

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education
301 Grace Street
Somerdale, NJ 08083

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

MINUTES

August 18, 2008

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:40 p.m.

Sunshine Law:

The Somerdale Board of Education Meeting is called to order. The Board of Education is in compliance with the sunshine regulations. This meeting was appropriately advertised by notifying The Record Breeze and The Courier Post, as well as posting notices in Borough Hall, the Somerdale Post Office and the Somerdale Park School.

II. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

James Abbott-present	Martha Gray-present
Leslie Caramiello-present	Susan Lowden-present
Richard Caswell-present	David Reeder-present
Cheryl Cronce-absent	
James Walsh-present	

Linda Giambri arrived at 7:40 p.m.

Also Present:

Dr. Debra L. Bruner, Superintendent
Dawn Leary, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Doug McGarry, Bldg. & Grnds. Supervisor/EFM
John Kennedy, Solicitor

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs. Lowden seconded by Mrs. Caramiello the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the Regular and Executive Session minutes of the June 23, 2008 regular Board of Education Meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1 (Mr. Walsh) ABSENT 1

IV. NO PUBLIC COMMENTS at this time.

NOTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The Board President will recognize those individuals in the audience whom wish to comment on any action items on this Agenda. Please respect the following procedures:

1. Be recognized by the Board President.
2. State your full name and address.
3. Identify the resolution/item number on which you wish to comment.
4. Wait to be recognized before you make your comment
(*Just before the resolution is voted on*).
5. Limit your comments to the specific resolution/items.
6. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

V. REPORTS

A. The Superintendent gave a report-

Dr Bruner stated that we have 466 students enrolled.

Dr. Bruner stated that we will be conducting interviews soon for the accounting position.

Dr. Bruner reminded the board of the retreat on September 17, 2008 at 5:00pm.

Dr. Bruner stated the retreat would be a goal setting workshop.

B. Business Administrator's Report

Ms. Leary stated that she is working hard with N.Costello in the business office.

Ms. Leary stated that Strauss Esmay Associates could update our policies and regulations and that payments could be made over a three year period.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Personnel Committee**, M. Gray, Chairperson

On a motion by Mrs. Gray seconded by Mrs. Caramiello the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following:

1. The appointment of the following individuals as professional staff members, pending receipt and verification of transcripts and certificates for the 2008-'09 school year:

Halle Koch as **Grade 3 Teacher** at a BA Step 1 level; Rachel Gorman as **Kindergarten Teacher** at a BA Step 1 level; Michael Butler as **P.E./Health Teacher** at a BA Step 1 level; and Rory Eisenstein as **World languages (Spanish) Teacher** at a MA Step 6 level, as per the negotiated agreement with the SEA.

2. The **appointment** of Deborah Scott as **Accounting Clerk/Bookkeeper** on a ninety-day probationary period, effective 7/28/08 at a salary rate of \$31,000.00 (*pro-rated*).
3. To accept the **resignation** of Deborah Scott as **Accounting Clerk/Bookkeeper**, effective 8/15/'08, due to personal reasons.
4. To **appoint** Laura Henkel, pending clearances, as **substitute clerical assistant** at a rate of pay of \$8.00 per hour (\$60.00 per day), effective 8/14/'08, on a temporary, as needed basis, and/or until the Accounting Clerk/Bookkeeper vacancy is filled.

5. A paid **medical leave** for Barbara Seery, Social Worker/CST Director, effective 7/22/'08 for approximately a five-six week period.
6. **Additional hours** for Sandra Robinson, LDTC and Sharon Denafu, Psychologist, effective 7/22/'08, to cover the absence of the CST Director for approximately a five-six week period.
7. The appointment of Christina Haurin as a **Grade Four Long-Term Substitute Teacher** at a BA Step 1 level (pro-rated), effective on and/or before 11/17/'08, pending verification and receipt of transcripts, as per the negotiated contract with the SEA for the 2008-'09 school year.
8. Individuals on the attached list as **substitute teachers** for the 2008-'09 school year.
9. Rowan University students, Kristen Kendra-Maquire (*Mungo*) and Nicole Gaspari (*Butler*) as **5th Grade student teachers** for the Fall, 2008 term; and Neumann College student, MaryRose Reeder (*Baldyga and Halpin*) as a **4th Grade and Special Ed.** student teacher for the Fall, 2008 term.
10. Thomas Hayden, Mandy Seligman, and Valerie Priolo, to serve as **mentors** for Michael Butler, Halle Koch, and Rachel Gorman, respectively, for the 2008-'09 school year. Mentor fees are to be paid by the respective novice teachers.
11. As per receipt of transcripts, to **change** Andrea Lomas, middle school language arts/social studies teacher, from a BA +15 Step 12 salary level, to a MA Step 12 salary level, for the 2008-'09 school year.
12. The appointment of Denise Stites, as a **one-to-one assistant** at a Step 1 para-professional level; and Mary Morda and Staci McGlade as **PT resource assistants** (*no benefits*) at a Step 1 para-professional level for the 2008-'09 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1 (#9 Mr. Reeder) ABSENT 1

B. **Finance Committee**, C. Cronce, Chairperson

On a motion by Mr. Walsh seconded by Mrs. Caramiello the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following:

Financial Report

Recommend that the Board of Education certify that as of this date and after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge, no major fund balance has been overspent in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations as of this date.

June Bill List #4 \$70,775.95
 July Bill List #1 \$286,871.29
 July Bill List #2 \$824.62
 June Payroll #1 \$169,028.41
 June Payroll #2 \$230,746.67
 June Payroll #3 \$2,776.66
 July Payroll #1 & #2 \$56,195.11
 June Transfers as attached.

July Transfers as attached.
 Board Secretary's Report for June 2008
 Treasurer's Report(s) for June, 2008

1. Chapter #226, **Non-public School Nursing Services Expenditure Report and Statistical Summary** for Our Lady of Grace School, for the 2007-2008 school year, as submitted by the Camden County Department of Health.
2. Receipt of approval of the FY 2008 Consolidated **Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA)** of 2004 – Part B Amendment for the time period of 9/1/'07 – 8/31/'08.
3. The **No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act** of 2001 grant award for FY 2009 in the amount of \$109,196.00.
4. The following staff members to attend **conferences**:
 - a). The **registration and travel related expenses** of the superintendent, business administrator, principal, EFM manager and CST Director to attend and participate in all related NJDOE; countywide Roundtable; interdistrict; and/or local education and curriculum/staff development workshop/meetings and any other relevant workshop(s) pertaining to their area(s) of discipline for the 2008-'09 school year, not to exceed the district's monetary limit for same.
 - b). Arlene Maslanka to attend the **Pre-School Curriculum Showcase**, at the Trenton War Memorial, Trenton, NJ, on 9/16/'08. There is no registration fee to attend this workshop and Kristine Height to attend the 9/16 and 9/18 early childhood training for the preschool expansion at ESC.
 - c). Mandy Seligman, Sandra Robinson, Lisa Padua and Jennifer Miller to participate in the **Wilson Training Seminar(s)** via the **Wilson Language Training Corporation (WLT)** on 9/17 – 9/19 at the Somerdale Park School. Total cost for this in-service training is \$1200.00 and \$1100.00 each for ongoing training.
5. Lindenwold School District to serve as the **LEA** for the Title III consortium of the NCLB grant application for the distribution of Title III monies for the 2008-'09 school year
6. A **contract** with Gloucester County Special Services School District for auxiliary Speech-Language services for 2.days per week at a cost of **\$\$35,280.00** for the 2008-'09 school year.
7. A **contract** with Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc. to provide functional behavioral assessments and appropriate interventions for challenging students at a cost of **\$185.00 per hour** for the 2008-'09 school year.
8. **Administrative funds** to cover costs for the BOE Retreat (9/17/'08); New Teacher Orientation Program (8/27/'08); Staff Orientation (9/2/'08); and the third annual Family Welcome Back Picnic (9/19/'08).
9. **School lunch prices** for the 2008-'09 school year at a cost of \$2.25 for a regular student lunch; \$.40 for a reduced lunch; \$1.25 for a regular student breakfast; and \$.30 for reduced breakfast meal.

