

BOE Meeting Template

Monday, January 25, 2010 7:00 PM

Mabelle Avery Middle School District Offices Board Room, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2
4. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS
 1. School Wellness Committee Report
Carol Meagher, Head Nurse, will be in attendance to update the board on School Wellness and answer any questions board members may have.
 2. Lunch Program Report
Cathi Smith, Lunch Program Director, and Leslie Gengenbach, Assistant Lunch Program will be in attendance to update the board on the school lunch program and answer any questions.
5. CORRESPONDENCE
6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS
7. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Approval of Bills 8
 2. Requests for Child-Rearing Leaves 14
Angela Palermo, MBA Paraprofessional, is requesting a child-rearing leave through the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year following her maternity leave beginning in April, 2010. Kelly Fisher, Grade 1 teacher, is requesting a child-rearing leave for the 2011-2012 school year following her maternity leave which will begin approximately May 19, 2010.
8. NEW BUSINESS
9. OLD BUSINESS
10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
 1. Strategic Plan Update 16
The superintendent will present a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Strategic Plan Update. Building principals and directors will be in attendance to answer any specific questions board members may have.
 2. 2010-2011 Budget Review 33
The superintendent will give an overview of the 2010-2011 proposed budget. Budget materials have been issued to all board members previously. Feel free to ask any questions at this meeting.
11. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 1. Budget
 2. Curriculum
 3. Policy
 4. Salary & Negotiations
 5. Planning
 6. Other Committees
12. OTHER
13. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Negotiations/Legal Matters
14. ADJOURNMENT
15. 1/25/10 Minutes 44

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ninth District Road
Somers, CT 06071
www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – January 11, 2010

- Members Present:** D.Palmer, J.Formeister (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), R.Lees, T.Potrikus, A.Kirkpatrick, S.Bollinger (arrived at 7:03 p.m.), B.Devlin, J.Taylor (arrived at 7:09 p.m.), M.Marquardt
- Members Absent:**
- Administrators Present:** M.Suffredini, P.Collin, K.Pezza, B.Boutwell
- Staff Present:**
- Citizens Present:** J.Griger, C.Manning, J.Shlafstein
- Students Present:** M.Mitchell, L.Poitras, A.Bliss, R.Lees, J.Cardwell, M.Zachary, M.Davis, L.Percoski, A.Brink, G.Burke, S.Ryan, B.Stinson
- Student Representatives:** None in attendance
- Others:**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Palmer in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School-BOE Board Room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.1** December 7, 2009 Regular Meeting – It was MOVED (T.Potrikus) SECONDED (B.Devlin) to approve the December 7, 2009 Board of Education regular meeting minutes as presented.
PASSED 6-0

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

4.1 Curriculum Presentations – Math/World Language

K.Pezza, Director of Curriculum, presented an overview of the Math and World Language programs, addressing the current work being done in each area and the direction for each program.

In the area of Math, the district’s math teachers are currently revising the curriculum to better align with the state frameworks and the new K-5 math program.

A universal screening tool called CBAS is being piloted to identify specific areas of student weakness in grades 3-8. CBAS is currently being used three times a year at the middle school. The students take the test online and the teacher receives the results the same day. This internal feedback-screening tool allows teachers to see immediately where a student is struggling.

Grades 3-5 are in their second year of implementing the Addison-Wesley Scott Foresman math series. Grades K-2 are in their first year of implementing this program. New K-5 math textbooks have been purchased and ancillary materials will be purchased this year.

K-5 teachers are starting to infuse online formative assessment into their instruction using easyCMB.

When students move into sixth grade they all take a course in general math. In grade 7 some students study Pre-Algebra while others continue with more generalized math courses. In grade 8, students can take Pre-Algebra or a high school level Algebra 1 class.

Students at the high school have the opportunity to study Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, Probability and Statistics and Consumer Math. Courses are offered at both the college preparatory and honors level. Currently, there are also two AP math classes: AP Calculus and Probability and Statistics.

Students at all grade levels have opportunities to participate in math oriented clubs and activities.

Mrs. Pezza was asked what impact Race to the Top will have on the math curriculum. Mrs. Pezza responded that Race to the Top will change the graduation requirements for the Class of 2018 and the curriculum will need to align with the exit exam.

Mrs. Pezza further stated that by this time next year they will have a better idea on what the impact of Race to the Top will have on curriculum.

In the area of World Language, students in grades 1-12 have the opportunity to learn about world languages and cultures.

The World Language curriculum was approved last year and is in its first year of implementation.

Students start the study of Spanish in grade 1. Students in grades 1-5 learn basic greetings and vocabulary. They are also exposed to age appropriate Spanish and Hispanic culture. In grades 2 and 3, students integrate Spanish with social studies and science by participating in a paper butterfly exchange project with students in Mexico and collecting climate and weather data in South America and comparing it to Somers.

Students in grade 6 are introduced to French for the first time. Students learn basic French vocabulary and integrate social studies connections as they study the geography of the French speaking countries.

In grade 7, students take one semester of French and one semester of Spanish. Teachers use Xtranormal and web sites extensively at this level. In grade 8, students select the language they will study in high school.

The French and Spanish programs at the high school have five levels of study, moving from acquiring a basic understanding of the language to the study of literature and the development of speaking proficiency. Students who complete French 5 or Spanish 5 have the option of taking the French or Spanish AP exam.

Students in French 4 and 5 have had the opportunity to travel to Quebec and a trip to France is being planned for next year.

Last year, two students took Latin through Virtual High School and this year two students are taking American Sign Language at Asnuntuck Community College.

