

**REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

**Mission Statement**

Somerville Public Schools provide the highest quality education through an environment that promotes individual excellence to all students.

**TIME AND PLACE**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Somerville in the County of Somerset, New Jersey convened a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at the Administrative Headquarters, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Derek Jess, President.

**ADMINISTRATION  
OF OATH TO  
BRANCBURG  
REPRESENTATIVE**

Board Secretary, Mr. Bryan P. Boyce, administered the oath of office to the Branchburg representative, Kristen Fabriczi.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Dan Carlson, Mr. Derek Jess, Ms. Candace Matthews, Mrs. Linda Olson, Mr. Daniel Puntillo, Dr. Melissa Sadin, Mr. Lucien Sergile, Mrs. Erin Sweitzer and Mrs. Denise Van Horn, Mrs. Kristen Fabriczi

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** NONE

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Timothy Teehan, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Bryan P. Boyce, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Mr. Jess 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 on November 20, 2018, notices to the two 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.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

**PUBLIC COMMENT** NONE

Mr. Puntillo motioned to end Public Comment; Dr. Sadin seconded.

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

**\*APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting as follows:

December 11, 2018	Regular Meeting
December 11, 2018	Executive Session

The motion was made by Mrs. Olson and seconded by Mr. Sergile to approve the Minutes of December 11, 2018 Regular Meeting and Executive Session Meeting.

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

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Jess expressed condolences to staff members who had recent deaths in their families. He also acknowledged a handout, *13 Things School Board Members Wish People Knew About Them* provided by Mrs. Van Horn. Mrs. Van Horn added that this clears up a lot of misconceptions. Dr. Sadin suggested that this document be made available on the Board of Education section of the district website. Mr. Jess reminded the Board to complete the required School Ethics Commission disclosure statements. He also thanked Mr. Foley for inviting the student council leadership to a team building event on January 14, 2019 to gather input on some change initiatives at Somerville High School. Lastly, Mr. Jess congratulated Mr. Sergile and his son for participating in the Disney Marathon.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

District Highlights  
Dr. Timothy M. Teehan, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Teehan highlighted various activities at Van Derveer School, Somerville Middle School and

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

Somerville High School.

PS-2 Highlights

Mrs. Susan Moran, Principal, Van Derveer School

PS-2

Van Derveer Staff Representatives

Mrs. Patricia Helwig and Mrs. Charlene Tackvic, teachers at Van Derveer School, showed a video presentation titled *Overview of What We Love to Do at Van Derveer School* (through the eyes of the students, parents and staff).

**REPORT OF BOARD ITEMS**

**A. Student Board Member Report:**

Callie Stitt, Branchburg Student Representative

Daphne Dizon, Somerville Student Representative

Ms. Callie Stitt, Branchburg Student Representative reported that a lot has been happening in the Arts. The Choral and Instrumental Concerts took place recently. Rehearsals for the musical *Pippin* have started.

The musical production is scheduled for the weekend of February 28, 2019. The Ski Club had two trips so far to Mountain Creek in Vernon, NJ.

**B. Finance Committee:**

Erin Sweitzer, Chairperson

Mr. Puntillo commented regarding resolution number 6 - Donation to Somerville Middle School. He said that Mrs. Kreie's family is extremely grateful to Somerville Middle School staff who have been very supporting of the family at the time of her husband's illness.

