

Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 7:00 PM

Somers Board of Education Chambers, 1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**
 1. Retirement Recognitions
On behalf of the BOE, Superintendent Galloway, Caroline Hargraves, Director of Pupil Services, and Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, SHS Principal, will present gifts to the following retirees:

Dr. Michael Wald, SHS School Psychologist
Laurie Somma, SHS Special Education Teacher
Lisa Grenier, SHS School Counselor
Sue Cormier, SHS Science Teacher
Ines Dunn, SHS World Language Teacher
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 1. Approval of the May 12, 2025 BOE Meeting Minutes 3
The Board to review and approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025 Board meeting.
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
 1. Superintendent Update
 2. School Wellness Committee Report
Cheryl Fry, Head Nurse, will present the School Wellness Committee update.
 3. SHS Student Representatives
SHS students, Emma Ciccirella and Carolyn Castonguay, will update the Board on recent SHS events.
6. **OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS**
7. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 1. Warrant of May 27, 2025 8
The Board to review and consent to the warrant of May 27, 2025.
 2. Resignations
 - Laurina Sanford, 6th Grade Math Teacher, will resign effective June 30, 2025.
 - MaryBeth Lipman, 8th Grade ELA Teacher, will resign effective June 30, 2025.
 - Timothy Foster-Kibbler, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher, will resign at the end of the school year.
 3. Retirements
 - Sue Cormier, SHS Science Teacher, will be retiring at the end of the 2024-2025 school year after nearly 25 years with SPS.
 - Lisa Grenier, SHS School Counselor, will be retiring effective June 19, 2025, after nearly 25 years with SPS.
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 1. Curriculum (next meeting 6/9/25 5:30 p.m.)
 2. Policy
 3. Planning/Finance
 4. Salary & Negotiations
 5. Building
11. **CABE/CREC/State Dept. of Ed./SEF**
12. **AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS**

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board to enter into Executive Session and invite Dr. Galloway into Executive Session to discuss his evaluation.

14. ADJOURNMENT

**Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting
Somers Board of Education Chambers**

Monday, May 12, 2025

7:00 PM

(The recorded livestream may be viewed on SPS' YouTube channel on the school website)

Present BOE Members: Anne Kirkpatrick, JT Galloway, Shane Manning, Jan Martin, Kim Radziewicz, Carl Stebbins, Derek Zelek

Absent BOE Members: Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau

Others: Jaime Rechenberg, Lynn Erickson, Chase White, Carla White, Ryan White, Linda White, Stephen White, Margot Martello, Julie Hinkley, Melissa Mucci, Jen DeRagon, Chris Castonguay, Lisa Castonguay, Carolyn Castonguay, Jonathan Breton, Meghan Millea, Lily Yager, Julie Kobjack, Makayla Stellato, Lucas Caron

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chair Kirkpatrick at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Chambers.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

3.1. 2025 CABA Student Leadership Awards

Rationale: Margot Martello, MBA Principal, will present the MBA CABA Student Leadership Awards to Meghan Millea and Chase White.

Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, SHS Principal, will present the SHS CABA Student Leadership Awards to Carolyn Castonguay and Jonathan Breton.

Discussion: Superintendent Galloway introduced MBA students, Meghan Millea and Chase White, and SHS students, Carolyn Castonguay and Jonathan Breton. Superintendent Galloway commended these students for representing their families and the district well. Superintendent Galloway introduced Principal Martello, who presented the MBA CABA Student Leadership Awards. Principal Martello explained that this is the top honor awarded to two 8th grade students each year. Students are selected by the 8th grade teaching team. Recipients demonstrate the following skills:

- Willingness to take on challenges
- Ability to make difficult decisions
- Show concern for others
- Demonstrate effective collaboration

- Commit to projects
- Demonstrate diplomacy and an understanding of complex issues
- Honor commitments

Meghan Millea is a leader to her peers. She comes to school with a positive attitude and a willingness to help others. Her dedication to academics is unmatched. Meghan is a member of the Art Club, Games Club, Ski Club, Yearbook Club, and MBA Junior Beta Club. She also participates in volleyball, cross-country, band and chorus. Meghan volunteers at the Somers Public Library to help with the summer reading program. Meghan's kindness to her peers shines through her interactions inside and outside the classroom. Peers view her as a kind and caring leader.

Chase White is committed to serving his school and community. Chase is an active member of the Environmental Club and The Frog Project. Chase plays multiple sports. He volunteers at the Somers Playhouse. Chase started his own woodworking business, selling his creations locally and online. Peers view Chase as a leader and model student who excels in academics and shows compassion to peers. Chase is well-rounded and demonstrates leadership skills that improve the school and community. Chase was selected to present during a site visit by the CAS Middle Level School of the Year evaluation team. Principal Martello presented each student with a token of recognition.

Principal Rechenberg presented the SHS CABE Student Leadership Awards to Carolyn Castonguay and Jonathan Breton.

