

Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, May 13, 2024 7:00 PM

Somers Board of Education Chambers, 1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**
 1. 20th Anniversary of Somers Education Foundation
Dr. Galloway and the Board to recognize 20 years of the Somers Education Foundation.
 2. 2024 CABE Student Leadership Awards
- Margot Martello, MBA Principal, will present the MBA CABE Student Leadership Awards to Cora Dolben and Jacob Marks.
- David Brown, SHS Principal, will present the SHS CABE Student Leadership Awards to Zoe Root and Drew Hoffman.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 1. Approval of the April 22, 2024 BOE Minutes 3
The Board to review and approve the BOE minutes from April 22, 2024.
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
 1. Superintendent Update
 2. Rockville Vo-Ag Graduate, Ava Zuccalo, and Rockville Vo-Ag Advisory Board Representative, Daniel Fraro
Ava Zuccalo, resident of Somers, will update the Board regarding her experiences with the Rockville Vo-Ag program.
 3. Budget Transfer 10
Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will update the Board on the 23-24 budget transfer request.
 4. Monthly Budget Report 11
Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will update the Board on the monthly budget.
6. **OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS**
7. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 1. Warrant of May 13, 2024 13
The Board to review and consent to the warrant of May 13, 2024.
 2. Leave of Absence
Amanda Welch, SHS Physical Education/Health Teacher, is requesting a leave of absence approximately October 12, 2024 through March 4, 2025.
 3. Retirement
Sue Moak, SHS Paraeducator, will be retiring at the end of the school year after 22 years of service at SPS.
 4. 2nd Posting DBS Policy 5112.3 - Dropouts 17
 5. 2nd Posting DBS Code 5118.21 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children 19
 6. 2nd Posting DBS Code 5142.4 - School Resource Officer 22
 7. 2nd Posting DBS Code 6172.6 - Remote/Online Courses 25
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 1. FY24 Spend and FY25 Budget Reduction 28
Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will be present to discuss the FY24 Spend and FY25 Budget Reduction with possible action.
 2. 1st Posting of new astronomy textbook, "The Cosmic Perspective" 29
Questions may be directed to Curriculum Committee members.

3. 1st Posting of new AP Physics and Honors Physics textbook, "Physics 12th Edition"
(digital text)

Questions may be directed to Curriculum Committee members.

4. Budget Transfers
5. MBA Grading Practices

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Curriculum
2. Policy
3. Planning/Finance
4. Salary & Negotiations

11. CABE/CREC/State Dept. of Ed./SEF

12. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT

Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting
Somers High School Auditorium
Monday, April 22, 2024
7:00 PM

(The recorded livestream may be viewed on SPS' YouTube channel on the school website)

Present BOE Members: Anne Kirkpatrick, Mike Briggs, Dr. Ed DePeau, Shane Manning, Jan Martin, Kim Radziewicz, Derek Zelek

Absent BOE Members: JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins

Others: Dr. Sam Galloway, Justin Brown, Mark Brown, Tiffany Caouette, Cara Colli, Nicolas Colli, Addison Cowperthwaite, Caitlin Cowperthwaite, Rachael Cowperthwaite, Dr. Hannah Dill, Pa Nuha Drammeh, Jay Fenlason, Hunter Gaskell, Jennifer Gray, Noreen Harnett, Natalie Hoague, Lisa Horan, Becky Joyal, Yanni Karaja, Nicholas Kosloski, Cooper Leiphart, Stephanie Levin, Margot Martello, Mike McDonnell, Ashley Mello, Bryan Mello, Fionna Mello, Melissa Mucci, Cassie Myers, Olivia Newcity, Gina Olearczyk, Addisynn Percoski, Kari Percoski, Tim Percoski, Brayden Raulet-Rosati, Elaina Ressig, Sara Ressig, Kristie Rosati, Emily Santanella, Ernie Santanella, Oscar Santanella, Dina Senecal, Nico Skalski, Dave Smith, Lillian Smith, Michelle Wolters

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chair Kirkpatrick at 7:01 p.m. in the Somers High School Auditorium.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Approval of the March 25, 2024 BOE Minutes

Rationale: The Board to review and approve the BOE minutes from March 25, 2024.

Motion to approve the minutes of 3/25/24 Board of Education Meeting. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Kim Radziewicz, Carried.
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins)

3.2. Approval of the April 1, 2024 BOE Minutes

Rationale: The Board to review and approve the BOE minutes from the special meeting on April 1, 2024.

Motion to approve the minutes of 4/1/24 Board of Education special meeting. This motion, made by Jan Martin and seconded by Kim Radziewicz, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins)**

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Galloway introduced the five presentations to be shared. The purpose of the presentations is to summarize some of the great work going on in Somers. Superintendent Galloway introduced Lynn Erickson for the first presentation.

4.2. SES STEM/Robotics Club

Rationale: Lynn Erickson, SES K-5 STEM Instructional Leader, will update the Board on the STEM/Robotics After School Club at SES.

Discussion: Lynn Erickson, SES K-5 STEM Instructional Leader, introduced members of the SES after-school STEM and Robotics Clubs. Mrs. Erickson explained that the district was granted \$9,000 to get these two clubs up and running through the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The grant money was used to purchase coding mats, robots, accessories, construction kits for recycled materials, Squishy Circuits, VEX robots and Lego supplements.

Student representatives from the STEM Club shared the engineering design process used to brainstorm, create, revise and share their cardboard carnival games. Students shared how they engaged in the design process and ultimately shared their games with community members to play. Pictures from the club were shared.

Student representatives from the Coding & Robotics Club were introduced. These fourth and fifth grade students explained how Dash robots work and shared various challenges completed to help learn different functions of Dash. Challenges included a "driving school", bowling challenge, "Build a Better Bulldozer" challenge, and robot basketball. Student partnerships engaged in the engineering design process to build, test, modify and retest designs. Students showed the community how Dash can play basketball! Mrs. Erickson thanked the students for their participation in the club.

