

Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2025 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. Dr. Galloway to recognize the retirement of Molly and George, the SHS therapy dogs, and their handlers for their years of support to the students and staff of SPS.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 1. Approval of the May 27, 2025 BOE Meeting Minutes 2
The Board to review and approve the minutes from the May 27, 2025 Board meeting.
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
 1. Superintendent Update
 2. Independent Technology Seminar Project
SHS students, Justin Felch and Theo Grzelak, will present their Independent Technology Seminar project to the Board and discuss their focus, research, development process, and provide a brief interactive demonstration.
 3. Monthly Budget Update 9
Stephanie Levin, Director of Business Services, will update the Board on the May budget.
6. **OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS**
7. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 1. Warrant of June 9, 2025 10
The Board to review and consent to the warrant of June 9, 2025.
 2. Resignations
 - Jenna Porcello, SHS Paraeducator, will be resigning effective June 12, 2025 after two years of service at SPS.
 - Laura McPhail, SES Reading Tutor, will be resigning at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
 - Madison Morin, SES PreSchool Teacher, will be resigning effective June 13, 2025, after four years of service at SPS.
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 1. 1st Posting DBS Code 5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process 14
 2. 1st Posting DBS Code 2151 - Administration - Hiring School Administrators 39
 3. 1st Posting Math Curriculum for K-8 for 2025-26 school year
10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 1. Curriculum (next meeting 9/8/25 5:30 p.m.)
 2. Policy (next meeting 6/23/25 6:00 p.m.)
 3. Planning/Finance
 4. Salary & Negotiations
 5. Building
11. **CABE/CREC/State Dept. of Ed./SEF**
12. **AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS**
13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Non-Union staff wage adjustments for the 2025-2026 school year and to discuss the Superintendent Evaluation. The Board will invite Dr. Galloway into Executive Session.
14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Somers Board of Education Regular Meeting
Somers Board of Education Chambers
Tuesday, May 27, 2025
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, JT Galloway, Shane Manning, Jan Martin, Kim Radziewicz,

Absent BOE Members: Carl Stebbins, Derek Zelek

Others: Dr. Sam Galloway, Caroline Hargraves, Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, Cheryl Fry, Julie Hinkley, Karen Campbell, Dr. Michael Wald, Laurie Somma, Lisa Grenier, Sue Cormier

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chair Kirkpatrick at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Chambers.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

3.1. Retirement Recognitions

Rationale: On behalf of the BOE, Superintendent Galloway, Caroline Hargraves, Director of Pupil Services, and Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, SHS Principal, will present gifts to the following retirees:

Dr. Michael Wald, SHS School Psychologist
Laurie Somma, SHS Special Education Teacher
Lisa Grenier, SHS School Counselor
Sue Cormier, SHS Science Teacher
Ines Dunn, SHS World Language Teacher

Discussion: Superintendent Galloway thanked this year's retirees for their service and congratulated the retirees on their accomplishments. Ms. Caroline Hargraves introduced Dr. Michael Wald, describing him as a "legend." Dr. Wald served as an educator for over 30 years. He has served many students, including some from their elementary years through graduation. Dr. Wald has provided counseling and support to families to help them understand the impact a student's disability may have on his or her life and ways to help each student live as independently as possible. Dr. Wald hopes he is remembered fondly.

Ms. Hargraves introduced Laurie Somma. Ms. Somma served as a Special Education Teacher for 10 years in Somers. She has served in education for over 30 years. Ms. Somma's door is always open for students, as she cares deeply for them. Ms. Somma plans to spend time with her grandchildren, visit her house on

Cape Cod, and travel to Italy. Ms. Hargraves thanked Ms. Somma for advocating strongly for kids and for her dedication to Somers.

Ms. Hargraves introduced Lisa Grenier, a school counselor in Somers for 25 years. Ms. Grenier was a mentor to Ms. Hargraves early in her career. Ms. Hargraves shared the connection to families and students that Ms. Grenier has formed. The loss of the wealth of knowledge that Ms. Grenier has brought to Somers will be felt for a long time. Ms. Grenier plans to spend time with her granddaughter, Nora, in Colorado and travel in her new RV. Ms. Hargraves shared a personal thank you to Ms. Grenier for her professional support.

Dr. Jaime Rechenberg introduced Ms. Sue Cormier, who she described as the "Ski Club Queen" and "Garden Goddess." Ms. Cormier has taught for over 24 years, but her favorite memories lie in the adventures with students during Ski Club. Ms. Cormier plans to spend time in retirement reading and gardening. Ms. Cormier will miss doing labs with students, but not the grading! Dr. Rechenberg thanked Ms. Cormier for her dedication, adventurous spirit, and wise decision to ditch the red pen.

Ms. Ines Dunn could not attend tonight's meeting. Ms. Dunn served in Somers for 26 years as a team leader and mentor teacher. Superintendent Galloway shared that Ms. Dunn plans to brush up on her Italian and French skills and travel. Ms. Dunn also plans to spend time with her 95-year-old father and may serve as a substitute teacher for the Somers Public Schools.

Superintendent Galloway presented a crystal apple to each retiree.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Approval of the May 12, 2025 BOE Meeting Minutes

Rationale: The Board to review and approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025 Board meeting.

Motion to approve minutes of May 12th Board of Education Meeting. This motion, made by JT Galloway and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Carl Stebbins, Derek Zelek), Abstain 2 (Mike Briggs, Ed DePeau)**

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

5.1. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Galloway thanked the parents and staff for their support during the budget process, along with the Board of Education for endorsing the carefully thought-out budget. The budget process began with the budget subcommittee reviewing the budget line by line over multiple meetings. It then moved to the full Board of Education, and then to the Board of Finance. The Board of Finance endorsed the budget, fully understanding the rationale behind budget decisions. Superintendent Galloway thanked the town's Chief Financial Officer, Brian

Wissinger, noting his partnership during the process. On 5/20/25, the budget was approved. Chair Kirkpatrick thanked the Board of Finance for their support of the budget and for the clear communication that was shared by the Board of Finance to explain the tax increase. Chair Kirkpatrick shared that in the past, approximately 5% of registered voters came out to vote; however, 12.5% of voters voted in this referendum.

The Board of Selectmen will meet on 6/5/25 to designate building committee members. Superintendent Galloway plans to be an active member of the committee and advocate for students.

A Walk-a-Thon was held at MBA on 5/23/25. Over \$1,800 was raised for HARC CT.

Capstone presentations will take place in the SHS Library Media Center on 5/28/25. All Board members are invited to attend.

5.2. School Wellness Committee Report

Rationale: Cheryl Fry, Head Nurse, will present the School Wellness Committee update.

Discussion: Ms. Cheryl Fry, Head Nurse, presented to the Board. Ms. Fry shared the number of visits to the Health Offices across the three schools for various reasons. Ms. Fry advocated for a breakfast program at MBA, noting 739 student visits to the Health Office for food. The MBA Health Office has snacks available funded through the health budget and Choice grant, but these snacks often run out. Students generally visit for food between 7:30-9:30 a.m. Often, the same students visit the Health Office for food. Board Member Shane Manning inquired whether this information has been shared with families. Ms. Fry shared that individual families have been contacted and the Health Office has asked for food donations from the community.

Ms. Fry shared data about hearing, vision and scoliosis screenings. Nurses are continuing to see an overflow of students from the counseling office for mental health needs. In addition to the Nurses involvement in MTSS meetings to stay aligned with student goals, nurses are also involved on the Attendance Committee to help curb chronic absenteeism.

Ms. Fry discussed the use of hygiene kits to supply students with the tools needed to brush their teeth, wash their faces and apply deodorant. The nurses are seeing more students with sleep issues. There were multiple rounds of the flu and pneumonia this year, but not many cases of COVID-19 or strep throat. Allergies were also difficult to manage this year. In addition to students, the nurses also support staff members who visit the nurses office to share their struggles.

Ms. Fry reported positively on this year's new Medical Advisor. The Medical

Advisor visited the schools, reviewed files, and was accessible and responsive. The district returned to in-person training for staff on health related topics like bloodborne pathogens, first aid, and EpiPen administration.

Board Member Mike Briggs inquired about students visiting to report being tired and whether they are legitimately tired or trying to avoid class. Ms. Fry noted that nurses often have to "call the bluff" of MBA students who visit to avoid class. Staff will not deny students access to the nurse. These types of visits are tricky when the health office gets busy with other types of visits. Mr. Briggs also inquired about the correlation between poor nutrition, sleep issues and sickness.

