

**The Somerset Hills School District  
Public Input & Action Meeting- October 21, 2020  
Virtual**

**Call to Order**

Mrs. Leiss called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

**Roll Call**

Present (Remotely)

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

Also Present:

Gretchen Dempsey  
Coleen Butler  
Jinnee DeMarco  
Derlys Gutierrez, Esq.

**Executive Session**

WHEREAS the “Open Public Meetings Act:” (Chapter 231 Laws of 1975) authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which specified topics are to be discussed under circumstances where the public consideration of such topics will clearly endanger the public, or where the personal privacy or guaranteed rights of individuals whose activities or affairs are to be discussed would be clearly in danger of unwarranted invasions, and

WHEREAS the matters about to be presented for discussion clearly meet the “circumstances” test of such Act:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Somerset Hills now adjourns its public session to reconvene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the following: Personnel, Student Matters, Contracts, Negotiations and Litigation.

And, be it further,

RESOLVED that the discussion in Executive Session be disclosed when the Board’s consideration of the subject matter has been closed, or that such matter does not adversely affect the rights of prospective, current, or past public officers, or personnel of the Board, unless such individuals have in writing requested the disclosures of such discussion at a public meeting and provided such a public disclosure will no longer clearly endanger the public interest.

Ms. Wry moved to adjourn Executive Session at 7:19pm, Mrs. Santoro seconded. The Board returned to Public Session at 7:35pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Present (Remotely)

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

Also Present:

Gretchen Dempsey  
Coleen Butler  
Jinnee DeMarco  
Derlys Gutierrez, Esq.

**Correspondence**

None

**Suspend policy for public meetings**

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education suspends its policies relating to in person board meetings and authorizes virtual board meetings to occur during this period of emergency due to the COVID 19 emergency as referenced in Executive Order 103 and pursuant to Bylaw 131.

**Report of the Superintendent**

1. Student Representatives' Reports-BHS representative, Lucy Taylor, and BMS representative, Marley Beers, gave their reports on student activities and how students are experiencing schedules this year.
2. Superintendent's Report- Dr. Dempsey reported that in-person instruction has increased. Parents have given a lot of positive feedback for how classes are being conducted. Pandemic Response Teams continue to meet to address concerns. Our Professional Development Institute has held virtual classes for staff to improve technology skills and learn ways to move forward.
3. Presentation: *English as a Second Language Program* - Michael Catelli, Supervisor

**Public Hearing for Refunding of 2012 Bond**

Facilitated by Lisa A. Gorab, Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. of Woodbridge, NJ and Robbi Acampora, Phoenix Advisors, LLC of Bordentown, NJ.

1. Presentation and discussion
2. Public Comments - none

**Public Questions & Comments for Actionable Agenda Items**

1. Sama Habibi- Thanked Mr. Catelli for presentation. Commented on the school ratings.
2. Eddie Berman- concerned about Go Guardian filtering content. Dr. Dempsey explained that it is not to track individual's movement on personal devices.

**Approval of Minutes\***

Ms. Virtue made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 30, 2020 meeting; Mrs. Tober seconded. Minutes were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

1. Approval of Minutes

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for September 30, 2020.

**FINANCE**

Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee met on October 14, 2020.

Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-17, Ms. Virtue seconded. Items #1-4, 6, 8-15 and 17 were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0. Items #5, 7 and 16 were approved by a vote of 9-0.

1. Board Secretary & Treasurer Reports & Board Certification\*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has received the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of September 2020 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$7,735,948.98	\$7,735,948.98
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$ 324,917.35	\$ 324,917.35
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$ 371,191.25	\$ 371,191.25
(40)Debt Service Fund	\$ 105,484.36	\$ 105,484.36
Total Government Funds	\$8,537,541.94	\$8,537,541.94

(1) From Secretary's Report (2) From Treasurer's Report

WHEREAS in compliance with N.J.A.C.6A: 23-2.1(c)3 the secretary has certified that, as of the date of the report(s), no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education, now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, the Board of Education accepts the above referenced report and certifications and orders that they be attached to and made part of the record of this meeting, and be it **FURTHER RESOLVED**, in compliance with N.J.A.C.6A: 23-3.11(c) 4, the Board of Education certifies that, after review of the secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A: 23-2.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

2. Approve 2020-2021 Budget Transfers\*

Resolved that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the attached list of budget transfers for September.