4.3. SES Fundraiser

Rationale: Melissa Mucci, SES Principal, and Ellie Reissig, a 3rd-grade student, will update the Board regarding her fundraiser providing students and staff with Solar Eclipse Glasses for the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024.

Discussion: Principal Mucci introduced 3rd grader Ellie Reissig and presented the details of her fundraising efforts to provide solar eclipse glasses for all SES students and staff. Ellie was inspired when she learned about the April 8th solar eclipse from her art teacher, Mr. Daley, last

November. Ellie wanted to fundraise to provide glasses for all SES students and staff. She started selling Spartan Puravida bracelets in Somers colors. Proceeds were used to purchase eclipse glasses. Ellie shared that the glasses were collected after the SES event and will be sent to schools in Latin America so school-aged children can view the October 2024 annular eclipse. Principal Mucci thanked Ellie for giving back to the community.

4.4. Student Engineering Project

Rationale: SHS student, Hunter Gaskell, will present to the Board a final model of a home with a virtual tour to highlight SHS' architecture and independent student project program.

Discussion: Superintendent Galloway introduced SHS student Hunter Gaskell. Hunter has committed to Fitchburg State for Architecture with the goal of becoming a residential designer. He has completed classes in architecture design and four independent studies in architecture at SHS. He has also competed against peers across the state in the Home Builders and Remodeling Association (HBRA) Contest. Hunter shared his presentation titled "Architecture @ SHS". He reviewed the features of the Chief Architect software used for his coursework. Hunter's most recent project was designing an ADA-compliant home. He shared renderings of the design and led a virtual walk through of the home.

4.5. SHS Student Representatives

Rationale: SHS students, Yanni Karaja, Nico Skalski, and Natalie Hoague, will update the Board on recent SHS events.

Discussion: Principal Brown introduced three SHS student representatives, Yanni Karaja, Nico Skalski, and Natalie Hoague. These three students are part of a group of 18 student leaders who meet regularly throughout the school year to prepare updates for the Board and student-led assemblies for their peers.

Junior Class President, Yanni Karaja, shared academic updates, with a focus on SAT participation rates and final exam preparations. A whole school assembly will take place on 5/1/24, and Capstone projects will be presented on 5/22/24.

Natalie Hoague, Sophomore Class President, shared extracurricular updates. The Skilled Trade Fair was a great success. Many students expressed that they left the fair with a greater understanding of the opportunities available to them after high school. Auditions for the Celebration of the Arts have begun. The Spring Dance was canceled. Senior Prom tickets will be sold from April 22nd- May 3rd. The "Choices Matter" presentation will take place on 5/9/24 for juniors and seniors, and a paint night fundraiser will take place on 5/8/24.

Niko Skalski shared athletic updates. Niko shared upcoming matches for

track and field, lacrosse, softball, baseball, and golf teams.

Student recommendations for the 2024-2025 school year were reviewed, several of which have already been approved or completed. Several items are still under review, including the revision of science courses to encourage greater enrollment in AP courses. Recommendations for course electives were shared. Currently, students can sign up to be a P.E. aide. Students would like to make this opportunity worth a course credit. A Freshman seminar was suggested to help students prepare for standardized tests and manage heavy workloads. Students acknowledged the helpfulness of recent SAT prep courses, and a Freshman Seminar course could make the same type of support accessible to all students.

4.6. CAS Award for Middle-Level School of the Year

Rationale: Ms. Tiffany Caouette, Assistant Executive Director of CAS, will present the award for Middle-Level School of the Year to Mrs. Margot Martello, MBA Principal, and Dr. Hannah Dill, MBA Assistant Principal.

Discussion: Tiffany Caouette, Assistant Executive Director of CAS, presented the 2024 award for Middle-Level School of the Year to Mrs. Margot Martello and Dr. Hannah Dill. Superintendent Galloway acknowledged the amount of work that goes into the process of applying for this recognition.

Ms. Caouette shared that this recognition is a testament to staff commitment to excellence and innovation while providing a supportive environment for all students. MBA and one other school were selected as the two finalists after applications were reviewed. The evaluation team conducted a site visit with staff, students, parents, and BOE members and noted best practices in several areas. The area that stood out most to the evaluation team was the feedback from MBA parents about how the school supports each child.

Principal Martello shared that the MBA team is hyper-focused on doing what is best for students and that the recognition is proof of staff's years of hard work and solid community support.

4.7. Monthly Budget Report

Rationale: Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will update the Board on the monthly budget.

Discussion: Stephanie Levin presented the monthly budget report. There is a \$13,000 change for a payout of administrators' unused vacation days. There is a slight change in the health insurance budget, as several employees became eligible to join the SPS insurance. It is expected that there will be one more fuel delivery and a top-off in June. The fuel budget will be adjusted for the May report. Budget transfers will be discussed at an

upcoming subcommittee meeting and reported in May.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Ed DePeau and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins)**

6.1. Warrant of April 8, 2024

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of April 8, 2024.

6.2. Warrant of April 22, 2024

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of April 22, 2024.

6.3. Resignations

Rationale:

- David Brown, SHS Principal, will resign with his last day on June 30, 2024.
- Olivia Kelly, SES Nurse, will resign with her last day on June 12, 2024.

6.4. Leave of Absence

Rationale: Megan Schneider, Kindergarten Teacher, will be taking a leave of absence from August 26, 2024 through November 15, 2024.

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Recognition of Somers Education Foundation Discussion

Rationale: The Board to discuss recognizing the 20th Anniversary of the Somers Education Foundation.

Motion to invite the original and current members of the Board of Directors of SEF, ex-officio members and advisors to the May 13 meeting of the Board of Education. This motion, made by Kim Radziewicz and seconded by Jan Martin, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins)**

Discussion: This year marks the 20th year of SEF. Members of the SEF Board of Directors will be invited to the May 13th BOE meeting.

8.2. 2023-2024 Graduation Date

Rationale: The Board to approve the Graduation date for Tuesday, June 11, 2024. The last day of school for grades 6-12 is Tuesday, June 11, 2024. The last day of school for grades PreK-5 is Wednesday, June 12, 2024.

