Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, September 28, 2026 7:00 PM
Somers Board of Education Chambers, 1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
    1. Approval of the September 9, 2026 Special BOE Meeting Minutes 2
       The Board to review and approve the minutes from the special meeting on September 9, 2026.
    2. Approval of the September 14, 2026 BOE Meeting Minutes 3
       The Board to review and approve the minutes from the September 14, 2026 Board meeting.
4. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
    1. Superintendent Update
    2. SHS Student Representatives
       Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, SHS Principal, will introduce the 2026-2027 SHS student representatives to the Board.
5. **OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS**
6. **CONSENT AGENDA**
    1. Warrant of September 28, 2026 8
       The Board to review and consent to the warrant of September 28, 2026.
    2. Leave of Absence
       Amanda Morrisino, MBA Math Intervention, is requesting a leave of absence beginning approximately February 16, 2026, through the end of the 2026-2027 school year.
    3. 2nd Posting DBS Code 3280 - Grants and Bequests 11
    4. 2nd Posting DBS Code 9326.1 - Minutes 13
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
    1. 2026 - 2027 Organizational Chart 14
       Dr. Galloway will update the Board on the 2026-2027 SPS Organizational Chart per Admin. Reg. 2100.
9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
    1. Curriculum
    2. Policy
    3. Planning/Finance
    4. Salary & Negotiations
    5. Building
10. **CIP/CREC/SEF**
11. **ADVANCE CALENDAR**
12. **AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS**
13. **ADJOURNMENT**

DRAFT

Somers Board of Education Special Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 2026 7:00 PM
Somers Board of Education Chambers, 1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

"The Somers Public Schools strives to be an exceptional and innovative educational community."

Present BOE Members: Michael Briggs, Anne Kirkpatrick, Dr. Sharon Goulet, Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Shane Manning, Gina Olearczyk, Derek Zelek, Kim Radziewicz

Others: Dr. Sam Galloway, Atty. Jessica Ritter

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chair Briggs at 7:02 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
   Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss an attorney client privileged communication related to employees' first amendment rights. This motion, made by Anne Kirkpatrick and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay: 0.**

   The Board exited Executive Session at 8:09 p.m.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**
   Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. This motion, made by Gina Olearczyk and seconded by JT Galloway, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay: 0.**

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Dr. Sharon Goulet, BOE Secretary Date

Minutes prepared by Shannin Burns, Executive Assistant to Superintendent

Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting
Somers Board of Education Chambers
Monday, September 14, 2026
7:00 PM

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

Present BOE Members: Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau, JT Galloway, Dr. Sharon Goulet, Anne Kirkpatrick, Shane Manning, Gina Olearczyk, Kim Radziewicz, Derek Zelek

Others: Dr. Sam Galloway, Stephanie Levin, Melissa Mucci, Julie Hinkley, Diane Childs, Tenley Stoltz, Amy Avery, Keith Liggett, Aime Liggett, Jennifer Gray, Denise Anderstrom, Morgan Anderstrom, Jenny Bunick, Norah Anderstrom, Vivian Bunick, Meghan Millea, Ellen Quinlan, Erin Quinlan, Erin Orvis, Jennifer Millea

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Superintendent Galloway opened the election of officers for the Somers Board of Education and requested nominations for Board Chair. Ms. Anne Kirkpatrick nominated Mr. Mike Briggs for Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Ed DePeau. Vote: 9-0-0. Mr. Mike Briggs was elected Chair of the Somers Board of Education.

Chair Briggs requested nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Mike Briggs nominated Ms. Anne Kirkpatrick for Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. JT Galloway. Vote: 9-0-0. Ms. Anne Kirkpatrick was elected Vice Chair.

Ms. Kirkpatrick nominated Dr. Sharon Goulet for Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Ms. Gina Olearczyk. Vote: 9-0-0. Dr. Sharon Goulet was elected Secretary.

Chair Briggs asked each Board member to select two subcommittees on which they would like to serve.

4. 2027 TEACHER & PARAEDUCATOR OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

Rationale: Dr. Galloway will introduce the 2027 Teacher and Paraeducator of the Year to the Board.

Discussion: Superintendent Galloway recognized Jamie Furness as the 2027 Paraeducator of the Year, highlighting her commitment to the district, reliability, teamwork, and support of students and colleagues. He noted her strengths in instructional support and professional integrity. Jamie was also recognized at

Convocation. Superintendent Galloway thanked Jamie for her dedication and leadership.

