

Draft Minutes of May 29, 2018 BOE Meeting

Tuesday, May 29, 2018 7:00 PM

Draft Minutes of May 29, 2018 BOE Meeting, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

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Somers Board of Education Meeting

May 29, 2018

7:00 PM

Board of Education Room

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM:

Present Board Members: Bruce Devlin, Chair, Jan Martin, Sarah Bollinger, Barbara Capuano, Rick Lees, Jeremy Anderson, Kate McLellan

Absent Board Members: Anne Kirkpatrick, David Palmer

Updated Attendance: Kate McLellan was updated to present at: 7:05 PM

Other Staff: Brian Czapla, Bill Boutwell, Irene Zytka, Rob Kapner, Clay Krevolin, Gary Cotzin

Others: Erik Ness and Andrew Belzer (Secure Energy Solutions), Faith Sarisley (student) and Megan Krementowski (JI)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Devlin in the Mabelle B. Avery Board of Education Meeting room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

3.1. Somers High School Student Representatives

Student representatives from the high school will update the Board of Education on events.

Discussion: F. Sarisley, SHS Junior, updated the BOE regarding SHS events: Celebration of the Arts was held on 5/23/18 including art and music; a Memorial Day Concert was held on Saturday, 5/26/18; the SSS group will be going to MBA on Thursday to discuss the high school with the 8th graders; Boys Lacrosse Class S tournament is coming up; and, finals begin on June 18, 2018 but sooner for the senior class.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Draft Minutes of the Board of Education May 14, 2018 Meeting

Draft Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of May 14, 2018

Motion: BOE Draft Minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting passed with a motion by Jeremy Anderson and a second by Jan Martin.

Passed 6-0 (3 Absent)

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5. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

Motion: Motion to add agenda item 8.3 to Consent Agenda-- Resignation of Jonathan Salomone, Technology Specialist, passed with a motion by Rick Lees and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **Passed 7 – 0 (2 Absent)**

8. CONSENT AGENDA

8.1. Warrant of Bills on May 29, 2018

Warrant of Bills on May 29, 2018

Motion: Warrant of Bills for May 29, 2018 in the amount of \$186,717.24 with a motion by Rick Lees and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **Passed: 7 – 0 (2 Absent)**

8.2. Resignation of Kendra Anderson, Somers High School Math Teacher

Resignation of Kendra Anderson, Somers High School Math Teacher.

Motion:Resignation of K. Anderson, Somers High School Math Teacher,with a motion by Rick Lees and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **Passed 7 – 0 (2 Absent)**

8.3. Resignation of Jonathan Salomone, Technology Specialist

Resignation of Jonathan Salomone, Technology Specialist

Motion: Resignation of J. Salomone, Technology Specialist, with a motion by Rick Lees and a second by Jeremy Anderson. **Passed 7 – 0 (2 Absent)**

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Energy Efficiency Program

The Board will review and vote on the Energy Efficiency Program. Mr. Erik Ness will be present for questions.

Discussion: Mr. Eric Ness and Mr. Andrew Bezler from Secure Energy Solutions reported to the BOE regarding their program to retrofit lighting in all three schools which will warrant a significant return on investment over the long term. Mr. Bezler reviewed a summary page with the BOE members. Phase I of the program will be completed over the summer which involves switching out fixtures/bulbs. Phase II will involve mechanicals.

Motion: Motion to approve Energy Efficiency Program as presented with a motion by Barbara Capuano and a second by Jan Martin.

Passed 7 – 0 (2 Absent)

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9.2. 1st Warning of DBS Code: 6163.32 -Live Animals in Classrooms

The Board will review new DBS Policy 6163.32 that the Policy Committee is submitting for 1st Warning.

Discussion: Chairman Devlin recommended all questions be directed to Anne Kirkpatrick or another member of the Policy Committee.

10. OLD BUSINESS

10.1. Approval of Pension Trust and OPEB Trust

The Board will vote on the Pension Trust and OPEB Trust.

Discussion: Mr. Bill Boutwell, Director of Business Services, updated the BOE on the process over the past four months regarding the Pension and OPEB Trusts and Resolutions.

Motion: Motion to approve the Pension Trust and OPEB Trust with amended resolution as of May 29, 2018:

*Town of Somers Board of Education
Resolutions*

May 29, 2018

WHEREAS, the Board is the plan sponsor of the Pension Plan and the OPEB Plans; and

WHEREAS, the assets of the Pension Plan under the terms of the Pension Plan document are required to be held in an annuity contract or a trust; and

WHEREAS, Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 74 and 75 provide for more favorable reporting of the actuarial value of the OPEB Plan benefits if a trust is created, funded, and otherwise meets the requirements of GASB No. 74 and 75; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the Director of Business Service have recommended that a trust for the Pension Plan (the "Pension Trust") be created as soon as administratively feasible; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the Director of Business Service have recommended that a trust be created that meets the requirements of GASB No. 74 and 75 (the "OPEB Trust") effective July 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the Director of Business Service have recommended that The Forma Group at Morgan Stanley be engaged to provide investment advice to the Pension Trust and the OPEB Trust under the Morgan Stanley Select UMA Program.

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and Director of Business Service vetted through counsel the Pension Trust, the OPEB Trust, the Morgan Stanley Retirement Plan Manager Product Establishment Kit, Morgan Stanley Single Advisory Contract and related Morgan Stanley documents required to engage the services of The Forma Group (aggregately the "Morgan Stanley Engagement Documents").