Board Member JT Galloway inquired as to how parents are contacted when it comes to visits for food. Board Member Shane Manning suggested that it is not the district's responsibility to feed and clothe students and inquired whether the requested breakfast program would be for all students or only those in need. Ms. Fry suggested that the program be for all students, but it should not be free of charge.

Chair Kirkpatrick shared that the food issue is concerning. A discussion regarding community resources ensued. Chair Kirkpatrick also noted the rise in anxiety and depression among kids ages 11-14 across the country and inquired whether the number of students with anxiety and depression in Somers is going up. Ms. Fry shared that the diagnoses of these issues is increasing, but parents are not necessarily medicating their children for anxiety and depression. Ms. Fry concluded by sharing that the SPS nurses feel supported and love working in this community.

5.3. SHS Student Representatives

Rationale: SHS students, Emma Ciccirella and Carolyn Castonguay, will update the Board on recent SHS events.

Discussion: SHS representatives Emma Ciccirella and Carolyn Castonguay were unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness and athletic commitments. Dr. Jaime Rechenberg reported the SHS updates. The COTA (Celebration of the Arts) recently took place. During the event, band students played music throughout the school, artwork was displayed, and there was a cabaret in the cafeteria. The band and chorus put on a full concert. The Somers Youth for Change Spirit week took place. This event was spearheaded by Ava DePeau to increase mental health awareness. The AP Art students hosted a Paint Night to fundraise for their field trip to Boston, and the Junior class held a car wash. The BioBlitz was a success. Students investigated at stations and completed scavenger hunts. AP and NGSS testing are complete. Students showed up, asked questions and stayed for extra time if needed. Any student who showed a certain level of growth or met proficiency will be exempt from the final exam in their science class. Dr. Rechenberg shared thanks to all the parents who supported Teacher Appreciation Week. SHS students, Molly Tabb and Devon Nethercott brought their Capstone

projects from the Fall to life by hosting the Morgan's Challenge community event. The purpose of the event was to bring awareness to suicide among athletes and break down the stigma of asking for help. Through the project, 35 bicycles were delivered to the MBA gym for Somers families by partnering with a bicycle group in Massachusetts.

The Honors English 9 students went to the Mark Twain House. George and Molly, therapy dogs, retired. Additionally, yearbooks were released. Rockville Bank Community Foundation Scholarships were awarded. Chorus and band students participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony.

Architecture Design II students presented their kitchen and classroom design projects. Students applied their skills from class to revamp the existing kitchen and classroom spaces. Seven students collaborated, interviewed staff at school and in the industry, and worked with construction managers to design the spaces. Students used CAD to create a walking tour.

Capstone Projects will be presented on 5/28/25. The Prom will take place on 5/29/25. Underclassmen Awards will be held on 6/3/25, Senior Awards on 6/4/25, and the Senior Picnic on 6/6/25. The Step Up Day will take place on 6/9/25. Graduation will be on 6/12/25.

6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD/DELETE AGENDA ITEMS

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Kim Radziewicz and seconded by Ed DePeau, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Carl Stebbins, Derek Zelek)**

7.1. Warrant of May 27, 2025

Rationale: The Board to review and consent to the warrant of May 27, 2025.

7.2. Resignations

Rationale:

- Laurina Sanford, 6th Grade Math Teacher, will resign effective June 30, 2025.
- MaryBeth Lipman, 8th Grade ELA Teacher, will resign effective June 30, 2025.
- Timothy Foster-Kibbler, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher, will resign at the end of the school year.

7.3. Retirements

Rationale:

- Sue Cormier, SHS Science Teacher, will be retiring at the end of the 2024-2025 school year after nearly 25 years with SPS.

- Lisa Grenier, SHS School Counselor, will be retiring effective June 19, 2025, after nearly 25 years with SPS.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1. Curriculum

The next meeting will be held on 6/9/25 at 5:30 p.m.

10.2. Policy

The next meeting will be held on 6/23/25 at 6 p.m.

10.3. Planning/Finance

This committee is on hold.

10.4. Salary & Negotiations

This committee is on hold.

10.5. Building

A meeting will be held on 6/5/25 to update members and schedule future meetings.

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

SEF's Spring Fest raised around \$39,000. Board Member Jan Martin shared that the presentations were impressive and both of the proposed grants were approved.

12. AUDIENCE TO CITIZENS/STAFF/STUDENTS

Community Member Julie Hinkley suggested that securing food for the health office could be an SEF grant opportunity.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Rationale: The Board to enter into Executive Session and invite Dr. Galloway into Executive Session to discuss his evaluation.

Motion that the Board enter Executive Session and invite Dr. Galloway to discuss his Evaluation at 8:10pm. This motion, made by Kim Radziewicz and seconded by Shane Manning, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Carl Stebbins, Derek Zelek)**

The Board exited Executive Session at 8:55 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. This motion, made by Shane Manning and seconded by Jan Martin, Carried. **Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Carl Stebbins, Derek Zelek)**

Jan Martin, BOE Secretary Date

Jenna McDermott, BOE Recording Secretary

2024-2025

Monthly Report

(Through 5/30/2025)

CATEGORY	ITEM	Approved Budget	Budget Adjustment	Revised Budget	Actual Expenditures	Encumbered	Total Projection	Variance	% +/-
Salaries	Teachers	12,564,669	(223,911)	12,340,758	9,909,843	2,397,759	12,307,602	33,156	0.26%
	Secretaries/Paraprofessionals	2,454,866	(6,410)	2,448,456	2,204,845	211,404	2,416,249	32,207	1.31%
	Administrators	1,812,352	6,180	1,818,532	1,670,176	154,272	1,824,448	(5,916)	-0.33%
	Custodians/Maintainers	981,153	0	981,153	889,425	76,865	966,291	14,862	1.51%
	Other Instructional	536,473	103,831	640,304	541,719	89,330	631,049	9,255	1.73%
	Nurses	301,269	944	302,213	232,822	56,664	289,485	12,728	4.22%
	Medical Advisor	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	-	0.00%
	SUBTOTAL	18,652,282	(119,366)	18,532,916	15,450,330	2,986,293	18,436,624	96,292	0.52%
Insurance & Benefits	Health Insurance	3,705,290	(13,229)	3,692,061	3,358,874	317,197	3,676,071	15,990	0.43%
	Social Security	577,250	35,000	612,250	541,964	71,624	613,588	(1,338)	-0.23%
	Pension	221,000	0	221,000	224,150	5,089	229,238	(8,238)	-3.73%
	Worker's Comp	95,030	0	95,030	90,736	0	90,736	4,294	4.52%
	Property / Liability	101,905	0	101,905	102,209	0	102,209	(304)	-0.30%
	Long Term Disability	45,000	0	45,000	36,223	3,777	40,000	5,000	11.11%
	Life Insurance	25,000	0	25,000	18,175	1,825	20,000	5,000	20.00%
	School Board Legal	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	-	0.00%
	Unemployment	0	13,229	13,229	13,207	0	13,207	22	#DIV/0!
	OPEB	31,668	0	31,668	31,668	0	31,668	-	0.00%
Tuition Reimbursement	9,500	0	9,500	1,988	0	1,988	7,512	79.07%	
SUBTOTAL	4,821,643	35,000	4,856,643	4,429,194	399,511	4,828,705	27,938	0.58%	
Tuition	Special Education	964,375	0	964,375	831,861	141,092	972,954	(8,579)	-0.89%
	Non-Special Education	128,000	0	128,000	76,128	3,950	80,078	47,922	37.44%
	SUBTOTAL	1,092,375	0	1,092,375	907,989	145,042	1,053,032	39,343	3.60%
Transportation	Regular Transportation	985,820	44,000	1,029,820	831,542	193,311	1,024,853	4,967	0.50%
	Special Education Transportation	461,780	26,000	487,780	401,863	158,475	560,338	(72,558)	-15.71%
	Athletics/Field Trips	48,300	0	48,300	39,881	4,773	44,654	3,646	7.55%
	SUBTOTAL	1,495,900	70,000	1,565,900	1,273,285	356,560	1,629,845	(63,945)	-4.27%
Utilities	Electricity	519,000	0	519,000	459,869	59,131	519,000	-	0.00%
	Fuel	160,300	0	160,300	183,371	5,193	188,565	(28,265)	-17.63%
	Telephones	37,600	0	37,600	35,485	5,362	40,847	(3,247)	-8.63%
	SUBTOTAL	716,900	0	716,900	678,725	69,686	748,411	(31,511)	-4.40%
Maintenance	General/Dept Maint	723,623	0	723,623	612,686	110,937	723,623	-	0.00%
	Custodial Supplies	60,500	0	60,500	51,437	9,063	60,500	-	0.00%
	SUBTOTAL	784,123	0	784,123	664,122	120,001	784,123	-	0.00%
Instructional Resources	Books, Textbooks, Workbooks	78,985	(6,716)	72,269	70,248	798	71,046	1,223	1.55%
	Technology AV Materials	116,110	0	116,110	111,830	0	111,830	4,280	3.69%
	General & Dept Supplies	173,885	7,418	181,303	159,477	6,906	166,383	14,920	8.58%
	SUBTOTAL	368,980	702	369,682	341,555	7,704	349,259	20,423	5.54%
Extracurricular	Coaches	219,513	4,235	223,748	189,138	27,295	216,433	7,315	3.33%
	Activity Advisors	72,337	0	72,337	212	75,037	75,249	(2,912)	-4.03%
	Athletic/Academic Act	99,250	0	99,250	77,356	21,894	99,250	-	0.00%
	SUBTOTAL	391,100	4,235	395,335	266,705	124,227	390,932	4,403	1.13%
Equipment	New and Replacement	316,850	0	316,850	301,022	6,360	307,382	9,468	2.99%
Admin Overhead	Postage, Dues, Travel, BOE Exp., etc.	198,680	9,429	208,109	167,751	37,620	205,372	2,737	1.38%
	GRAND TOTAL	28,838,833.00	0.00	28,838,833.00	24,480,679.84	4,253,004.24	28,733,684.08	105,148.92	0.36%
As of 6/2/2025									