Jonathan Breton is the President of the Class of 2027. Jonathan demonstrates a proactive and responsible approach to leadership by driving progress and showing an eagerness to share ideas and follow through on tasks. Jonathan embraces new challenges and honors commitments. Jonathan helped with a local fundraiser this past fall by connecting with festival organizers, gathering logistics and securing financial details. Jonathan designed and constructed props for a fundraising game that was staffed by peers. Jonathan collaborates effectively with others and demonstrates a mature and diplomatic approach. He shows a quiet strength and self-assurance that inspires confidence in others. Jonathan is a steady and calm presence, known for his friendly and respectful demeanor.

Carolyn Castonguay is truly an outstanding young woman who embodies leadership. Carolyn has made a significant impact at SHS and in the Somers community. Carolyn serves as a student representative for the Somers BOE, offering insight and perspective that represents the SHS student body. She is an invaluable voice due to her effective communication skills and social awareness. Carolyn is a member of the indoor and outdoor Track & Field teams and the Cross Country Team. She participates on the Student Advisory Council and is the Secretary of the Interact Club. Carolyn also volunteers with the Rotary Club and SEF, and supports school-sponsored events. Carolyn manages her commitments

while maintaining High Honor Roll status. Principal Rechenberg presented each student with a token of recognition.

3.2. SES State Invention Convention Students

Rationale: Lynn Erickson, K-5 STEM Instructional Leader, will introduce the six students from Somers Elementary School who participated in the State Invention Convention on May 3, 2025:

Brooklyn Yukimura
Lily Yager
Lucas Caron
Julie Kobjack
Thomas-Enzo Mazzoli
Makayla Stellato

Discussion: Ms. Lynn Erickson, K-5 STEM Instructional Leader, introduced 5th grade students who presented at the 2025 State Invention Convention. Ms. Erickson explained how these students, along with 97 other 5th graders, became inventors. Students engaged in the engineering design process to solve a problem of their choice. Judges viewed the projects on 2/27/25 and moved 6 inventors on to the State Invention Convention. Ms. Erickson introduced each student and his or her invention. Ms. Erickson congratulated all students for their work during the process and for positively representing Somers Public Schools. Ms. Erickson thanked the "village" that helped support the program. Inventor Thomas Enzo Mazzoli received the Telaid Innovation in Integration Award for his invention. Lily Yager will move on to a virtual national competition. Lily will submit her work to the U.S. Innovator Challenge, an invitation-only event. Ms. Erickson presented each inventor with a framed newspaper article highlighting the event. Superintendent Galloway congratulated the students.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Approval of the April 28, 2025 BOE Meeting Minutes

Rationale: The Board to review and approve the minutes from the April 28, 2025 Board meeting.

Motion to approve minutes of April 28th Board of Education Meeting. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Derek Zelek, Carried. **Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau), Abstain: 1 (Carl Stebbins)**

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

5.1. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Galloway provided an update. The Board of Selectmen voted affirmatively on 5/1/25 to reconvene the Building Committee. A discussion will ensue regarding summer work for the SES HVAC project and possible relocation of students during construction.

The district is working to host another viewing of *Screenagers*. This film discusses the negative impact of cell phones during the school day. The viewing will take place on 5/20/25 at 5:30 p.m. in the SHS auditorium. In addition, Officer Scott Driscoll, internet safety expert and retired South Windsor Police Officer, has agreed to return to SPS to provide information to parents.

SPS was awarded almost \$50,000 through the Carl D. Perkins Grant to support technology education that bolsters CTE pathways.

Mr. Ken McCarthy, MBA Physical Education teacher and coach, will be inducted into the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in Rhode Island in October. Mr. McCarthy demonstrates professionalism and a love for the town.

5.2. Monthly Budget Report

Rationale: Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will update the Board on the monthly budget.

Discussion: Ms. Stephanie Levin presented a budget update. Quarterly transfers that were approved during the last meeting are reflected in the budget. Ms. Levin shared an update on the excess cost grant from the state. There are no major changes expected through the end of the year.

6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda. This motion, made by JT Galloway and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau)**

7.1. Warrant of May 12, 2025

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of May 12, 2025.

7.2. 2nd Posting DBS Code 5118.2 - Waiver of Tuition for Nonresident Students

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1. Curriculum (next meeting 6/9/25 5:30 p.m.)

This committee met on 5/12/25 to discuss summer activities and summer reading. This information will be updated on the website. The next meeting will be held on 6/9/25 at 5:30 p.m.

10.2. Policy

The next meeting will be held on 5/27/25 at 6 p.m.

10.3. Planning/Finance

There are no committee meetings scheduled at this time. There will be a meeting in the summer to discuss budget transfers.

10.4. Salary & Negotiations

This committee is on hold.

10.5. Building

11. CABE/CREC/State Dept. of Ed./SEF

SEF will meet on 5/14/25 to present grants. The town referendum will take place on 5/20/25 from 6 a.m.- 8 p.m. SHS Graduation will take place on 6/12/25.

12. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Rationale: The Board to enter into Executive Session to review the Superintendent Evaluation form and invite Dr. Galloway into Executive Session.

