

SOMERDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

301 Grace Street
Somerdale, NJ 08083

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

February 9, 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-Present	Jessie Klenk-Present	Mary Jo Schoettle-Present
Kim Barkoff -Present	Taylor Klenk-Present	Kevin Smith-Present
Barbara Boyle-Present	Marc Ritz-Present	Tara Voigt-Present

Also Present:

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

III. PRESENTATIONS:

A Presentation by Student Council Representatives Gabby Yespes and Jalynn Scott regarding recent club activities.

A Presentation by Mr. Mark Pease, Superintendent to recognize the January 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. Smith and seconded by Mr. Ritz the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the regular minutes of the January 19, 2023 BOE Meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR: YES 9 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

VI. REPORTS

A. Superintendent’s Report: **February 2022-2023 Superintendent Report**

**Happy Black History Month
School Update**

We are following up with the NaloxBox/Narcan/Opioid Response Initiative. Thank you for participating in this program. We look forward to arming as many people in the County who can reduce the possibility of overdose wherever they occur.

The procedure was outlined. However, in short:

- NaloxBoxes (1) and naloxone (4 kits) have been distributed by the Chiefs of Police in your municipality
- Trainings will be provided by the County’s subcontracted alcohol and drug treatment providers (Maryville, Inc., Women of Hope Resource Center, and My Father’s House).
- The trainings began after Thanksgiving and are ongoing. These trainings are designed for anyone, however, the Narcan and NaloxBoxes are going to the school.
- Replacements for Narcan used or expired will be provided through your Chief of Police.

Mrs. Schwartz will be facilitating small counseling groups for female identifying students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Each group will meet one time per week for six weeks. During these small group sessions that will take place during the school day, students will learn about self-esteem, empathy, effective communication, navigating conflict, and how to co-exist outside of the small group setting. In addition to these small sessions, there will be two evening sessions where all three grade levels will work together with the Somerdale Human Relations Commission to make Chemo Snack Bags for patients receiving chemo therapy. After their work with the HRC, the girls will enjoy a movie and snacks together.

B. Business Administrator’s Report

VII. BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

- a. Appointing Taylor Klenk as representative to Camden County Education Services Commission.
- b. Appointing Mary Jo Schoettle as Alternate Representative to the Camden County Educational Services Commission.
- c. Appointing Barbara Boyle as Delegate to New Jersey School Boards Association.
- d. Appointing James Anderson as Alternate Delegate of New Jersey School Boards Association.
- e. Appointing Tara Voigt as Legislative Chairperson of New Jersey School Boards Association.
- f. Appointing Kevin Smith as representative to Camden County School Boards Association.
- g. Appointing Mary Jo Schoettle, as Chairperson, James Anderson, as Alternate Chairperson, Tara Voigt and Kimberly Barkoff as Members of Business Affairs Committee.
- h. Appointing Taylor Klenk, as Chairperson, Kevin Smith, as Alternate Chairperson, Mary Jo Schoettle and Barbara Boyle as Members of Instructional Committee.

- i. Appointing Tara Voigt, as Chairperson, Marc Ritz, as Alternate Chairperson, Jessie Klenk and Kevin Smith as Members of Policy/Community Affairs Committee.
- j. Appointing _____, as Chairperson, _____ as Alternate Chairperson, and _____ as Member of Negotiations Committee.
- k. Appointing _____, as Chairperson, _____ as Alternate Chairperson, and _____ as Member Bond Ad Hoc Committee.

VIII. 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 Mrs. Voight and seconded by Mr. Smith the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the business administrator approve the following items 1-11:

1. Financial Reports:

To approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports for January 2023 (attachment #1).

The Board Secretary’s Report is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of January 2023. 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 January 2023. The Treasurer’s Report and Secretary’s report are in agreement for the month of January 2023.

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. Bill List – Petty Cash Account and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$179.61
- b. Bill List – February 2023 Bill list and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$444,738.14
- c. Bill List- January 2023 State Share FICA and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$28,002.47
- d. Bill List- January Café bill list and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$23,189.65
- e. Bill List- January Board Share FICA and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$3,661.42
- f. Bill List- January Staid Aid Deduction and corresponding Check Journal totaling: \$608.79

3. To approve the Transfers/Adjustments for the month of January 2023 (attachment #3).

4. To approve the Shared Service Agreement between the Somerdale School District and the Borough of Somerdale for development and management of a Firewall from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. (attachment #4)