Motion to approve Graduation for Tuesday, June 11. This motion, made by Kim Radziewicz and seconded by Mike Briggs, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins)**

8.3. 1st Posting DBS Policy 5112.3 - Dropouts

8.4. 1st Posting DBS Code 5118.21 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children

8.5. 1st Posting DBS Code 5142.4 - School Resource Officer

8.6. 1st Posting DBS Code 6172.6 - Remote/Online Courses

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1. Curriculum

This committee met on 4/22/24. The next meeting will be on 6/10/24 at 5:30 p.m. Two new textbooks for SHS will have their first posting at the May 13th Board meeting.

9.2. Policy

The next meeting will be on 5/13/24 at 6 p.m.

9.3. Planning/Finance

The next meeting date is TBD.

9.4. Salary & Negotiations

The next meeting date is TBD. Attorneys have been contacted for upcoming contract negotiations.

10. CABE/CREC/State Dept. of Ed./SEF

The next CABE quarterly policy meeting is scheduled for 4/25/24. The SEF Fundraiser is coming up on 4/27/24. SEF is on the precipice of meeting a large fundraising goal. SEF will present grants on 5/15/24.

11. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. This motion, made by Jan Martin and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (JT Galloway, Carl Stebbins)**

Jan Martin, BOE Secretary Date

Jenna McDermott, BOE Recording Secretary

Somers Board of Education

Transfer Request 2023-2024 Budget

May 13, 2024

FROM

TO

Account #	Description	Amount	Account #	Description	Amount
10.920.1000.111.30.5.00063.213.2.01	Teacher - Classroom Instructional Staff MBA	\$10,000.00	10.810.1000.111.50.5.00822.213.2.02	Teacher - Intervention Coach	\$5,000.00
10.920.1000.111.20.5.00060.213.2.01	Teacher - Classroom Instructional Staff SES	\$19,000.00	10.920.1000.111.50.5.00066.214.2.01	Substitute - Teacher Sick/Personal	\$30,000.00
10.980.1200.111.90.5.00067.213.9.01	Teacher - Special Education Elementary	\$50,000.00	10.920.2210.111.50.5.01019.214.2.01	Substitute - Teacher Professional Development	\$5,000.00
10.320.2100.111.90.5.00085.213.2.02	Related Services - Social Worker SW	\$6,400.00	10.620.2600.430.60.5.00439.722.5.08	Maintenance - Building SHS	\$4,000.00
10.540.3200.112.40.5.00944.875.7.07	Advisor - Student Cafe SHS	\$2,000.00	10.620.2600.430.50.5.00452.722.6.04	Maintenance - Service Contracts	\$4,000.00
10.160.1000.641.30.5.00895.220.2.01	Textbooks - Language Arts MBA	\$4,225.00	10.620.2600.430.60.5.01646.722.5.08	Maintenance - Security Contracts	\$11,000.00
10.180.1000.641.30.5.00109.220.2.01	Textbooks - Math MBA	\$3,000.00	10.660.2400.440.20.5.00524.830.6.04	Other Supplies - Copier SES	\$6,000.00
10.300.1000.641.40.5.00125.220.2.01	Textbooks - Social Studies SHS	\$2,600.00	10.660.2400.440.20.5.00523.830.6.04	Rental - Copier SES	\$1,000.00
10.120.1000.641.40.5.00131.220.2.01	Textbooks - Tech Ed SHS	\$1,400.00	10.660.2400.440.20.5.00524.830.6.04	Other Supplies - Copier SES	\$2,000.00
10.160.1000.611.40.5.01710.243.2.01	Workbooks - Language Arts SHS	\$1,350.00	10.840.2700.510.50.5.00325.521.4.12	Transportation - Elementary	\$100,000.00
10.660.2400.440.20.501011.830.6.04	Maintenance - Copier SES	\$5,500.00	10.840.2700.510.50.5.00326.521.4.12	Transportation - Secondary	\$15,000.00
10.660.2400.440.30.5.01013.830.6.04	Maintenance - Copier MBA	\$3,000.00	10.840.2700.510.50.5.00328.521.4.12	Transportation - Additional Hours	\$50,000.00
10.660.2400.440.40.5.01015.830.6.04	Maintenance - Copier SHS	\$3,000.00			
10.640.2600.620.60.5.00358.641.5.05	Supplies - Electricity SES	\$20,000.00			
10.640.2600.620.60.5.00360.641.5.05	Supplies - Electricity MBA	\$30,000.00			
10.640.2600.620.60.5.00361.641.5.05	Supplies - Electricity SHS	\$15,000.00			
10.820.2800.200.50.5.1228.820.6.13	Benefits - Health Insurance	\$36,525.00			
10.840.2700.627.50.5.00327.521.4.12	Transportation - Bus Fuel	\$20,000.00			
		\$233,000.00			\$233,000.00

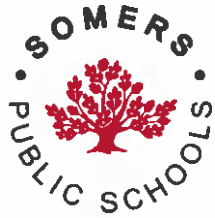
2023-2024

Monthly Report

(Through 4/30/2024)

