

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

301 Grace Street
Somerdale, NJ 08083

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

**January 19, 2023
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-Absent		Mary Jo Schoettle- Present
Kim Barkoff- Present	Taylor Klenk-Present	Kevin Smith- Present
Barbara Boyle- Present	Marc Ritz- Absent	Tara Voigt- Present

Also Present:

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

III. ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE TO JESSIE KLENK

IV. ROLL CALL

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

V. PRESENTATIONS:

A Presentation by Mr. Mark Pease, Superintendent to recognize Mrs. Sharon Gorman as the Somerdale School District's Teacher of the Year.

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

VI. 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.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the regular minutes of the December 8, 2022 BOE Meeting and re-organization minutes of the January 5, 2023 BOE Meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 2

VIII. REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

January 2022-2023 Superintendent Report

School Update

Introduction of Officer James Gillispie our new School Resource Officer.

DARE graduation was held today. Corporal Keister did an excellent job over the last 10 weeks educating our 5th graders on making healthy and safe choices. Thank you to Mayor Passanante, Chief Walsh, Sergeant Usher, Officer Gillispie and the other officers for attending. Officer Gillispie will take over for Corporal Keister and will be teaching the LEAD (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) program to our students.

Our Community Service Club has been very active with their service projects. On December 29th the Community Service Club teamed up with students from the band and choir to share some cheer at a local assisted living center.

To honor Martin Luther King Day, the Community Service Club teamed up with the Councilman Sefchick for a day of service on Dr. King's holiday. They made 200 lunch bags for those in need of a free meal. Special shout out to the Scott family, for helping to organize this activity.

Our Winter sports teams are playing hard. Good luck to our boys' and girls' basketball teams as they finish the rest of the season.

Our E Gaming Club has been meeting and prepping for competition. They will be taking a field trip to Camden County College to visit their EGaming School and arena.

Teacher of the Year Sharon Gorman Presentation

Students of the Month Presentations

B. Business Administrator's Report

IX. BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

- a. Appointing _____ as representative to Camden County Education Services Commission.
- b. Appointing _____ as Alternate Representative to the Camden County Educational Services Commission.
- c. Appointing _____ as Delegate to New Jersey School Boards Association.
- d. Appointing _____ as Alternate Delegate of New Jersey School Boards Association.

- e. Appointing _____ as Legislative Chairperson of New Jersey School Boards Association.
- f. Appointing _____ as representative to Camden County School Boards Association.
- g. Appointing _____, as Chairperson, _____ as Alternate Chairperson, and _____ as Member of Business Affairs Committee.
- h. Appointing _____, as Chairperson, _____ as Alternate Chairperson, and _____ as Member of Instructional Committee.
- i. Appointing _____, as Chairperson, _____ as Alternate Chairperson, and _____ as Member of Policy/Community Affairs Committee.
- j. Appointing _____, as Chairperson, _____ as Alternate Chairperson, and _____ as Member of Negotiations Committee.

X. 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 Ms. Schoettle and seconded by Ms. T. Klenk the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 1-7:

1. Financial Reports:

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

The Board Secretary’s Report is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the months of November and December 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 months of November and December 2022. The Treasurer’s Report and Secretary’s report are in agreement for the months of November and December 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. December 2022 Payroll Bill List and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$564,967.12
- b. Bill List – November 2022 Board Share FICA and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$4,064.89
- c. Bill List – November 2022 State Aid Deductions and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$608.80
- d. Bill List – November 2022 State Share FICA and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$29,263.54
- e. Bill List – November 2022 Cafeteria and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$21,766.17
- f. Bill List – December 2022 State Share FICA and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$28,782.75
- g. Bill List – December 2022 Board Share FICA and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$12,996.64

- h. Bill List – December 2022 Cafeteria and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$16,547.47
- i. Bill List – December 2022 State Aid Deductions and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$608.80
- j. Bill List – January 2023 Bill list and corresponding Check Journal totaling \$682,261.30
- k. Bill List – Fund 60 December 2022 Disbursements and corresponding Check Journal totaling \$23,189.65

