

**THE SOMERSET HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 2, 2020**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Ms. Goguen, Board Secretary.

**Pledge of Allegiance****Welcome**

Welcome to the annual reorganization meeting of the Board of Education of Somerset Hills. Please be advised that this and all meetings of the Board are open to the public and media, consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act: (Chapter 231 Laws of 1975), and that advance notice required therein has been provided. This is a reorganization meeting of the Board of Education of Somerset Hills at which formal action may be taken. The public will have an opportunity to be heard as shown on the Agenda.

**Oath of Office**

Ms. Goguen administered the Oath of Office to the following elected individuals:

1. Robert Baker
2. Samantha Frenda
3. Timothy McDonald
4. Patricia Wry

**Roll Call****Present:**

Mr. Baker                      Mrs. Santoro  
Ms. Cooper                    Mrs. Tober  
Mrs. Frenda                    Ms. Virtue  
Mrs. Leiss                      Mrs. Wry  
Mr. McDonald

**Also Present:**

Coleen Butler  
Heather Goguen

**Organizational Procedure**

1.     Nomination and Election of President  
      Motion to nominate Mrs. Jamie Leiss by Mr. Timothy McDonald.  
      Any other nominations - none  
      Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Leiss was approved by a vote of 9-0.
  
2.     Nomination and Election of Vice President  
      Motion to nominate Mr. Timothy McDonald by Mr. Robert Baker.  
      Any other nominations- none  
      Roll Call Vote: Mr. McDonald was approved by a vote of 9-0.

**Organizational Action Items**

Ms. Virtue moved that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the organization action items #1-6; Ms. Cooper seconded. Items #1-6 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

1.     Adoption of Code of Ethics for School Board Members\*  
      *(each Board Member reads one)*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education adopts the Code of Ethics for School

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Board members:

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in the proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

2. Re-Adopt All By-Laws & Policies

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education re-adopts all current Board Policies & By-Laws.

3. Re-Adopt All Program & Curriculum\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education re-adopts all existing Curriculum, on file in the Curriculum office.

4. Re-adopt All District Tradebooks, Software, Motion Pictures/Films\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education re-adopts district tradebook list, software list, and media list, on file in the Curriculum office.

5. Board Committee Assignments

Resolved, that the following Board Committees be re-established:

Finance  
Facilities & Operations  
Personnel and Policy  
Curriculum  
Negotiations  
Community Relations

6. Approve Authorized Signatures

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the authorized signatures on warrants as follows:

| Accounts             | Signatures                        |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a) Payroll           | Board Secretary & Board President |
| b) Agency            | Board Secretary & Board President |
| c) General           | Board Secretary & Board President |
| d) Cafeteria         | Board Secretary                   |
| e) Unemployment      | Board Secretary                   |
| f) Flexible Spending | Board Secretary                   |

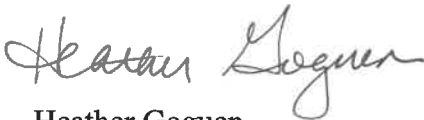
Public Comment

1. Kathy Redling thanked the Somerset Hills Board of Education for its support of the Somerset County Vo-Tech High School and wanted to announce that they are having an open house on February 1, 2020.

Adjournment

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn at 6:13pm, Ms. Virtue seconded. The meeting was adjourned by a vote of 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Goguen  
Board Secretary

Resolutions:

**\*Note:** The areas of permitted voting for the Bedminster district representative of the Board of Education are: (a) Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district; (b) New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils; (c) Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff; (d) Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district; (e) Any matter directly involving the sending district pupils or programs and services utilized by those pupils; (f) Approval of the annual receiving district budget; (g) Any collectively negotiated agreement involving employees who provide services utilized by sending district pupils; (h) Any individual employee contracts not covered by a collectively negotiated agreement, if those employees provide or oversee programs or services utilized by sending district pupils; and (i) Any matter concerning governance of the receiving district board of education including, but not limited to, the selection of the board president or vice-president, approval of board bylaws, and the employment of professionals or consultants such as attorneys, architects, engineers, or others who provide services to the receiving district board of education.

(cf: P.L.1996, c.103, s.1)