It is recommended that Items 1 through 6 be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**1. BOARD  
SECRETARY'S  
FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept the Board Secretary's Reports listed below:

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

- A. Treasurer's Report (December) (Attachment C-1)
- B. Secretary's Report (December) (Attachment C-2)
- C. Investments (November and December) (Attachment C-3)
- D. Food Services (November and December) (Attachment C-4)

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY REPORTS**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept the monthly reports as listed below: (Attachment C-5)

- A. Van Derveer School Student Activities Fund (December)
- B. Somerville Middle School Student Activities Fund (December)
- C. Somerville High School Student Activities Fund (December)
- D. Somerville High School Athletic/Extracurricular Fund (December)

**3. PAYROLL**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the payroll payments for the following dates:

DATE	PAYROLL
December 14, 2018	\$ 1,230,346.97
December 14, 2018	\$ 24,871.87 (FICA)
December 21, 2018	\$ 1,119,965.33
December 21, 2018	\$ 16,392.63 (FICA)
January 15, 2019	\$ 1,207,317.02
January 15, 2019	\$ 23,226.38 (FICA)

**4. BILLS LIST**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the payment of the following obligations of the School District: (Attachment C-6)

Van Derveer School and Somerville Middle School  
Bills List Dated January 15, 2019

10 General Fund	\$ 92,849.44
20 Special Revenue Fund	21,652.46
30 Capital Projects Fund	122.50
TOTAL	\$ 114,624.40

**5. LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the enclosed December line item transfers.  
(Attachment C-7)

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

**6. DONATION TO  
SOMERVILLE  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept a donation from Mrs. Suzanne Kreie in memory of her husband to Somerville Middle School for two (2) Allied Marker Board Activity Tables at a value of \$185.00 each and one (1) Allied Marker Board Round Activity Table at a value of \$220 for a total of value of \$590.00 before tax, shipping and handling.

Mrs. Sweitzer introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution numbers 1 through 6, Mr. Carlson seconded.

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

It is recommended that Items 7\* through 8\* be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**7\* BILLS LIST**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the payment of the following obligations of the School District: (Attachment C-8)

Somerville High School and Districtwide  
Bills List Dated January 15, 2019

10 General Fund	\$ 875,408.48
20 Special Revenue Fund	76,011.77
30 Capital Projects Fund	122.50
40 Debt Service Fund	146,900.00
60 Cafeteria Fund	118,997.22
TOTAL	\$ 1,217,439.97

**8\* TRAVEL  
EXPENDITURE  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has determined that the school district travel expenditures for the attached programs are in compliance with State travel guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and within the guidelines established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget; except as superseded by conflicting provision of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes and in compliance with the district policy on travel; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approves the attendance of the listed number of school board members and district employees at

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

the attached training and informational programs, and the costs of attendance including all registration fees, and statutorily authorized travel expenditures, provided that such expenditures are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount. (Attachment C-9)

Mrs. Sweitzer introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution numbers 7\* through 8\*, Ms. Matthews seconded.

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

Certification of Major Account Status (Read by Mrs. Sweitzer)

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4), the Somerville Board of Education certifies that as of December 30, 2018 after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports and upon consultation with the appropriate officials, to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year (Major accounts are Current Expense, Capital Projects and Debt Service)

**C. Buildings and Grounds Committee:**  
Daniel Puntillo, Chairperson

Facilities Report (Attachment C-10)

Mr. Puntillo reported that all work orders in our Building Management System are being handled in a timely manner. The elevator and the HVAC system have been repaired at Somerville Middle School. New classroom locks have been installed and Airedale units repaired at Somerville High School.

**D. Athletics and Student Activities Committee:**  
Lucien Sergile, Chairperson

Mr. Sergile reported that winter athletics are

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

off and running. He thanked Ms. Stitt for the student activities report. He also gave kudos to the Van Derveer School Choral Concert which he and Mrs. Olson attended. Mr. Sergile went through the rosters of our athletic teams emphasizing the high interest of the students in extra-curricular activities. He reported on athletic standing in wrestling, basketball, fencing, swimming and unified bowling. He also congratulated students who have signed college commitments.

**E. Curriculum Committee:**

Denise Van Horn, Chairperson

Committee Report (Attachment C-11)

Mrs. Van Horn reported that a committee meeting was held on December 11, 2018. The following items were discussed: 1) middle school and theater curriculum changes that will make it QSAC compliant 2) possible expansion of Edulastic, an interactive formative assessment 3) members received an overview of the Student Science Grant 4) reviewed progress on the writing curriculum work 5) initial plans for professional day scheduled for February 15, 2019.

