

**WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013  
VAN DERVEER SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

Mission Statement

Our mission as a school community is to provide quality education through an environment which promotes individual excellence, and that all pupils achieve the Common Core State Standards and the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels.

**TIME AND PLACE** The Board of Education of the Borough of Somerville in the County of Somerset, New Jersey convened a Workshop/Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at the Van Derveer School Media Center, 51 Union Avenue, Somerville.

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to at 6:00 p.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 (Retired at 6:03 p.m., Returned at 6:23 p.m.), Mr. Dennis Garot (Retired at 7:07 p.m.), Mr. Al Kerestes (Arrived 6:03 p.m. and Retired at 7:07 p.m.), Mrs. Linda Olson, Mr. John Prudente, Mr. Daniel Puntillo (Arrived 6:14 p.m.), Mr. David Rehe (Arrived 6:23 p.m.), Mr. Lucien Sergile

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Timothy J. Purnell, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Bryan P. Boyce, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, Mr. Michael Rogers, Board Attorney (Retired at 6:23 p.m.)

Mrs. Olson 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 its Workshop/Regular Meeting of August 20, 2013, 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.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION I**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to recess into executive session at 6:02 p.m. to discuss a legal 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.

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

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

Adamec	YES	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	ABSENT
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	ABSENT	*Rehe	ABSENT

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to return to public session at 6:22 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the Van Derveer School New Addition

Dr. Timothy J. Purnell, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Kerestes and Dr. Purnell held a ribbon cutting ceremony that celebrated the completion of the five classroom addition at Van Derveer School.

Somerville Middle School Schedule Presentation

Miss Georgette Boulegeris, Somerville Middle School Principal

Mr. Robert Reavey, Somerville Middle School Assistant Principal

Miss Georgette Boulegeris reviewed the modifications to the master schedule at Somerville Middle School. Some of the highlights included double periods for Language Arts in Grades 7 and 8, French and Spanish as exploratory

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

classes, A/B schedule and additional student support in the form of Title I Mathematics in Grades 7 and 8 and Study Skills on alternate days.

Highly Qualified Teacher Status Report

Mrs. Melissa McCooley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Mrs. Melissa McCooley reviewed the Highly Qualified Teacher Status Report previously distributed the Board of Education members. Mrs. McCooley stated one hundred percent of the Somerville School District teachers are highly qualified.

QSAC Presentation Action Plan

Mrs. Melissa McCooley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Mrs. Melissa McCooley reviewed the QSAC Improvement Plan required due to a score of 79 in the Instruction and Program section. Mrs. McCooley noted that many of the plan action items have already been implemented.

**\*RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approved the attached QSAC District improvement plan for the 2013-2014 school year.

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	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	YES

District Highlights

Dr. Timothy J. Purnell, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Purnell described reported on opening day activities including a key note speech by Gian Paul Gonzalez in which he promoted the theme of being "All In". Dr. Purnell issued a challenge to Board of Education members and the school

community to commit themselves to being all in for the education of our students. Dr. Purnell also reported on student activities during the past three weeks at the Preschool, Van Derveer School, Somerville Middle School and Somerville High School.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

**1. TUITION FOR STUDENT ATTENDING VAN DERVEER SCHOOL**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve a student from out of district to attend Van Derveer School for the 2013-2014 school year at the tuition rate of \$11,830.00.

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	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	N/A

**2. IDEA FUNDS**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the application for funds under The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for the fiscal year 2014.

IDEA Basic	\$511,417.00
IDEA Preschool	\$ 16,165.00

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

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

Adamec	YES	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	N/A

It is recommended that Items **3\* through 9\*** be moved upon the recommendation of the

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

Superintendent of Schools.

**3\* HARASSMENT,  
INTIMIDATION AND  
BULLYING REPORT  
FORM**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of education approve the attached Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report Form for use in reporting cases district-wide.

**4\* 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 2013-2014 school year.

**5\* A  
RESOLUTION  
BINDING THE  
SOMERVILLE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION TO  
PURCHASE NATURAL  
GAS  
SERVICES THROUGH  
THE ALLIANCE FOR  
COMPETITIVE  
ENERGY SERVICES  
("ACES") BID  
COOPERATIVE  
PRICING SYSTEM  
ID#E8801-ACESCPS**

**WHEREAS**, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as "ACES"), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as "NJSBA"), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from natural gas suppliers for retail natural gas supply services including interstate transportation to the local natural gas distribution utility company (Natural Gas Supply Services) through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the "Public School Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 et seq. ("EDECA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

**WHEREAS**, the Somerville Board of Education is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain natural gas services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to natural gas suppliers following said bids for natural gas services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through May, 2018, hereinafter referred to as "Effective Period") issue one or more

Requests for Bids for natural gas services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

**WHEREAS**, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale natural gas market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Natural Gas Supply Service in each service territory to one or more natural gas suppliers that submits bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous natural gas usage and utility provided Basic Gas Supply Service rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said Natural Gas Supply Services to natural gas suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic gas supply service; and

**WHEREAS**, the District agrees to purchase all Natural Gas Supply Services for its own use during the Effective Period through any natural gas supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for natural gas supply services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids. NOW, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all natural gas supply services needed for its own use during the Effective Period from the natural gas supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for natural Gas supply services by the Lead Agency; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase natural gas at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the districts relative to the price charged for basic gas supply service by the natural gas public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain natural gas services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2018 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

**6\* RESOLUTION  
BINDING THE  
SOMERVILLE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION TO  
PURCHASE  
ELECTRIC  
GENERATION  
SERVICES THROUGH**

**WHEREAS**, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as "ACES"), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as "NJSBA"), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below

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**THE ALLIANCE FOR  
COMPETITIVE  
ENERGY SERVICES  
("ACES") BID  
COOPERATIVE  
PRICING SYSTEM  
ID#E8801-ACESCPS**

solicit bids from electric power suppliers for electric generation services through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the "Public School Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 et seq. ("EDECA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

**WHEREAS**, the Somerville Board of Education is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain electric generation services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to electric power suppliers following said bids for electric generation services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through May, 2018 hereinafter referred to as "Effective Period") issue one or more Requests for Bids for electric generation services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

**WHEREAS**, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale electric market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Electric Generation Service in each service territory to one or more electric power suppliers that submit bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous electric usage and utility provided Basic Generation Service rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said electric generation services to electric power suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic generation service; and

**WHEREAS**, the District agrees to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive



of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period through any electric power supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law;

**WHEREAS**, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for electric generation services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period from the electric power supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for electric generation services by the Lead Agency; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase electricity at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the Districts relative to the price charged for basic generation service by the electric public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain electric generation services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System

including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2018 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission or expiration of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

**7\* ATHLETIC/CO-CURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education award a renewal contract to James Hager, Inc. of Ringoes, New Jersey for Athletic/Co-curricular Transportation services for the 2013-2014 school year, as needed, at a cost of \$69.00 per hour. This represents an increase over the 2012-2013 school year of .07%.

**8\* NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) SUBGRANT**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the application for The No Child Left Behind Act Consolidated Subgrant for the fiscal year 2014 and accept the following grant amounts.

Title I	\$410,964.00
Title IIA	\$ 82,021.00
Title III	\$ 18,534.00

**9\* 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

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

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

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

Adamec	YES	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	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**

Motion by Mr. Kerestes, seconded by Mr. Cornell that **K-8** items **1 and 2** be moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

**1. SANDRA VLADYKA-KING**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Sandra Vladyka-King to the position of Public Relations Officer at Somerville Middle School effective October 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 school year at a salary of \$35,000.00 (prorated).

**2. GARY KNOEPEL**

**RECIND** the appointment of Gary Knoepfel from the position of special education instructional assistant at Van Derveer School effective August 30, 2013.

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

Adamec	YES	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	N/A

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

9-12 and Districtwide

Motion by Mr. Kerestes, seconded by Mr. Chin that 9-12 and Districtwide items 3\* to 13\* be moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

- 3\* **GARY KNOEPPEL** **APPROVE** the appointment of Gary Knoeppel to the leave replacement position of teacher of health and physical education at Somerville High School to fill a vacancy caused by a leave of absence (Evans) effective September 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 at a salary of \$57,554.00 (MA Step 1).
- 4\* **HANNAH RODRIQUEZ** **APPROVE** a paid maternity disability leave of absence for Hannah Rodriguez, teacher of English at Somerville High School effective November 4, 2013 to December 17, 2013 and an unpaid child care leave of absence in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act from December 18, 2013 to June 30, 2014.
- 5\* **NOELLE NARTJE** **ACCEPT** the resignation of Noelle Hartje from the leave replacement position of teacher of health and physical education effective August 30, 2013.
- 6\* **TAURIN WHEELER** **APPROVE** the appointment of Taurin Wheeler to the position of assistant girls basketball coach at Somerville High School for the 2013-2014 school year at a stipend of \$6,474.00.
- 7\* **GERARD FOLEY** **APPROVE** the appointment of Gerard Foley to the position of Interim Principal at Somerville High School effective September 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 at a stipend of \$1,000.00 a month.
- 8\* **DR. TANYA ROMASZ-MCDONALD** **APPROVE** the appointment of Dr. Tanya Romasz-McDonald to the position of Interim Director of Guidance at Somerville High School effective September 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 at a stipend of \$1,250.00 a month.
- 9\* **JOHANNA SCHOLL** **APPROVE** the appointment of Johanna Scholl as the parent representative on the Somerville High School Safety Team for the 2013-2014 school year.
- 10\* **JOSEPH SCHIAVONE** **APPROVE** Joseph Schiavone to maintain the District Policy Management System at a stipend of \$1,500.00 for the 2013-2014 school year.

\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

**11\* CHANGE IN JOB TITLE**

**APPROVE** a change in the job description title of security officer to public relations officer.

**12\* AMI OPALSKI**

**APPROVE** the appointment of Ami Opalski to the position of summer athletic trainer during the month of August 2013 at the contractual stipend of \$2,086.00.

**13\* CHANGE IN JOB POSITION**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education abolish the position of Director of Guidance/Assistant Principal, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education establishes the position of Director of Guidance.

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

Adamec	YES	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	YES

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION II**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to recess into executive session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss personnel 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.

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

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

Adamec	YES	Olson	YES
Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Garot	YES	Sergile	YES
Kerestes	YES	*Rehe	YES

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education move to return to public session at 7:18 p.m.

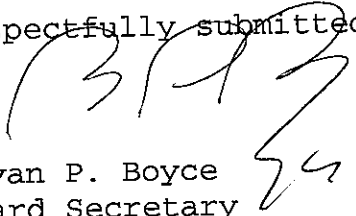
\*Branchburg Vote Eligible

**ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further, to be discussed, Mr. Prudente motioned to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mr. Cornell that the meeting be adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bryan P. Boyce  
Board Secretary