

REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 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, March 5, 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.

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.

**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, 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, Mrs. Gwen Thornton, New Jersey School Board Association Representative

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

Mr. Sergile motioned to close Public Comment; Dr. Sadin seconded.

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.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Food Waste in the Cafeteria/Problem Based Learning Presentation  
Somerville Middle School Grade Six Representatives

Somerville Middle School Grade Six Representatives presented an issue regarding food waste in the cafeteria and potential solutions.

Somerville Middle School Highlights  
Miss Georgette Boulegeris, Somerville Middle School Principal  
Staff

Ms. Georgette Boulegeris, Somerville Middle School Principal, introduced the officers of the Somerville Middle School Student Council who presented highlights of the school.

District Highlights  
Dr. Timothy Teehan, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Teehan highlighted various activities at Van Derveer School, Somerville Middle School and Somerville High School. He commended district staff who participated in the Annual Polar Bear Plunge at Seaside Heights. They raised a total of \$21,763 benefitting the Special Olympics. He thanked them for representing Somerville School District. He also congratulated the cast and crew of Pippin.

Somerville Board of Education Ethics Training

Mrs. Gwen Thornton, New Jersey School Board Association Representative

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

Mrs. Gwen Thornton, New Jersey School Board Association Representative, provided training to Board members in the process for evaluating the Superintendent of Schools. Mrs. Thornton stated the evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools is a statutory responsibility of Board members. In addition, Mrs. Thornton provided ethics training to Board members.

**REPORT OF BOARD ITEMS**

**A. Finance Committee:**

Erin Sweitzer, Chairperson

It is recommended that Items 1\* through 5\* be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**1\* NEW  
SUBSTITUTE  
TEACHER RATE**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following rates for substitute teachers effective April 1, 2019 as follows:

- Somerville High School - \$105.00 per day
- Somerville Middle School - \$120.00 per day
- Van Derveer School PS - 5 - \$135.00 per day

Increase the rate by \$10.00 per day for a substitute who works 40 cumulative days within a school year.

The motion was made by Mrs. Sweitzer and seconded by Mr. Puntillo to approve Resolution number 1\*.

Upon call for a voice vote, the vote was as follows:

Carlson	ABSTAIN	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	YES	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	YES

**2\* AWARD APPLE  
DEVICE BID TO  
SYCAMORE**

**WHEREAS,** the Somerville Board of Education advertised for bids for the sale of Apple laptop computers and tablets that are no longer needed for school purposes, with a public bid opening date of February 22, 2019 (the "project"); and

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

WHEREAS, the Board received one bid for the project; and

WHEREAS, the one bidder, Sycamore International, submitted a bid for the project in the amount of \$56,445; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Sycamore International is responsive in all material respects and the Board is desirous of awarding the contract for the project to Sycamore International;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the contract for the project to Sycamore International for the total contract sum of \$56,445.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this award is expressly conditioned upon Sycamore International furnishing any documents required by the bid specifications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such contract and any other documents authorized to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

**3\* NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SECURITY AID PROGRAM**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the attached New Jersey Nonpublic School Security Aid Program Order Forms for Immaculata High School (Attachment C-1)

**4\* FIELD TRIPS**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the enclosed request for field trips. (Attachment C-2)

**5\* 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

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

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 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-3)

The motion was made by Mrs. Sweitzer and seconded by Mr. Puntillo to approve Resolution numbers 2\* through 5\*.

Upon call for a voice vote, the vote was as follows:

Carlson	YES	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	YES	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	YES

It is recommended that Item 1\* be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

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

Mr. Sergile, Mr. Jess and Dr. Sadin all commended the cast and crew of *Guys & Dolls* and *Pippin*.

**1\* SOMERVILLE  
HIGH SCHOOL  
MEDICAL SCIENCE  
CLUB**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the newly-created Medical Science Club at Somerville High School for the 2018-2019 school year.

The motion was made by Mr. Sergile and seconded by Dr. Sadin to approve Resolution number 1\*.

Upon call for a voice vote, the vote was as follows:

Carlson	YES	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	NO	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	YES

**C. Curriculum Committee:**  
Denise Van Horn, Chairperson

It is recommended that Items 1 through 3 be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

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

**2. 2019 SPECIAL EDUCATION SUMMER EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS K-8**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached 2019 Special Education Extended School Year Programs K-8. (Attachment C-4)

**3. SOMERVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL BEFORE SCHOOL SPANISH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Somerville Middle School Before School Spanish Enrichment Program. (Attachment C-5)

The motion was made by Mrs. Van Horn and seconded by Ms. Matthews to approve Resolution numbers 1 through 3.

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

Carlson	YES	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	YES	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	N/A

It is recommended that Items 4\* and 5\* be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**4\* 2019 SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMS**      **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached list of the 2019 Summer programs for Somerville High School. (Attachment C-6)

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible  
+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

**5\* 2019 SPECIAL EDUCATION SUMMER EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS 9-12**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached 2019 Special Education Extended School Year Programs 9-12. (Attachment C-7)

The motion was made by Mrs. Van Horn and seconded by Mr. Carlson to approve Resolution numbers 4\* and 5\*.

