

**REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020  
VIRTUAL PUBLIC LIVESTREAM BROADCAST**

**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 Wednesday, July 29, 2020 via Virtual Public Livestream Broadcast.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 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 July 21, 2020, 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, Mr. William Kimmick, Ms. Candace Matthews, Mrs. Linda Olson (arrived at 6:10 p.m.), Mr. Daniel Puntillo, Dr. Melissa Sadin, Mr. Lucien Sergile (arrived at 6:25 p.m.), Mrs. Denise Van Horn, Mrs. Kristen Fabriczi

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Dan Carlson

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**              None

Ms. Matthews motioned to close Public Comment; Mr. Kimmick seconded.

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

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Dr. Teehan presented the COVID-19 2020-2021 School Reopening Plan. The plan will continue to be revised as additional guidance from the state is received. Mr. Jess thanked Dr. Teehan for a very comprehensive plan and asked that he thank all of those involved with working on the plan.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1\* SCHOOL  
REOPENING PLAN  
APPROVAL**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached School Reopening Plan.

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

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

Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**2\* 2020-2021  
BUDGET ADJUST-  
MENT PLAN  
APPROVAL**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education adopt the attached 2020-2021 Budget Adjustment Plan reflecting a list of reductions to appropriation line items necessary to address the 2020-2021 state aid reduction issued on July 10, 2020 by the New Jersey Department of Education.

The motion was made by Dr. Sadin and seconded by Mr. Sergile to approve Resolution number 2\*.

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

Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**3\* POLICIES -  
FIRST READING**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following policies/regulations for a first reading.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

P 1250 Visitors  
 P 3510 Operation and Maintenance of Plant  
 P 3541.33 Transportation Safety  
 P 4111.1 & Nondiscrimination, Affirmative  
 Action Breast feeding  
 P 4211.1  
 P 4111.2 & Domestic Violence  
 P 4211.2  
 P 5113 Attendance, Absences and Excuses  
 P 5134 Married Pregnant Lactating Pupils  
 R 5134 Married Pregnant Lactating Pupils  
 P 5141 Health  
 P 5142.2 Illness  
 P 5141.3 Health Examinations and  
 Immunizations  
 P 6140 Curriculum Adoption  
 P 6161.1 Evaluation and Selection of  
 Instructional Materials

The motion was made by Dr. Sadin and seconded by Mr. Sergile to approve Resolution number 3.

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

Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**4\* REVISED  
 2020-2021 SCHOOL  
 CALENDAR**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached revised 2020-2021 School Calendar.

The motion was made by Mrs. Olson and seconded by Mr. Kimmick to approve Resolution number 4\*.

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

Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rebecca Bell - 79 Franklyn Place, Springfield, wanted to thank Christopher Mulligan for making Somerville a testing place for students to take

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

the College Level Examination Program test. This test will help students to receive college credits for free.

**\*EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to recess to executive session to discuss the Superintendent of School's evaluation and personnel matters as they relate to staff reductions in force, and matters of attorney-client privilege. 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.

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

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

The Board of Education reconvened to public session at 6:58 p.m.

**1\* REDUCTION IN  
FORCE**

**WHEREAS**, due to a significant and material reduction in the District's 2020-2021 State aid, the Board must effectuate a reduction in force;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the following positions are hereby eliminated effective immediately:

- a. One (1) full-time Academic Achievement Officer position
- b. Three (3) Physical Education teaching positions

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Superintendent or his designee shall provide the affected employees, whose names are on file with the Board Secretary, with notification of this action; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that any tenured employees identified above shall remain on the District's preferred eligible list in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:28-12.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

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

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

Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	YES	*Fabriczi	YES

**2. REDUCTION IN FORCE**

**WHEREAS**, due to a significant and material reduction in the District's 2020-2021 State aid, the Board must effectuate a reduction in force;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the following positions are hereby eliminated effective immediately:

- a. Two (2) half-time Special Education Instructional Aide positions
- b. One (1) half-time Kindergarten Aide position

The motion was made by Mrs. Olson and seconded by Ms. Matthews to approve Resolution number 2.

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

Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	YES	*Fabriczi	N/A

Mr. Jess explained that these cuts were very difficult but were due to the reduction in over \$500,000 in state aid by the Department of Education. Mr. Jess thanked Dr. Teehan and Mr. Boyce for working to maintain the integrity of the budget while not affecting the education of students. Mr. Jess wished everyone well who is affected by these cuts and the current pandemic. These decisions are not easy for a Board of Education.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

+Subject to change as per the SEA contract negotiations

**\* SUPERINTEN-  
DENT'S EVALU-  
ATION**

The motion was made by Mr. Sergile and seconded by Dr. Sadin to approve the Superintendent's evaluation.

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

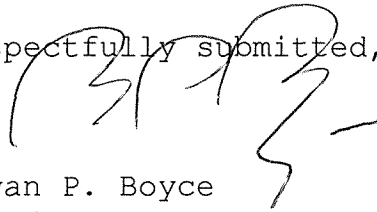
Carlson	ABSENT	Puntillo	YES
Jess	YES	Sadin	YES
Kimmick	YES	Sergile	YES
Matthews	YES	Van Horn	YES
Olson	ABSTAIN	*Fabriczi	YES

**ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to be discussed, Ms. Matthews motioned to adjourn and Mr. Kimmick seconded the motion at 7:05 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bryan P. Boyce  
Board Secretary