3. Payment of Bills\*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached September check registers with the recommendation that the checks be paid, and Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the following bills be paid and an itemized list be filed with the minutes of this meeting:

<b>FUND</b>	
(10) General Fund	\$1,502,016.71
(20) Special Revenue Fund	--
(30) Capital Projects Fund	--
(40) Debt Service Fund	--
(60) Cafeteria Fund	--
(90) Agency Fund	\$ 686,551.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,188,568.55</b>

4. Payment of Bills\*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached October check registers with the recommendation that the checks be paid, and Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the following bills be paid and an itemized list be filed with the minutes of this meeting:

<b>FUND</b>	
(10) General Fund	\$1,641,766.56
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$ 191,141.52
(30) Capital Projects Fund	--
(40) Debt Service Fund	--
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$ 3,071.00
(90) Agency Fund	\$ 367,177.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,203,156.99</b>

5. Accept Grant

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accept a grant from the Mark Schonwetter Holocaust Education Foundation in the amount of \$500 for Bernardsville Middle School.

6. Approve Special Education School\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following school for the 2020-2021 school year/or ESY:

	Student ID#	Provider	Location	Tuition
a	2023503	Matheny	Peapack, NJ	\$87,000
b	3957424154	Reed Academy	Oakland, NJ	\$75,759

7. Approve Special Education School

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following school for the 2020-2021 school year/or ESY:

	Student ID#	Provider	Location	Tuition
a	2026003	Hunterdon Prep	Annandale, NJ	\$41,479.90

8. Approve Special Education Services\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following Special Education service providers for the 2020-2021 school year and extended school year program:

	Provider	Service	Hourly Rates	Location
a	The Data Group	BCBA Behavior Technician	\$150 \$80	Atlantic Highlands, NJ

9. Approve State Aid for Non-Public Schools\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following state aid for non-public schools:

		Far Hills Country Day	School of St. Elizabeth
a	Nursing Service Aid (Revised)	\$25,500	\$14,076
b	Security Aid	\$43,750	\$24,150

10. Approve 2020-21 Non-Public Aid Programs\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Non-Public Aid Program orders for the following schools:

	School	Program	Description	Total
a	Far Hills Country Day School	Security Aid	Security blinds for newly installed windows in 13 classrooms	\$22,401.00
b	School of St. Elizabeth	Security Aid	24 Motorola Talk About two way radios	\$1,260.00

11. Approve Cares Digital Grant for Non-Public Schools\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following grant for non-public schools:

a	Far Hills Country Day School	\$10,875.00
b	School of St. Elizabeth	\$6,003.00

12. Approve Cares Digital Grant Non-Public Programs\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following Non-Public Grant program orders for the following schools:

	School	Description	Total
a	Far Hills Country Day School	30 Chromebooks, insurance, license	\$10,875,00
b	School of St. Elizabeth	16 Chromebooks, insurance, license	\$5,896.50

13. Approve Custodian Substitute Pay Rates\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the custodian substitute rate for the 2020-2021 school year (*effective October 22 , 2020*):

	Position	Pay Rate
a	Custodian Substitute	\$16.00 p/hour

14. Approve the Use of Surplus from Unassigned General Fund Surplus\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the use of surplus to maintain budgeted appropriations in the FY21 budget and state aid reductions of \$176,695 will be addressed through transfers from unassigned general fund surplus during the budget year as permitted by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C 6A:23A-13.3(b) and (c).

15. Approve Settlement Matter\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following settlement: Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Somerset County, bearing Docket No. SOM-L-1531-19. The Board further resolves to authorize the Superintendent, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Board Attorney to take whatever steps are necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

16. Approve the Refunding Bond Ordinance

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SOMERSET HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$14,100,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDING SCHOOL BONDS AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO DO ALL ACTS AND THINGS DEEMED NECESSARY AND ADVISABLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE, ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY OF SAID BONDS**