Students at the high school use Skype to communicate with teenagers in French and Spanish speaking countries. Students use several technology tools to supplement what they are learning.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence received by BOE members will be discussed in Executive Session.
- Chairman Palmer received a request from M.Mitchell at Somers Town Hall regarding appointing a BOE member to serve on the town's Special Projects Committee. This request will be discussed under Item #11.5 – Planning.
- A request from the Somers Recreation Commission regarding funding for custodial coverage when the MBA and SES gyms are used by the town recreation sports programs. This issue will be discussed under Item #12 – Other.
- A letter from the Commissioner of the State Department of Education regarding increasing the number of Choice students attending Somers schools next year. This request will be discussed under Item #10 – Administrative Reports.

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1** Approval of Bills 12/23/09 (\$11,941.26) and 1/11/10 (\$369,825.06)
It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (T.Potrikus) to approve the 12/23/09 Bills in the amount of \$11,941.26 and the 1/11/10 Bills in the amount of \$369,825.06 as presented.
PASSED 9-0

A line item monthly expenditures summary report will be presented to the Board at the second BOE meeting of each month.

- 7.2** Retirement Notification (T.McCarthy)
It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (T.Potrikus) to accept, with regret, the retirement notification received from T.McCarthy effective at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.
PASSED 9-0
- 7.3** Request for Child-Rearing Leave (C.Castro)
It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (T.Potrikus) to approve the Maternity Leave requested by C.Castro beginning May 17, 2010 until the end of the 2009-2010 school year and an unpaid Childrearing Leave requested for the 2010-2011 school year. PASSED 9-0
- 7.4** Request for Leave of Absence (B.Henderson)
It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (T.Potrikus) to approve the unpaid Leave of Absence request from B.Henderson due to medical reasons for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. PASSED 9-0
- 7.5** Request for Leave of Absence (M.Cole)
It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (T.Potrikus) to approve the unpaid leave of absence request from M.Cole from 12/17/09 to 1/15/10 for the purpose of adopting a child from China. PASSED 9-0

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Staffing Reconfiguration

It was MOVED (R.Lees) SECONDED (B.Devlin) to approve the reconfiguration of the current Occupational Therapist (OT) position by reassigning 12 hours for the current Occupational Therapist (OT) to a part-time Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) and increase by two hours/week assigned to the current part-time COTA. PASSED 9-0

These staffing changes will become effective on January 19, 2010. There will be no impact on services provided and the changes comply with all regulations. Changes will result in a savings of approximately \$220.00 per week.

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Approval of 2010-2011 School Calendar

Dr. Suffredini reported that the Administrative Council reviewed the 2010-2011 School Calendar again following the December BOE meeting and took under consideration the recommendations presented by the BOE. Following their review, the Administrative Council recommended that the calendar remain as originally presented.

Chairman Palmer and Dr. Suffredini reviewed the calendar and proposed to the Board that the calendar be modified by making September 3, 2010 a no school day and moving the last day of school to June 14, 2010.

It was MOVED (J.Taylor) SECONDED (J.Formeister) to modify the 2010-2011 School Calendar by changing September 3, 2010 to a no school day and moving the last day of school to June 14, 2010. PASSED 9-0

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

10.1 Enrollment 1/1/10

1651 students enrolled as of January 1, 2010.

Dr. Suffredini reported that although the overall numbers for the district have remained the same since the December 1, 2009 enrollment report, there have been changes due to students moving in and out of the district. Somers High School reported one administrative withdrawal. Special Education Outside Placements has increased by two students.

10.2 Race to the Top

Dr. Suffredini reported that he served on a Superintendent's Round Table with Congressman Courtney to discuss issues affecting public schools. What the impact of the new school reform "Race to the Top" (RTTT) legislation will have on Connecticut school districts was discussed by those in attendance.

The State of Connecticut intends to apply for this RTTT grant money and the Commissioner of Education is encouraging local educational agencies (LEAs) to sign a Memorandum of Understanding. Somers has signed this Memorandum which is nonbinding. This grant is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

T.Potrikus expressed concerns regarding participating in this program.

Dr. Suffredini will keep the Board informed as more information is received.

10.3 Choice Program

Dr. Suffredini reported that he received a letter from the Commissioner of Education requesting that Somers take an additional 17 Choice students for the 2010-2011 school year. Somers currently has 24 Choice students. Dr. Suffredini stated that he is reluctant to commit to increasing the Choice student enrollment at this time not knowing what the budget for 2010-2011 will be. Dr. Suffredini will respond to the Commissioner in March when the 2010-2011 proposed school budget is finalized.

Through the funding from a Choice Grant, an after school mentoring/tutoring program is being offered to Choice and Somers students at the middle and elementary schools. A late bus is provided for the Choice students.

Transportation for Choice students attending the high school who want to participate or attend after school activities is also being provided through this grant.

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Budget

A draft of the 2010-2011 Budget was presented for the Board's review. Dr. Suffredini stated that this is a level service budget that reflects an increase in contract obligations, health insurance and Special Education. Chairman Palmer asked Board members to spend some time reviewing the draft and direct their questions to Dr. Suffredini and B.Boutwell. B.Boutwell explained to the Board why there are decreases in the electricity, fuel and transportation accounts.

The budget will be revised based on the Board's input and presented at the January 25th BOE meeting for broader discussion. Adoption of the 2010-2011 Budget is scheduled for the February 8th BOE meeting.

T.Potrikus stated that he suggested to the Board of Finance that they move their meeting night back to their former Monday schedule so that he and Mr. Boutwell can attend the meetings.

11.2 Curriculum
No report.

11.3 Policy
A meeting date will be scheduled this evening.

11.4 Salary & Negotiations
A date will be scheduled to meet with the SESA.

11.5 Planning
T.Potrikus was reappointed to represent the BOE on the town's Special Projects Committee. M.Mitchell will be notified of Mr. Potrikus' reappointment.

11.6 Other Committees

12.0 OTHER

12.1 Somers Recreation Department's Request

Funding for the town's Recreation Department has been cut and the BOE was asked if they could help with the custodial charges for the use of the school facilities by the town's Recreation Commission. The BOE currently contributes \$4500.00 towards these expenses.

