

**WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

Mission Statement

Somerville 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 Meeting on March 8, 2018 at the Administrative Headquarters, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville.

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mrs. Linda Olson, Board President; who asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL** **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Kristen Fabriczi, Mr. Derek Jess, Ms. Candace Matthews, Mrs. Linda Olson, Mr. John Prudente, Mr. Daniel Puntillo, Mr. Lucien Sergile, Mrs. Erin Sweitzer and Mrs. Denise Van Horn

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Kenneth Cornell

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

Mrs. Olson announced that adequate notice of this meeting in compliance with Chapter 231 of Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act," has been provided by action of the Board of Education on November 21, 2017, 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.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** The was no public comment.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** District Highlights  
Dr. Timothy M. Teehan, Superintendent of Schools

\* Branchburg Vote Eligible.

Dr. Teehan acknowledged our district's Special Olympics New Jersey team who participated in the 25th Anniversary of the Polar Bear plunge which took place the last weekend in February. This represents the tenth year the Somerville teachers have been participating and reached a milestone of a lifetime team donation of \$101,695. Forty-three current and retired teachers raised \$23,785 this year.

Dr. Teehan congratulated Somerville High School Senior Jack Noto for being recognized as the 2018 National Merit Finalist. He also extended his congratulations to Mr. Schmeltz and students : Gianfranco Carratozzolo, Sina Barzegar, Brian Waters, Kevin Sokol, and Spencer Cleveland on winning the 2018 Somerset County Consumer Bowl. The Regional Championship is scheduled for April 13, 2018. Dr. Teehan also acknowledged a graduating MAPS Senior who has been awarded a Presidential Merit scholarship for academic achievement.

Dr. Teehan reported on various student activities at Van Derveer School, Somerville Middle School and Somerville High School.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Olson attended both *Aladdin Jr.* and *Cinderella* musical shows and said both were remarkable performances.

**NEW BUSINESS**

It is recommended that Items 1 through 4 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 case #2017-2018:3VDV-NC.

**2. NONPUBLIC  
SCHOOL SECURITY  
AID PROGRAM  
GRANT**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached New Jersey Nonpublic School Security Aid Program Order Forms for Immaculata High School.

**3. DISPOSAL OF  
OBSOLETE RECORDS**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached list from the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to dispose of obsolete financial records in accordance with Policy/Regulation 3570 and the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Records

Management Services because they are outdated.

**4. PARTIAL ROOF REPLACEMENT AND REPAIRS AT VAN DERVEER SCHOOL**

**RESOLVED** that the Somerville Board of Education authorizes SSP Architects to submit the following capital project to the State of New Jersey Department of Education for review and approval;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Somerville Board of Education authorizes an amendment to the District's approved Long Range Facilities Plan to include the project as a capital project:

School Project

Partial Roof Replacement and Repairs at Van Derveer School

State Project # 4820-090-18-1000

The project shall include the Partial Roof Replacement and Repairs at the existing school. This project is considered an other capital project. The Somerville Board of Education is not seeking any state funding for this project.

Mrs. Van Horn introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Mr. Sergile seconded.

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

Cornell	ABSENT	Sweitzer	YES
Jess	YES	Van Horn	YES
Matthews	YES	Sergile	YES
Prudente	YES	Olson	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Fabriczi	N/A

It is recommended that Items 5\* through 8\* be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**5\* HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING REPORT**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt of the monthly Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying unconfirmed report cases #2017-2018:10SHS-NC.

**6\* DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE MATERIALS**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached recommendation from the Somerville High School Principal to dispose of obsolete instructional materials in accordance with Policy/Regulation 3260/3270 because they are so outdated as to no longer serve as worthy instructional tools.

\* Branchburg Vote Eligible.

**7\* MAPS EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM** **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the MAPS Extended School Year Program to run from Monday, July 16, 2018 through Thursday, August 9, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**8\* ROOF REPAIRS AT SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL** **RESOLVED** that the Somerville Board of Education authorizes SSP Architects to submit the following capital project to the State of New Jersey Department of Education for review and approval;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Somerville Board of Education authorizes an amendment to the District's approved Long Range Facilities Plan to include the project as a capital project:

School Project

Roof Repairs at Somerville High School  
State Project # 4820-050-18-2000

The project shall include the Roof Repairs at the existing school. This project is considered an other capital project. The Somerville Board of Education is not seeking any state funding for this project.

**7\* FIELD TRIPS** **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the enclosed request for field trips.

**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 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.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Mrs. Sweitzer seconded.

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

Cornell	ABSENT	Sweitzer	YES
Jess	YES	Van Horn	YES
Matthews	YES	Sergile	YES
Prudente	YES	Olson	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**PERSONNEL**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve and/or accept the Superintendent's Recommendations as follows:

*(All appointments and salaries subject to verification of documentation.)*

**K-8, 9-12 and Districtwide**

Motion by Mr. Prudente, seconded by Mr. Sergile that **K-8** items 1 through 3 be moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

**1. AMANDA BATEMAN**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Amanda Bateman to position of teacher of kindergarten at Van Derveer School; instructional, certificate of teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 to fill a vacancy caused by a resignation (Coco) effective April 3, 2018 to June 30, 2018 at a salary of \$54,601.00+ (BA Step 2) (prorated).

