

**REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016
SOMERVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Mission Statement

Somerville Schools provide the highest quality education through an environment that promotes individual excellence.

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 19, 2016 at the Somerville Middle School, 51 West Cliff Street, Somerville.

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Chin, President.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEW MEMBERS Board Secretary, Mr. Bryan P. Boyce, administered the oath of office to newly appointed Board member Carmela Noto.

ROLL CALL **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Norman Chin, Mr. Kenneth Cornell (video conference), Mrs. Dianne Durland, Mr. James Jones, Mrs. Carmela Noto, Mr. John Prudente, Mr. Daniel Puntillo, Mrs. Melissa Sadin, Mr. Lucien Sergile

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Linda Olson

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

Mrs. Sadin 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's Organization/Workshop/Regular Meeting of January 5, 2016, 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 There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings as follows:

The motion was made by Mr. Sergile and seconded by Mrs. Sadin to approve the Minutes of December 15, 2015 Regular Meeting.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	YES
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	ABSTAIN	Chin	ABSTAIN
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

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Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

PS-2 Highlights
Mrs. Susan Haynes, Principal

Mrs. Susan Haynes, Principal presented PS-2 activities highlighting their Wildly Important Goal (WIG) which is to partner to promote pupil

*Branchburg Vote Eligible

progress through parent/ community involvement and collaboration with colleagues. Also, student representatives were present to show the audience some of the coding work they are doing.

#allin4theVille Award Recognition

Dr. Timothy J. Purnell, Superintendent of Schools

Principals and Administrators introduced the #allin4theVille Award recipients as follows:

Mr. Foley for Somerville High School - Ms. Karen Stephenson, Resource Program In-Class

Mrs. Boulegeris for Somerville Middle School -
Mr. Freddie Shaker, Math Teacher Gr. 5-8

Mr. Reavey for Van Derveer Grades 3-5 - Ms. Joelle Kessler

Mrs. Haynes for Van Derveer PS-2 - Ms. Stacey Delise

Dr. McDonald for District-wide - Mrs. Lisa Mulhearn, School Psychologist

Mr. Franey for Community Stakeholder Award - Mr. Jeff Vanderbeek, Co-Head Football Coach

Dr. Purnell encouraged all to nominate people for an #allin4theVille award indicating that it is important to recognize the work that these award recipients do.

Retirement Recognition

Dr. Timothy J. Purnell, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Purnell read a poem to honor Ms. Mary Kroeper, School Nurse, who worked in the District for 23 years. A token of appreciation was presented to her.

Parent Teacher Organization Reports

Tara Chichetti - Pre-K-8 PTO

Michelle Grimm- Branchburg K-12

Dr. Purnell took time to recognize the efforts of the PTOs who have been "All In!" for the children. He read a report prepared by Ms. Michelle Grimm, Branchburg K-12 PTO. They are keeping busy with educating their driver's education students on distracted driving and raising funds for Project Graduation, among other initiatives.

Ms. Kristin Ciezak, representing Pre-K-8 Somerville PTO, reported that the Board members are entirely new. Their focus is on building relationships within the schools and the community including member recruitment and retention.

Somerville Educational Foundation Report

Mrs. Lisa Werner
Mrs. Lisa Gallagher

Mrs. Lisa Werner and Mrs. Lisa Gallagher, Co-Chairs of the Foundation, provided a brief overview of the foundation's mission which is to fund grants through community donations and fundraising efforts that fall outside of the normal budgeting process. They provide funding for creative and innovative programs for students and award various scholarships. Their focus this year is to add trustees to the organization.

Branchburg Educational Foundation Report

Dr. Joanna Miller, Grants Chairperson
Mr. Greg Confer

Mr. Greg Confer, President of the Foundation and Dr. Joanna Miller, Grants Chairperson reported that their foundation is eager to add to the educational experience of the students. They discussed some of the grants awarded in the past. They reported that they may have different criteria than Somerville Education Foundation (SEF) to evaluate the grants that come before them, but that they enjoy a nice partnership with SEF.

Dr. Purnell thanked the PTOs and Education Foundations for all the volunteer hours they put

in for our children commenting that they exemplify "#allin4theVille". He thanked them for their efforts and said that he is proud of what their organizations have accomplished.

District Highlights

Dr. Purnell reported that he attended the second Executive Student Council meeting and met with student representatives from every school building. They had an excellent discussion on topics like: teacher effectiveness and high school mid-term assessments. He reminded everyone that the students set the agenda and said that this is a great way for him to connect with the students.

Dr. Purnell was excited to announce Somerville's alternative high school, Motivation for Academic Personal Success (MAPS) program is being featured by *The Courier News*. This program is led by Dr. Tanya McDonald and Mr. Scott Hade.

The 1st Technology Game Jam led by Mr. Miller (coding activity) will be held on January 21 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Van Derveer School. Somerville Middle School Winter Dance hosted by the Student Council will be held on January 22. The National Junior Honor Society is raising funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through Pennies for Patients. On January 11, the Workforce Skills and Development Employability Program visited the 9/11 and emergency operation center in Somerville, which is part of their hands-on learning. Students Corey Johnson and James Lowe were selected as Governor's School Engineering and Science candidates.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

It is recommended that Items 1 through 8 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 confirmed and

unconfirmed report cases #2015-16:1SMS-NC and 2015-16:1SHS.