After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to keep things status quo but will stand by its \$4500.00 commitment. Chairman Palmer will inform the Recreation Department of the Board's decision.

12.2 District Web Page

A.Kirkpatrick suggested that Central Office and the Board of Education be separated on the new web page. Mrs. Kirkpatrick also requested that the Board's Policy Manual be put back on the web site. Dr. Suffredini will discuss these items with J.Morrow.

13.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (J.Taylor) to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 9:03 p.m. for the purpose of conducting the Superintendent's Evaluation/Negotiations and discussion of Legal Matters. PASSED 9-0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:55 p.m.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) and SECONDED (T.Potrikus) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Somers Board of Education at 10:56 p.m. PASSED 9-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary
Joan Jaquith, Recording Secretary

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Somers Board of Education General Budget Treasury Warrant

Report # 3908

Check Batch: 1211
 Check Header: (N / A)
 Check Numbers: (First) - (Last)
 Check Dates: (Earliest) - (Latest)
 Cash Account Number:
 Check Authorization Code: AP GB
 Minimum Check Amount: \$0.00
 Sorted By:
 Include Payable Information: No
 Include Payable Dist Information: No
 Include Authorization Information: Yes

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
---------	---------	------------	-------------	-------------	----------------------	-----------------

Approved by:  Date: 1/20/10

 William B. Boutwell, Director of Business Services

1211	752	01/25/2010	V58674	Administrator, Unemployment Compensation	0.00	2,130.00
	753	01/25/2010	V02185	Allston Supply Co. Inc.	0.00	1,400.60
	754	01/25/2010	V52847	American School for the Deaf	0.00	4,657.95
	755	01/25/2010	V00555	AT&T	0.00	1,080.86
	756	01/25/2010	V00884	Avery Septic Service	0.00	150.00
	757	01/25/2010	V51604	Awards & More	0.00	71.55
	758	01/25/2010	V52478	Bart Truck Equipment Co. Inc.	0.00	35.54
	759	01/25/2010	V00121	CABE	0.00	95.00
	760	01/25/2010	E00047	Campanelli, Anthony	0.00	54.00
	761	01/25/2010	V51728	CleanMachine Powerwash Inc.	0.00	237.50
	762	01/25/2010	V00204	CREC	0.00	21,732.88
	763	01/25/2010	V60177	David Birkenshaw Electric, Inc.	0.00	220.00
	764	01/25/2010	V60089	Dime Oil Company	0.00	33,059.02
	765	01/25/2010	E00096	Duffy, Margaret	0.00	166.16
	766	01/25/2010	V60032	Eastfield Glass Co., Inc.	0.00	83.00
	767	01/25/2010	V00605	Electrical Wholesalers	0.00	94.60
	768	01/25/2010	V00290	Town of Enfield	0.00	7,000.00
	769	01/25/2010	V54168	First Student, Inc	0.00	355,405.93
	770	01/25/2010	V60035	Google, Inc.	0.00	5.10
	771	01/25/2010	V60071	Hampden Engineering	0.00	35.00
	772	01/25/2010	V51232	Hartford Hospital	0.00	12,816.00

Somers Board of Education General Budget Treasury Warrant

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
	773	01/25/2010	V54063	HSABank	0.00	13.50
	774	01/25/2010	V52848	Intensive Education Academy, Inc.	0.00	5,950.26
	775	01/25/2010	V02206	John's Lock Shop	0.00	275.00
	776	01/25/2010	V02625	K & S Distributors	0.00	313.21
	777	01/25/2010	V60126	Learning House	0.00	450.00
	778	01/25/2010	V52107	Major Electric Supply	0.00	58.14
	779	01/25/2010	V54159	Vernon Printing Co, Inc.	0.00	223.95
	780	01/25/2010	V01911	Natchaug Hospital	0.00	4,590.00
	781	01/25/2010	V54115	Naviance	0.00	2,075.00
	782	01/25/2010	V60053	Premier Laboratory, Inc	0.00	64.00
	783	01/25/2010	V53356	ProCom Telecommunications Corp	0.00	320.00
	784	01/25/2010	V02834	R. Pettee Electric L.L.C.	0.00	805.00
	785	01/25/2010	V60175	Regional School District #7	0.00	50.00
	786	01/25/2010	V02610	Reliable Welding & Speed, LLC.	0.00	419.18
	787	01/25/2010	V51134	Richco Products, Inc.	0.00	479.34
	788	01/25/2010	E00288	Roberts, Steven	0.00	30.00
	789	01/25/2010	V60031	SNE Building Systems	0.00	816.00
	790	01/25/2010	V60158	Social Skill Builder, Inc	0.00	98.89
	791	01/25/2010	V02404	Somers Ace Hardware	0.00	234.85
	792	01/25/2010	V00886	Somers Lunch Program	0.00	10.50
	793	01/25/2010	V00548	Somers Sanitation Service, Inc.	0.00	45.00
	794	01/25/2010	V01591	Town of Somers	0.00	9,789.66
	795	01/25/2010	V60179	St. Francis Behavioral Health Group	0.00	200.00
	796	01/25/2010	V02758	St. Joseph College	0.00	4,700.00
	797	01/25/2010	V52913	Town of Stafford	0.00	3,804.57
	798	01/25/2010	E00325	Suzor, Ray	0.00	57.77
	799	01/25/2010	M02015	T. J. Conway Company	0.00	2,908.75
	800	01/25/2010	M54080	Tractor Supply Credit Plan	0.00	55.84
	801	01/25/2010	V01638	Tree House, The	0.00	145.50
	802	01/25/2010	V21164	Unum Life Insurance Company of America	0.00	3,829.57
	803	01/25/2010	V00766	Valley Communications Systems, Inc.	0.00	152.00
	804	01/25/2010	V00616	Vernon Public Schools	0.00	10,720.00
	805	01/25/2010	V53413	W. B. Mason	0.00	2,399.78
	806	01/25/2010	V52399	W.R. Robinson Lumber	0.00	519.51
	807	01/25/2010	V51162	Wilson Language Training Corp.	0.00	114.40
Totals:					0.00	\$497,249.86