10. Approval for an out-of-district placement for a first grade student (student Id# 10323) to attend Brookfield Academy 2008-2009 school year and summer ESY program in the amount of \$4,275 (ESY) and \$45,900.
11. Ed-Data bid awards as attached.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

C. **Curriculum Committee**, C. Cronic and L. Giambri, Co-Chairpersons

On a motion by Mrs. Giambri seconded by Mrs. Caramiello the following was approved:

A recommendation is requested to approve the following:

1. Receipt of approval of the 2007-'08 **NCLB Consolidated application** by the NJDOE.
2. The 2007-'08 **Annual Report of the Camden County AVA Commission**, as attached.
3. 2008-'09 **PTA Calendar** and respective events.
4. Confirmation of the **Electronic Violence and Vandalism Report (EVVR)**, as submitted by Kristine Height, principal, 2007-'08 school year.
5. Somerdale Park School **Calendar**; the Preschool Disabled (**PSD**) **Calendar**; and subsequent events for September, 2008.
6. Somerdale Park School 2008-'09 **Educational Goals and Objectives**.
7. **Revisions** to the **Professional Development Mentoring Plan**, as attached, previously submitted to the Camden County NJDOE, and the Statement of Assurance for same, as per the mandates of N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.4.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

D. **Policy Committee**, J. Walsh, Chairperson

On a motion by Mr. Walsh seconded by Mrs. Caramiello the following was approved:

A recommendation is requested to approve the following:

1. Revised changes to the **Uniform Policy and Discipline and Student-Handbook Policies** for the 2008-'09 school year, as per final recommendations from the Discipline/Uniform and BOE Policy Committee.
2. **Second Reading** for the attached policies:
 - 3245-Food Service
 - 4112.8-Nepotism
 - 6153-Field Trips
3. To acknowledge receipt of **donations** to the Library and its subsequent Birthday Book Club for the 2007-'08 school year, as per the attached list.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

E. **Buildings and Grounds Committee**, D. Reeder, Chairperson

On a motion by Mr. Reeder seconded by Mrs. Gray the following was approved:

A recommendation is requested to approve the following:

To allow the **PTA** to use the Cafetorium and/or Gymnasium, respectively, for various functions, as per their approved calendar of events and building use requests, as attached, for the 2008-'09 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

F.	Interdistrict Committee,	S. Lowden, Chairperson-nothing
G.	CCESC Representative,	D. Reeder, Representative-8 rep's attended
H.	NJSBA Representative,	S. Lowden-nothing
I.	CCSBA Representative,	C. Cronce-nothing
J.	Liaison Committee,	M. Gray, Chairperson-schedule first mtg in Oct.
K.	Public Relations,	L. Giambri, Chairperson-nothing
L.	Negotiations,	J. Walsh, Chairperson-settled

IX. OTHER REPORTS:

Student Attendance	June, 2008
Fire Drill Reports	June & July, 2008
Health Reports	June, 2008

X. DISCUSSION ITEM: Rescheduled BOE Retreat 9/17/'08
 "Welcome Back Picnic"
 Strauss Esmay Associates

On a motion by Mr. Walsh seconded by Mrs. Caramiello the following was approved:

A contract with Strauss Esmay to prepare and update policies and regulations in the amount of \$20,940.00 to be paid over a three year period.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 8 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 1

XI. NO PUBLIC COMMENTS at this time.

Audience Recognition and Public Comment

The public is reminded that all public complaints against a district employee must be made through a specific grievance process.

A description of this process may be found in BOE policy (File Code 1312). This policy is available upon request in the office of the Board Secretary.

Any individual naming an employee in a complaint before the Board of Education, without the employee's permission, could be cited for violating that employee's civil and contractual rights.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss personnel and legal matters at 9:10 p.m.

Resolved that pursuant to Section 8 of the Public Meetings Act, the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting involving the discussion of personnel, legal, and contractual matters. Further resolved that discussion of such subject matters discussed in Executive Session can be disclosed to public, upon official action, if any, is taken by the Board, either at the resumption of the public session, at the conclusion of the executive session, or at a public session at some later date.

XIII. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION at 9:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. Gray and seconded by Mr. Walsh the following was approved:

To approve Kelly Peters through the month of September.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Walsh seconded by Mrs. Lowden the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Leary

Dawn Leary
Board Secretary