Motion to enter Executive Session to review the Superintendent Evaluation form and invite Dr. Galloway into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. This motion, made by Jan Martin and seconded by JT Galloway, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau)**

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:47 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. This motion, made by Jan Martin and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau)**

Jan Martin, BOE Secretary Date
Jenna McDermott, BOE Recording Secretary

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION VOUCHER

Voucher No: 1345

Voucher Date: 05/27/2025

Prepared By:



Printed: 05/22/2025 10:23:19 AM

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION is hereby authorized to draw warrants against SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION funds for the sum of \$273,870.03 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.



Stephanie Levin Director of Business Services

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Fund	Amount
10 GENERAL FUND	\$273,870.03
	\$273,870.03

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 5/27/2025
From Check: 26127
From Voucher: 1345

To Date: 5/27/2025
To Check: 26185
To Voucher: 1345

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
26127	05/27/2025	A&D Portable Rentals	\$475.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26128	05/27/2025	Adelbrook Inc	\$18,995.50	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26129	05/27/2025	Air Energy Group	\$1,313.02	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26130	05/27/2025	Alternative Access Assistive Technology	\$2,564.50	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26131	05/27/2025	Amazon Capital Services	\$1,399.34	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26132	05/27/2025	Awards & More	\$160.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26133	05/27/2025	Brodart Library Supplies & Furnishings	\$127.40	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26134	05/27/2025	Brooks Environmental Consulting, LLC	\$750.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26135	05/27/2025	BSN Sports LLC	\$361.84	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26136	05/27/2025	Caitlin Hoffman	\$57.58	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26137	05/27/2025	CLG Electric LLC	\$1,200.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26138	05/27/2025	Connecticut Radio, Inc	\$100.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26139	05/27/2025	COX Business	\$825.72	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26140	05/27/2025	Dime Oil Company LLC	\$321.46	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26141	05/27/2025	Domus Kids, Inc.	\$429.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26142	05/27/2025	Eric Barakat	\$375.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26143	05/27/2025	Eversource Energy	\$24,713.30	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26144	05/27/2025	First Student, Inc	\$110,052.68	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26145	05/27/2025	Fletcher Sewer & Drain, Inc	\$210.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26146	05/27/2025	Flores & Associates	\$66.60	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26147	05/27/2025	Gengras Center	\$13,303.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26148	05/27/2025	Georgia Nadler	\$400.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26149	05/27/2025	Goodwin University Educational Service	\$3,713.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
26150	05/27/2025	Graduate Pest Solutions, Inc.	\$220.82	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26151	05/27/2025	Grainger	\$114.36	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26152	05/27/2025	Hartford HealthCare Corporation SBO	\$31,195.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26153	05/27/2025	Herff Jones Inc.	\$13.90	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26154	05/27/2025	Hopkins Audiometer Calibration	\$306.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26155	05/27/2025	Integrated Systems Services, LLC	\$1,889.26	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26156	05/27/2025	Intensive Education Academy, Inc.	\$7,817.74	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26157	05/27/2025	J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc.	\$126.68	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26158	05/27/2025	Joseph Migliore	\$250.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26159	05/27/2025	Journal Inquirer	\$44.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26160	05/27/2025	K&S Distributors	\$801.05	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26161	05/27/2025	Lori Caron	\$255.45	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26162	05/27/2025	MagnaKleen Services	\$108.61	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26163	05/27/2025	Michael Savage	\$187.50	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26164	05/27/2025	NCS Pearson, Inc.	\$379.75	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26165	05/27/2025	Nicholas Kosloski	\$121.80	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26166	05/27/2025	Partners for Educational Leadership, Inc	\$1,075.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26167	05/27/2025	Pitney Bowes, Inc.	\$448.35	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26168	05/27/2025	Qu-Sis	\$555.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26169	05/27/2025	Rusty Klin LLC	\$852.60	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26170	05/27/2025	School Specialty, Llc	\$101.54	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26171	05/27/2025	Service Station Equipment, Inc	\$11,000.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26172	05/27/2025	Social Studies School Services	\$375.20	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
26173	05/27/2025	Somers Lunch Program	\$100.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26174	05/27/2025	Somers Star Hardware	\$235.23	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26175	05/27/2025	The Home Depot Pro	\$115.87	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26176	05/27/2025	Thomas Eaton Jr	\$404.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26177	05/27/2025	Tim Percoski	\$78.05	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26178	05/27/2025	Tull Brothers, Inc.	\$703.75	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26179	05/27/2025	UCONN	\$260.00	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26180	05/27/2025	USA Waste and Recycling	\$1,931.63	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26181	05/27/2025	Valerie Barrieau	\$337.50	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26182	05/27/2025	Valley Educational Services	\$7,737.03	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26183	05/27/2025	Van Pool Transportation LLC	\$19,757.59	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26184	05/27/2025	W.B. Mason Co., Inc.	\$1,932.69	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26185	05/27/2025	Zoro Tools Inc	\$123.14	1345	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Total Amount: \$273,870.03

End of Report