

DRAFT BOE Minutes 11/14/16
Monday, November 14, 2016 6:00 PM
Draft of Minutes 11/14/16, 4 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. Draft of 11/14/16 BOE Minutes
Draft of Minutes from BOE 11/14/2016

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Vision Boulevard
Somers, CT 06071
www.somers.k12.ct.us

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – NOVEMBER 14, 2016

Members Present: B. Devlin, D. Palmer (arrived at 7:10 p.m.), R. Lees, Jr., S. Moynihan Bollinger (arrived at 7:05 p.m.), A. Kirkpatrick, M. Marquardt (arrived at 7:30 p.m.), K. McLellan, B. Capuano
Members Absent: J. Formeister
Administrators Present: Dr. M. Suffredini, B. Boutwell, Dr. D. Messina, Dr. I. Zytka, C. Krevolin, R. Kapner
Staff Present: K. Jones, K. Regan
Citizens Present:
Students Present:
Others: M. Broderick (CABE Consultant)

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Devlin in the Mabelle B. Avery Middle School Board of Education meeting room.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 24, 2016 – It was **MOVED** (K. McLellan), **SECONDED** (B. Capuano) to approve the October 24, 2016 Board of Education meeting minutes as presented. **PASSED 5-0.**

4.0 AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

6.0 OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

7.1. Approval of Bills

- It was **MOVED** (A. Kirkpatrick), **SECONDED** (K. McLellan) to approve the 11/14/16 bills in the amount of \$385,844.22 as presented. **PASSED 5-0.**
- It was **MOVED** (A. Kirkpatrick), **SECONDED** (K. McLellan) to approve the 11/2/16 bills in the amount of \$13,380.23 as presented. **PASSED 5-0.**

7.2. Maternity Leave – K. Giannuzzi – SHS Guidance

It was **MOVED** (A. Kirkpatrick), **SECONDED** (K. McLellan) to approve the maternity leave request from Kelly Giannuzzi, SHS Counselor, beginning in March 2017 and returning around May 8, 2017. **PASSED 5-0.**

7.3. Resignation of Patricia Agnoli, Secretary to Principal at Somers High School
It was **MOVED (A. Kirkpatrick), SECONDED (K. McLellan)** to accept the resignation of Patricia Agnoli, Secretary to Principal at Somers High School, effective immediately. **PASSED 5-0.**

7.4. Resignation – Ms. Linda Dewey – MBA Social Worker
It was **MOVED (A. Kirkpatrick), SECONDED (K. McLellan)** to accept the resignation of Ms. Linda Dewey, MBA Social Worker, effective November 23, 2016. **PASSED 5-0.**

It was **MOVED (B. Capuano), SECONDED (A. Kirkpatrick)** to move agenda item 9.1 – Presentation/Proposal by CABA Consultant, Ms. Mary Broderick, on the Superintendent Search Committee to the next agenda item. **PASSED 5-0.**

9.1. Presentation/Proposal by CABA Consultant, Ms. Mary Broderick, on the Superintendent Search Committee
Ms. M. Broderick, CABA Consultant, introduced herself to the Board, outlined her past experiences, and distributed a proposal regarding the process for a superintendent search. Ms. Broderick explained consulting would be a partnership with the BOE in order to find the right candidate who would work well with the Board as well as be an effective leader in the community. Ms. Broderick emphasized that the key to a successful search is not only having an adequate pool of candidates but developing a leadership profile based on Board and focus group input. The process of selecting a candidate is divided into three categories: framing, conducting, and finalizing the search. Framing consists of selection criteria and posting the vacancy. Focus groups are imperative components in developing the leadership profile in order to get input from the community, elected officials, school staff, and parents. A survey would be linked to the school website. A leadership profile would then be developed once the information has been obtained from the BOE and focus groups consisting of the characteristics, strengths, challenges, skills, etc. of a candidate. After posting the vacancy for six weeks, the selection process begins. Ms. Broderick would meet with every potential candidate prior to the candidates meeting the Board. Ms. Broderick would help to set up interviews, arrange for candidates to arrive for interviews, and aid in developing questions in order to provide a fair, ethical, and confidential interview process. Once the Board selects the finalists, Ms. Broderick will hire a firm to do thorough background checks. The Board will then decide on the final candidate. Ms. Broderick's proposal also included examples of CABA's recent search history, the cost of the search process, and quotations from CABA's previous clients.