It is recommended that Items 1 through 2 be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**1. CURRICULUM  
MAPS FOR SMS**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following curriculum maps for

- Somerville Middle School:
- Theatre Arts - Grades 6-8
- Dance - Grades 6-8

**2. HARASSMENT,  
INTIMIDATION AND  
BULLYING REPORT**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt of the monthly Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying unconfirmed report cases #2018-2019:3VDV-NC.

Mrs. Van Horn introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution numbers 1 through 2, Ms. Matthews seconded.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

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

It is recommended that Items 3\* through 7\* be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

3\* HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING REPORT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt of the monthly Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying unconfirmed report cases #2018-2019:11SHS-NC.

4\* CURRICULUM MAPS FOR SHS RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following curriculum maps for Somerville High School: Theatre Arts - Grades 9-12 Dance - Grades 9-12

5\* CURRICULAR MAPS AT SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve all Curricular Maps at Somerville High School to include Accommodations Addendum to be QSAC compliant.

6\* FIELD TRIPS RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the enclosed request for field trips. (Attachment C-12)

7\* UPDATE TO A UNIFORM STATE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN EDUCATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the enclosed Update to a Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for the 2018-2019 school year. (Attachment C-13)

Mrs. Van Horn introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution numbers 3\* through 7\*, Dr. Sadin seconded.

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

F. Technology Committee Denise Van Horn, Chairperson Technology Committee Report (Attachment C-14)

Mrs. Van Horn reported on the following: 1) Somerville High School students in the Chromezone Internship are designing projects and creating digital portfolios. 2) 2019-2020 budget

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations



preparation is ongoing 3) Thin Client rollout is complete 4) Somerville High School Computer Science curriculum is ongoing 5) a STEM grant has been awarded to Somerville High School.

G. Borough Council Co-Liaison:  
Lucien Sergile & Candace Matthews, Co-Liaisons

No Report

H. Somerset County Educational Services Commission:  
Daniel Puntillo, Liaison

Mr. Puntillo stated he would like to show a video presentation regarding Somerset County Educational Services Commission services at a future board of education meeting.

I. New Jersey School Boards Association:  
Lucien Sergile, Liaison

Mr. Sergile stated the next meeting is scheduled for May.

J. Somerset County School Association of Boards of Education  
Denise Van Horn, Liaison

Mrs. Van Horn reported that a meeting was held January 14, 2019. She highlighted that January is Board of Education Recognition month and shared the handout distributed by New Jersey School Boards Association *13 Things School Board Members Wish People Knew About Them*. Topics discussed were 1) current trends in health benefits 2) district communications 3) understanding your role as a board member and improve meeting effectiveness. The Association acknowledged the Educational Leadership Foundation of NJ who sponsor county meetings.

K. Ad Hoc Residency Committee:  
Erin Sweitzer, Chairperson

It is recommended that Item 1\* be moved upon the

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

1\* Residency Hearing

WHEREAS, on November 27, 2018, the Somerville Board of Education Residency Committee held a residency hearing for student #203124; and

WHEREAS, the student's parent attended the hearing and presented testimony on her child's behalf; and

WHEREAS, the Committee, after having heard and considered all of the proofs and testimony presented, and the parent having failed to disenroll her child from the District despite having been granted additional time to do so, recommended to the full Board that it order the removal of the above-named student from the District because the results of a residency investigation revealed that the student is not domiciled in Somerville;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board finds that the above-referenced student is not domiciled in Somerville and therefore, is not legally entitled to continue to attend the Somerville Public Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to effectuate the transfer of the student forthwith, pursuant to law, and that written notice of this decision, and of the family's right to contest same before the Commissioner of Education shall be served upon the parent.