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

Carlson	YES	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	YES	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	YES

**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 verified documentation.)

**PS-8**

**1. NICHOLAS CECERE**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Nicholas Cecere to complete his 20 hours practicum placement for Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL/TESOL) certificate with English as a Second Language teachers, Deborah Cortigiani at Somerville Middle School and Michele Cobos at Somerville High School.

**2. JOANNA SANTANA**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Joanna Santana to the position of Teacher of Spanish, instructional; certificate of Teacher of Spanish, at Somerville Middle School to fill a vacancy caused by a resignation (McConoughey) effective March 6, 2019 to June 30, 2019 at a salary of \$87,810.00+ (MA+30 Step 14) (prorated). (Attachment P-1)

**3. NEW POSITION**

**APPROVE** the newly-created instructional assistant position at Somerville Middle School.

**4. PATRICK MANNA**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Patrick Manna to the position of instructional assistant, at Somerville Middle School effective March 6, 2019 to June 30, 2019 at a salary of \$36,613.00+ (Step

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

1) (prorated).

**5. CURRICULUM  
WRITING K-5**

**APPROVE** the appointment of the following staff members for curriculum writing to revise the K-5 writing units to reflect school-wide resource at a rate of \$36.00+ per hour not to exceed 16 hours each:

- Kindergarten - Gina Spears
- Grade One - Jennifer Setzer
- Grade Two - Suzanne Hubschmitt (8 hours)  
Chelsea Grasso (8 hours)
- Grade Three - Joelle Kessler (8 hours)  
Salvina Cilento (8 hours)
- Grade Four - Sarah Liguori
- Grade Five - Brittany Chiaffarano

The motion was made by Mr. Sergile and seconded by Mrs. Van Horn to approve Resolution numbers 1 through 5.

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

Carlson	YES	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	NO	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	N/A

**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.)

**6\* CORRINA  
PARSIO**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Corrina Parsio to the position of advisor for the newly-created Medical Science Club at Somerville High School for the 2018-2019 school year at no additional remuneration.

**7\* ERIN  
CREIGHTON**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Erin Creighton to the leave replacement position of Teacher of Physical Education at Somerville High School to fill a vacancy caused by maternity leave (McCabe) effective April 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019 at a

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations



salary of \$54,601.00+ (BA Step 2) (prorated).

**8\* VOLUNTEER AT SHS**

**APPROVE** the appointment of the following individuals to the position of volunteer at Somerville High School for the 2018-2019 school year.

David Stanek Golf  
Jon Adams Baseball

**9\* SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**

**APPROVE** the appointment of the following individuals to the position of substitute teacher for the 2018-2019 school year at the substitute rate.

Matthew Moran  
Ronald Day

**10\* JASON KELLER**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Jason Keller to the position of assistant baseball coach at Somerville High School for the 2018-2019 school year at a stipend of \$6,427.20.

The motion was made by Mrs. Van Horn and seconded by Mr. Sergile to approve Resolution numbers 6\* through 10\*.

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

Carlson	YES	Sadin	YES
Jess	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Sweitzer	YES
Olson	YES	Van Horn	YES
Puntillo	YES	Fabriczi	YES

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved to close Old Business; Mr. Carlson seconded.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Matthews reported that at the Borough Council Meeting on March 4, 2019, the deadline for recreation sports registration was announced as Friday, March 8, 2019. Ms. Matthews that there will be road closures for the St. Patrick's Day and Memorial Day parades so, plan accordingly.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

In addition, New Jersey Transit officials will be meeting on March 6, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the waiting room of the train station on Division Street if anyone is interested in attending.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved to close New Business; Mr. Carlson seconded.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Mike Merchant, 131 Otto Road, Neshanic Station, thanked the Board for deciding to post link of video recordings of the board meetings. He suggested that these links be visible under the "BOE" / Agenda and Minutes. Dr. Teehan replied that the district is working on this change.

Mrs. Carol Cabourg, 964 Glen Avenue, North Brunswick, Guidance Counselor at Somerville High School and Mrs. Denise Lang, 201 Grandview Drive, Neshanic Station and Mrs. Theresa Trubiano, 6 Hackberry Place, Flemington commented on the policy on personnel illness days.

Mr. Michael Pepe, 121 Rehill Avenue, Somerville, thanked the board for addressing the rate of pay for substitutes. He also questioned the reasoning behind the change in voting (voice vote rather than roll call) during board meetings.

Mr. Patrick Frain, 201 Scobee Lane, Somerset, Somerville Education Association President, stated that four staff members have resigned or retired since September from Somerville Middle School.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved to close Public Comment; Mr. Carlson 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 confirmed HIB case #2018-2019:3SMS and

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

negotiations. 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.

Mr. Sergile 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 8:45 p.m.

**HARASSMENT,  
INTIMIDATION AND  
BULLYING**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education acknowledge and confirm HIB case #2018-2019:3SMS.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Ms. Matthews seconded.

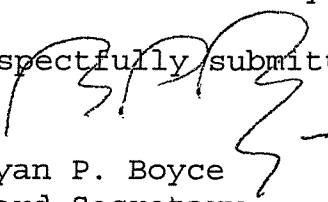
Upon call for a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to be discussed, Mr. Sergile motioned to adjourn and Mrs. Van Horn seconded the motion at 8:47 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bryan P. Boyce  
Board Secretary