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION VOUCHER

Voucher No: 1351

Voucher Date: 06/09/2025

Prepared By:

L. Bergamini
Printed: 06/04/2025 10:11:27 AM

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION is hereby authorized to draw warrants against SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION funds for the sum of \$338,562.79 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (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
Stephanie Levin Director of Business Services

SOMERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Fund	Amount
10 GENERAL FUND	\$338,562.79
	\$338,562.79

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 6/9/2025 **To Date:** 6/9/2025

From Check: 26186 **To Check:** 26237

From Voucher: 1351 **To Voucher:** 1351

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
26186	06/09/2025	Advance Auto Parts	\$538.83	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26187	06/09/2025	Amazon Capital Services	\$2,328.74	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26188	06/09/2025	Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	\$262,598.60	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26189	06/09/2025	Avery Septic Service	\$100.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26190	06/09/2025	Awards & More	\$645.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26191	06/09/2025	Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc	\$357.66	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26192	06/09/2025	C.E.S	\$757.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26193	06/09/2025	CAS, Inc	\$6,120.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26194	06/09/2025	CHLIC	\$11,765.18	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26195	06/09/2025	COX Business	\$207.35	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26196	06/09/2025	DG Graphics	\$506.11	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26197	06/09/2025	EdTechTeacher Inc. c/o Tom Driscoll	\$500.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26198	06/09/2025	Elan Financial Services	\$730.59	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26199	06/09/2025	Ellington Board of Education	\$15,966.68	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26200	06/09/2025	Eric Barakat	\$75.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26201	06/09/2025	Eversource Energy	\$5,420.74	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26202	06/09/2025	First Student, Inc	\$677.83	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26203	06/09/2025	Gateway Enterprise Corporation	\$44.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26204	06/09/2025	Geissler's Supermarket, Inc	\$31.28	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26205	06/09/2025	Gerry's Music Shop, Inc.	\$466.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26206	06/09/2025	Grainger	\$227.82	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26207	06/09/2025	Hillyard-New England	\$87.79	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26208	06/09/2025	ID Shop, Inc	\$433.68	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26209	06/09/2025	IVEY Industries	\$131.92	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 6/9/2025 **To Date:** 6/9/2025
From Check: 26186 **To Check:** 26237
From Voucher: 1351 **To Voucher:** 1351

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
26210	06/09/2025	J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc.	\$244.79	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26211	06/09/2025	James MacFeat	\$294.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26212	06/09/2025	Jostans, Inc.	\$49.70	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26213	06/09/2025	JP Climate Control LLC	\$605.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26214	06/09/2025	K&S Distributors	\$833.66	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26215	06/09/2025	Lynn Erickson	\$44.44	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26216	06/09/2025	MagnaKleen Services	\$108.61	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26217	06/09/2025	Massachusetts Dept of Unemployment Asst	\$500.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26218	06/09/2025	MTE	\$247.42	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26219	06/09/2025	Nicholas Kosloski	\$78.40	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26220	06/09/2025	Nuso, LLC	\$116.98	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26221	06/09/2025	OMNI Group	\$20.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26222	06/09/2025	Pioneer Athletics	\$473.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26223	06/09/2025	Pitney Bowes, Inc.	\$132.79	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26224	06/09/2025	Pro-Ed, Inc.	\$440.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26225	06/09/2025	Shipman & Goodwin, LLP	\$290.50	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26226	06/09/2025	State of Connecticut-Treasurer	\$2,205.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26227	06/09/2025	The Growth Company	\$310.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26228	06/09/2025	The Hartford	\$5,022.59	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26229	06/09/2025	The Stepping Stones Group LLC	\$220.88	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26230	06/09/2025	Town of Somers	\$8,273.09	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26231	06/09/2025	Tyler Technologies, Inc.	\$485.17	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26232	06/09/2025	Valerie Barneau	\$150.00	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Somers Board of Education

Check Listing

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

Criteria:

Bank Account: BOE AP CASH 1918032563

From Date: 6/9/2025 **To Date:** 6/9/2025
From Check: 26186 **To Check:** 26237
From Voucher: 1351 **To Voucher:** 1351

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount	Voucher	Status	Type	Cleared?	Clear Date	Void Date
26233	06/09/2025	Verizon Wireless	\$454.73	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26234	06/09/2025	VEX Robotics Inc	\$189.64	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26235	06/09/2025	Willie Ross School of the Deaf	\$1,893.20	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26236	06/09/2025	Xerox Corporation	\$4,026.29	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		
26237	06/09/2025	Yankee Sheet Metal, Inc.	\$135.11	1351	Printed	Expense	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Total Amount: \$338,562.79

End of Report



Students

Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

This policy is referenced in all student handbooks as well as included in the Board of Education Policy Manual available on the district website at www.somers.k12.ct.us

Policy Objectives

1. **Ensure Safety and Order:** Maintain a secure and disciplined school environment conducive to learning and free from violence, threats, and disruptive behaviors.
2. **Promote Equity and Fairness:** Apply disciplinary measures in an equitable, consistent, and unbiased manner, ensuring that all students are treated with dignity and respect.
3. **Support Progressive Discipline:** Implement a progressive discipline model that focuses on intervention and prevention strategies to address and correct student behavior before it escalates.
4. **Implement Restorative Practices:** Incorporate restorative practices that emphasize accountability, reparation of harm, and the restoration of relationships within the school community.
5. **Encourage Personal Responsibility:** Foster a sense of personal responsibility and self-discipline in students, helping them to understand the consequences of their actions and to make better choices in the future.
6. **Engage Families and Communities:** Involve parents, guardians, and community members in the disciplinary process to support students in their behavioral and academic growth.

Policy Guidelines

1. Clear Expectations and Communication:

- Establish and communicate clear behavioral expectations and the consequences of violating them.
- Ensure that all students, staff, and parents/guardians are aware of the discipline policy and procedures.

2. Progressive Discipline Framework:

- Utilize a tiered approach to discipline that escalates in response to the severity and frequency of the behavior.

- Implement early intervention strategies such as counseling, mentoring, and behavior modification plans to address minor infractions.

3. Restorative Practices:

- Employ restorative practices such as mediation, peer counseling, and restorative circles to address conflicts and repair harm.
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their actions and to actively participate in the resolution process.

4. Consistent and Fair Application:

- Ensure that disciplinary measures are applied consistently and fairly across all student populations.
- Monitor and address any disparities in the application of disciplinary actions to prevent discrimination or bias.

5. Supportive Interventions:

- Provide support services such as counseling, social work, and mental health resources to help students address underlying issues contributing to behavioral problems.
- Develop individualized behavior plans for students with recurring or severe behavioral issues.

6. Engagement and Collaboration:

- Engage families in the disciplinary process through regular communication and involvement in restorative practices.
- Collaborate with community organizations and resources to support students and families in addressing behavioral and social-emotional needs.

7. Training and Professional Development:

- Provide ongoing training for staff on progressive discipline, restorative practices, and culturally responsive approaches to student behavior.
- Encourage staff to develop skills in conflict resolution, de-escalation techniques, and positive behavior support.

Review and Accountability

The Somers Board of Education will regularly review the effectiveness of its discipline policy, incorporating feedback from students, staff, parents, and the community. Data on disciplinary actions and their outcomes will be collected and analyzed to ensure continuous improvement and the achievement of policy objectives.