**Somers Board of Education
General Budget Treasury Warrant**

Batch #	Check #	Check Date	Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Electronic Amount	Check Amount
---------	---------	------------	-------------	-------------	----------------------	-----------------

56 Checks Listed.

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 3903

Batch: 1204

Transaction: N/A

Show Summary Only: Yes

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
1204	\$497,249.86	Posted	lbergamini	01/19/2010	lbergamini	01/20/2010

General Ledger Distribution Summary

Period, Fiscal Year Account Number	Account Description	DTF Base	Over Budget	Debits	Credits
January, 2010					
Generated Distributions					
10-000-0-0-00-000-710-00-0-00000	ENCUMBRANCE CONTROL			494,342.50	0.00
10-000-0-0-00-000-720-00-0-00000	RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCE			0.00	494,342.50
	Total Generated Distributions			\$494,342.50	\$494,342.50
User-Entered Distributions					
10-000-0-0-00-000-241-00-0-00000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			180.54	0.00
10-000-0-0-00-000-241-00-0-00000	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			0.00	497,430.40
10-100-2-2-16-242-611-01-5-00722	K-5 - LANGUAGE ARTS SUPPLIES			114.40	0.00
10-100-2-3-12-242-611-01-5-00182	MA - TECHNOLOGY ED SUPPLIES			519.51	0.00
10-100-2-4-12-242-611-01-5-00183	HS - TECHNOLOGY ED SUPPLIES			489.78	0.00
10-100-2-4-28-242-611-01-5-00206	HS - SCIENCE SUPPLIES			57.77	0.00
10-100-2-4-46-242-611-01-5-00229	HS - SCHOOL TO CAREER SUPPLIES			166.16	0.00
10-100-2-5-14-241-611-01-5-00873	SW - GENERAL COMPUTER SUPPLIES			195.50	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-241-611-01-5-00160	SP ED - GENERAL SUPPLIES			23.89	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-242-611-01-5-00230	SES - ALP I SUPPLIES			75.00	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-955-330-02-5-01117	SP ED-INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS		Yes	200.00	0.00
10-120-9-9-98-955-330-02-5-01142	SPED - CONSULTANT FEES			450.00	0.00
10-212-2-4-46-242-611-02-5-00286	HS - GUIDANCE NAVIANCE			2,075.00	0.00
10-221-1-4-50-251-580-05-5-00267	HS - TRAVEL/IN-SERVICE			84.00	0.00
10-231-1-5-74-134-580-10-5-00046	B.O.E. - TRAVEL			95.00	0.00
10-231-1-5-74-134-690-10-5-00047	B.O.E. - SUPPLIES			10.50	0.00
10-240-6-4-66-830-440-04-5-01014	HS - COPIER SUPPLIES			2,399.78	0.00
10-259-1-2-40-123-590-04-5-00015	K-5 - FORMS & PRINTING			223.95	0.00
10-260-1-5-64-642-530-04-5-01217	SW - COMMUNICATION SUPPLIES			320.00	0.00
10-260-5-2-62-722-430-08-5-01141	K-5 BUILDING REPAIRS		Yes	2,850.00	0.00
10-260-5-2-64-642-530-04-5-00363	K-5 - TELEPHONE		Yes	286.65	0.00
10-260-5-3-64-642-530-04-5-00365	MA - TELEPHONE		Yes	121.73	0.00
10-260-5-4-64-642-530-04-5-00366	HS - TELEPHONE			354.18	0.00
10-260-5-5-64-642-530-04-5-00367	CO - TELEPHONE			318.30	0.00
10-260-5-6-62-650-613-05-5-00377	SW - CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES			1,879.94	0.00
10-260-5-6-62-722-430-01-5-01077	SW - COMPUTER MAINTENANCE			152.00	0.00

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 3903

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
1204	\$497,249.86	Posted	lbergamini	01/19/2010	lbergamini	01/20/2010
		K-5 - SEPTIC TANK		Yes	100.00	0.00
		MA - BUILDING MAINTENANCE			436.00	0.00
		HS - SEPTIC TANK		Yes	50.00	0.00
		HS - BUILDING MAINTENANCE		Yes	1,856.75	0.00
		SW - EQUIPMENT REPAIR			404.59	0.00
		SW - RUBBISH REMOVAL			45.00	0.00
		SW - GENERAL REPAIR			164.25	0.00
		SW - FIRE/VANDALISM		Yes	237.50	0.00
		SW - ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES		Yes	152.74	0.00
		K-5 - FUEL #2			13,642.26	0.00
		HS - FUEL #2			18,943.23	0.00
		MAINTENANCE - FUEL #2		Yes	473.53	0.00
		SW - MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS			64.00	0.00
		SW - SOFTWARE MAINT CONTRACTS			5.10	0.00
		TRANSPORTATION - ELEMENTARY			115,763.00	0.00
		TRANSPORTATION - SECONDARY			140,319.00	0.00
		BUS FUEL			9,270.70	0.00
		SP ED - TRANSPORTATION AIDE			4,609.20	0.00
		SP ED - VANS			94,714.73	0.00
		SP ED - ADDITIONAL MILEAGE			3,804.57	0.00
		SW - GASOLINE SCHOOL VEHICLES			518.96	0.00
		L.T.D.		Yes	3,829.57	0.00
		UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE		Yes	2,130.00	0.00
		SW - HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT		Yes	13.50	0.00
		HS - ATHLETIC SUPPLIES			71.55	0.00
		VO-AG -TUITION		Yes	10,720.00	0.00
		ENFIELD ADULT EDUCATION			7,000.00	0.00
		SP ED - CREC HEARING PROGRAM			3,383.60	0.00
		SPEd - CREC RIVER STREET			18,349.28	0.00
		SP ED - GENGRAS			4,700.00	0.00
		SP ED - TUITION		Yes	28,194.75	0.00
		SP ED - TUITION		Yes	0.00	180.54
		Total User-Entered Distributions			<u>\$497,610.94</u>	<u>\$497,610.94</u>
		Total for January, 2010			<u>\$991,953.44</u>	<u>\$991,953.44</u>
		Grand Total for Batch # 1204			<u><u>\$991,953.44</u></u>	<u><u>\$991,953.44</u></u>