CATEGORY	ITEM	Approved Budget	Budget Adjustment	Revised Budget	Actual Expenditures	Encumbered	Total Projection	Variance	% +/-
Salaries	Teachers	11,890,609	(23,561)	11,867,048	8,486,101	3,274,038	11,760,139	106,909	0.90%
	Secretaries/Paraprofessionals	2,284,949	47,350	2,332,299	1,910,004	398,442	2,308,446	23,853	1.04%
	Administrators	1,743,659	39,435	1,783,094	1,510,271	285,589	1,795,860	(12,766)	-0.73%
	Custodians/Maintainers	957,390	(14,695)	942,695	790,747	158,376	949,123	(6,428)	-0.67%
	Other Instructional	521,983	(26,716)	495,267	443,832	92,537	536,369	(41,102)	-7.87%
	Nurses	289,869	3,272	293,141	204,940	82,619	287,559	5,582	1.93%
	Medical Advisor	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	0	0.00%
	SUBTOTAL	17,689,959	25,085	17,715,044	13,347,395	4,291,600	17,638,995	76,049	0.43%
Insurance & Benefits	Health Insurance	3,608,118	(57,812)	3,550,306	2,889,331	561,697	3,451,029	99,277	2.75%
	Social Security	549,550	20,000	569,550	464,925	102,204	567,128	2,422	0.44%
	Pension	227,832	0	227,832	176,451	54,958	231,409	(3,577)	-1.57%
	Worker's Comp	100,000	(9,493)	90,507	90,743	0	90,743	(236)	-0.24%
	Property / Liability	98,525	346	98,871	99,240	0	99,240	(369)	-0.37%
	Long Term Disability	47,000	(5,000)	42,000	32,350	8,630	40,980	1,020	2.17%
	Life Insurance	32,000	(5,000)	27,000	16,702	3,790	20,492	6,508	20.34%
	School Board Legal	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	0	0.00%
	Unemployment	10,000	11,365	21,365	21,365	0	21,365	0	0.00%
	OPEB	28,089	0	28,089	14,045	14,044	28,089	0	0.00%
	SUBTOTAL	4,711,114	(45,594)	4,665,520	3,815,152	745,322	4,560,474	105,046	2.23%
Tuition	Special Education	1,040,421	(158,922)	881,499	660,848	289,101	949,949	(68,450)	-6.58%
	Non-Special Education	134,000	19,927	153,927	136,630	16,771	153,401	526	0.39%
	SUBTOTAL	1,174,421	(138,995)	1,035,426	797,478	305,872	1,103,350	(67,924)	-5.78%
Transportation	Regular Transportation	933,796	0	933,796	779,081	298,879	1,077,961	(144,165)	-15.44%
	Special Education Transportation	350,000	58,278	408,278	313,256	49,556	362,812	45,466	12.99%
	Athletics/Field Trips	39,850	0	39,850	31,324	9,571	40,895	(1,045)	-2.62%
	SUBTOTAL	1,323,646	58,278	1,381,924	1,123,662	358,006	1,481,668	(99,744)	-7.54%
Utilities	Electricity	473,000	0	473,000	297,020	103,326	400,346	72,654	15.36%
	Fuel	163,950	(186)	163,764	173,870	40,360	214,230	(50,466)	-30.78%
	Telephones	36,300	0	36,300	28,682	11,514	40,196	(3,896)	-10.73%
	SUBTOTAL	673,250	(186)	673,064	499,572	155,200	654,772	18,292	2.72%
Maintenance	General/Dept Maint	633,840	8,200	642,040	540,702	101,338	642,040	0	0.00%
	Custodial Supplies	48,000	0	48,000	51,286	1,895	53,181	(5,181)	-10.79%
	SUBTOTAL	681,840	8,200	690,040	591,989	103,233	695,221	(5,181)	-0.76%
Instructional Resources	Books, Textbooks, Workbooks	149,953	(7,900)	142,053	124,651	71,958	196,609	(54,556)	-36.38%
	Technology AV Materials	101,230	7,000	108,230	106,031	145	106,176	2,054	2.03%
	General & Dept Supplies	176,810	0	176,810	143,921	15,444	159,366	17,444	9.87%
	SUBTOTAL	427,993	(900)	427,093	374,603	87,547	462,150	(35,057)	-8.19%
Extracurricular	Coaches	193,225	16,125	209,350	172,731	32,173	204,904	4,446	2.30%
	Activity Advisors	60,349	2,487	62,836	165	56,358	56,523	6,313	10.46%
	Athletic/Academic Act	95,450	0	95,450	82,277	13,478	95,755	(305)	-0.32%
	SUBTOTAL	349,024	18,612	367,636	255,172	102,010	357,182	10,454	3.00%
Equipment	New and Replacement	249,000	0	249,000	231,379	12,490	243,870	5,130	2.06%
Admin Overhead	Postage, Dues, Travel, BOE Exp., etc.	181,185	25,500	206,685	157,055	40,320	197,375	9,310	5.14%
ARP Municipal	Offset	(50,000)	50,000	0	0	0	0	0	
GRAND TOTAL		27,411,432	0	27,411,432	21,193,456	6,201,601	27,395,057	16,375	0.06%

As of 5/1/2024



**Board of Education
Budget Subcommittee
Administrative Report**

Title of Report: FY24 Spend and FY25 Budget Reduction

Committee Meeting Date: 5/13/2024

Action Report Information Discussion

Submitted by: Stephanie Levin

Fiscal Year 2023-2024: Proposed Unbudgeted Expenses

CKLA - Reading Materials	\$47,500.00
Foundations Materials	\$13,000.00
Sadlier 6-12 Workbooks	\$11,000.00
TOTAL	\$71,500.00

Fiscal Year 2024-2025: Proposed Budget Reductions

SES Language Arts Textbooks	\$48,000.00
SES Language Arts Workbooks	\$13,000.00
MBA English Workbooks	\$5,000.00
SHS English Workbooks	\$6,000.00
SHS Science Textbooks	\$30,000.00
Copier Maintenance - All locations	\$10,000.00
SW Technology	\$23,000.00
TOTAL	\$135,000.00

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION VOUCHER

Voucher No: 1244

Voucher Date: 05/13/2024

Prepared By:



Printed: 05/09/2024 10:36:31 AM

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION is hereby authorized to draw warrants against SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION funds for the sum of \$541,547.40 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.