**2. WHITNEY JENKINS**

**APPROVE** a paid maternity leave of absence for Whitney Jenkins, teacher of kindergarten at Van Derveer School effective May 10, 2018 through June 30, 2018 and an unpaid childcare leave of absence in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act effective September 17, 2018 through January 1, 2019.

**3. LINDA KERESTES**

**APPROVE** a paid medical leave of absence for Linda Kerestes, instructional assistant at Van Derveer School, effective March 20, 2018 to May 11, 2018.

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

Cornell	ABSENT	Sweitzer	YES
Jess	YES	Van Horn	YES
Matthews	YES	Sergile	YES
Prudente	YES	Olson	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Fabriczi	N/A

\* Branchburg Vote Eligible.

9-12 and Districtwide

Motion by Mr. Sergile, seconded by Mrs. Van Horn that 9-12 and Districtwide items 4\* through 8\* be moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

4\* ELIZABETH  
DUQUE

**APPROVE** a paid medical leave of absence for Elizabeth Duque, custodian/bus driver effective February 19, 2018 through March 16, 2018.

5\* CAROL WERNER

**ACCEPT** the retirement/resignation of Carol Werner from the position of secretary in the Special Service Department effective June 30, 2018.

6\* SARAH JAVIER

**APPROVE** the appointment of Sarah Javier to the leave replacement position of teacher of mathematics at Somerville High School, a non-tenured position, to fill a vacancy caused by a medical leave (Coleman) effective March 7, 2018 through March 23, 2018 at a salary of \$54,447.00+ (BA Step 1) (prorated).

7\* DANIEL  
CATALANO

**APPROVE** the appointment of Daniel Catalano to the position of volunteer football coach at Somerville High School for the 2018 fall season.

8\* SHARON  
GORNICK

**APPROVE** a paid maternity leave of absence for Sharon Gornick, teacher of English at Somerville High School effective September 4, 2018 through October 18, 2018 and an unpaid childcare leave of absence in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act effective October 19, 2018 through January 25, 2019.

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

Cornell	ABSENT	Sweitzer	YES
Jess	YES	Van Horn	YES
Matthews	YES	Sergile	YES
Prudente	YES	Olson	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Sergile extended his congratulations to Coach Melesurgo, Coach Smith and Somerville High School Girls Basketball team who defeated Warren Hills to win back-to-back Group 3 Sectional Championships.

Mr. Puntillo commented on the presentation given by Dr. Teehan and Ms. McEntee regarding school security. He said it was a wise to respond to the

\* Branchburg Vote Eligible.

concerns of parents. He thanked them for their transparency.

Jennette Neske, 849 Old York Road Branchburg, read the following statement.

I just learned during my son's IEP student meeting today that Financial Literacy, a course required to graduate Somerville High School, must be completed on line only. I think that forcing children to complete it online is totally unacceptable. If this course is required for graduation, students should have the option to take this class in school.

Students already have enough obligations outside of school with homework for classroom subjects. Also, this make it more difficult for children, particularly those with special needs and Individual Education Programs like my son. They no longer have a choice regarding how to complete this requirement like they had in previous years.

I do not pay taxes for the school district to outsource my child's learning and for them to teach themselves a mandatory class.

I know that completing the course online have been an option for some time and some students are fine with it. However, my older son completed this course and found that it taught him beneficial life skills - skills that he felt he learned effectively with a teacher. He spoke to other students that took it online and they said that they learned nothing. "It was a joke and a waste of my time: This class teaches valuable life skills that schools keep removing due to budget cuts. Children need to learn these skills the best way possible because they are important for when they graduate. Some of theses skills are how to find place to live and then properly budget your money over a month (food, rent, gas cell phone, transportation and emergency money), information on tax forms, how to write a check and balance your account. These are important life skills that need to be taught by a teacher.

I am respectfully requesting that the Board of Education reinstate the option for students to complete this course with a classroom teacher or better yet remove the online option because

children need to learn these skills in the best possible way. If I understand correctly, that position has not been eliminated and the teacher that taught this subject in prior years is still at the school.

**\*EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to recess into executive session at 7:19 p.m. to discuss matters involving negotiations and matters falling within the attorney-client privilege with respect to these subjects. 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. No action will be taken.

Mr. Puntillo introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Mrs. Van Horn seconded.

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

Cornell	ABSENT	Sweitzer	YES
Jess	YES	Van Horn	YES
Matthews	YES	Sergile	YES
Prudente	YES	Olson	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

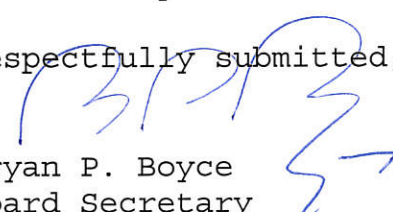
The Board of Education reconvened to public session at 8:12 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further, to be discussed, Mr. Prudente motioned to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mr. Jess that the meeting be adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bryan P. Boyce  
Board Secretary