Somers Board of Education General Journal Register

Report # 3903

Batch #	Control Total	Status	Created By	Created On	Last Updated By	Last Updated On
1204	\$497,249.86	Posted	lbergamini	01/19/2010	lbergamini	01/20/2010

174 Transactions Listed.

Jan 7, 2010

Dear Dr. Suffredini,

This letter has been written to express my intentions for an upcoming maternity leave. I plan to begin my maternity leave on or around May 19, 2010. I am requesting a child-rearing leave of absence following my maternity leave for the 2010-2011 school year and plan on returning to work for the 2011-2012 school year. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these requests and dates.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly M Fisher".

Kelly Fisher
Grade 1 SES

*Angela M Palermo
147 Maple Street
Somerville, CT 06072
(860) 966-5309*

Dear Board of Education Members and Dr. Suffredini,

This letter is to request six weeks maternity (FML) leave upon the birth of my child, whose due date is April 19, 2010. Furthermore, I would like to request unpaid childrearing leave for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela M Palermo". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

*Angela M Palermo
Special Education Paraprofessional
MBA Middle School*

SOMERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

January 2010

Goal #1:

Link state and local curriculum standards, student assessments and instruction so that students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to succeed.

Curriculum: 70% Complete

The review of the curriculum documents continues to ensure for alignment with the new state guidelines. This has been an ever-changing process as the CSDE redesigns their curriculum documents.

Math: The new elementary Math program is fully in place.

Science: The high school electives are completing the alignment process with state standards and matrices. The K-8 program is implementing Understanding by Design (UbD) units to coordinate with state standards. The UbD units will ensure that what is taught will have a clear and specific manner of assessment to evaluate student success accurately.

English/Language Arts: UbD units are being developed in all curricula areas. In addition, the new state revised grade level expectation documents and pacing guides are being aligned with district documents.

Social Studies: The state has once again redesigned the K-12 Social Studies curriculum. Alignment with the new standards and curricula guides is being developed. There will be a significant change overall to the Social Studies Curriculum once this is complete.

Art/Music/Business Education/Health/Food Services: Each area is aligning the standards with the new state the curriculum standards.

Technology Education/World Language/Physical Ed.: Each area is initiating the writing of UbD units.

Instruction: 60% Complete

Two major initiatives are being addressed this year to impact student performance. They are: Differentiated Instruction (DI) and Scientific Research Based Intervention (SRBI).

Differentiated Instruction (DI): Teachers are developing DI units at each level of student performance as recommended in the state curriculum guidelines and with the new Common Core of Teaching.

Scientific Based Research Intervention (SRBI): New federal and state guidelines are being implemented to address the needs of lower performing students and students with disabilities. A district ad-hoc committee has been formed to oversee the development process.

Assessment: 60% Complete

A variety of assessment models are being used which are directly linked to state assessment tests. These assessment tools measure student performance on state test items and provide quick results on student performance for all test items.

Connecticut Benchmark Assessment System (CBAS):

The tests are administered for Grades 3-8 in reading and math. Testing takes place in the fall and winter and are linked directly with the state frameworks and pacing guides. Screening of students occurs to ensure for support and remedial work for those students in need.

EasyCBM.com: This is an on-line service for our staff in Grades K-8 who are being trained to assess literacy and math skills and to chart individual student progress.

Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy (DIBELs):

Teachers in Grades K-5 are receiving training in this approach to assess student performance in literacy skills. It provides quick assessment for teachers to measure student performance in a multitude of literacy areas.

Professional Development: 70% Complete

Our professional development program has focused upon teacher training and skill development in the areas of student assessment and improving student performance.

Differentiated Instruction: Training continues with our staff in this area to support the state initiatives in SRBI and the new Common Core of Teaching.

Scientific Based Research Instruction (SRBI): This state initiative, formerly Response to Intervention (RtI), focuses upon progress monitoring for students, particularly individuals who may need academic support.

Literacy Training: Elementary staff have additional professional development opportunities in literacy instruction with a special emphasis on monitoring student progress using a variety of assessment tools and models.

Power School Training: Training continues with our staff to improve upon the full utilization of our student information system to expand communications with parents and students.

Goal #2:

Integrate technology throughout the district and expand the use of technology in the classroom to sustain a 21st Century learning environment.

Logistics: 80% Complete

The integration of technology continues across the district.

Technology proficiency standards for all students developed by the CSDE have been disseminated to all staff.

Upgrades to System: The technology lab at SHS had an upgrade last summer with new equipment. The new equipment provides for more extensive learning capabilities in all courses taught in this facility.

SEF: Through grant applications by staff and supported by the SEF, there has been an increase of equipment in some classrooms at all levels. As a result of these efforts, our staff have increased their use with web-based software for instructional use and curriculum development.

Understanding by Design (UbD): Specifically in English/ Language Arts, World Language, Tech Ed and Physical Ed, units are being developed to link the Information & Technology Literacy Standards by grade level and/or course.

Parent Portal: The system has been expanded to include grades 4-12 this year. Monthly access data is collected to assess parent use. All data shows significant use by parents and increase use continues.