**WHEREAS**, on January 26, 2012, The Board of Education of the Somerset Hills Regional School District in the County of Somerset, New Jersey (the “Board” when referring to the governing body and the “School District” when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) issued \$19,205,000 aggregate principal amount of tax-exempt Refunding School Bonds, Series 2012 (the “2012 School Bonds”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that the current interest rate environment may enable it to realize going-forward debt service savings for property taxpayers residing in the School District through the issuance by the Board of Refunding School Bonds (the “Refunding School Bonds”) to refund all or a portion of the \$13,065,000 aggregate principal

amount of the outstanding 2012 School Bonds maturing on or after March 15, 2023 (the “Refunded Bonds”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board introduced a refunding school bond ordinance (the “Refunding Bond Ordinance”) on first reading by resolution of the Board on September 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on the date hereof, the Board held a public hearing on the Refunding Bond Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined to issue and sell such Refunding School Bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board now desires to authorize certain actions in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding School Bonds.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SOMERSET HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY (by not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The Refunding Bond Ordinance is hereby adopted and shall take effect immediately.

**SECTION 2.** There is hereby delegated to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, subject to the limitations contained herein and in consultation with Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey, Bond Counsel to the Board (“Bond Counsel”), and Phoenix Advisors, LLC, as Municipal Advisor to the Board (the “Municipal Advisor”), the power with respect to the Refunding School Bonds, which may be sold in one or more series, to determine and carry out the following:

- a) the sale of the Refunding School Bonds at private sale, provided that the purchase price paid by the purchaser thereof shall not be less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the principal amount of the Refunding School Bonds so sold;
- b) the principal amount of Refunding School Bonds to be issued, provided that (i) such amount shall not exceed \$14,100,000, and (ii) such amount shall not exceed the amount necessary to pay the costs of issuance associated with the Refunding School Bonds and to fund the deposit to the escrow fund as set forth in the Escrow Deposit Agreement (as defined herein) in an amount that, when invested, will be sufficient to provide for the timely payments required for the Refunded Bonds;
- c) the maturity dates and the principal amount of each maturity or sinking fund redemption amount of the Refunding School Bonds, provided that no Refunding School Bonds refunding the Refunded Bonds shall mature later than the maturity date of the respective Refunded Bonds;
- d) the interest payment dates and the interest rates on the Refunding School Bonds, provided that the true interest cost on the Refunding School Bonds shall produce a present value debt service savings of at least three percent (3%) of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds;

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- e) the denomination or denominations of and the manner of numbering and lettering the Refunding School Bonds, provided that all Refunding School Bonds of like maturity shall be identical in all respects, except as to denominations, amounts, numbers and letters;
  - f) provisions for the sale or exchange of the Refunding School Bonds and for the delivery thereof;
  - g) the form of the Refunding School Bonds shall be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, with such additions, deletions and omissions as may be necessary for the Board to market the Refunding School Bonds in accordance with the requirements of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, (“DTC”) and the Purchase Contract (as defined herein);
  - h) the direction for the application and investment of the proceeds of the Refunding School Bonds;
  - i) the terms of redemption of the Refunding School Bonds, if any;
  - j) the determination to issue such Refunding School Bonds on a current or forward basis;
  - k) the determination to issue such Refunding Bonds on a taxable or tax-exempt basis;
  - l) The determination to sell the Bonds to a purchaser (the “Purchaser”) as selected by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with the Municipal Advisor after a solicitation process conducted by a placement agent (as selected by the Business Administrator) or by the Municipal Advisor, in accordance with the a commitment letter on a current or forward delivery basis, if required, to be entered into by and between the Purchaser and the Board pursuant to this resolution.;
  - m) the determination to sell the Bonds via a public offering to an underwriter(s) (the “Underwriter”) to be selected by the Business Administrator in consultation with the Municipal Advisor; and
  - n) any other provisions deemed advisable by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary not in conflict with the provisions hereof.

In addition, the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds shall comply with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:30-2.5, including that within ten (10) days of the date of the closing on the Refunding School Bonds, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall file a report with the Local Finance Board within the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs setting forth (a) a comparison of the Refunding School Bonds’ debt service and the Refunded Bonds’ debt service, which comparison shall set forth the present value savings achieved by the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds; (b) a summary of the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds; (c) an itemized accounting of all costs of issuance in connection with the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds; and (d) a certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that (i) all of the conditions of Section (b) of N.J.A.C. 5:30-2.5 have been met, and (ii) this resolution authorizing the

issuance of the Refunding School Bonds, adopted pursuant to 18A:24-61.5(b), was approved by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board.