By adopting this balanced approach to discipline, the Somers Public School District aims to create a school environment where all students can learn, grow, and succeed while feeling safe and supported.

It is the goal of the Board of Education to ensure the safety and welfare of all students in attendance, and to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning. In keeping with this goal, students are expected to comply with school rules and regulations, as well as Board policies. Students may be disciplined for conduct on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity that endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or that violates a publicized policy of the Board. Students may be disciplined for conduct off school grounds if such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process and violates a publicized policy of the Board.

In working with students, emphasis shall be placed upon developing effective self-discipline as the most effective disciplinary approach.

An authorized member of the Administrative Staff may suspend a student whose conduct endangers persons or property or is seriously disruptive of the education process, or which violates a published policy of the Board of Education. (CGS [10-233c](#))

Suspension is exclusion from regular classroom activity for no more than ten (10) consecutive school days, but not exclusion from school, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such in-school suspension was imposed. Suspensions shall be in-school suspensions unless the administration determines for any student in grades three through twelve inclusive, that the student being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that the student grades three through twelve inclusive shall be excluded from school during the period of suspension.

The Board of Education may expel any student whose conduct endangers persons or property or is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or violates a published policy of the Board, in accordance with CGS [10-233d](#).

Expulsion is exclusion from school privileges for any student in grades three through twelve inclusive for more than ten (10) consecutive school days and shall be deemed to include but not be limited to, exclusion from the school to which such student was assigned at the time such disciplinary action was taken, provided that assignment to a regular classroom program in a different school in the district shall not constitute a suspension or an expulsion. Such period of exclusion may extend to the school year following the school year in which the exclusion was imposed, up to one calendar year.

A. Definitions

1. "Exclusion" shall be defined as any denial of public school privileges to a student for disciplinary purposes.
2. "Removal" shall be defined as an exclusion from a classroom for all or a part of single class period, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond ninety (90) minutes.
3. "In-School Suspension" means an exclusion from regular classroom activity for no more than five consecutive days, but not exclusion from school, provided such exclusion

shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such in-school suspension was imposed. Such suspensions shall be served in any school building under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education.

4. "Suspension" means an exclusion from school privileges or from transportation services, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which suspension was imposed. An out-of-school suspension for students in grades 3-12 shall not exceed ten days. An out-of-school suspension imposed for children in preschool to second grade shall not exceed five days.

All suspensions shall be in-school unless the administration determines for any student in grades three through twelve that (1) the student being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that the student (grades three to twelve) shall be excluded from school during the period of the suspension, or (2) that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate based on evidence of previous disciplinary issues that have led to suspensions or expulsion of the student and efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary issues through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion, including positive support strategies.

A student in grades preschool to two, inclusive, may be given an out-of-school suspension if it is determined by the administration that such suspension is appropriate based on evidence that the student's conduct on school grounds is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers persons. In addition, a person's duty as a mandated reporter to report suspected child abuse or neglect is not limited by this provision.

5. "Expulsion" shall be defined as an exclusion from school privileges for any student in grades three to twelve, inclusive, for more than ten (10) consecutive school days and shall be deemed to include but not be limited to, exclusion from the school to which such student was assigned at the time such disciplinary action was taken, provided that assignment to a regular classroom program in a different school in the district shall not constitute a suspension or an expulsion. Such period of exclusion may extend to the school year following the school year in which the exclusion was imposed, up to one calendar year. To be expelled, the student's conduct must be found to be both violative of a Board policy and either seriously disruptive of the educational process or endangering persons or property.

Unless an emergency exists, no student shall be expelled without a formal hearing provided whenever such student is a minor, the notice shall also be given to the parents or guardians of the student at least five business days before such hearing, not including the day of such hearing. If an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible. The notice shall include information concerning the parent's or guardian's and the student's legal rights and concerning legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally and how to access such services. An attorney or other advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent or guardian of the student shall have the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

6. "Emergency" shall be defined as a situation under which the continued presence of the student in the school imposes such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that a hearing may be delayed until a time as soon after the exclusion of such student as possible.
7. "Days" is defined as days when school is in session.
8. "School-sponsored activity" is defined as any activity sponsored, recognized or authorized by the Board of Education and includes activities conducted on or off school property.
9. "Possess" means to have physical possession or otherwise to exercise dominion or control over tangible property.
10. "Deadly weapon" means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles. A weapon such as a pellet gun and/or airsoft pistol may constitute a deadly weapon if such weapon is designed for violence and is capable of inflicting death or serious bodily harm.
11. "Firearm" means 1) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; 2) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; 3) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or 4) any destructive device. Firearm does not include any antique firearm. For purposes of this definition "destructive device" means any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce, mine, or device similar to any of the weapons described herein. A "destructive device" does not include an antique firearm; a rifle intended to be used by the owner solely for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes; or any device which is neither designed nor redesigned for use as a weapon.
12. "Vehicle" means a "motor vehicle" as defined in Section [14-1](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes, snow mobile, any aircraft, or any vessel equipped for propulsion by mechanical means or sail.
13. "Martial arts weapon" means a nunchakum kama, kasari-fundo, octagon sai, tonfa or Chinese star.
14. "Dangerous Drugs and Narcotics" is defined as any controlled drug in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §219-240.
15. "Alternate education" means a school or program maintained and operated by the Board of Education that is offered to students in a nontraditional setting and addresses their social, emotional, behavioral and academic needs. Such program must conform to SBE guidelines and conform to C.G.S. [10-15](#) and [16](#) (180 days/900 hours).
16. "Dangerous Instrument" means any instrument, article, or substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used or attempted or threatened to be used, is capable of causing death or serious physical injury, and includes a "vehicle" or a dog that has been commanded to attack.

17. "Seriously disruptive of the educational process" means, as applied to off-campus conduct, any conduct that markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day-to-day operation of a school.

B. Removal from Class

1. All teachers are hereby authorized to remove a student from class when such student causes a serious disruption of the educational process within the classroom.
2. Such teacher shall send the student to a designated area and shall immediately inform the building Principal or his/her designee as to the name of the student and the reason for removal.
3. No student shall be removed from class more than six (6) times in any year nor more than twice in one week, unless such student is referred to the Building Principal or his/her designee and granted an informal hearing in accordance with the provisions of this policy, as stated in G(3).
4. A school principal or other school administrator shall notify a parent or guardian of a student whose behavior has caused a serious disruption to the instruction of other students, caused self-harm or caused physical harm to a teacher, another student or other school employee not later than twenty-four hours after such behavior occurs. Such notice shall include, but not be limited to, informing such parent or guardian that the teacher of record in the classroom in which such behavior occurred may request a behavior intervention meeting.

Any teacher of record in a classroom may request a behavior intervention meeting with the crisis intervention team for the school, for any student whose behavior has caused a serious disruption to the instruction of other students, or caused self-harm or physical harm to such teacher or another student or staff member in such teacher's classroom. The crisis intervention team shall, upon the request of such teacher and notifying such student's parent or guardian, convene a behavior intervention meeting regarding such student. The participants of such behavior intervention meeting shall identify resources and support to address such student's social, emotional and instructional needs. Not later than seven days after the behavior intervention meeting, the crisis intervention team shall submit to the parent or guardian of such student, in the dominant language of such parent or guardian, a written summary of such meeting, including, but not limited to, the resources and supports identified.

C. Exclusion from Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

Participation in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not an entitlement. Students involved in such programs are expected to follow all school rules and demonstrate good citizenship. Failure to do so may result in partial or complete exclusion from said activities and programs. Activities include, but are not limited to, athletic programs, musical or drama productions, clubs, field trips, and school trips out-of-state and abroad.

D. Suspension and Expulsion

A. A student may be suspended in-school or suspended out-of-school (grade three to twelve, inclusive) for conduct on school property or at a school-sponsored activity (including on a school bus), that endangers persons or property, is violative of a publicized policy of the Board, or is seriously disruptive of the educational process.

B. A student may be expelled (grade three to twelve, inclusive) whose conduct on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity is violative of a publicized Board policy and is seriously disruptive of the educational process or endangers persons or property or whose conduct off school grounds is violative of such policy (CGA Public Act 19-91).