PARENT PORTAL ACCESS:

	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	
<u>SES</u>					
Total logins	701	754	751	464	
% Accessed		20.3	18.4	15.6	12.8
Avg. logins/day		21.9	22.6	25	15
Avg. length	18.5	19.4	19.5	20.4	
% reports	10.6	11.3	12	12.2	

<u>MBA</u>					
Total logins	3242	3635	3274	2579	
% Accessed		81.2	79	73.9	71.2
Avg. logins/day		101.3	110.2	109.1	83.2
Avg. length	18.2	20	19.6	19.9	
% reports	40.1	43.6	44.9	47.5	

<u>SHS</u>					
Total logins	5179	7868	8689	7242	
% Accessed		78.1	79.7	80.9	77.3
Avg. logins/day		161.8	238.4	289.6	233.6
Avg. length	19.8	21.1	20.6	20.4	
% reports	28.4	31.7	32.4	32.5	

Professional Development: 90% Complete

Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2):

This grant written by Mr. Morrow is federally funded and provides staff with professional development opportunities to expand their 21st Century skills for instruction.

Library/Media Centers: The new electronic cataloging system training has been part of our Professional Development program this year.

Technology In-Service Wiki: An on-line self pace professional development program for teachers to help expand upon skills and knowledge to improve teaching and learning.

Other: A variety of mini work shops and Professional Development opportunities are available for the staff on blogging, wiki's, Garage Band and Xtranormal programs to name a few. These and other experiences provide the staff with on-going training in technology in our attempt to increase the use of technology across the district.

In the area of SPED, our SPED personnel received training on IEP Direct/Connecticut. This is a web-based program that allows for drafting IEP's, sharing of student data and generating accountability reports for data-driven decisions.

Goal #3:

***Maintaining school facilities and grounds
to provide a safe, healthy environment
conducive to learning.***

Facilities Work Schedule

SES

Carpet Replacement (2009-2010)	Completed
Power Conditioner Replacement	Completed

MBA

Sign Repair/Vandalism	Completed
Board Room Sound System	In Process

SHS

Boiler Room-Repipe Heat Exchanger	Completed
Air Handler-Tech Room	Out to bid
Student Parking Lot Repair	Partial Completion
Roof Repairs	In Process
Tech Room Computer Lab	Completed
Sign Repair/Vandalism	Completed