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall execute a certificate evidencing the determinations or other actions taken pursuant to the authority granted hereunder, and any such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the actions or determinations of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary as to the matters stated therein.

**SECTION 3.** The President and Vice President of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute by manual or facsimile signature the Refunding School Bonds in the name of the Board and the corporate seal (or facsimile thereof) shall be thereunto affixed, imprinted, engraved or otherwise reproduced thereon. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest to such signature and to the affixing of said seal to the Refunding School Bonds.

**SECTION 4.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to approve a Bond Purchase Contract (the "Purchase Contract"), if required, for the Refunding School Bonds, to be dated the date of sale of such Refunding School Bonds and to be executed by the Purchaser. The President, Vice President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Purchase Contract.

**SECTION 5.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to apply and qualify for the issuance of any policy of municipal bond insurance and to approve a Commitment for Municipal Bond Insurance (the "Commitment") setting forth the terms and conditions (including premium charges) upon which a bond insurer proposes to issue its bond insurance policy covering the Refunding School Bonds. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Commitment.

**SECTION 6.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to approve the Escrow Deposit Agreement (the "Escrow Deposit Agreement") with an escrow agent (the "Escrow Agent") to be selected by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor, with respect to the Refunded Bonds, to be dated the date of the closing on the Refunding School Bonds. The President and Vice President of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Escrow Deposit Agreement in the name of the Board and the corporate seal (or facsimile thereof) shall be thereunto affixed, imprinted, engraved or otherwise reproduced thereon. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest to such signature and to the affixing of said seal to the Escrow Deposit Agreement. The Municipal Advisor is hereby authorized to act as the agent and representative of the Board for the purpose of subscribing for the purchase of United States Treasury Securities – State and Local Government Series to be held by the Escrow Agent. In the alternative, if United States Treasury Securities – State and Local Government Series are not available, the Municipal Advisor is hereby authorized to seek bids for the acquisition of United States Treasury Securities – Open Market Securities.



**SECTION 7.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to select a verification agent (the "Verification Agent"), if required, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor, with respect to the Refunded Bonds. The Verification Agent shall prepare the verification report required to verify the sufficiency of the escrowed monies to refund the Refunded Bonds.

**SECTION 8.** It is hereby delegated to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary the authority to "deem final" (as defined under Rule 15c2-12, as amended and supplemented (the "Rule"), promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and supplemented), a Preliminary Official Statement (the "Preliminary Official Statement") and such official is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver a certificate to the Underwriter evidencing the same. The preparation and distribution by the Board, in consultation with Bond Counsel, and counsel to the Underwriter, if any, of a Preliminary Official Statement for the Refunding School Bonds to be used in connection with the marketing of such Refunding School Bonds, is hereby approved and any previous actions undertaken by various representatives and officers of the Board with respect thereto are hereby ratified and confirmed. Upon the sale of the Refunding School Bonds to the Underwriter, the Preliminary Official Statement shall be so modified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel, to reflect the effect of the pricing of the Refunding School Bonds and the Purchase Contract and any other revision not inconsistent with the substance thereof deemed necessary or advisable by Bond Counsel, and said Preliminary Official Statement as so modified shall constitute the final Official Statement (the "Official Statement"). The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Official Statement.

**SECTION 9.** The Board hereby covenants and agrees that it will comply with and carry out all of the provisions of a Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the "Certificate") which will set forth the obligation of the Board to file budgetary, financial and operating data on an annual basis and notices of certain enumerated events deemed material in accordance with the provision of the Rule. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver this Certificate evidencing the Board's undertaking with respect to the Rule. Notwithstanding the foregoing, failure of the Board to comply with the Certificate shall not be considered a default on the Refunding School Bonds; however, any Bondholder may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance to cause the Board to comply with its obligations hereunder.

**SECTION 10.** The President, Vice President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary or any other appropriate officer or representative of the Board, are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary or proper for carrying out the transactions contemplated by this resolution, the Purchase Contract, the Escrow Deposit Agreement and the Commitment, and for the authorization, sale and issuance of the Refunding School Bonds. The execution by such officials and officers of any such documents, with changes, insertions or omissions approved by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel, as hereinabove provided, shall be conclusive and no further ratification or other action by the Board shall be required with respect thereto.