**2. 7TH GRADE
D.A.R.E PROGRAM**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the D.A.R.E. Program provided by the Somerville Police Department be offered to the seventh grade students at Somerville Middle School one day a week starting February 2016 through May 2016.

**3. SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS
RECOGNITION
MONTH**

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2016 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Somerville Board of Education is one of more than 581 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Somerville Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its

schools, which rank among the nation's best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Somerville Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2016 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH: and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Somerville Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children's education.

4. REQUEST FOR STUDENT TO REMAIN AT VAN DERVEER SCHOOL

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve student #12239 to complete the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year at Van Derveer School due to the family relocating out of Somerville.

5. CANCEL OUTSTANDING CHECKS

RESOLVED that the Board of Education cancel the attached list of outstanding checks.

6. INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the attached Independent Study Programs for three Somerville High School M.A.P.S. students for the 2015-2016 school year.

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. Chin introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mr. Sergile seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

REPORT OF BOARD ITEMS

A. Student Board Member Report

Christina Schuler, Student Representative
Arthur J. Akins, Student Representative

No Report

B. Finance Committee:

Daniel Puntillo, Chairperson
Diane Durland, Member
Lucien Sergile, Member

No Report

It is recommended that Items 1 through 5 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:

- A. Treasurer's Report (December)
- B. Secretary's Report (December)
- C. Investments (December)
- D. Food Services (December)

*Branchburg Vote Eligible

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY REPORTS **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept the monthly reports as listed below:

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

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

DATE	PAYROLL
December 15, 2015	\$1,165,169.59
December 15, 2015	\$ 21,240.06 (FICA)
December 23, 2015	\$1,094,601.65
December 23, 2015	\$ 15,873.17 (FICA)
January 15, 2016	\$1,214,760.44
January 15, 2016	\$ 24,882.51 (FICA)

4. BILLS LISTS **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the payment of the following obligations of the School District:

Van Derveer and Middle Schools
Bills List Dated January 19, 2016

10 General Fund	\$ 82,586.99
20 Special Revenue Fund	19.95
30 Capital Projects Fund	36,677.60
TOTAL	\$ 119,284.54

5. LINE ITEM TRANSFERS **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the enclosed December line item transfers.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mrs. Sadin seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	ABSTAIN	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

It is recommended that Item **6*** be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

6* **BILLS LISTS**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the payment of the following obligations of the School District:

High School and Districtwide
 Bill List Dated January 19, 2016

10 General Fund	\$ 750,403.29
20 Special Revenue Fund	25,582.75
40 Debit Service	237,556.88
60 Cafeteria Fund	47,224.47
TOTAL	\$ 1,060,767.39

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mrs. Sadin seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	ABSTAIN

Certification of Major Account Status (read by Mr. Puntillo)
 Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23 2:11(c)r, the Somerville Board of Education certifies that as of December 30, 2015 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 overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23 2:11(b) 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. Building and Grounds:

Kenneth Cornell, Chairperson
 John Prudente, Member

Mr. Cornell referenced the Facilities Report prepared by Mr. Gambino.

D. Athletics and Student Activities Committee:

Daniel Puntillo, Lucien Sergile, Chairpersons
James Jones, Member

Mr. Sergile reported on sports standings for various programs including basketball, swimming, football, wrestling and fencing.

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

**1. VAN DERVEER
SCHOOL 3-5
COMPUTER CLUB**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the newly-created Computer Club at Van Derveer School 3-5 for grades four and five one day a week on Mondays from 3:00-4:00 p.m for the 2015-2016 school year.

**2. VAN DERVEER
SCHOOL 3-5 BOOK
CLUB**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the newly-created Book Club at Van Derveer School 3-5 for grades three, four and five every other Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 p.m. for the 2015-2016 school year.

Mr. Sergile introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mrs. Sadin seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

E. Curriculum:

Linda Olson, Chairperson
Lucien Sergile, Member
Melissa Sadin, Member

Mrs. Sadin referenced the Curriculum Report prepared by Mrs. Sung.

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

1. REVISION OF CURRICULUM MAPS

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the revisions of the following curriculum maps:

Middle School

- Real World Math - Grade 6
- Writing Through Art - Grade 6
- Writing Through Music - Grade 6
- Reading Through Art - Grade 7
- Reading Through Music - Grade 7
- Real World Math - Grade 7

2. REMOVAL OF SUMMER READING BOOK

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the removal of the tenth grade summer reading book Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer for inappropriate content.

Mrs. Sadin introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mr. Prudente seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

Mrs. Sadin said that it is important to note that administrators listen to the public. We are in agreement with the parent and we appreciate the parent bringing this to our attention.

F. Policy:

- John Prudente, Chairperson
- Dianne Durland, Member

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

1. SECOND READING

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following policies for a second reading:

P 5600 Student Discipline/Code of Conduct

Mr. Prudente introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mrs. Durland seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

G. Technology Committee:

Norman Chin, Chairperson

Kenneth Cornell, Member

Mr. Chin referenced the Technology Committee Report prepared by Mrs. McEntee.