A student may be suspended in-school or out-of-school or expelled for conduct including but not limited to one or more of the following reasons:

1. Conduct causing danger to the physical well-being of himself/herself or other people that is not reasonably necessary for self-defense;
2. Intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical injury to another person that is not reasonably necessary for self-defense;
3. Striking or assaulting a student, members of the school staff or other persons.
4. Theft
5. Violation of smoking, dress, transportation regulations, or other regulations and/or policies governing student conduct.
6. Intentionally causing or attempting to cause damage or school property or material
7. Stealing or attempting to steal private or school property or taking or attempting to take personal property or money from any other person;
8. The use of obscene or profane language or gestures, the possession and/or display of obscenity or pornographic images or the unauthorized or inappropriate or inappropriate possession and/or display of images, pictures or photographs depicting nudity.
9. Refusal to obey the directions or orders of a member of the school staff; law enforcement authorities, or school volunteers, or disruptive classroom behavior.
10. Refusal by a student to identify himself/herself to a staff member when asked, misidentification of oneself to such person(s), lying to school officials or otherwise engaging in dishonest behavior.
11. Any act of harassment based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, disability, national origin or ancestry.
12. Inappropriate displays of public affection of a sexual nature and/or sexual activity on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity.
13. A walk-out from or sit-in within a classroom or school building or school grounds.

14. Blackmailing, threatening or intimidating school staff or students (or acting in a manner that could be construed to constitute blackmail, a threat, or intimidation, regardless of whether intended as a joke).
15. Unauthorized entrance into any school facility or portion of a school facility or aiding or abetting an unauthorized entrance.
16. Harassment and/or hazing/bullying on the basis of that person's race, religion, ethnic background, gender or sexual orientation;
17. Open defiance of the authority of any teacher or person having authority over the student, including verbal abuse;
18. Threatening in any manner, including orally, in writing, or via electronic communication, a member of the school including any teacher, a member of the school administration or any other employee, or a fellow student;
19. Possession of any weapon, weapon facsimile, deadly weapon, martial arts weapon, electronic defense weapon, pistol, knife, blackjack, bludgeon, box cutter, metal knuckles, pellet gun, air pistol, explosive device, firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, whether functional or not, or any other dangerous object or instrument. The possession and/or use of any object or device that has been converted or modified for use as a weapon.
20. Possession of any ammunition for any weapon described above in paragraph.
21. Unauthorized entrance into any school facility or portion of a school facility or aiding or abetting an unauthorized entrance.
22. Possession or ignition of any fireworks, combustible or other explosive materials, or ignition of any material causing a fire. Possession of any materials designed to be used in the ignition of combustible materials, including matches and lighters.
23. Unlawful possession, sale, distribution, use, or consumption of tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems (e.g. e-cigarettes), vapor products, drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages (or any facsimile of tobacco, drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages, or any item represented to be tobacco, drugs or alcoholic beverages), including being under the influence of any such substances or aiding in the procurement of any such substances. For the purposes of this Paragraph 15, the term "electronic nicotine delivery system" shall mean an electronic device that may be used to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device. For the purposes of Paragraph 15, the term "vapor product" shall mean any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine that is inhaled by the user of such product. For the purposes of this Paragraph 15, the term "drugs" shall include, but shall not be limited to, any medicinal preparation (prescription and non-prescription) and any controlled

substance whose possession, sale, distribution, use or consumption is illegal under state and/or federal law.

24. Sale, distribution, or consumption of substances contained in household items; including, but not limited to glue, paint, accelerants/propellants for aerosol canisters, and/or items such as the aerators for whipped cream; if sold, distributed or consumed for the purpose of inducing a stimulant, depressant, hallucinogenic or mind-altering effect.

25. Unlawful possession of paraphernalia used or designed to be used in the consumption, sale or distribution of drugs, alcohol or tobacco, as described in subparagraph (15) above. For purposes of this policy, drug paraphernalia includes any equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in growing, harvesting, manufacturing, producing, preparing, packaging, storing, containing or concealing, or injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing controlled drugs or controlled substances into the human body, including but not limited to items such as "bongs," pipes, "roach clips," vials, tobacco rolling papers, and any object or container used, intended or designed for use in storing, concealing, possessing, distributing or selling controlled drugs or controlled substances.

26. The destruction of real, personal or school property, such as, cutting, defacing or otherwise damaging property in any way.

27. Accumulation of offenses such as school and class tardiness, class or study hall cutting, or failure to attend detention.

28. Trespassing on school grounds while on out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

29. Making false bomb threats or other threats to the safety of students, staff members, and/or other persons.

30. Defiance of school rules and the valid authority of teachers, supervisors, administrators, other staff members and/or law enforcement authorities.

31. Throwing snowballs, rocks, sticks and/or similar objects, except as specifically authorized by school staff.

32. Unauthorized and/or reckless and/or improper operation of a motor vehicle on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity.

33. Leaving school grounds, school transportation or a school-sponsored activity without authorization.

34. Possession and/or use of a beeper or paging device on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity without the written permission of the principal or his/her designee.

35. Unauthorized use of any school computer, computer system, computer software, Internet connection or similar school property or system, or the use of such property or system for inappropriate purposes.

36. Possession and/or use of a laser pointer, unless the student possesses the laser pointer temporarily for an educational purpose while under the direct supervision of a responsible adult.

37. Hazing.

38. Knowingly being in the presence of those who are in possession of using, transmitting, or being under the influence of any dangerous drug, narcotic, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind;

39. Participation in any unauthorized occupancy by any group of students or others of any part of any school, school premises or other building owned by any school district after having been ordered to leave said school premises or other facility by the Principal or other person then in charge of said school building or facility;

40. A walk-out from or sit-in within a classroom or school building or school grounds.

41. Intentional incitement which results in an unauthorized occupation of, or walkout from, any school building, school premises, facility or classroom by any group of students or other persons;

42. Intentional and successful incitement of truancy by other students;

43. The use or copying of the academic work of another and the presenting of it as one's own without proper attribution; or any other form of academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism.

44. Violation of school rules and practices or Board policy, regulation or agreement, including that dealing with conduct on school buses and the use of school district equipment;

45. Violation of any federal or state law which would indicate that the violator presents a danger to any person in the school community or to school property;

46. Lying, misleading or being deceitful to a school employee or person having authority over the student;

47. Leaving school grounds, school transportation or a school- sponsored activity without authorization.

48. Violation of smoking, dress, transportation regulations, or other regulations and/or policies governing student conduct.

~~49. Bullying, defined as the repeated use by one or more students of a written, oral or electronic communication, such as cyberbullying directed at another student attending school in the same district, or a physical act or gesture by one or more students repeatedly directed at another student attending school in the same school district, which:~~

~~a) causes physical or emotional harm to such student or damage to such student's property;~~

~~b) places such student in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself, or of damage to his or her property;~~

~~c) creates a hostile environment at school for such student;~~

~~d) infringes on the rights of such student at school; or~~

~~e) substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.~~

~~d) infringes on the rights of such student at school; or~~

~~e) substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.~~

~~Bullying includes, but is not limited to, repeated written, oral or electronic communications or physical acts or gestures based on any actual or perceived differentiating characteristics, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, academic status, physical appearance, or mental, physical, developmental or sensory disability, or by association with an individual or group who has or is perceived to have one or more of such characteristics.~~

49. "Bullying" means unwanted and aggressive behavior among children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, that involves a real or perceived power imbalance.

50. Cyberbullying, defined as any act of bullying through the use of the Internet, interactive and digital technologies, cellular mobile telephone or other mobile electronic devices or any electronic communications.

51. Acting in any manner that creates a health and/or safety hazard for staff members, students, or the public, regardless of whether the conduct is intended as a joke.

52. Engaging in a plan to stage or create a violent situation for the purposes of recording it by electronic means; or recording by electronic means acts of violence for purposes of later publication.

53. Engaging in a plan to stage sexual activity for the purposes of recording it by electronic means; or recording by electronic means sexual acts for purposes of later publication.

54. Using computer systems, including email, instant messaging, text messaging, blogging or the use of social networking websites, or other forms of electronic communications, to engage in any conduct prohibited by this policy.

55. Use of a privately owned electronic or technological device in violation of school rules, including the unauthorized recording (photographic or audio) of another individual without permission of the individual or a school staff member.

E. Scope of the Student Discipline Policy

a. Conduct on School Grounds or at a School-Sponsored Activity

Students may be disciplined for conduct on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity that endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or that violates a publicized policy of the Board.

b. Conduct off School Grounds

1. Students are subject to suspension for conduct off school property and outside of school-sponsored activities in accordance with law, for conduct that violates a publicized policy of the Board and is seriously disruptive of the educational process, including but not limited to the following:

a. Conduct leading to a violation of any federal or state law if that conduct is determined to pose a danger to the student himself/herself, other students, school employees or school property.

b. Adjudication as a delinquent or a youthful offender as the result of a felony if the conduct leading to the adjudication is determined to pose a danger to the student himself/herself, other students, school employees or school property.

2. In making a determination as to whether conduct is "seriously disruptive of the educational process," the administration, Board of Education or impartial hearing board may consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to; (1) whether the incident occurred within close proximity of a school; (2) whether other students from the school were involved or whether there was any gang involvement; (3) whether the conduct involved violence, threats of violence or the unlawful use of a weapon as defined in Section 29-38 and whether any injuries occurred, and (4) whether the conduct involved the use of alcohol, narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate or marijuana.

F. Mandatory Expulsion

It shall be the policy of the Board to expel a student, grades preschool, and kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for one full calendar year if:

1. The student, on grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, was in possession of a firearm, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921*, as amended from time to time, or deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, as defined in C.G.S. [53A-3](#); or the student, off school grounds, did possess such firearm in violation of C.G.S. [29-35](#) or did possess and use such a firearm, instrument or weapon in the commission of a crime; or the student, on or off school grounds offered for sale or distribution a controlled substance, as defined in subdivision (9) of C.G.S. [21a-240](#), whose manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting or possessing with intent to sell or dispense,

offering or administering is subject to criminal penalties under C.G.S. [21-277](#) and [21a-278](#).

*A firearm; currently defined by 18 U.S.C. 921, is any weapon that can expel a projectile by an explosive action and includes explosive devices, incendiaries, poison gases, and firearm frames, receivers, mufflers or silencers.

2. Such a student shall be expelled for one calendar year if the Board of Education or impartial hearing board finds that the student did so possess or so possess and use, as appropriate, such a weapon or firearm, instrument or weapon or did so offer for sale or distribution such a controlled substance.
3. The Board may modify the period of a mandatory expulsion on a case-by-case basis.
4. A firearm, as defined by C.G.S. [53a-3](#) includes any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver, or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, a gravity knife, billy, black jack, bludgeon or metal knuckles.
5. A student enrolled in a preschool program provided by the Board of Education, state or local charter school or inter district magnet school shall not be expelled from such school except that a student shall be expelled for one calendar year from such preschool program pursuant to the mandatory expulsion requirement in compliance with the Gun-Free School Act, as described in this section.

G. Suspension Procedure

All suspensions shall be in-school suspensions, except the Board of Education may authorize the administration of schools under its direction to impose an out-of-school suspension on any student in:

1. Grades three to twelve, inclusive, if, resulting from a due process hearing:
 - a. The administration determines that the student being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that the student shall be excluded from school during the period of suspension;
 - b. The administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such student based on evidence of:
 - i. Previous disciplinary problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such student, and
 - ii. Efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion, including positive behavioral support strategies; or for grades preschool to two if during the due process hearing:
2. The administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such student based on evidence that such student's conduct on school grounds is behavior that causes physical harm;

3. Requires that such student receives services that are trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate and align with any behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program, or plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, for such student upon such student's return to school immediately following the out-of-school suspension; and
4. Considers whether to convene a planning and placement team meeting for the purposes of conducting an evaluation to determine whether such student may require special education or related services.

An out-of-school suspension shall not exceed ten school days for students in grades 3-12.

An out-of-school suspension shall not exceed five school days for children in preschool through 2 grade.

An in-school suspension may be served in the student's school or any school building under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, as determined by such board.

The administration shall also have the authority to suspend a student from transportation services whose conduct while awaiting or receiving transportation violates the standards set forth in paragraph C, above. The administration shall have the authority to immediately suspend from school any student when an emergency exists as that term is defined in paragraph A, above.

If an emergency situation exists, the hearing outlined in paragraph G (3) shall be held as soon as possible after the exclusion of the student.

5. In the case of suspension, the administration shall notify the student's parents and the Superintendent of Schools not later than twenty-four (24) hours of the suspension as to the name of the student who has been suspended and the reason therefore. Any student who is suspended shall be given an opportunity to complete any class work including, but not limited to, examinations which such student missed during the period of his/her suspension.

6. Except in the case of an emergency, as defined in paragraph A, above, a student shall be afforded the opportunity to meet with the administration and to respond to the stated charges prior to the effectuation of any period of suspension or in-school suspension. If, at such a meeting the student denies the stated charges, he/she may at that time present his/her version of the incident(s) upon which the proposed suspension is based. The administration shall then determine whether or not suspension or in-school suspension is warranted. In determining the length of a suspension period, the administration may receive and consider evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, in-school suspension, or expulsion.

7. For any student who is suspended for the first time and who has never been expelled, the school administration may shorten the length of or waive the suspension period if the student successfully completes an administration-specified program and meets any other administration-required conditions. Such program shall be at no expense to the student or his/her parents/guardians.

8. No student shall be suspended more than ten times or a total of fifty (50) days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, unless a hearing as provided in paragraph H(5) is first granted.

9. No student shall be placed on in-school suspension more than fifteen times or a total of fifty (50) days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, unless a hearing as provided in paragraph H(5) is first granted.

H. Expulsion Procedures

1. The Board of Education may, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, expel any student for one or more of the reasons stated in this policy if in the judgment of the Board of Education, such disciplinary action is in the best interest of the school system.

2. Upon receipt of a recommendation for expulsion from the Superintendent of Schools the Board shall, after giving written notice, at least five (5) business days before such hearing, to the student and his parents or guardian, if said student is less than 18 years of age, conduct a hearing prior to taking any action on the expulsion of said student, provided however, that in the event of an emergency as defined in this policy, the student may be expelled prior to the hearing but in such case even a hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible. The notice shall include information concerning the student's and his/her parent's/guardian's legal rights and concerning legal services that are provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally (CT Legal Service a source of such services) and how to access such services. An attorney or other advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent/guardian of the student has the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

3. Three members of the Board of Education shall constitute a quorum for an expulsion hearing. A student may be expelled if a majority of the Board members sitting in the expulsion hearing vote to expel and provided at least three affirmative votes for expulsion are cast. The Board of Education, in accordance with Section 10-233d(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, may appoint impartial hearing officers to preside in expulsion hearings. A list of appointees shall be maintained by the Superintendent. The Chair of the Board, in consultation with the Superintendent, may assign impartial hearing officers to preside over expulsion hearings from a list approved by the Board as needed.

4. A special education student's handicapping conditions shall be considered before making a decision to expel. A Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting must be held to determine whether the behavior or student actions violative of Board of Education standards set forth in policy governing suspension and expulsion are the result of the student's handicapping condition.

5. The procedure for any hearing conducted under this paragraph shall at least include the right to:

- a. Notice prior to the date of the proposed hearing which shall include a statement of the time, place and nature of the hearing and a statement of the legal jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held and a statement that students under sixteen years old who are expelled and students between sixteen and eighteen who have been expelled for the first time and who comply with conditions set by the Board of Education, must be offered an alternative educational opportunity;
 - b. A short and plain statement of the matters asserted, if such matters have not already been provided in a statement of reasons requested by the student;
 - c. The opportunity to be heard in the student's own defense;
 - d. The opportunity to present witnesses and evidence in the student's defense;
 - e. The opportunity to cross-examine adverse witnesses;
 - f. The opportunity to be represented by counsel at the parents'/student's own expense;
 - g. Information concerning legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally and how to access such services;
 - h. The opportunity to have the services of a translator, to be provided by the Board of Education whenever the student or his/her parent or legal guardian do not speak the English language;
 - i. The prompt notification of the decision of the Board of Education, which decision shall be in writing if adverse to the student concerned.
6. The record of the hearing held in any expulsion case shall include the following:
- a. All evidence received and considered by the Board of Education;
 - b. Questions and offers of proof, objections and ruling on such objections;
 - c. The decision of the Board of Education rendered after such hearing; and
 - d. A copy of the initial letter of notice of proposed expulsion, a copy of any statement of reasons provided upon request, a statement of the notice of hearing and the official transcript, if any or if not transcribed, any recording or stenographic record of the hearing.
7. Rules of evidence at expulsion hearings shall assure fairness, but shall not be controlled by the formal rules of evidence, and shall include the following:
- a. Any oral or documentary evidence may be received by the Board of Education but, as a matter of policy, irrelevant, immaterial or unduly repetitious evidence may be excluded. In addition, other evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, in-school suspension, suspension, or expulsion may be received for considering the length of an expulsion and the nature of the alternative educational opportunity, if any, to be offered;
 - b. The Board of Education shall give effect to the rules of privilege by law;

- c. In order to expedite a hearing, evidence may be received in written form, provided the interest of any party is not substantially prejudiced thereby;
 - d. Documentary evidence may be received in the form of copies or excerpts;
 - e. A party to an expulsion hearing may conduct cross-examination of witnesses where examination is required for a full and accurate disclosure of the facts;
 - f. The Board of Education may take notice of judicially cognizable facts in addition to facts within the Board's specialized knowledge provided, however, the parties shall be notified either before or during the hearing of the material noticed, including any staff memoranda or data, and an opportunity shall be afforded to any party to contest the material so noticed;
 - g. A stenographic record or tape-recording of any oral proceedings before the Board of Education at an expulsion hearing shall be made provided, however, that a transcript of such proceedings shall be furnished upon request of a party with the cost of such transcript to be paid by the requesting party. Findings of fact made by the Board after an expulsion hearing shall be based exclusively upon the evidence adduced at the hearing.
 - h. Decisions shall be in writing if adverse to the student and shall include findings of fact and conclusions necessary for the decision. Findings of fact made by the Board after an expulsion hearing shall be based exclusively upon the evidence adduced at the hearing.
8. For any student expelled for the first time and who has never been suspended, except for a student who has been expelled based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, the Board of Education may shorten the length of or waive the expulsion period if the student successfully completes a Board specified program and meets any other conditions required by the Board. Such a Board specified program shall not require the student or the parent/guardian of such student to pay for participation in the program.