Superintendent Galloway recognized Erin Orvis as Somers Teacher of the Year. Erin, who will compete for Connecticut Teacher of the Year, has served SES for more than 25 years as a classroom teacher, math interventionist, and coach. Superintendent Galloway highlighted Ms. Orvis' dedication to supporting the whole child, helping students reach their potential, and supporting families in need. Ms. Orvis also serves as President of the Teachers' union and returned to the classroom last year without hesitation when the need arose.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1. Approval of the August 24, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Rationale: The Board to review and approve the minutes from the August 24, 2026 Board meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from August 24, 2026 Regular Meeting. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Kim Radziewicz, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay: 0**

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

6.1. Superintendent Update

The Connecticut State Department of Education contacted Superintendent Galloway after noting Somers' strong student performance. Mr. Ajit Gopalakrishnan, Chief Performance Officer at the Connecticut State Department of Education, invited Superintendent Galloway to discuss the district's results, which exceeded state averages and pre-pandemic performance levels across all areas.

Superintendent Galloway highlighted recent district recognition of all three schools, the Board's support of the new curriculum, and teachers' commitment to high-quality instruction.

6.2. Monthly Budget Report

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

Discussion: Stephanie Levin presented the August monthly report. She reviewed current vacancies, including the MBA library media specialist, an IT position, and two maintainer positions, noting that staffing changes may affect the benefits budget line. The SHS school counselor position was filled in September.

Special education outplacements, including tuition and transportation, are being finalized and remain in line with projections. A budget spending freeze remains in place while staffing costs are finalized, with necessary instructional supplies being prioritized.

In response to Board member questions, Ms. Levin noted that outplacement costs remain on target and that, despite two maintainer vacancies, the department has managed well and had a strong school opening.

7. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the consent agenda. This motion, made by JT Galloway and seconded by Anne Kirkpatrick, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay: 0**

8.1. Warrant of September 14, 2026

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of September 14, 2026.

8.2. Resignation

Rationale: Shannon Rooney, SHS School Counselor, is resigning effective 9/18/26 after three years of service to SPS.

8.3. Leave of Absence

Rationale: Allison Lippman, Grade 2 Teacher, will be taking a leave of absence from approximately the beginning of March through the end of the school year.

9. OLD BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1. 1st Posting DBS Code 3280 - Grants and Bequests

10.2. 1st Posting DBS Code 9326.1 - Minutes

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1. Curriculum

No updates.

11.2. **Policy**

No updates.

11.3. Planning/Finance

The committee met on 9/14/26 to review policies regarding the budget process.

11.4. Salary & Negotiations

The subcommittee hopes to ratify the Administrators' contract at tonight's meeting. The Teachers' contract is under negotiation. The committee will meet on 10/5/26.

11.5. Building

The meeting scheduled for 9/15/26 is cancelled. The next meeting will be held on 10/6/26 at 4 p.m.

12. CIP/CREC/SEF

There is no CIP or CREC report. SEF will meet on 9/16/26.

13. ADVANCE CALENDAR

The Board reviewed a calendar of upcoming school and district events taking place from September through November.

14. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

Chair Briggs reviewed public comment procedures, including expectations for respectful conduct, a 3-minute limit per speaker, and 20-minute total allotment for public comment

Ms. Julie Hinkley of Collins Road in Somers, expressed concerns regarding comments made by the SHS Vice Principal and questioned how those comments align with the district's vision and mission, particularly in supporting students and staff with mental health concerns and members of the LGBTQ community. She urged the Board to hold administrators to a high professional standard.

Ms. Diane Childs of 184 County Road inquired about the hiring and recommendation process for the Vice Principal position. Superintendent Galloway confirmed that the candidate was recommended by the hiring committee. Ms. Childs suggested including social media and online content reviews in future hiring processes. Superintendent Galloway agreed.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Rationale: The Board will enter into Executive Session and invite Dr. Galloway and Stephanie Levin into Executive Session to discuss the ratification of the SAA contract.

Motion to enter into Executive Session and invite Dr. Galloway and Stephanie Levin to discuss the ratification of the SAA contract. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Derek Zelek, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay: 0**

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:29 p.m.