Somers Public Schools

Board of Education
Proposed Budget
2010-2011



Somers Board of Education

David Palmer, Chairman

Joan Formeister, Vice Chairman

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary

Sarah Moynihan Bollinger

Bruce Devlin

Anne Kirkpatrick

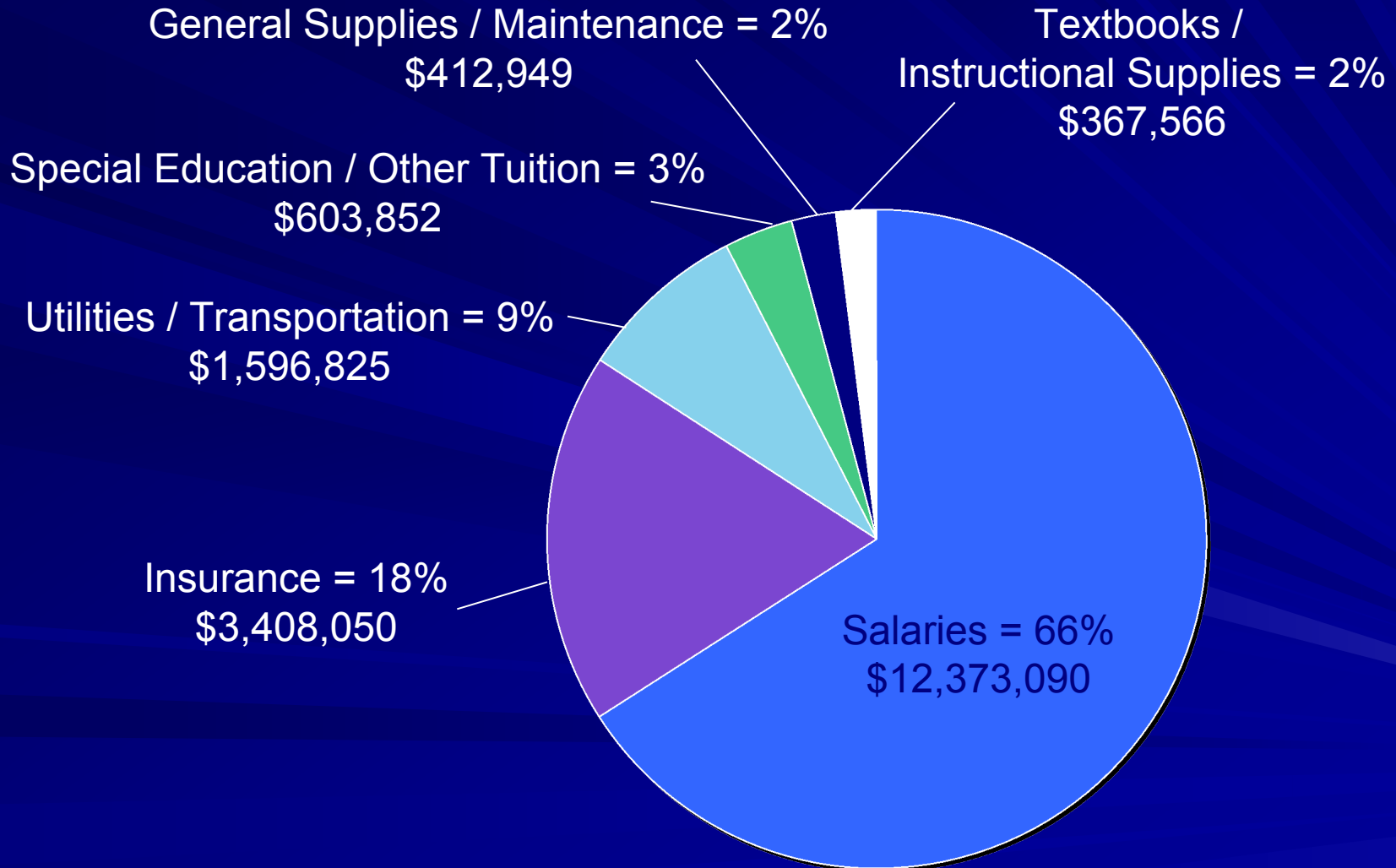
Marybeth Marquardt

Tim Potrikus

John Taylor

Dr. Maynard M. Suffredini, Jr., Superintendent of Schools

2009-10 Budget



ELECTRICITY COSTS



FUEL COSTS



Level Service Budget

2009-10 Budget

\$18,762,332

Level Service Budget: Increases

Salaries	\$425,995
Insurance (8%)	\$212,135
Special Education / Other Tuition	\$0
General Supplies / Maintenance	\$12,300

Level Service Budget: Reductions

Utilities / Transportation	-\$50,130
Travel/In-Service/Services	-\$8,000

Level Service Budget

2009-10 Budget

\$18,762,332

Level Service Budget: Increases

Salaries	\$425,995
Insurance (8%)	\$212,135
Special Education / Other Tuition	\$0
General Supplies / Maintenance	\$12,300

Level Service Budget: Reductions

Utilities / Transportation	-\$50,130
Travel/In-Service/Services	-\$8,000

Net Increase = 3.16% \$592,300

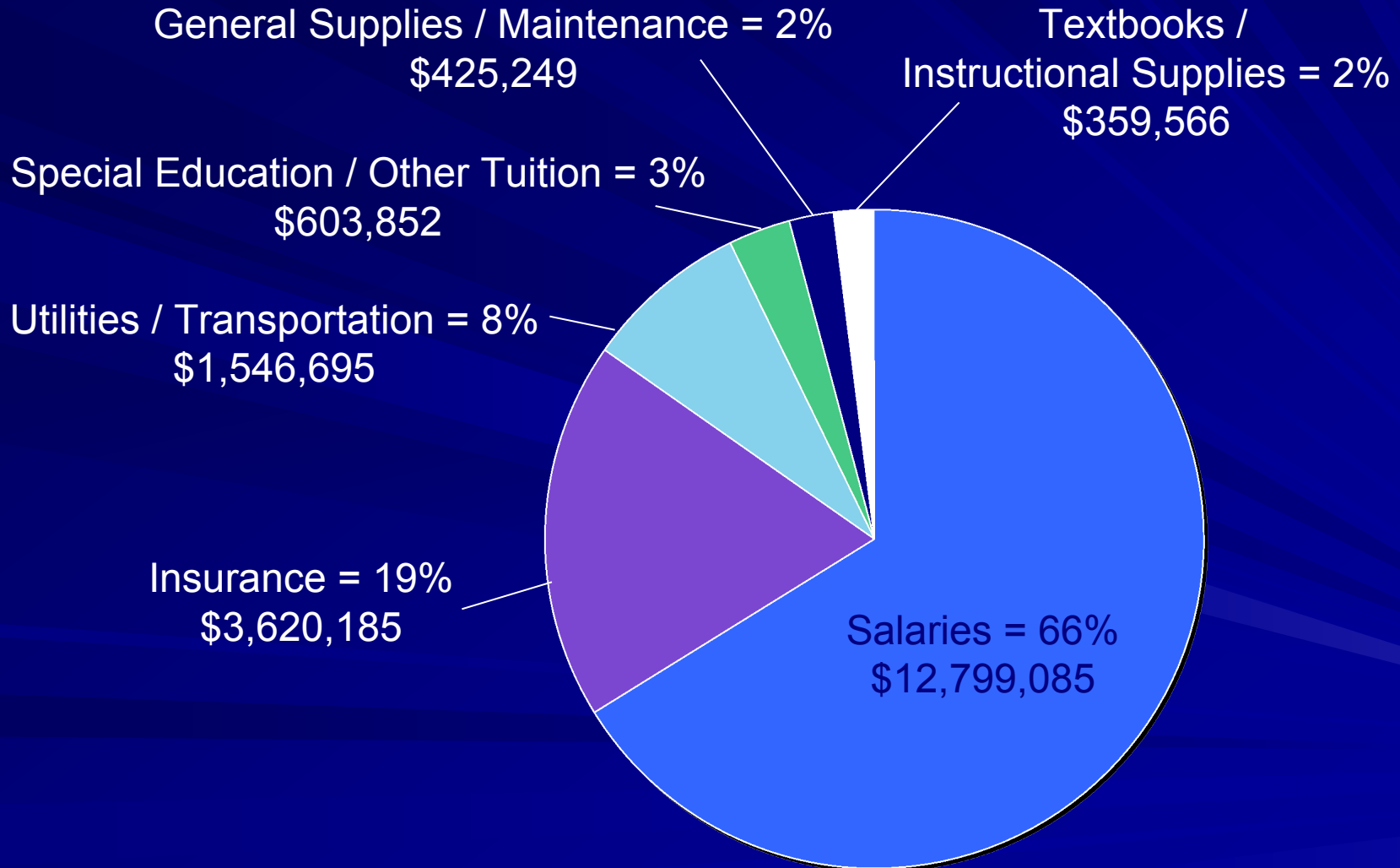
2010-11 Level Service Budget

\$19,354,632

Summary

Total 2010-2011 LRP/Planning (.86%)	\$ 161,100
2010-2011 Level Service Increase (3.16%)	<u>\$ 592,300</u>
2010-2011 Overall Budget Increase	\$ 753,400
2009-2010 Budget	\$18,762,332
2010-2011 Budget	\$19,515,732
2010-2011 Budget Increase	4.02%

2010-11 Proposed Budget



“Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.”

