

**DRAFT BOE Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, January 13, 2014 7:00 PM**

MABELLE B. AVERY MIDDLE SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING ROOM, 4 Vision  
Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. DRAFT BOE MEETING MINUTES 1-13-14

## **SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

1 Vision Boulevard

Somers, CT 06071

[www.somers.k12.ct.us](http://www.somers.k12.ct.us)

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING – January 13, 2014**

**Members Present:** R. Lees, Jr., A. Kirkpatrick, S. Moynihan Bollinger, D. Palmer, K. McLellan, B. Devlin, M. Marquardt tardy at 8:25 p.m.

**Members Absent:** M. Rockett, J. Formeister

**Administrators Present:** M. Suffredini, B. Boutwell, K. Pezza, D. Messina

**Staff Present:** L. Reilly, A. Phillips, S. Burns

**Citizens Present:** D. Stone

**Students Present:**

**Others:** J. Stenkiewicz (Journal Inquirer)

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Palmer in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

#### **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

December 9, 2013—It was **MOVED** (A. Kirkpatrick), **SECONDED** (S. Bollinger) to approve the December 9, 2013 Board of Education meeting minutes as presented, **PASSED 6-0**. Special meeting motion **MOVED** (B. Devlin), **SECONDED** (A. Kirkpatrick), **PASSED 6-0**.

#### **4.0 OLD BUSINESS**

Motion to move Old Business up in 1/13/14 agenda. Motion **MOVED** (B. Devlin), **SECONDED** (S. Bollinger). **PASSED 6-0**.

#### **4.1 Signing of the SEA/BOE 2014-2017 New Contract**

Mr. Phillips for the SEA along with Chairman Palmer signed the SEA/BOE 2014-2017 new contract.

#### **5.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS**

No citizens to address the Board.

Lisa Reilly addressed the Board in reference to the future calendar questioning whether the new testing schedule is changing. Testing is during the last two weeks of April and the first two weeks of May. She was worried about those students who struggle and need to become acclimated to the school schedule once back from April vacation.

#### **5.1 Curriculum Presentations on Math and World Language**

Kathleen Pezza, Director of Curriculum, gave a presentation on the Math and World Language curricula. She stated that the math teachers are rewriting the math curriculum. **SES: Piloting Envisions Math** due to textbooks not well aligned for the Common Core. **IPads** are used for **IXL**. 84% of students are practicing these skills. Each grade level has about 200 skills. **IXL** gives teachers access to review students' practice and enrichment materials not associated with the textbook. **IXL** automatically reports usage information to

the teachers including if the child is struggling with a topic. MBA: All sixth graders take a general math course, seventh graders study pre-Algebra or seventh grade math, and eighth graders may take pre-Algebra to Algebra while others take eighth grade math. 97% of students are using IXL. SHS: There are a variety of math classes that may change as the Common Core enters into the system. College prep and honors courses are offered. IXL usage is much lower at SHS at only 17% with the ninth and tenth graders using it the most. The plan is to work with the teachers to integrate IXL more. Please view public attachment.

World Language: There is a program in all three schools starting with first grade. SES has only Spanish with 55 minutes of instruction/week focusing on basic vocabulary. Projects begin in second grade. MBA focuses on French every other day in the sixth grade focusing on basic vocabulary. There is no Spanish in the sixth grade. Seventh grade is comprised of Spanish one semester and French the other semester. Students are able to officially choose a language in eighth grade. SHS has up to five levels of a language focusing on literary works and analysis at the fifth level. Applications, such as Skype, are utilized to speak with students from other countries. French 4 and 5 students visited Canada last year while the Spanish students visited Spain.

**6.0 CORRESPONDENCE**  
None

**6.1. 2013-2014 Educator Certification Compliance Report**  
Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, provided a letter from the SDE regarding Staff certification compliance.

**7.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS**  
None.

**8.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

**8.1. Approval of Bills**  
It was MOVED (R. Lees), SECONDED (B. Devlin), PASSED 6-0. Please see public attachment – BOE Warrant 01-13-14.

**9.0 NEW BUSINESS**

**9.1. 2014-2015 School Calendar**  
SEA has been notified about modifications to the 2014-2015 School Calendar draft. Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, recommended that the Board approve the 2014-2015 School Calendar as drafted. It was MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (D. Palmer). Motion made by D. Palmer to amend the motion to recognize April 20-24 as being the April recess. It was MOVED (A. Kirkpatrick), SECONDED (B. Devlin), PASSED 6-0.

**10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**10.1. 2014-2015 Budget Presentation**  
Please view public attachment. Dr. Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, presented the 2014-2015 budget with a proposed 1.78% increase for next year. Dr. Suffredini and David Palmer are to meet with the BOF on January 27th.

**11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

- 11.1. Budget – None.
- 11.2. Curriculum – None. No meeting scheduled.
- 11.3. Policy – Two policies will be presented for next meeting. Next scheduled meetings are 1/27/14, 2/10/14 and 2/24/14 at 6 p.m.
- 11.4. Salary & Negotiations – The Custodian and Nurses Unions have requested to open negotiations.
- 11.5. Planning Committee
- 11.6. Other Committees

**12.0 OTHER**

**12.1 EXECUTIVE SESSION – SCHOOL SECURITY UPDATE**

**Motion: To enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing School Security Strategies and updates to the current school security operations and that Dr. Maynard Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. William Boutwell, Director of Business and Mr. James MacFeat, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds be invited into Executive Session. It was MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (R. Lees) to go into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. PASSED 6-0. M. Marquardt arrived after the vote.**

**12.2 EXECUTIVE SESSION – SUPERINTENDENT’S MID-YEAR EVALUATION**

**Review of Superintendent’s Mid-Year Evaluation.**

**Motion: To move into Executive Session for the Superintendent’s Mid-Year Evaluation and invite Dr. Maynard Suffredini, Superintendent of Schools, into Executive Session as well. It was MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (R. Lees) to go into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. PASSED 6-0. M. Marquardt arrived after the vote.**

**The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:26 p.m.**

**13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**It was MOVED (B. Devlin), SECONDED (R. Lees) to adjourn at 9:27 p.m. PASSED 7-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lees, Jr., Secretary  
Shannin Burns, Recording Secretary

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