Motion to ratify the contract between the Somers Board of Education and the Somers Administrators' Association for the dates 7/1/27- 6/30/30.This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Gina Olearczyk, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay: 0**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by JT Galloway, Carried. **Yea: 9, Nay:0**

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Dr. Sharon Goulet, BOE Secretary Date

Jenna McDermott, BOE Recording Secretary

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION VOUCHER

Voucher No: 1075 **Voucher Date:** 09/28/2026 Prepared By:

Printed 09/24/2026 09:49:51 AM

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION is hereby authorized to draw warrants against SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION funds for the sum of $198,524.06 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (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	$198,524.06
		$198,524.06

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2026-2027

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date:	9/28/2026	**To Date:**	9/28/2026
From Check:	27973	**To Check:**	28016
From Voucher:	1075	**To Voucher:**	1075

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
27973	09/28/2026	A&D Portable Rentals	$95.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27974	09/28/2026	Adelbrook Inc	$7,454.25	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27975	09/28/2026	Alternative Access Assistive Techology	$5,603.50	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27976	09/28/2026	Amazon Capital Services	$1,900.33	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27977	09/28/2026	American Time	$679.15	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27978	09/28/2026	Amplify Education	$1,218.56	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27979	09/28/2026	Avery Septic Service	$100.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27980	09/28/2026	Baldwin Media	$4,500.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27981	09/28/2026	Blick Art Materials	$125.60	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27982	09/28/2026	CAPSS	$500.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27983	09/28/2026	CLG Electric LLC	$1,800.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27984	09/28/2026	CNC Software, LLC	$1,800.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27985	09/28/2026	COX Business	$769.59	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27986	09/28/2026	DG Graphics	$100.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27987	09/28/2026	Dr. Karen Camera, M.D.	$1,500.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27988	09/28/2026	Enfield Board of Education	$15,577.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27989	09/28/2026	ESS Northeast, LLC	$8,249.53	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27990	09/28/2026	Eversource Energy	$24,343.75	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27991	09/28/2026	Graduate Pest Solutions, Inc.	$376.27	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27992	09/28/2026	Grainger	$80.45	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27993	09/28/2026	HD Supply Facilities Maintenance, Ltd	$778.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27994	09/28/2026	Hillyard-New England	$314.73	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27995	09/28/2026	Joe Warren & Sons Co., Inc	$8,244.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2026-2027

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date:	9/28/2026	**To Date:**	9/28/2026
From Check:	27973	**To Check:**	28016
From Voucher:	1075	**To Voucher:**	1075

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
27996	09/28/2026	JP Climate Control LLC	$1,605.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27997	09/28/2026	K&S Distributors	$65.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27998	09/28/2026	Kind And Custom LLC	$972.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
27999	09/28/2026	MagnaKleen Services	$112.95	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28000	09/28/2026	New England Communications	$1,448.37	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28001	09/28/2026	New England Turf Management	$808.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28002	09/28/2026	PAR, Inc	$548.64	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28003	09/28/2026	Prestwick House, Inc	$3,027.43	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28004	09/28/2026	Project Read Al Inc	$750.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28005	09/28/2026	Raimondo Electric	$1,680.82	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28006	09/28/2026	Rochester 100 Inc.	$168.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28007	09/28/2026	Rusty Klin LLC	$390.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28008	09/28/2026	Shipman & Goodwin, LLP	$10,914.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28009	09/28/2026	Silktown Roofing	$1,299.32	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28010	09/28/2026	SLP Toolkit	$675.00	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28011	09/28/2026	Sonitrol New England	$26,732.97	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28012	09/28/2026	Turf Products	$496.91	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28013	09/28/2026	USA Waste and Recycling	$5,511.74	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28014	09/28/2026	Van Pool Transportation LLC	$3,655.75	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28015	09/28/2026	Vernon Board of Education	$51,445.36	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
28016	09/28/2026	Zoro Tools Inc	$107.09	1075	Printed	Expense	☐		
		Total Amount:	$198,524.06						

End of Report

DBS CODE: 3280

BUSINESS

Gifts, Grants And Bequests:

The Board of Education authorizes the superintendent/designee to accept with appreciation, gifts from individuals or groups not exceeding an approximate value of $10,000. Gifts valued in excess of that amount and gifts of lesser value which predictably would require significant Board of Education expenditures for their assumption, maintenance or installation, require approval by the Board of Education prior to their acceptance. All gifts to schools or the school system, no matter their value, shall be accepted in accordance with ~~the following principles~~ the administrative regulations of this policy.

The school principal may approve gifts to a school that are valued at $500 or under and meet criteria established by the administrative regulations established in accordance with this policy. The Superintendent of Schools must accept gifts that are valued over $500 and meet criteria established by the administrative regulations established in accordance with this policy.

The Superintendent, in consultation with the principals and considering the wishes of the donor, may determine the school(s), program(s) or facility(ies) to which the gift shall go if it is valued at more than $500. The Superintendent shall inform the Board of Education of all gifts that have been accepted by the district.

If the Superintendent determines that a gift fails to meet the criteria established in the administrative regulations, the Superintendent shall inform the Board of Education. Any gift rejected by the Board of Education shall be returned to the donor or the donor's estate, with a statement indicating the reason for the rejection of such gift.

~~1. No gift or scholarship, which in the judgement of the superintendent or the Board of Education represents special interests prejudicial to any group, or is inappropriate, to use by the schools will be accepted.~~

~~2. Gifts accepted for the school system become the property of the Board of Education, to be expended or used at its discretion; however, every effort shall be made to honor the special request of donors.~~

~~3. No gift shall be accepted without verification that there are no encumbrances against said gift.~~

~~4. Gifts will not supplant Board of Education responsibility for educational funding, nor shall outside funding produce major educational inequities among schools.~~

~~5. All gifts accepted by the superintendent designee, other than those of nominal value, shall be reported to the Board of Education at the first meeting following the receipt of such gift.~~

Legal Reference: ~~Connecticut General Statutes 7-194 Powers~~ Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-237

Adopted: November 26, 1979

Reviewed: May 4, 1998

Reviewed: January 20, 2017

Revised: June 25, 2018

DBS CODE: 9326.1

The minutes will be prepared by the Board Recording Sec

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

Minutes:

All actions of the Board, together with pertinent background information, shall be recorded in the Minutes of the Board of Education. The Minutes shall be prepared by the Board **Recording** Secretary, ~~with the help of a stenographer employed at the discretion of the Board~~, and shall be distributed to Board members and the Town.

One copy of the official minutes shall be maintained in the Office of the Superintendent, and one copy in the Office of the Town Clerk. The minutes shall be available for public inspection via the Board's website.

Adopted: March 23, 1981
Revised May 24, 2021

Organizational Chart
2026-2027

Board of Education (9)
Curriculum
Planning/Finance
Policy
Salary & Negotiations

Superintendent of Schools

Human Resources Sp. (1)

Executive Assistant (1)

Director of Pupil Services (1)

Coord. of Pupil Services (1)

Sp. Ed. Secretaries (2)
DW: BCBA(1) / SLPA (1)
SES: Sp.Ed. Teachers(7)/SW(1)
Psychologists(2)/OT(1)/COTA(1)
SLP(2.4)/SLPA(1)/PT(1)
MBA: Sp.Ed. Teachers(5)/SW(1)
Psychologist(1)/SLP(.5)
SHS: Sp.Ed. Teachers(5)/SW(1)
Psychologist(1)/SLP(.5)

Senior Director of Curriculum & Instructional Operations (1)

Instructional Leader Staff (4)

CO Admin. Assistant (1)

Director of Technology (1)

Tech. Support Specialist -Network Services (1)
Tech. Support Specialist -System Services (1)

Director of Business Srvs. (1)

Food Services (8)
Transportation Services

Payroll & Accounting Coord. (1)
Accounts Payable (1)

Elementary Principal (1)

Assistant Principal (1)

Teachers (45.2)
Secretaries (2) / Paras (25)
Nurses (2) / Tutors (6)
Monitors (2)

Middle School Principal (1)

Assistant Principal (1)

Teachers (26.4)
School Counselor (1)
Secretaries (2) / Paras (11)
Nurse (1) / Tutors (4)
Monitors (2)

High School Principal (1)

Assistant Principal (1)

Teachers (37)
School Counselors (2)
Secretaries (4) / Paras (8)
Nurse (1) / Tutor (1)
Monitors (2)

Athletic Director (1)
Coaches

Interim Supervisor B&G(1)
Facilities & Maintenance Coord.(1)
Custodians (4 SES, 4 MBA, 4 SHS)
Groundskeeper (1)
Maintenance (1)

(revised 7/29/26)