Mrs. Sweitzer introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution number 1\*, Mrs. Olson seconded.

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

**PERSONNEL**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve and/or accept the following appointment(s) upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools. (Appointment(s) and salaries contingent upon

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

verified documentation.)

PreK-8

1. **ADRIAN CAMILO CORREA** APPROVE a change in salary for Adrian Camilo Correa effective January 2, 2019 to June 30, 2019 from \$18,345.00+ (Step 1) (prorated) to \$19,845.00+ (Step 1) (prorated).

2. **CHANGE IN SALARY GUIDE** APPROVE a change in salary guide placement for the following staff members effective February 1, 2019:

Elizabeth Cahill	MA+30
Aubree Deminski	BA+15
Jessica Warner	MA+15

3. **TITLE I/SPECIAL SERVICES SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM** APPROVE the appointment of the following staff members to work in the Title I/Special Services Social Skills Program for the 2018-2019 school year being held for one hour every Monday and Thursday during the the period of February 1, 2019 through March 25, 2019 and April 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019 at the rate of \$51.50+ per hour:

Patti Clark	Occupational Therapist
Kelly D’Urso	Physical Therapist
Samantha Bonaduce	Substitute Teacher

4. **DAWN EVANS** APPROVE the appointment of Dawn Evans to the position of volunteer in the Title I/Special Services Social Skills Program for the 2018-2019 school year being held for one hour every Monday and Thursday during the period of February 1, 2019 through March 25, 2019 and April 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019.

5. **SAMANTHA ALLY** APPROVE the appointment of Samantha Ally to the newly created position of part time Preschool Instructional Assistant at Van Derveer Elementary School effective February 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019 at a salary of \$18,306.50+ (Step 1) (prorated).

6. **LINDA MCCONOUGHHEY** APPROVE the appointment of Linda McConoughey to the leave replacement position of teacher of Spanish at Somerville Middle School, a non-

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

tenured position, to fill a vacancy caused by a resignation (Spagnolo) effective January 16, 2019 to June 30, 2019 at a salary of \$91,355.00+ (MA+15 Step 15) (prorated).

7. TISHA WHIGHAM APPROVE an unpaid medical leave for Tisha Whigham, part-time instructional assistant at Van Derveer School, effective January 14, 2019 through February 18, 2019 or sooner if medically cleared by doctor.

8. SUSAN MORAN APPROVE the retirement/resignation of Susan Moran, Principal of Van Derveer School PS-2, effective June 30, 2019.

Dr. Sadin introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution numbers 1 through 8, Mr. Sergile seconded.

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

On the retirement of Mrs. Moran, Mr. Jess wished her the best.

9-12 and Districtwide

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve and/or accept the following appointment(s) upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools. (Appointment(s) and salaries contingent upon verified documentation.)

9\* SHS VOLUNTEER APPROVE the appointment of the following individual to the position of volunteer at Somerville High School for the 2018-2019 school year:

Kenneth Rosario Robotics

10\* NEW POSITION APPROVE the newly-created position of part-time interim guidance counselor.

11\* JENNIFER MORSELLA APPROVE the appointment of Jennifer Morsella to the newly-created position of part-time interim guidance counselor, a non-tenured position, at Somerville High School effective December 17, 2018 to June 30, 2019 at a salary of \$39,406.50+

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

(MA+30 Step 12) (prorated).

12\* CARLOS MORENO

ACCEPT the resignation of Carlos Moreno from the position of bus driver for the Somerville Public Schools effective December 14, 2018.

13\* REMIGIO SANCHEZ PEDROZA

APPROVE the termination of Remigio Sanchez Pedroza from the position of bus aide for the Somerville Public schools effective December 20, 2018.

14\* KATHERINE MATULONIS

APPROVE the appointment of Katherine Matulonis to the leave replacement position of teacher of English, a non-tenured position at Somerville High School to fill a vacancy caused by a maternity leave (Iannuzzi) effective January 14, 2019 to June 30, 2019 at a salary of \$59,396.00 (MA Step 4) (prorated).

