

8 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Ms. Barbara Capuano	Yes
Mrs. Kate McLellan	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Anderson	Absent
Sarah Bollinger	Yes
Bruce Devlin	Yes
Mrs. Anne Kirkpatrick	Yes
Rick Lees	Yes
Marybeth Marquardt	Yes
David Palmer	Yes

Rick Lees, BOE Secretary
Shannin Burns, Recording Secretary