NOW, THEREFORE, after considering the recommendations of the Superintendent the Board hereby adopts the following Resolutions:

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RESOLVED, that the form of Pension Trust recommended by the Superintendent to the Board be adopted effective the date of these resolutions with such changes as may be recommended by counsel to the Board; and further

RESOLVED, that the form of the OPEB Trust recommended by the Superintendent to the Board be adopted effective the date of these resolutions, with such changes as may be recommended by counsel to the Board; and further

RESOLVED, that The Forma Group at Morgan Stanley be engaged to provide investment advice to both the Pension Trust and the OPEB Trust on the terms set forth in the Morgan Stanley Engagement Documents with such changes therein as may be recommended by counsel to the Board; and further

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent and Director of Business Service are hereby designated as Authorized Individuals to act on behalf of the Board under the Morgan Stanley Engagement Documents; and further

RESOLVED, that the Board Chair and Superintendent be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to take all action as he deems necessary or appropriate and recommended by counsel to the Board, including, but not limited to the execution of the Pension Trust, OPEB Trust and the Morgan Stanley Engagement Documents and any other documents, to effectuate the foregoing resolutions.

Motion by Bruce Devlin and a second by Barbara Capuano. **Passed 7 – 0 (2 Absent)**

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11.1. Annual Scheduling of Somers High School - Class Sizes

Mr. Cotzin will be here to discuss any questions the Board might have on the Somers High School class sizes for 18-19.

Discussion: Mr. Gary Cotzin, SHS Principal, discussed the complex process of developing the 2018-19 course selection to the BOE. He stated that they are currently balancing classes and making some adjustments; however, for the most part the numbers have looked good. The high school typically does not offer classes that are less than ten students unless they are AP classes. Students will know their courses; however, they don't know who their teachers will be until the beginning of the school year.

11.2. Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Building Goals

Mr. Clay Krevolin will present the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Building Goals.

Discussion: Mr. C. Krevolin, MBA Principal, and Mr. R. Kapner, MBA Assistant Principal, updated the BOE on the outcomes of MBA building goals. The first goal focused on Literacy with the expectation that all students would meet/exceed their projected growth. All grades exceeded national norms. Mr. Krevolin noted that S. Remington, Reading Teacher, targeted students needing interventions which enabled them to perform better. The second goal focused on Math with

the expectation that all students would meet/exceed their projected growth. The seventh and eighth grades exceeded their projected growth. Sixth grade performed below the expected growth even though there were gains. Mr. Krevolin stated that there is no remedial math teacher, which is a position he would like to fulfill in the future. He listed several strategies to implement in order to achieve academic goals. Mr. Kapner discussed the third goal of PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports) and the intention to improve school climate with a universal approach to discipline and clear expectations of positive behaviors. At MBA, inappropriate use of technology as well as defiance, insubordination, and disrespect were measured. Gains were made in the areas of defiance, insubordination, and students not cooperating; however, the disrespect category went up. Technology violations went down. Students are allowed to take their phones out in homeroom at the end of the day, and Chromebooks may be locked easier than iPads. These may be possible explanations for improved technology violations. A PBIS team will be formed district-wide.

11.3. Curriculum Development Update

Dr. Zytka will give a presentation on the Curriculum updates.

Discussion: D. Irene Zytka, Director of Curriculum, updated the BOE regarding the Atlas Curriculum Program. Dr. Zytka stated that teachers have worked extremely hard and many have gone above and beyond to complete their curriculum in Atlas. Dr. Zytka showed an example of a completed curriculum in Social Studies at MBA. The Atlas program demonstrates a unit timeline, which shows the dates in which each unit is taught. Dr. Zytka showed an example of the unit on Central America and how the staff compiled their data including framework, essential questions, knowledge and skills, assessments and linked standards, learning activities, key words, resources, technology used, and differentiated instruction pieces. Dr. Zytka is looking to include two more Mapping categories. Goals for next year include finishing the remaining Mapping categories and beginning to look at the vertical alignment between all schools.

1.4. Superintendent Update

The Superintendent will update the Board of Education.

Discussion: Superintendent Czaplá reported that his evaluation must be completed by 6/30/18 and recommended that it be added as an Executive Session at the next BOE meeting. He reiterated that the Boys Lacrosse will play on Wednesday in the Class S Tournament while the Girls Lacrosse participated in a game at 5 p.m. against Canton on 5/29/18. He did not have the final score of the game. He invited all BOE members to attend the Fifth Grade Farewell Ceremony on 6/19/18 from 2-4 p.m. at SHS.

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12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1. BUDGET

Superintendent Czapla stated that Mr. B. Boutwell, Director of Business Services, will report on the end-of-the-year budget at the next meeting.

12.2. CURRICULUM

12.3. POLICY

Discussion: R. Lees reported that the Policy Committee held a meeting prior to the BOE meeting on 5/29/18. One policy was warned at the 5/29/18 BOE meeting. Five policies will be warned next meeting. Any questions may be directed to A. Kirkpatrick or another member of the Policy Committee.

12.4. SALARY & NEGOTIATION

Discussion: Superintendent Czapla reported that there is a SESA negotiation meeting scheduled on 5/30/18.

12.5. PLANNING

Discussion: Chairman Devlin reported that the Planning Committee is working with Secure Energy Solutions as stated under agenda item 9.1.

13. OTHER

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Adjournment at 8:27 p.m. with a motion by Jan Martin and a second by Sarah Bollinger. **Passed: 7-0 (2 Absent)**

Rick Lees, Board of Education Secretary

Shannin Burns, Board Recording Secretary