5. To approve the custodial contract with the Borough of Somerdale at a cost of \$443,958.74, to be paid in four equal installments, for the 2023-2024 school year whereas the Borough of Somerdale shall provide (attachment #5):
 - (1) Full Time Day Custodian Supervisor (2080 Hours/year)
 - (1) Full Time Day Maintenance (2080 Hours/year)
 - (1) Full Time Day Custodian (2080 Hours/year)
 - (1) Custodian Part Time (1662 Hours/year)
 - (1) Full Time Night Custodian (2080 Hours/year)
 - (3) Part Time Night Custodians (1560 Hours each/year)
 - (1) Part Time Night Custodians (780 Hours each/year)
 - (1) Part Time Custodian (vacation/sick coverage) (300 Hours/year)
6. To approve the following staff to be part of the Google Educator Program at a cost of \$225.00 per participant, Michelle Pringle, Jenna Vanderzee, Mary Rose Reeder, Cristin Butler, and Dominic Travarelli.
7. To approve Officer Gillespe to attend the Safe Schools Resource Officer/Liaison Training at Monmouth County Police Academy on April 3, 2023- April 7, 2023 at a cost of \$450.00.
8. To approve Michael Phillips to attend IXL Live Workshop on April 4, 2023 at the Sheraton in Atlantic City, NJ. At the cost of \$95.00.
9. To approve the Tuition Contract Agreement for student SID#1185663026 to attend GCSSSD at a cost of \$43,830.00 to be prorated from January 12, 2023 through June 30,2023. In addition, approve an out of county fee of \$3240.00 to be prorated from January 12, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
10. To approve CCESSC to provide transportation for student SID#1185663026 to attend GCSSSD at a cost of \$499.00 per Diem and \$99.00 for the shared aid.
11. To approve Cindy Reid to attend a Live Online Event for Special Educators: Accelerate Progress for Students with IEPs by Making the Best Use of Differentiation, Accommodations, and Modifications, on April 18, 2023. The cost of \$279.00 will be paid by Title 2 Funds.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 9 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

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. T. Klenk the following was approved:

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

1. To approve the date change for the Student Council 6th – 8th Grade Valentine Dance Fundraiser from February 24, 2023 to March 10, 2023 from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES 9 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

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 Mrs. Voight the following was approved:

Recommend that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following items 1-2:

1. To approve the Somerdale School Calendar for 2023-2024 school year. (attachment #1)
2. To approve the Illusion Maker Assembly “Which I It?” An Environmental Program, on March 22, 2023. Cost of assembly to be paid by the Borough of Somerdale.
3. The following field trips:
 - a. To approve the Art/Curator Club to visit the Philadelphia Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA, on May 5, 2023. Cost per student to be determined at a later date, plus \$5.00 transportation fee.
 - b. To approve Lauren DiLullo’s class to visit the Adventure Aquarium, Camden, NJ, on May 17, 2023. Cost per student \$16.00 plus \$5.00 transportation fee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES_9_ NO__0_ ABSTAIN__0_ ABSENT__0__

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 1-6:

1. To post approve the salary increase for the following After Care Staff: Kellyn Lowden, Program Manager, at \$30.00 per hour, Madisyn Beckley, Melinda Flynn and Luis Roman, After Care Aides at \$17.00 per hour for the 2022-2023 school year. The After Care Program continues to be fully funded by the proceeds generated by student participation and does not have an impact on the General Fund.
2. To approve FMLA/NJFLA leave for Lauren Loser, start date of April 24, 2023 through October 3, 2023, to use 60 sick days concurrent with FMLA through October 3, 2023.
3. To approve Lauren Loser leave of absence starting from October 4, 2023 through December 15, 2023, utilizing sick days through December 15, 2023 with an expected return date of December 18, 2023.
4. To approve corrected salary for Angela Lindner, Social Worker, at a pro-rated salary of \$58,343.00 for the 2022-2023 school year.
5. To approve Lali Binder, LPC, from Advanced Behavioral Health Services, to observe a special education student during the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. Observation to be overseen by Director of Special Education.
6. To approve FMLA leave for Jenna Vanderzee, paid leave starting date of February 13, 2023 through February 20, 2023 with 4 sick days/2 personal to run concurrent with FMLA through February 20, 2023. Unpaid leave of absence will start February 21, 2023 through March 31, 2023, employee required to pay their contribution of health benefits.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES__9_ NO_0_ ABSTAIN__0_ ABSENT__0__

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

IX. 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. January 5, 2023 (attachment #1)
 - b. January 10, 2023 (attachment #2)
 - c. January 25, 2023 (attachment #3)

ALL IN FAVOR: YES__9_ NO__0_ ABSTAIN__0_ ABSENT__0__

X. OTHER REPORTS:

Mr. Pease will speak about the School Safety Data System Report (Item c)

a.) Student Attendance

Enrollment January 2023	
Preschool	30
Kindergarten	57
1st Grade	34
2nd Grade	48
3rd Grade	32
4th Grade	45
5th Grade	33
6th Grade	48
7th Grade	55
8th Grade	62
Out of District	6
Charter Students	1
Home Instruction	
Homeless -Tuition	
Total January 2023	451

b.) Security/Fire Drill Reports

FIRE DRILL:

DATE: 1/31/23

Alarm Sounded: 8:42 am
 Building Cleared: 8:45 am
 Returned to Building: 8:47 am
 Alarm Station Used: Front Office Hallway
 All Staff in attendance participated in drill
 Number evacuated: Students present: 411
 Staff Present: 90
 Special conditions simulated: none at this time
 Problems encountered: no bells in main hallway
 Weather: 40 degrees and light drizzle

LOCK DOWN DRILL #4

DATE: 1/30/23

Alarm Sounded: 9:38am
All Staff in attendance participated in drill (86 staff members)
Problems encountered: None

- c.) Student Safety Data System Report Period 9/1/2022 – 12/31/22 (attachment #4 and #5)
- d.) Health Reports-January 2023
- e.) Nutri-Serve Monthly Report - January

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on any item)

Audience Recognition and Public Comment: Mrs. Nancy Staines spoke in regards about the usage of the Somerdale Borough Softball Association using the Ward Field.

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.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the board entered into Executive Session at 6:58pm:

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;
- X 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.

XIII. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

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

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Anderson the meeting was adjourned at pm7:23pm.