H. Borough Council/BOE:

Luc Sergile, Liaison

Mr. Sergile stated that a new playground is being constructed and is due to be completed by May. The Borough requests that the district stress the importance to be mindful of safety demarcations. The crossing guard between Orchard and Davenport streets will be permanent. Lastly, the Borough is looking forward to more visits by students to the Fire Museum.

I. Somerset County Educational Services:

Commission:

Daniel Puntillo, Liaison

Superintendent Harold Dunsavage will be making a presentation to our Board in February.

J. New Jersey School Boards Association:

Melissa Sadin, Delegate

No Report

K. Somerset County School Association of Boards of Education

Melissa Sadin, Delegate

The meeting on January 12, 2016 was held at Somerville High School and attendees were complimentary of the school. In particular, the

fact that Mr. Foley greeted everyone as they entered the school, the cleanliness of the school as well as the food prepared by Maschio's Food Service. The topic was Understanding the Audit and Mrs. Sadin applauded the common-sense commentary made by Mr. Jones, which made it easier for everyone to understand.

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.)

PreK-8

Motion by Mr. Prudente seconded by Mr. Sergile that items **1 through 7** be moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

1. TRISTAN MILLER

APPROVE the appointment of Tristan Miller, teacher at Van Derveer School to supervise the newly created computer club for grades four and five for the 2015-2016 school year at no additional remuneration.

2. TRISTAN MILLER

APPROVE the appointment of Tristan Miller, teacher at Van Derveer School to supervise the newly created book club for grades three, four and five for the 2015-2016 school year at no additional remuneration.

3. DAYLE REAVEY

APPROVE a change in the unpaid childcare leave of absence for Dayle Reavey, Speech Teacher at Van Derveer School to return to her position from February 1, 2016 to September 1, 2016.

4. SMS VOLUNTEERS 2015-2016

APPROVE the appointment of the following individuals to the position of volunteer at Somerville Middle School for the 2015-2016 school year:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Liana Fross | Softball |
| Kristy Stanton | Softball |
| Stacey Jaconski | Softball |

5. CHANGE IN STEP GUIDE

APPROVE a change in salary guide placement for the following staff members effective February 1, 2016:

Patricia Helwig	BA+15
Kelly Mulligan	BA+30

6. ALYSSA BREEMAM

APPROVE the appointment of Alyssa Breeman as a member of the Somerville Middle School Safety team for the 2015-2016 school year at no additional remuneration.

7. SUNIL GANU

APPROVE the appointment of Sunil Ganu to the leave replacement position of teacher of third grade special education at Van Derveer School 3-5 to fill a vacancy caused by a maternity leave (Lazarte) effective February 22, 2016 to May 30, 2016 at a salary of \$54,026.00 (BA Step 1) (prorated).

Mr. Prudente introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mrs. Durland seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	N/A

9-12 and Districtwide

Motion by Mrs. Sadin seconded by Mr. Cornell that items **8* through 12*** be moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

8* JOHANNA PITTENGER

APPROVE a paid maternity disability leave of absence for Johanna Pittenger, Child Study Team Social Worker, effective April 20, 2016 to May 31, 2016 and an unpaid child care leave of absence in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act effective June 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016.

9* GEORGE MELLORS

ACCEPT the retirement/resignation of George Mellors, teacher of mathematics at Somerville High School effective February 29, 2016.

*Branchburg Vote Eligible

**10* ANNA
OBARZANEK**

APPROVE a change in salary guide placement for the following staff member effective February 1, 2016:

Anna Obarzanek MA+15

**11* LILIYA
BORODKIN**

APPROVE Liliya Borodkin, a Raritan Valley Community College Professor, to teach the SALA program at Somerville High School from January 22, 2016 to May 31, 2016.

**12* SUBSTITUTE
TEACHERS 2015-
2016**

APPROVE the appointments of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year at \$90.00 per diem:

Emily Granger
Claudia Falconieri

Mr. Prudente introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution, Mr. Cornell seconded.

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

Cornell	YES	Olson	ABSENT
Durland	YES	Sergile	YES
Jones	YES	Sadin	YES
Prudente	YES	Chin	YES
Puntillo	YES	*Noto	ABSTAIN

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education move to recess into executive session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss student matters. 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. Chin introduced and moved the adoption of the resolution; Mr. Prudente seconded.

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

Chin	YES	Prudente	YES
Cornell	YES	Puntillo	YES
Durland	YES	Sadin	YES

Jones	YES	Sergile	YES
Olson	YES	*Noto	N/A

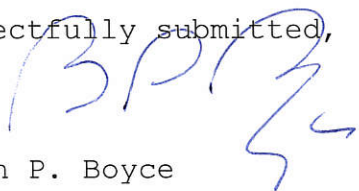
The Board of Education reconvened to public session at 8:37 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further, to be discussed, Mr. Puntillo motioned to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mr. Prudente that the meeting be adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Bryan P. Boyce
Board Secretary

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