It was **MOVED (D. Palmer), SECONDED (S. Bollinger)** to hire Ms. Mary Broderick, CABA Consultant, to assist in the superintendent search process. Ms. Broderick will communicate with Chairman Devlin to set up meeting dates and parameters. **PASSED 7-0.**

It was **MOVED (D. Palmer), SECONDED (K. McLellan)** to establish the Somers Board of Education as the search committee for the superintendent search process. Due to issues of confidentiality, there will be no other members on this search committee. **PASSED 7-0-1, ABSTAINED 1 (A. Kirkpatrick).**

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1. CAS Exemplary Teaming Practices Status to Mabelle B. Avery Middle School
Mr. C. Krevolin, MBA Principal, and Mr. R. Kapner, MBA Assistant Principal, updated the Board on the award and recognition by CAS (CT Association of Schools) awarded to MBA for exemplary teaming practices. Only three CT schools have been recognized for this honor. CAS visited MBA last year and interviewed individuals. Mr. Krevolin explained that interdisciplinary teams have a philosophy and set objectives/goals. The teams meet daily with regular communication among special education teachers and the guidance counselor. Team leaders meet regularly with administrators, and there is a team leader consult every other week. Every six days there is a “Hands Up” activity where teachers have the opportunity to express any concerns they may have of students. Students are also actively involved in planning their learning. There is continuity across the grade level with the team. Mr. Krevolin and Mr. Kapner are working on a newsletter and email blasts to acknowledge this recognition. A banner has also been ordered to display at the school. In March 2017, MBA teachers will be attending the New England League of Middle Schools Conference in Providence, RI as a professional day. MBA received a \$5000 SEF grant to make this possible.

9.0 OLD BUSINESS

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Suffredini discussed this year’s calendar and is requesting feedback from the Board regarding the CREC recommended 2017-18 calendar. The 2017-18 calendar will be put together in January/February.

11.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes will be taken at all subcommittee meetings.

11.1. Budget – No report.

11.2. Curriculum – No report.

11.2.1. Curriculum Update

Dr. I. Zytka, Director of Curriculum, updated the Board regarding the Literacy, English, and Technology curricula at SES, MBA, and SHS:

- **Literacy:** Mega Words is a reading and spelling program utilizing a series of books which contain multi-syllable words. Read Conn is being used at SES which is a free, state-run early literacy program for grades K-3 which helps to develop the relationship between reading and writing. In writing, MBA is using the 6+1 traits of writing as is used at SES. Each component has a rubric that enables teachers to understand and guide students’ writing. Dr. Zytka reported that there is now a sense of vertical alignment throughout literacy in the English curriculum.
- **English:** The 9th grade students have begun using a vocabulary book that was introduced by a newly hired English teacher. The rigors of the words

are in conjunction with PSAT's, SAT's, and the Common Core. The vocabulary book not only introduces new vocabulary, but students incorporate the new words in tasks that they do and learn how the words can be used in different ways in various texts. It is an inexpensive program that will be expanding to the other high school grades. The students have expressed positive feedback.

- **Technology:** Dr. Zytka reported that technology use has increased at all schools. Chromebooks are utilized at SHS. Online textbook subscriptions are trending as well versus purchasing classroom textbooks.

11.3. Policy – A. Kirkpatrick reported that the next meeting will be held on 11/28/16 at 6 p.m. Committee members are to pick up notebooks after the Board meeting on 11/14/16 in the Central Office.

11.4. Salary & Negotiations – D. Palmer and Dr. Suffredini reported that SEA negotiations will be held on 11/15/16 at 4:30 p.m.

11.5. Planning – No report.

11.6. Other Committees – None.

12.0 OTHER

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was **MOVED (M. Marquardt), SECONDED (B. Capuano)** to adjourn the BOE meeting at 8:15 p.m. **PASSED 8-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

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

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