- John Fitzgerald Kennedy

If you have any specific questions
you may contact us:

Dr. Maynard M. Suffredini, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools
m.suffredini@somers.k12.ct.us

Mr. William Boutwell
Director of Business Services
b.boutwell@somers.k12.ct.us

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ninth District Road

Somers, CT 06071

www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – January 25, 2010

Members Present: D.Palmer, J.Formeister, A.Kirkpatrick, S.Bollinger, B.Devlin, M.Marquardt
Members Absent: R.Lees, T.Potrikus, J.Taylor
Administrators Present: M.Suffredini, P.Collin, K.Pezza, B.Boutwell, J.Oliver, R.Riola, G.Cotzin, S.Muirhead, N.Barry
Staff Present: C.Meagher, L.Gengenbach, C.Smith, J.MacFeat
Citizens Present: J.MacLeod, Dick & Deb Stone, E.Beebe, D.Nitch
Students Present: S.Cooley, C.Nitch, S.McCloud,
Student Representatives: None in attendance
Others:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Palmer in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School-BOE Board Room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 January 11, 2010 Regular Meeting – It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (J.Formeister) to approve the January 11, 2010 Board of Education regular meeting minutes as presented. PASSED 6-0

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

- Mr. and Mrs. Stone addressed the Board of Education regarding information they sent to Board members expressing their concerns in regards to the high school dance team and dance team advisor. Chairman Palmer cautioned the Stones about making comments about personnel in public participation. The Board members acknowledged receipt of previous correspondence sent to them by the Stones. Dr. Suffredini will address their concerns with administration and will get back to Mr. & Mrs. Stone within the next week.
- Dr. Collin reported that the annual preschool accreditation report has been sent to NAEYC and they are waiting to hear if the preschool accreditation will be maintained for next year.

4.1 School Wellness Committee Report

Carol Meagher, Head Nurse and Chairman of the Wellness Committee, updated the Board on the work being done by this committee. Last year the committee's focus was on nutrition and food allergies. This year the committee is looking at how physically active students are both during and after school. A student survey has been developed and the results will be used to determine if there is a need to offer more physical activities in the schools. Mrs. Meagher anticipates that the committee will be prepared to make recommendations in the spring.

4.2 Lunch Program Report

Cathi Smith, Lunch Program Director, and Leslie Gengenbach, Assistant Lunch Program Director, provided the Board with an update of the school lunch program. Mrs. Smith stated that although they are a privately funded and are not required to do so, they follow all the federal guidelines. The kitchen facilities are inspected yearly and have always passed with high marks. The program does provide free and reduced lunch to students who qualify; however, because the program is not federally funded, they do not receive reimbursement.

Mrs. Smith reported that they looked into joining the federal program a few years ago but the impact to the high school food service program outweighed the benefits. They plan to review the program again this year.

Breakfast is served at the high school. A.Kirkpatrick asked if there was anything available for after school snacks for students participating in after school activities. Currently, there is not but Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Gengenbach will see if there is any interest.

Peanut butter was removed from the schools last year due to the recall and has not been brought back this year.

Mrs. Smith reported that they participate in cooperative purchasing through EASTCONN and as a result, have changed some of their vendors and products. EASTCONN also sends daily notification of national product recalls.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Palmer reported the receipt of the following:

- Correspondence from Mr. & Mrs. Stone.
- An email from C.Manning.
- Information from C.A.B.E.
- A note from Tammy Bley-Gowash that was unfortunately received a day after the event.

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Approval of Bills 1/25/10 (\$497,249.86)

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (M.Marquardt) to approve the 1/25/10 Bills in the amount of \$497,249.86 as presented. PASSED 6-0

Mr. Boutwell emailed a line item monthly expenditures summary report to the Board for their review.

7.2 Requests for Child-Rearing Leaves (A.Palermo/Kelly Fisher)

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (M.Marquardt) to approve the unpaid childrearing leave request from A.Palermo as presented. PASSED 6-0

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (M.Marquardt) to approve the unpaid child-rearing leave request from Kelly Fisher as presented. PASSED 6-0

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Race to the Top

Dr. Suffredini reported that regarding the Memo of Understanding; nothing has changed relative to Somers being in the initial stages. Somers still has the option to opt out if the funding is not adequate to provide for what the district wants to accomplish. One hundred and twenty-two districts have signed the Memo of Understanding. Dr. Suffredini will keep the Board apprised as information is received.

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

10.1 Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Suffredini updated the Board on the status of the district's Strategic Plan. Building and Board goals are linked directly to the Strategic Plan.

Dr. Suffredini reviewed the progress made in each of the three Goals.

10.2 2010-2011 Budget Review

Dr. Suffredini explained that a level service budget is being prepared for the 2010-2011 school year.

The Board is scheduled to vote on the 2010-2011 Proposed Budget at the February 8th BOE meeting.

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Budget

Mr. Boutwell attended this evening's BOF meeting. Mr. Boutwell reported that the BOF would be going back to meeting on the fourth Monday of the month. Mr. Boutwell was asked and responded to questions from the BOF regarding the district's 2010-2011 budget.

11.2 Curriculum

A meeting will be scheduled for February.

11.3 Policy

The Policy Committee will meet January 28th.

11.4 Salary & Negotiations

A date will be scheduled to meet with the SESA.

11.5 Planning Committee

No report

11.6 Other Committees

12.0 OTHER

13.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) SECONDED (A.Kirkpatrick) to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:41 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations and legal matters. PASSED 6-0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:38 p.m.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED (B.Devlin) and SECONDED (A.Kirkpatrick) to adjourn the regular meeting of the Somers Board of Education at 9:39 p.m. PASSED 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary
Joan Jaquith, Recording Secretary

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.