

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

301 Grace Street  
Somerdale, NJ 08083

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**

**December 8, 2022**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Minutes**

**BOE Mission Statement**

The mission of the Somerdale School District, in active partnership with the community and staff, is to provide a safe and supportive environment which offers all students the opportunity to develop academically, socially, physically and emotionally, and to create students who are inquisitive and value learning not, only now, but also in the future.

We aspire to provide a broad range of educational opportunities in a nurturing environment designed to challenge all students to strive for personal excellence, achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and become responsible citizens in this rapidly changing world.

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. SUNSHINE LAW/ROLL CALL**

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 in The Courier Post, as well as posting notices in Borough Hall, at Somerdale Park School, and on the District website in accordance with all NJ laws. Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded.

James Anderson- Present	Taylor Klenk- Present	Kevin Smith- Present
Kim Barkoff- Present	Marc Ritz- Absent	Tara Voigt- Absent
Barbara Boyle- Present	Mary Jo Schoettle- Absent	

Also Present:

Mark Pease, Superintendent  
William H. Thompson, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Chris Long, Solicitor

**III. PRESENTATIONS:**

*A Presentation by Mr. Mark Pease, Superintendent to recognize the November Student of the Month recipients.*

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS** on any action items.

**NOTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

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
5. Limit your comments to the specific resolution/items.

6. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Kenk the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the regular minutes of the November 17, 2022 BOE Meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR: YES   5   NO   0   ABSTAIN   0   ABSENT   3  

**VI. REPORTS**

A. Superintendent’s Report:

**December 2022-2023 Superintendent Report  
School Update**

The Student of the Month and pep rally assembly was amazing. Students and staff had a great time. Mr. Ford and Student Council did a great job organizing this uplifting event.

We also kicked off the month with an encouraging and passionate assembly by Mykee Fowlin. Our special guest Mykee touched the hearts of our students about tolerance, bullying and making healthy choices.

I met with Matt Sheehan to discuss the Curriculum and Instruction Shared Service proposal. We have discussed how this will look for Somerdale Park School. We are looking at negotiating the cost and hopefully I am able to present this at our Re-organization meeting in January.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

B. Business Administrator’s Report

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**BUSINESS AFFAIRS**, Marc Ritz, Chairperson, Mary Jo Schoettle, Alternate Chairperson, Administrative Liaisons: Mark Pease, William H. Thompson

**A. Finance – Reviews and monitors the school district budget and assumes other fiscal responsibilities**

Report by Finance Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 1-6:

1. Financial Reports:

To approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports for 2022 (attachment #1).

The Board Secretary’s Report is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of October 2022. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The Treasurer’s Report is in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of October 2022. The Treasurer’s Report and Secretary’s report are in agreement for the month of October 2022.

Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A - 16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that 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 accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. To approve the following bill lists (attachment #2):
  - a. November 2022 Payroll and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$458,414.33
  - b. December Bill List and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$390,302.87
3. To approve the Transfers/Adjustments for the month of October 2022 (attachment #3).
4. To approve payment of \$1,500.00 to Kimberly Seifring, Leader 2 Leader Mentor Services for Gregory Cesare.
5. To accept the donation of a drum set from Louis Nunziata to the Music Department.
6. To approve the final payment in the amount of \$71,032.80 to Landberg Construction.

**ADDENDUM: To Approve to selling our Out of Warranty Microsoft Surface 4 Pro to district employees. The district has approximately 30 units that should be in known working condition. The units will be offered for \$70.00 each and a docking station for \$5.00 extra each device. All Devices were previously listed for public sale/auction in the summer. Any device not sold to staff will be recycled at a later date and time. All devices will be checked to be in working order before they are sold, and all asset tags will be verified against the previous list.**

7. To Approve selling district out of warranty Microsoft Surface 4 Pro laptops to employees at a cost of \$70.00 each and \$5.00 for each docking station.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES\_\_5\_\_ NO\_\_0\_\_ ABSTAIN\_\_0\_\_ ABSENT\_\_3\_\_

**B. Facilities – Reviews the needs and uses of district buildings and grounds**

Report by Facilities Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Klenk the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 1-2 for Use of Facilities as per Somerdale Board of Education Policy 7510:

1. To approve speaker Nathan Harmon’s Assembly on March 10, 2023, in the amount of \$5,500.00. Cost of assembly to be paid by the Somerdale Municipal Alliance \$2,100.00 and \$3,400.00 from ESSER II Mental Health Grant.
2. To approve the “Middle School Girls Group After Hours” events on January 13, 2023 and February 3, 2023 from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES\_5\_\_\_ NO\_0\_\_\_ ABSTAIN\_0\_\_\_ ABSENT\_\_\_3\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONAL**, Taylor Klenk, Chairperson, James Anderson, Alternate Chairperson, Kevin Smith, Administrative Liaisons: Mark Pease, Robert Ford

**A. Curriculum – Reviews and evaluates standardized test results as a district and monitors direction of curriculum.**

Report by Curriculum Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following item 1:

1. To approve the Three-Year Preschool Program Operational Plan for the 2022-2023 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES\_\_5\_\_ NO\_\_0\_\_ ABSTAIN\_\_0\_\_ ABSENT\_\_3\_\_

**B. Personnel – Assists in the interviewing process of district administrators and reviews hiring recommendations of the Superintendent. Also, reviews and approves staff policies and job descriptions**

Report by Personnel Committee Chair

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following items 1-4:

1. To approve David Santilli as Boys Baseball Coach for the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay as per the negotiated agreement with the SEA.
2. To approve Dominic Travarelli as Boys Baseball Assistant Coach for the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay as per negotiated agreement with the SEA.
3. To approve Center for Family Services to work with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and the Middle School Girls Group during the months of January and February 2023 on stress management and resiliency.
4. To approve the change in Erica Lamancusa’s last day from December 12, 2022 to January 6, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES\_5\_\_\_ NO\_\_0\_\_ ABSTAIN\_\_0\_\_ ABSENT\_\_3\_\_\_

**POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**, Kevin Smith, Chairperson, Tara Voigt, Alternate Chairpersons, Mary Jo Schoettle, Barbara Boyle, Administrative Liaison: Robert Ford

**A. Policy – Reviews, updates and creates district policies with Superintendent and presents them to the board.**

Report by Policy Committee Chair

**B. Community Affairs – Participation in community events to educate the public on programs the district offers. Also educates the public on the school board policies and responsibilities.**

Report by Community Affairs Committee Chair

**BOND AD HOC COMMITTEE**, Kimberly Barkoff, Chairperson, Marc Ritz, Alternate Chair, James Anderson, Administrative Liaison: Mark Pease, William H. Thompson

The Bond Committee’s function it to meet and develop a framework for moving a referendum forward and to address project and budgetary issues.

Report by Bond Committee Chair

**VIII. REPORTS:**

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the following was approved:

The following item will be recommended for approval:

1. Acknowledge and accept the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Report for incidents dated:
  - a. November 14, 2022 (attachment #1)

ALL IN FAVOR: YES\_5\_\_\_ NO\_\_0\_\_ ABSTAIN\_\_0\_\_ ABSENT\_\_3\_\_\_

**IX. OTHER REPORTS:**

- a.) Student Attendance

Preschool	31
Kindergarten	56
1st Grade	34
2nd Grade	47
3rd Grade	34
4th Grade	45
5th Grade	33
6th Grade	48
7th Grade	55
8th Grade	61
Out of District	5
Charter Students	1
Home Instruction	
Homeless -Tuition	
<b>Total November 2022</b>	<b>450</b>

b.) Security/Fire Drill Reports

**FIRE DRILL:**

**DATE: 11/29/22**

Alarm Sounded: 10:37 am  
 Building Cleared: 10:39 am  
 Returned to Building: 10:43 am

Alarm Station Used: D-Wing double doors  
 All Staff in attendance participated in drill  
 Number evacuated: Students present: 403  
 Staff Present: 89  
 Special conditions simulated: none at this time  
 Problems encountered: none at this time  
 Weather: 42 degrees

**LOCK DOWN DRILL #3**

**DATE: 11/28/22**

Alarm Sounded: 1:41 pm  
 All Staff in attendance participated in drill (90 staff members)  
 Problems encountered: None

c.) Nutri-Serve Monthly Report – November 2022

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on any item)**

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 9130). 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.

Please respect the following procedures:

1. Be recognized by the Board President.
2. State your full name and address.
3. Wait to be recognized before you make your comment
4. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)**

On a motion made by and seconded by the board entered into Executive Session at pm:

**WHEREAS**, while the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 et seq.) requires all meetings of the Somerdale Park School District, Board of Education to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine types of matters

that may lawfully be discussed in Executive Session,” i.e. without the public being permitted to attend; and **WHEREAS**, the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and **WHEREAS**, the nine exceptions to public meetings set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) are listed below, and next to each exception is a box within which the number of issues to be privately discussed that fall within that exception shall be written, and after each exception is a space where additional information that will disclose as much information about the decision as possible without undermining the purpose of the exception shall be written. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b):

- \_\_\_\_\_ Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual’s personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publically;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed in public;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

**WHEREAS**, the length of the Executive Session is undetermined; however, the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will make every attempt to estimate the time of the session prior to convening the session after which the public meeting shall reconvene at      pm and the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will proceed with business.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education will go into Executive Session for only the above stated reasons;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education attorney advises that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the school district or any other entity with respect to said discussion.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Somerdale Park Public School District, Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the board secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Secretary on the next business day following this meeting, shall furnish a copy of this resolution to any member of the public who requests one at the fees allowed by N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

**XII. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

On a motion made by and seconded by the board returned to public session at pm

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.