Stephanie Levin Director of Business Services

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Fund		Amount
10	GENERAL FUND	\$541,547.40
30	ACTIVITY	\$0.00
		<hr/>
		\$541,547.40

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2023-2024

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 5/13/2024
 From Check: 24766
 From Voucher: 1244

To Date: 5/13/2024
 To Check: 24823
 To Voucher: 1244

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
24766	05/13/2024	A&D Portable Rentals	\$475.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24767	05/13/2024	Alternative Access Assistive Technology	\$9,668.75	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24768	05/13/2024	Amazon Capital Services	\$8,043.77	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24769	05/13/2024	Amplify	\$47,500.84	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24770	05/13/2024	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	\$266,938.93	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24771	05/13/2024	Apple Inc.	\$3,089.75	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24772	05/13/2024	Avery Septic Service	\$150.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24773	05/13/2024	Brooks Environmental Consulting, LLC	\$1,950.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24774	05/13/2024	Caroline Hargraves	\$148.68	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24775	05/13/2024	Cheryl Fry	\$175.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24776	05/13/2024	CHLIC	\$10,751.01	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24777	05/13/2024	Clear Water Industries	\$233.33	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24778	05/13/2024	Community Child Guidance Clinic, Inc.	\$5,872.50	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24779	05/13/2024	COX Business	\$997.25	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24780	05/13/2024	CREC	\$93.19	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24781	05/13/2024	DBS Financial Services LLC	\$2,458.37	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24782	05/13/2024	Dime Oil Company LLC	\$21,915.65	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24783	05/13/2024	Direct Tech Sales, LLC	\$654.57	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24784	05/13/2024	Elan Financial Services	\$907.78	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24785	05/13/2024	Ellington Board of Education	\$26,085.72	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24786	05/13/2024	Environmental Systems Corp.	\$3,940.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24787	05/13/2024	Eversource Energy	\$33,781.30	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24788	05/13/2024	First Student, Inc	\$3,389.88	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2023-2024

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 5/13/2024
From Check: 24766
From Voucher: 1244

To Date: 5/13/2024
To Check: 24823
To Voucher: 1244

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
24789	05/13/2024	Follett Content Solutions, LLC	\$142.90	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24790	05/13/2024	Frontier Communications	\$968.20	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24791	05/13/2024	Gateway Enterprise Corporation	\$621.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24792	05/13/2024	Geissler's Supermarket, Inc	\$142.34	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24793	05/13/2024	Graduate Pest Solutions, Inc.	\$355.32	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24794	05/13/2024	Grainger	\$99.23	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24795	05/13/2024	Group Dynamic	\$66.60	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24796	05/13/2024	Hartford HealthCare Corporation SBO	\$8,170.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24797	05/13/2024	Hooker & Holcombe, Inc	\$4,307.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24798	05/13/2024	InsectLore	\$98.92	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24799	05/13/2024	Intensive Education Academy, Inc.	\$13,577.64	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24800	05/13/2024	K&S Distributors	\$1,101.82	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24801	05/13/2024	Karen Hocking	\$48.24	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24802	05/13/2024	Kelly Refrigeration & Freezer	\$575.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24803	05/13/2024	MagnaKleen Services	\$217.22	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24804	05/13/2024	Monica Willemain	\$85.76	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24805	05/13/2024	NCS Pearson, Inc.	\$411.49	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24806	05/13/2024	Nuso, LLC	\$114.12	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24807	05/13/2024	School Specialty, Llc	\$38.80	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24808	05/13/2024	Shipman & Goodwin, LLP	\$1,237.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24809	05/13/2024	Somers Lunch Program	\$432.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24810	05/13/2024	Somers Star Hardware	\$341.52	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24811	05/13/2024	State of Connecticut-Treasurer	\$2,205.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24812	05/13/2024	The Hartford	\$4,952.17	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2023-2024

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 5/13/2024
 From Check: 24766
 From Voucher: 1244

To Date: 5/13/2024
 To Check: 24823
 To Voucher: 1244

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
24813	05/13/2024	The Home Depot Pro	\$370.26	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24814	05/13/2024	The OMNI Group_V60983	\$22.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24815	05/13/2024	The Stepping Stones Group LLC	\$407.40	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24816	05/13/2024	Town of Somers	\$7,253.40	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24817	05/13/2024	UCONN	\$240.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24818	05/13/2024	USA Waste and Recycling	\$1,733.20	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24819	05/13/2024	Van Pool Transportation LLC	\$27,988.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24820	05/13/2024	Verizon Wireless	\$398.54	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24821	05/13/2024	William H Sadler, Inc.	\$9,276.73	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24822	05/13/2024	Willie Ross School of the Deaf	\$608.00	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
24823	05/13/2024	Xerox Corporation	\$3,719.31	1244	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Total Amount: \$541,547.40

End of Report

Students

Dropouts

Parents and those who have the control of children from five years of age ~~and over and under~~ to eighteen years of age, are obligated by Connecticut law to require their children to attend public day school or its equivalent in the district in which such child resides, unless such child is a high school graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools. ~~The parent or person having control of a child seventeen years of age may consent to such child's withdrawal from school. The parent or person shall exercise this option by personally appearing at the school district office to sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator of the school that the district has provided the parent or person with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community.~~

A student who is eighteen years of age or older may withdraw from school. Such parent, guardian or student shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school administrator of the school that such a school district has provided such parent, guardian or student with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community. The parent or guardian having such control of a child seventeen years of age may withdraw such child from school and enroll such child in an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69 in the state statutes. Such parent or guardian must personally appear at the school district office and sign an adult education withdrawal and enrollment form. The adult education withdrawal and enrollment form must include an attestation from a school counselor or school administrator of the school the district has provided the parent or guardian with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community, and the parent or guardian that the child will be enrolled in an adult education program upon the child's withdrawal from school.

The administration, guidance staff and faculty of the school system shall extend every possible effort ~~to the end that~~ to ensure each student may meet with success in his/her school program, have a favorable school experience and earn a diploma. Every attempt will be made to identify the potential dropout and to provide the appropriate resources in order to assist such students.

Any student who seeks to drop out of school shall be referred immediately to a guidance counselor or school administrator. The student, ~~if under~~ eighteen years of age or younger, must present to the guidance counselor or administrator the required written parental consent of his/her withdrawal. If the student is at or above the age of majority no such parental consent shall be sought. A student under age eighteen shall not be allowed to withdraw who has not presented such parental consent.

The interval between the student's announcement of his/her/[their](#) desire to leave and the possible presentation of the written consent will be used to attempt to dissuade the student from leaving and to resolve his/her/[their](#) problems so that he/she/[they](#) might continue in school and finish satisfactorily.