I. Notification

1. All students and parents within the jurisdiction of the Board of Education shall be informed, annually, of Board Policy governing student conduct by the delivery to each said student of a written copy of said Board Policy.
2. The parents or guardian of any minor student either expelled or suspended shall be given notice of such disciplinary action no later than 24 hours of the time of the institution of the period of expulsion or suspension.
3. The notice of an expulsion hearing shall be given at least five (5) business days before such hearing to the student and his/her parents or guardians, if said student is less than 18 years of age shall include information concerning the parent's/guardian's and the student's legal rights and concerning legal services that are provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available and how to access such services. The notification shall reference the maximum number of suspension days before the expulsion days proceed. (5 consecutive days for students in pre-school to second grade, 10 consecutive days for

students in grades 3-12), and include a statement that an attorney or other advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent/guardian of the student shall be notified of the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

J. Stipulated Agreements

In lieu of the procedures used in this section, the Administration and the parents (or legal guardians) of a student facing expulsion may choose to enter into a Joint Stipulation of the Facts and a Joint Recommendation to the Board concerning the length and conditions of expulsion. Such Joint Stipulation and Recommendation shall include language indicating that the parents (or legal guardians) understand their right to have an expulsion hearing held pursuant to these procedures, and language indicating that the Board, in its discretion, has the right to accept or reject the Joint Stipulation of Facts and Recommendation.

If the Board rejects either the Joint Stipulation of Facts or the Recommendation, an expulsion hearing shall be held pursuant to the procedures outlined herein. If the Student is eighteen years of age or older, the student shall have the authority to enter into a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation on his or her own behalf.

If the parties agree on the facts, but not on the disciplinary recommendation, the Administration and the parents (or legal guardians) of a student facing expulsion may also choose to enter into a Joint Stipulation of the Facts and submit only the Stipulation of the Facts to the Board in lieu of holding the first part of the hearing, as described above. Such Joint Stipulation shall include language indicating that the parents understand their right to have a hearing to determine whether the student engaged in the alleged misconduct and that the Board, in its discretion, has the right to accept or reject the Joint Stipulation of Facts. If the Board rejects the Joint Stipulation of Facts, a full expulsion hearing shall be held pursuant to the procedures outlined herein.

K. Students identified as eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA")

If the Board of Education expels a student who has been identified as eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"), it shall offer an alternative educational opportunity to such student in accordance with the requirements of IDEA, as it may be amended from time to time.

L. Students with Disabilities

A special education student's IEP and/or 504 disability shall be considered before making a decision to suspend. A student with disabilities may be suspended for up to ten school days in a school year without the need for the district to provide any educational services. A disabled student may be additionally removed (suspended) for up to ten school days at a time for separate acts of misconduct as long as the removals do not constitute a pattern. During any subsequent suspension of ten days or less of a student with disabilities, the district shall provide services to the disabled student to the extent determined necessary to enable the student to appropriately advance in the general education curriculum and toward achieving his/her IEP goals. In cases

involving removals for ten days or less, school personnel (school administration) in consultation with the child's special education teacher, shall make the service determination.

If the disabled student's suspensions beyond ten school days in a school year constitute a pattern because of factors such as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the child is removed and the proximity of the removals to one another, the IEP team (PPT) shall conduct a manifestation determination. Meetings of a student's IEP team (PPT) are required to develop a behavioral assessment plan or to review and modify as necessary one previously developed when the disabled student has been removed (suspended) from his/her current placement for more than ten school days in a school year and when commencing a removal (suspension) that constitutes a change in placement.

Whenever a student is suspended, notice of the suspension and the conduct for which the student was suspended shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record. Such notice shall be expunged from the record by the Board if the student graduates from high school.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following procedures shall apply to students who have been identified as having one or more disabilities under the IDEA and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (a "student with disabilities"):

1. If a student with disabilities engages in conduct that would lead to a recommendation for expulsion, the district shall promptly convene an IEP team (PPT) meeting to determine whether the misconduct was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the student's disability or if the conduct in question was the direct result of the District's failure to implement the IEP. A student may be suspended for up to ten days pending the IEP team (PPT) determination.
2. If the District, parent and relevant members of the IEP team (PPT) determine that the misconduct was not caused by the disability, the Superintendent may proceed with a recommendation for expulsion. During any period of expulsion, a student with disabilities under the IDEA shall receive an alternative educational plan consistent with the student's educational needs as determined by the IEP team (PPT) in light of such expulsion and the student's IEP. The services must continue to the extent determined necessary to enable the disabled student to appropriately advance in the general education curriculum and to advance toward achieving the goals of his/her IEP, and be provided a free appropriate public education.
3. If the District, parent and relevant members of the IEP team (PPT) determine that the misconduct was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the disability, or the conduct in question was the direct result of the District's failure to implement the student's IEP, the Superintendent shall not proceed with the recommendation for expulsion. The IEP team (PPT) shall consider the student's misconduct and revise the IEP to prevent a recurrence of such misconduct and to provide for the safety of the other students and staff. A functional behavioral assessment shall be conducted, if not previously done, and a behavioral intervention plan implemented or revised, if in existence. The student shall be returned to the placement from which he/she was removed unless agreed otherwise by the District and parent.

4. Should a parent of a student with disabilities who is eligible for services under the IDEA (or the student himself/herself if eighteen years of age or older) file a request for a due process hearing to contest an expulsion under subparagraph (2) above or a proposed change in placement under subparagraph (3), unless the parents (or student if eighteen years of age or older) and the Board otherwise agree, the child shall stay in the interim alternate educational setting, if so placed by student authorities, pending decision in said due process hearing and any subsequent judicial review proceedings.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding subparagraph (4), a student with disabilities may be assigned to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five (45) school days if the student brings a weapon to school or to a school function or knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function, or has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function. For purposes of this paragraph, "weapon" means a device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, but excludes a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length. "Serious bodily injury" is defined as bodily injury which involves a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty. The interim alternative placement shall be determined by the IEP team (PPT). If a due process hearing is requested, the student shall remain in said interim alternative placement pending a decision in the due process hearing, unless the Board and the parents otherwise agree, or the Board obtains a court order.

6. In order for the district to unilaterally obtain a 45-day change in placement from a federal judge of Connecticut hearing officer, it must prove by substantial evidence that maintaining the current placement of the student is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or others. The school must also prove that it has made reasonable efforts to minimize the risk of harm the student presents in the current placement.

M. Alternative Educational Opportunity

The Board of Education recognizes its obligation to offer any student under the age of sixteen (16) who is expelled an alternative educational opportunity, which shall be equivalent to alternative education, as defined by C.G.S. [10-74j](#), with an individualized learning plan, (1) if he Board provides such alternative education, or (2) in accordance with the standards adopted by the State Board of Education which includes the kind of instruction to be provided and the number of hours to be provided during the period of expulsion.

Any parent or guardian of such student who does not choose to have his or her child enrolled in an alternative educational opportunity shall not be subject to the provision of Section [10-184](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes. Any expelled student who is between the ages of sixteen (16) and eighteen (18) not previously expelled and who wishes to continue his or her education shall be offered such an alternative educational opportunity if he or she complies with conditions established by the Board of Education. Such alternative educational opportunity may include, but shall not be limited to, the assignment of a student (who is seventeen (17) years of age or older) to an adult education program or placement of such student in a regular classroom

program of a school other than the one from which the student has been excluded. Any student participating in an adult education program during a period of expulsion shall not be required to withdraw from school under C.G.S. [10-184](#). In determining the nature of the alternative education opportunity to be offered under this Section, the Board of Education may receive and consider evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, suspension, or expulsion.