15\* WILLIAM PENN

APPROVE an unpaid medical leave of absence for William Penn, instructional assistant at Somerville High School effective January 11, 2019 to March 1, 2019.

16\* JENNIFER DEPACE

APPROVE the appointment of Jennifer DePace to serve on the School Safety/Climate Team at Somerville High School for the 2018-2019 school year at no additional remuneration.

17\* MELSSA STAGER

APPROVE the appointment of Melissa Stager to the position of District Homeless Liaison to replace Tanya McDonald for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year at no additional remuneration.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved the adoption of Resolution numbers 9\* through 17\*; Mrs. Van Horn seconded.

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

On the medical leave of absence of Mr. Penn, Mr. Jess wished him a speedy recovery.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

Mr. Sergile motioned to close Old Business; Ms.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

Matthews seconded.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**BOARD PRESIDENT APPOINTMENTS**

**A. Ad Hoc Security Committee:**

- Chairperson - Linda Olson
- Member - Dan Carlson
- Member - Candace Matthews
- Member - Kristen Fabriczi

**B. Ad Hoc Negotiations Committee:**

- Chairperson - Daniel Puntillo
- Member - Daniel Carlson
- Member - Derek Jess

**C. Ad Hoc Residency Committee:**

- Chairperson - Erin Sweitzer
- Member - Candace Matthews
- Member - Linda Olson
- Member - Denise Van Horn

Mr. Sergile motioned to close New Business; Mrs. Van Horn seconded.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Patrick Frain, 201 Scobee Lane, Somerset, Somerville Education Association President welcomed the new members of the Board. He commented that the Somerville Education Association is looking forward to working with them. Mr. Frain stated that Dr. Teehan's most important aspect of the education process is teacher retention and yet, there have been a number of retirements and resignations of teachers who want to continue working in Somerville but have decided not to do so.

Parents of a Somerville Middle School student and their child distributed communication to the members of the Board citing an unfair suspension. Mr. Jess replied that the incident is currently being investigated and a response will be

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

forthcoming.

Mrs. Olson motioned to close Public Comment; Ms. Matthews seconded.

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

**\*EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to recess into executive session to discuss a residency matter. The minutes of the executive session, to the extent permitted by law, will be made available to the public once the issues are resolved, subject to confidentiality requirements. Action may be taken.

Mrs. Olson introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Ms. Matthews seconded.

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

The Board of Education reconvened to public session at 7:50 p.m.

**\*RESIDENCY  
HEARING OF  
STUDENT #203340**

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 2019, the Somerville Board of Education Residency Committee held a residency hearing for the above-named student; and

**WHEREAS**, the student's parent and grandparent attended the hearing and presented testimony on her child's behalf; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board's Residency Officer, Sheila Deck, testified that a residency investigation revealed that the student is domiciled in Hillsborough, and not in Somerville;

**WHEREAS**, the Committee, after having heard and considered all of the proofs and testimony presented, and the parent admitting she has not resided in Somerville since September of 2018, recommended to the full Board that it order the removal of the above-named student from the District;

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board finds that the above-referenced student is not domiciled in Somerville and therefore, is not legally entitled to continue to attend the Somerville Public Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to effectuate the transfer of the student forthwith, pursuant to law, and that written notice of this decision, and of the family's right to contest same before the Commissioner of Education shall be served upon the parent(s).

Mrs. Sweitzer introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Ms. Matthews seconded.

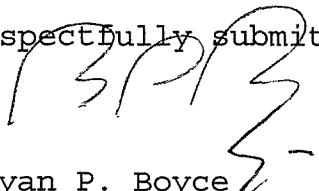
Upon call for a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to be discussed, Mr. Sergile motioned to adjourn and Dr. Sadin seconded the motion at 7:58 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bryan P. Boyce  
Board Secretary