Children who have attained the age of seventeen and who have terminated enrollment in the district's schools with parental permission as described previously and subsequently seeks readmission may be denied readmission for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination, unless such child seeks readmission to a district school not later than ten days after such termination. In such case the child will be provided school accommodations not later than three days after the requested readmission.

(cf. [5111](#) - Admission)

(cf. [5112](#) - Ages of Attendance)

(cf. [5113](#) - Admission/Excuses/Dismissal)

(cf. [5113.2](#) - Truancy)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10](#)-184 Duties of parents as amended by PA 98-243 ~~and~~ PA 00-157 and PA 09-6
(September Special Session)

[10](#)-199 through 10-202 Attendance, truancy - in general.

Adopted: July 12, 2010

Revised: January 23, 2012

(We do not have this policy)

Students

Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Children of Deployed Parents/Guardians

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that one of the most difficult situations a child can experience is having a parent/guardian deployed as a result of military service involvement. The demands on military members and their families are increasing and becoming more complex. Members of the armed forces and their families sacrifice personal comfort and experience tremendous upheaval when called to serve the country, here and abroad. Children are especially vulnerable when separated from parents/guardians due to deployments.

Deployment is the term given to the movement of an individual or military unit within the United States or to an overseas location to accomplish a task or mission. The mission may be as routine as providing additional training or as dangerous as war. Deployment consists of three phases; (1) pre-deployment, (2) deployment, and (3) post deployment, which includes reunion. Each phase has unique challenges requiring proper interventions. Individual responses of children impacted by deployment will depend on such factors as age, maturity, gender, parent-child relationships, and coping skills of the caregiver during the separation.

***Note:** Cross-referenced policy #5118.2 defines deployment as the period one month before the service members' departure from their home station on military orders through six months after return to their home station.*

Schools can be a place where stability and normal routine provide an anchor for children during the challenges of deployment and the resulting disruptions to daily life. The impact of deployment that includes changes in a child's psychological equilibrium and disruption of individual behavior and coping skills can be lessened by the predictability of classroom routine. Alternatively, it is also recognized that the stresses resulting from family separation have the potential to affect the school community and may interfere with the ability of students and staff to focus on learning.

The Board believes the school district has an obligation to help build coping skills in their students during and after a military deployment. The Board's goal is to bring needed support and understanding to the process while maintaining an optimal learning environment in the classroom and school.

Through a unified effort, military families and the school district can provide the best educational environment for military children in grades K-12. The District will provide military families ~~with~~ supports to address the unique challenges that occur when families transition from one duty station to another or during deployments during the course of a military career.

Students

Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Children of Deployed Parents/Guardians (continued)

The Board believes a school's focus must be on enhancing student learning opportunities, student achievement, and educator professional development to effectively address the unique challenges related to children of military parents/guardians, especially during a period of deployment.

Students in military families often experience high mobility and have diverse educational experiences from many locations in this country and around the world. The district must recognize the strengths these experiences bring to the learning environment as well as to identify the gaps that may exist due to inconsistencies across educational programs. These unique needs of military children need to be assessed and addressed. Staff development must be provided to staff to become knowledgeable in a variety of ways to identify military children struggling with their parent's/guardian's absence and with suggestions on how to help them in the classroom.

The District's responsibilities to students of deployed parents/guardians include the following:

- Training for school staff members
- Concerted effort on the school's part to initiate and maintain open and frequent communication with the caregiver with the parents/guardians prior to deployment and with the remaining caregiver after a deployment.
- Ensure that parents and, if appropriate, the children, are aware of services available to assist them.
- Ensure that community leaders and others are aware of the need to provide support and resources for the children and their families.
- Referral to District mental health personnel (counselors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, crisis intervention team members) for intensive individualized assessment and therapy as necessary based upon student's reaction to the deployment.
- Student intervention strategies in the classroom.
- Teacher supportive intervention strategies in the classroom.
- Establishment of the school setting as a safe and caring place in which the children of the deployed are nurtured and provided necessary support.
- Alterations to District's attendance regulations

Students

Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Children of Deployed Parents/Guardians (continued)

Considerations for excused absences:

- A one-day absence provided for students when their parent/guardian is deployed into active military service.
- A one-day absence provided for students when their parent/guardian returns from active military service or deployment.
- A student whose parent or legal guardian has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting shall be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee.
- Absences related to a student visiting with his/her parent related to leave or deployment activities may be excused by the District. The district will permit no more than ___ excused absences per year for this purpose. *(Note: The local district may specify in their policy how many excused absences are permitted)*
- Utilize Veteran’s Day or other days in which veterans are honored, to remind students of the sacrifices that the families of veterans and their families make, as well as the effect on active service members.

Through supportive interventions, delayed or prolonged stress responses can be minimized and learning can resume in a positive and productive manner for students of deployed parents/guardians.

(cf. 5113 – Attendance and Excuses)

(cf. 5118.2 – Educational Opportunities for Military Children)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-15f Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

Students

Safety

School Resource Officer

In order to make schools more orderly, safer and secure, the district may employ police officers to deliver security services as school resources officers (SROs).

The School Resource Officer supports and facilitates the educational process within the Somers Public School System by providing a safe and secure environment through establishing and maintaining meaningful relationships with students and staff. He/she proactively interacts with the school community to ensure the enforcement of city and state laws, preserves public order, protection of life and property and the prevention, detection or investigation of crimes. The SRO works effectively with students, parents, school personnel and community agencies to support teaching and learning in the schools. He/she monitors district property (internally and externally) to protect students, staff and visitors from physical harm and prevents loss to district property resulting from criminal activity.

Essential Duties

- Maintain high visibility in all schools on a daily basis including but not limited to hallways, cafeteria and classrooms.
- Assists managing traffic during morning drop off and afternoon dismissals at each school.
- Monitors district property for suspicious activity, unauthorized persons on campus or unauthorized entry to buildings.
- Attends local and regional emergency management meetings.
- Works with school officials to develop and implement safety and security protocols.
- Provides occasional in-service training to help administrators with security, effective investigation techniques and other law related topics.
- Attends staff, leadership and student intervention meetings when requested.
- Takes law enforcement action to protect against unwanted intruders.
- Helps administration identify and prevent delinquent behaviors and substance abuse. Makes arrest on campus only when necessary to protect students, staff and school property from imminent danger.
- Assists other law enforcement agencies with incidents involving local criminal activity that may impact the safety of students and staff.
- Serves as the initial first responder.