3. To approve the Transfers/Adjustments for the months of November and December 2022 (attachment #3).
4. To post approve Sterling High for Curriculum and Testing Shared Services Starting January 1, 2023 and pay services on a monthly basis, due the first of each month beginning February 1, 2023, which shall represent payment for services rendered the prior month. Payment shall be made in five installments of \$3,600.00 for a total of \$18,000.00.
5. To post approve a transportation jointure with Cherry Hill BOE for homeless transportation students, #4001090 Grade 5 and #4001091 Grade 8, from September 6, 2022 to June 21, 2023 for the sum of 182 days at the rate of \$331.21 per day to and from Clara Barton Elementary School and Beck Middle School in the total of \$60,000.00 for the year.
6. To approve William H. Thompson to attend the TECHSPO Convention in Atlantic City from January 25, 2023 through January 27, 2023 at no cost to the Board of Education.
7. To approve Shane Sammons to attend the TECHSPO Convention in Atlantic City from January 25, 2023 through January 27, 2023 at a cost of \$515.00 plus mileage reimbursement.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 2

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. Voight the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 1-6 for Use of Facilities as per Somerdale Board of Education Policy 7510:

1. To approve the Community Service Club to hold a Literacy Alive event from 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm, March 2, 2023, and to approve Jonathan Kruk, Master Story Teller to appear at event, fee to be paid from Community Service Funds.
2. To approve the Community Service Club to host a Senior Ice Cream Social from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm on June 1, 2023.
3. To post approve “The Snake Man” demonstration held on January 10, 2023 during the After Care Program in the amount of \$385.00 to be paid from the After Care Account.
4. To approve Student Council to hold a 6th – 8th Grade Valentine Dance Fundraiser on February 24, 2023 from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.
5. To approve Piskai Orthodontics to hold a Dental Assembly for Pre-K through 5th Grades on March 3, 2023 at no cost to district.
6. To approve Center for Family Services to visit 8th Grade Classrooms for Resiliency Coaching on January 20, 2023 and February 3, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 2

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 Ms. Voight the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following items 1a – 1d:

1. The following field trips:
 - a. To approve E-Gaming Club to visit Camden County College on February 2, 2023 to learn about E-Gaming courses the college offers. Cost to student \$5.00 for transportation.
 - b. To approve 3rd Grade Students to visit Lego Land, Plymouth Meeting, PA, on June 2, 2023 at a cost of \$15.00 per student plus \$5.00 transportation fee.
 - c. To approve 8th Grade Students to visit Pocono Valley Resort, Reeders, PA, on June 5, 2023. Fee per student to be paid from Student Activity Funds.
 - d. To approve 8th Grade Students to visit Stratford Swim Club, Stratford, NJ, on June 2, 2023. Fee per student to be paid from Student Activity Funds.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 2

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 Ms. Voight 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 the corrected FMLA/NJFLA leave for Nikki Marroletti, start date of September 12, 2022 through November 15, 2022 with sick days being utilized through November 15, 2022. Unpaid leave of absence will start November 16, 2022 through January 31, 2023, with a return date of February 1, 2023.
2. To approve Shana Cullen, Caring Counselors, to observe a Kindergarten Student (#1013924828) during the 2022-2023 school year.
3. To post approve Jana Barbara as Art Show Curator Club’s Advisor for the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay to be paid from Title IV Funds.
4. To accept the resignation of Sandra Robinson, LDTC, effective June 30, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 2

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 is to meet and develop a framework for moving a referendum forward and to address project and budgetary issues.

Report by Bond Committee Chair

XI. REPORTS:

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. T. Klenk 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. December 15, 2022 (attachment #1)
 - b. December 19, 2022 (attachment #2)

ALL IN FAVOR: YES 7 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 2

XII. OTHER REPORTS:

- a.) Student Attendance

Enrollment December 2022

Preschool	31
Kindergarten	56
1st Grade	33
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	
Total December 2022	450

- b.) Security/Fire Drill Reports

FIRE DRILL:

DATE: 12/9/22

Alarm Sounded: 10:16 am
Building Cleared: 10:18 am
Returned to Building: 10:23 am
Alarm Station Used: Gym
All Staff in attendance participated in drill
Number evacuated: Students present: 418
Staff Present: 81
Special conditions simulated: none at this time
Problems encountered: none at this time
Weather: 39 degrees

LOCK OUT DRILL #1

DATE: 12/21/22

Alarm Sounded: 2:21 pm
All Staff in attendance participated in drill (86 staff members)
Problems encountered: None

- c.) Health Reports – November 2022, December 2022

XIII. 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.

XIV. 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.

XV. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

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

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Voight and seconded by Mr. Smith the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm