

**WORKSHOP MEETING
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2011
ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

TIME AND PLACE

The Board of Education of the Borough of Somerville in the County of Somerset, New Jersey convened a Workshop Meeting on Wednesday, October 1, 2011 at the Administrative Headquarters, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Mr. Kerestes, President; who asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. James Adamec, Mr. Norman Chin, Mr. Kenneth Cornell, Mr. Dennis Garot, Mr. Al Kerestes, Mrs. Melissa Looby, Mrs. Linda Olson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Michelle Edgar, Mr. Peter Lawton, Mr. John Prudente

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Timothy Purnell, Superintendent of Schools, Gwen Thornton, Field Service Representative, New Jersey School Boards Association

Mr. Kerestes announced that adequate Notice of this meeting in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act," has been provided by action of the Board of Education at the Reorganization Meeting of May 10, 2011 notices to the three newspapers circulated in the school district and a posted notice to this effect on the Board of Education building bulletin board, Administrative Headquarters, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville, New Jersey.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

***BOARD SECRETARY
PRO-TEMPORE**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education appoint Dr. Timothy J. Purnell, Superintendent of Schools as Board Secretary Pro-Tempore.

Mr. Kerestes introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Mr. Cornell seconded.

Upon call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Adamec	YES	Lawton	ABSENT
Chin	YES	Garot	YES
Cornell	YES	Olson	YES
Edgar	ABSENT	Prudente	ABSENT
Kerestes	YES	*Looby	YES

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION RETREAT**

The Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools met for Workshop on *Goal Setting*.

The Superintendent began by providing the board with an overview of the work that has taken place in the district since his arrival as well as the results of the District/Community Survey and other support documentation.

The board identified with the use of "post its" the challenges they believed are the most crucial to address as well as the strengths of the district. Based on all of this information the Board identified the following as long term focus areas:

- Guidance Services- need for more, sooner
- A Sustainable Budget including allocations for: technology, professional development and facilities upgrades; expansion of shared services where economically advantageous
- Community Engagement
- Student Participation: equity in opportunity in co-curricular areas and academics

MULTI-YEAR DISTRICT GOALS

1. To compile and analyze data on our guidance services and to determine how we can be more effective in meeting the needs of all of our students
2. To ensure that our technology is fully utilized to improve teaching and learning; to continue to expand hardware/software as needed in a fiscally efficient manner
3. To compile data and analyze the data round students' participation, class selection and success to ensure equity of opportunities, to reduce the number of potentially disaffected and to identify

trends and patterns and make recommendation for correction if necessary.

Ms. Gwen Thornton stated the Board of Education members are all to be commended, not only for the outstanding progress the district has made but also for your own personal commitment to fully participate in open discussion on ways to continue to move forward. It was my pleasure to work with you again and I was truly impressed with the great strides you have made. I look forward to serving as a resource to your board. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further, to be discussed, Mr. Cornell motioned to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mrs. Olson that the meeting be adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Upon call for a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Timothy J. Purnell
Secretary Pro Tempore