- Provides occasional classroom presentations upon request and in collaboration with teachers (e.g. law, forensics, safety.)
- Conducts security building assessments for schools and campus.

The Board shall enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the local police department that defines the officer's role and responsibilities.

(cf. [5114](#) - Suspension/Expulsion; Student Due Process)

(cf. [5131](#) - Student Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Assault)

(cf. [5131.21](#) - Terrorist Acts/Threats)

(cf. 5131.4 - School Grounds Disturbances)

(cf. 5131.41 - In-School Disturbances)

(cf. [5131.5](#) - Vandalism)

(cf. [5131.6](#) - Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol)

(cf. 5131.61 - Inhalant Abuse)

(cf. 5131.612 - Surrender of Physical Evidenced Obtained from Students)

(cf. [5131.7](#) - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. [5131.8](#) - Off School Grounds Misconduct)

(cf. [5131.9](#) - Gang Activity or Association)

(cf. [5141.6](#) - Crisis Management)

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

(cf. [5144](#) - Use of Physical Force)

(cf. 5145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension)

(cf. [5145.12](#) - Search and Seizure)

(cf. 5145.121 - Vehicle Searches on School Grounds)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[4-176e](#) through [4-180a](#). Contested Cases. Notice. Record.

[10-220](#) Duties of boards of education.

[10-233a](#) through [10-233f](#). Suspension, removal and expulsion of students, as amended by PA 95-304, PA 96-244, and PA 98-139.

[53a-3](#) Definitions.

[53a-217b](#) Possession of Firearms and Deadly Weapons on School Grounds.

PA 15-168 An Act Concerning Collaboration Between Boards of Education and School Resource Officers and the Collection and Reporting of Data on School-Based Arrests.

PA 94-221 An Act Concerning School Discipline and Safety.

GOALS 2000: Educate America Act, Pub. L. 103-227.

18 U.S.C. 921 Definitions.

Title III - Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Sec. 314 (Local Control Over Violence)

Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965 as amended by the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994.

P.L. 105-17 The Individuals with Disabilities Act, Amendment of 1997.

Kyle P. Packer PPA Jane Packer v. Thomaston Board of Education.

Adopted: December 7, 2015

Revised: March 26, 2018

INSTRUCTION

Distance Education

Virtual/Online Courses

The Board of Education believes that distance education through virtual/online courses is an effective means of instruction for students. A virtual school is hereby defined as an educational organization that offers courses at various grade levels through Internet or Web-based methods. These schools can offer courses to enhance, supplement or enrich the existing curriculum and can also provide an alternative means of instruction. Interactive distance learning does not require the student to be physically present in the same location as the instructor or other students.

Virtual/online courses will be part of this District's educational program delivery system to increase accessibility and flexibility in the delivery of instruction. In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students in the District may earn credit through distance education provided by virtual/online courses.

In order to earn credits in meeting the requirements for high school graduation through the successful completion of on-line coursework, the Board, in compliance with C.G.S. [10-221a](#) (17) shall ensure, at a minimum, that (a) the workload required by the on-line course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional District classroom setting, (b) the content is rigorous and aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, where appropriate, (c) the course engages students and has interactive components, which may include, but are not limited to, required interactions between students and their teachers, participation in on-line demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual labs, (d) the program of instruction for such on-line coursework is planned, ongoing and systematic, and (e) the courses are (1) taught by teachers who are certified in the state or another state and have received training on teaching in an on-line environment, or (2) offered by institutions of higher education that are accredited by the Department of Higher Education or regionally accredited; or (3) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of the board examination series permitting students in grades 9 through 12 to substitute achievement of a passing score on a series of examinations approved by the State Board of Education for meeting credit requirements for graduation.

If the drop-out rate of the District is determined to be 8% or higher in the previous school year, the Board of Education shall establish an on-line credit recovery program for those students who are identified as being in danger of failing to graduate. These students, once identified by certified personnel, must be allowed to complete on-line District-approved coursework toward meeting high school graduation requirements. Each high school within the District shall designate, from among existing staff, an online learning coordinator to administer and coordinate the online credit recovery program.

The District will not use virtual/online courses as the sole medium for instruction in any required subject area for students in grades K-8 (except in the case of emergency long duration closings due to pandemic or other health related circumstances)

Dual instruction is allowed as part of remote learning when it is needed to implement a student's IEP or 504 plan or as part of an intra-district or inter-district cooperative learning program for students on school grounds during a regular school day.

Credit from an online or virtual course may be earned only in the following circumstances:

1. The course is not offered at the District's high school or cannot be offered that year due to scheduling or low enrollment.
2. The high school does offer the course, but the student is unable to take it due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict.
3. The course will serve as a supplement to extended homebound instruction.
4. The District has expelled the student from the regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued.
5. The Principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents/guardians, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.
6. Unless there are special circumstances students taking such courses must be enrolled in the District and take the courses during the regular school day at the school site.
7. A student has failed a course and wishes to recover credits in that course area.
8. The student's PPT or Section 504 Team has determined it to be an appropriate means of instruction.
9. Extended emergency school closings.

As determined by Board/school policy, students applying for permission to take a virtual course will do the following:

- Complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in an online learning environment.
- Obtain the written approval of the Principal or his/her designee before said student enrolls in a virtual course.
- Adhere to the District code of conduct to include rules of behavior and consequences for violations.
- Adhere to attendance requirements of the District.

The school must receive an official record of the final grade before awarding credit toward graduation. Only approved courses shall be posted on student transcripts.

Any and all fees imposed on the learner are the sole responsibility of the learner and not the Board of Education or its designee.

Through its policies and/or supervision plan, the school shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision, coordination, and monitoring of students taking virtual courses.

Students will have access to sufficient library media resources such as a "virtual library" available through the World Wide Web, laboratory facilities, technical assistance, and hands-on training and information. The Board of Education will not be responsible for providing internet access outside of school hours.

Approval of any course shall be based upon its compliance with Connecticut's academic standards and requirements, including but not limited to the course content and rigor, its length and scope, its method of assessing knowledge acquired by the student, the qualifications of the instructor and other appropriate factors.

On line course delivery must be from institutions accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges or Western Association of Schools and Colleges or, if the institution is foreign, recognized by the Connecticut State Department of Education as having appropriate academic standards.

(cf. [6141.321](#) - Computers: Acceptable Use of the Internet)

(cf. 6141.1 - Independent Study)

(cf. [6146](#) - Graduation Requirements)

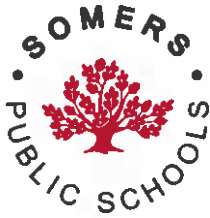
Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

Adopted: September 14, 2004

Revised: December 6, 2010

May 11, 2020



**Board of Education
Budget Subcommittee
Administrative Report**

Title of Report: FY24 Spend and FY25 Budget Reduction

Committee Meeting Date: 5/13/2024

Action Report Information Discussion

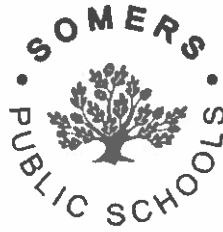
Submitted by: Stephanie Levin

Fiscal Year 2023-2024: Proposed Unbudgeted Expenses

CKLA - Reading Materials	\$47,500.00
Foundations Materials	\$13,000.00
Sadlier 6-12 Workbooks	\$11,000.00
TOTAL	\$71,500.00

Fiscal Year 2024-2025: Proposed Budget Reductions

SES Language Arts Textbooks	\$48,000.00
SES Language Arts Workbooks	\$13,000.00
MBA English Workbooks	\$5,000.00
SHS English Workbooks	\$6,000.00
SHS Science Textbooks	\$30,000.00
Copier Maintenance - All locations	\$10,000.00
SW Technology	\$23,000.00
TOTAL	\$135,000.00



New Textbook/Novel Request Form

School (s): SES MBA <u>SHS</u>		Content Area: Science - Physics	
Grade(s): 11-12		Course: Astronomy	
Name of Proposed Text: The Cosmic Perspective			
ISBN: 978-0-13-792273-4		Publisher: Savvas	
Vendor Contact Name: Jason Macfarland		Vendor Contact Email & Phone #: jason.macfarland@savvas.com (860) 491-8135	
Quantity of Student Texts to be purchased	20	Cost per student edition	\$159.50
Quantity of Teacher Editions	1	Cost per teacher edition	
Digital Licenses (cost & expiration)			
S & H Charge	\$271.15	Estimated Total Cost:	\$3461.15

Person(s) Submitting this Request & Date:

4/9/2024

Building Administrator Signature: & Date:

4-8-24

Director of Curriculum Signature & Date:

4.8.24

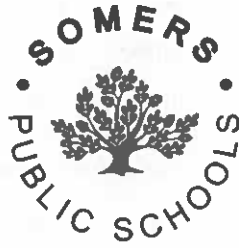
Use the space on the next page to provide a narrative that includes information about the following:

- Current text (publisher and copyright info) & the rationale for needing a new textbook (novel).
- Process used to select this resource
- Criteria and reasons for recommending this text (novel)

Narrative:

Astronomy is a course that has been resurrected after being taught at Somers High School previously. There was not a textbook used previously for the course, so "The Cosmic Perspective" was selected to be used as a resource for the class. The textbook is an upper-leveled textbook, which will support the rigor of the course that is taught.

The selection process of this book for the course was very simple, as there is only one teacher who teaches the course. After receiving several desktop samples, this book was selected based on its merits as a high level textbook that will help to push the rigor of the course, the online resources available, and the readability of the book.



New Textbook/Novel Request Form

School (s): SES MBA <u>SHS</u>		Content Area: Science - Physics	
Grade(s): 11-12		Course: AP Physics and Honors Physics	
Name of Proposed Text: Physics 12th Edition			
ISBN: 1-119-77353-5		Publisher: Wiley	
Vendor Contact Name:		Vendor Contact Email & Phone #:	
Quantity of Student Texts to be purchased	0	Cost per student edition	\$155
Quantity of Teacher Editions	0	Cost per teacher edition	
Digital Licenses (cost & expiration)	20		
S & H Charge		Estimated Total Cost:	\$3100

Person(s) Submitting this Request & Date:

 4/9/2024

Building Administrator Signature: & Date:

 4/9/24

Director of Curriculum Signature & Date:

 4.8.24

Use the space on the next page to provide a narrative that includes information about the following:

- Current text (publisher and copyright info) & the rationale for needing a new textbook (novel).
- Process used to select this resource
- Criteria and reasons for recommending this text (novel)

Narrative:

The current textbook (College Physics by Serway and Vuille - copyright 2018) that is used in AP Physics is becoming out of date with respect to the content included in the book and the content and practice problems included in the text. Additionally, the online platform is not as user friendly as the one with the new requested book, and with the book being largely used as an online text, this plays a big factor. Finally, the high school textbooks fall in the curriculum cycle established by the Senior Director of Curriculum and Instructional Operations (Mrs. Dina Senecal).

Another significant draw to the textbook is that there are many more cross-curricular connections to other areas of science, specifically Biology. This will help our students to understand the integrated approach of science.

This is a digital text only. Getting an evaluation copy for preview by the Board of Education was not possible. This book is not sold in a bound version anymore. It can only be bought in a loose-leaf version or an electronic version.

The book can be found at <https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Physics%2C+12th+Edition-p-9781119773535>

Because there is only one physics teacher at SHS (Mrs. Erin Maynard), the book was evaluated against other textbook options and was selected based on its suitability to access the standards needed to teach AP Physics. STEM Instructional Leader (Mr. Tim Percoski) was consulted in the process as well due to his previous experience teaching the class.