The Board of Education is not obligated to provide such alternative educational opportunity to any student eighteen years of age or older. The Board of Education is required to offer such alternative educational opportunity, as defined, to any student between the ages of sixteen and eighteen who is expelled because of conduct, which endangers persons, and involved the following, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event:

1. Possession of a firearm, deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, or
2. Offering an illegal drug for sale or distribution.

If the Board expels a student for the sale or distribution of a controlled substance, the Board shall refer the student to an appropriate state or local agency for rehabilitation, intervention or job training, or any combination thereof, and inform the agency of its action. If a student is expelled for possession of a firearm, or deadly weapon, dangerous instruments (those that can be used to cause death or serious injury) or martial arts weapons the Board shall report the violation to the local police department.

This provision shall not apply to students requiring special education who are described in subdivision (1) of sub-section (e) of C.G.S. [10-76a](#). The alternative educational opportunity for any such student shall be established by the IEP team (PPT) in accordance with the procedures described above.

N. Other Considerations

1. If a student is expelled, notice of the expulsion and the conduct for which the student was expelled shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record. Such notice, except for the notice of an expulsion of a student in grades nine through twelve, inclusive, based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the Board if the Board determines that the student's conduct and behavior in the years following such expulsion warrants an expungement or if the student graduates from high school.
2. If a student's expulsion is shortened or the expulsion period waived based upon the fact that the student was expelled for the first time, had never been suspended, and successfully completed a Board specified program and/or met other conditions required by the Board, the notice of expulsion shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record if the student graduates from high school or, if the Board so chooses, at the time the student completes the Board specified program and meets any other conditions required by the Board.
3. If a student in grades kindergarten to eight, is expelled based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, the Board may expunge from the students' cumulative

education record the notice of the expulsion and the conduct for which the student was expelled if the Board determines that the conduct and behavior of the student in the years following such expulsion warrants an expungement.

4. The Board may adopt the decision of a student expulsion hearing conducted by another school district provided such Board of Education held a hearing pursuant to C.G.S.10-233d(a). Adoption of such a decision shall be limited to a determination of whether the conduct which was the basis for the expulsion would also warrant expulsion under the policies of this Board. The student shall be excluded from school pending such hearing. The excluded student shall be offered an alternative education opportunity in accordance with item K above.

5. Whenever a student against whom an expulsion hearing is pending withdraws from school and after notification of such hearing but before the hearing is completed and a decision rendered, (1) notice of the pending expulsion hearing shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record and (2) the Board shall complete the expulsion hearing and render a decision.

6. A student expelled for possession of a firearm, deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon shall have the violation reported to the local police department.

7. The period of expulsion shall not extend beyond a period of one calendar year. A period of exclusion may extend into the next school year.

8. An expelled student may apply for early readmission to school. Such readmission shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools. Readmission decisions shall not be subject to appeal to Superior Court. The Board or Superintendent, as appropriate, may condition such readmission on specified criteria.

9. Any student who commits an expellable offense and is subsequently committed to a juvenile detention center, The Connecticut Juvenile Training School or any other residential placement for such offense may be expelled by the local Board of Education. The period of expulsion shall run concurrently with the period of commitment to a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or any other residential placement.

Change of Residence During Expulsion Proceedings

A. Student moving into the school district

1. If a student enrolls in the district while an expulsion hearing is pending in another district, such student shall not be excluded from school pending completion of the expulsion hearing unless an emergency exists, as defined above. The Board shall retain the authority to suspend the student or to conduct its own expulsion hearing.

2. Where a student enrolls in the district during the period of expulsion from another public school district, the Board may adopt the decision of the student expulsion hearing conducted by such other school district. The student shall be excluded from school pending such hearing. The excluded student shall be offered an alternative educational opportunity in accordance with statutory requirements. The Board shall

make its determination based upon a hearing held by the Board, which hearing shall be limited to a determination of whether the conduct which was the basis of the previous public school district's expulsion would also warrant expulsion by the Board.

B. Student moving out of the school district:

Where a student withdraws from school after having been notified that an expulsion hearing is pending, but before a decision has been rendered by the Board, the notice of the pending expulsion hearing shall be included on the student's cumulative record and the Board shall complete the expulsion hearing and render a decision. If the Board subsequently renders a decision to expel the student, a notice of the expulsion shall be included on the student's cumulative record.

O. Compliance with Documentation and Reporting Requirements

A. The Board of Education shall include on all disciplinary reports the individual student's state-assigned student identifier (SASID).

B. The Board of Education shall report all suspensions and expulsions to the State Department of Education.

C. If the Board of Education expels a student for sale or distribution of a controlled substance, the Board shall refer such student to an appropriate state or local agency for rehabilitation, intervention or job training and inform the agency of its action.

D. If the Board of Education expels a student for possession of a deadly weapon or firearm, as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. §53a-3, the violation shall be reported to the local police.

Readmission of Student from a Residential Placement

A District student who has committed an expellable offense who seeks to return to a District school, after participating in a diversionary program or having been detained in a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or any other residential placement, for one year or more, in lieu of expulsion from the District, shall be permitted to return to the appropriate school setting within the District. Further, the District shall not expel the student for any additional time for the offense(s).

Students and parents shall be notified of this policy annually.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

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

[10-233a](#) through [10-233f](#) Suspension, removal and expulsion of students, as amended by PA 95-304, PA 96-244, PA 98-139, PA 07-66, PA 07-122, PA 08-160, PA 09-82, PA 09-6 (September Special Session), PA 10-111, PA 11-126, PA 14-229, PA 15-96 and PA 16-147.

[53a-3](#) Definitions.

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

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

PA 15-96 An Act Prohibiting Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions for Students in Preschool and Grades Kindergarten to Two.

PA 19-91 An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes.

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, Amendments of 1997.

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

20 U.S.C. Section 7114, No Child Left Behind Act

P.L. 108-446 The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004

18 U.S.C. §921 - Definitions of "firearms"

18 U.S.C. §930(g)(2) - Definition of "dangerous weapon"

18 U.S.C. §1365(h)(3) - Identifying "serious bodily injury"

21 U.S.C. §812(c) - Identifying "controlled substances"

Public Act 24-45 An Act Concerning Education Mandate Relief, School Discipline and Disconnected Youth, Sections 13-14

Public Act 24-93 An Act Concerning Various and Assorted Revisions to the Education Statutes, Section 11 and Section 12

Adopted: March 10, 1980

Adopted: September 16, 1982

Reviewed: September 11, 2003

Reviewed: March 2, 2006

Revised: May 15, 2001

Revised: July 12, 2010

Revised: December 12, 2011

Revised: September 22, 2014 (Section L. Other Considerations)

Revised: November 9, 2015

Revised: January 9, 2017

Revised: August 28, 2017

Revised: March 26, 2018 (Section K)

Revised: September 10, 2018

Revised: September 28, 2020

Revised: January 13, 2025

Administration

(a new policy to reflect current practice)

Hiring School Administrators

The Superintendent, as the chief executive officer of the Board of Education, shall be responsible for the professional leadership and skills necessary to translate the Board's will into administrative action. In fulfilling the Superintendent's responsibilities for all aspects of school operations, the Board recognizes the Superintendent's critical responsibility in leading a highly functional administrative team.

Therefore, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, the Somers Board of Education delegates the Superintendent the authority to hire certified, non-administrative and support positions. The Board of Education also authorizes the Superintendent to hire administrative and supervisory positions

(cf. 4115 – Evaluation)

(cf. 2131 – Superintendent of Schools)

(cf. 2000.1 – Board – Superintendent Relationship)

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-151 Employment of teachers. Notice and hearing on termination of contract (as amended by P.A. 12-116 An Act Concerning Educational Reform)

10-153 Discrimination on account of marital status.

10-183v Reemployment of teachers, as amended by P.A. 10-111, An Act Concerning Education Reform in Connecticut, P.A. 16-91, An Act Making Changes to the Teachers' Retirement System, and PA 17-173 An Act Concerning Minor Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes and PA 18-42 An Act Concerning a Provision Concerning Reemployment of Certain Teachers.

10-220 Duties of Boards of Education.

31-126 Unfair Employment Practices.

46a-60 Discriminatory employment practices prohibited.

Title IV Equal Employment Opportunities.

34 C.F.R. 200.55 Federal Regulations.

P.L. 114-95 Every Student Succeeds Act, S.1177-55, 56.