**SECTION 11.** All other resolutions adopted in connection with the Refunding School Bonds and inconsistent herewith are hereby rescinded to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 12.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.

17. Approve Group Medical and Rx Drug Insurance Proposal\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following proposal from Aetna procured by Brown & Brown Insurance, Inc.:

Monthly premium rates will be reduced by -6% effective January 1, 2021.

Policy anniversary will change from July 1st to January 1st effective January 1, 2021.

### **FACILITIES & OPERATIONS**

- A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee met on October 14, 2020.  
 B. Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-3, Ms. Cooper seconded. Items #1 & 3 were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0, item #2 was approved by a vote of 9-0.

1. Annual Report of Violence and Vandalism: 2019-2020 (Period 2)\*

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 8 unduplicated acts of violence and vandalism were reported to the NJ Department of Education Electronic Student Safety Data System (SSDS) during period 2 (January 1 - June 30, 2020).

2. Bus Evacuation Drills

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the Bus Evacuation Drills for the 2020-2021 School Year. Reports for drills are on file in the Business Office:

	School	Date
a	Bernardsville Middle School	10/7, 10/8, 10/19
b	Bedwell Elementary School	10/16, 10/19, 10/20, 10/21

3. Bus Evacuation Drills\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the Bus Evacuation Drill for the 2020-2021 School Year. Reports for drills are on file in the Business Office:

	School	Date
a	Bernards High School	10/7, 10/8, 10/9

### **CURRICULUM**

- A. Committee Report & Discussion: Ms. Virtue gave the report. The committee met on October 13, 2020.  
 B. Action Items: Ms. Virtue moved items #1-3, Ms. Cooper seconded. Items #1 & 3 were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0. Item #2 was approved by a vote of 9-0.

1. Approve Professional Development\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following professional development:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference	Date	Est. Cost
a	District	Porter, J. & Duchantier, C	FMLA, FFCRA and ADA, In 90 Minutes	October 21	\$99.00
b	BOE	Frenda, Samantha	Ready, Set, Negotiate- NJ School Boards workshop - Virtual	October 16	\$149.00
c	BOE	Santoro, Heather	Ready, Set, Negotiate- NJ School Boards workshop - Virtual	October 16	\$149.00
d	District	DeMarco, Jinnee	Ready, Set, Negotiate- NJ School Boards workshop - Virtual	October 16	\$149.00
e	BHS	Catelli, M.	NJ Social Studies Supervisor Association Meetings	01/29/2020 & 05/14/2020	\$40.00
f	BHS	Catelli, M.	NJPS Supervisor Subcommittee Meetings	Various Dates	\$0.00
g	Olcott	Dempsey, G.	Hot Issues in Human Resources Law	11/03/2020	\$100.00
h	BHS	LaBruno, W.	Autism Symposium & Transition Sub Committee	Various Dates	\$0.00

2 Approve Professional Development

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following professional development:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference	Date	Est. Cost
a	BES	Brooten, D.	Unlocking the Power of Classroom Talk	01/08/2021	\$50.00
b	BES	Brooten, D.	Texts that Empower Students to Forge an Anti-Racist Future	11/09/2020	\$50.00
c	BES	Kusnic, C.	Applying Differentiated Instruction Principles to Co-teaching	11/18/2020	\$135.00
d	BES	DeMarco, M.	Grow your Multilingual Language Learners into Engaged Readers	12/04/2020	\$50.00
e	BES	Falzarano, S.	Tools that Make Our Kids Increasingly Successful and Successfully Independent as Writers	01/22/2021	\$50.00
f	BES	O'Day, L.	Standards Based Teaching that Supports 3rd Graders as Argument Writers	11/13/2020	\$50.00
g	BES	O'Day, L.	Applying Differentiated Instruction Principles to Co-Teaching	11/18/2020	\$135.00
h	BES	Westfall, S.	Harnessing the Power of Persuasion to Help ML Learners	02/23/2021	\$50.00
i	BES	Westfall, S.	Texts that Empower Students to Forge an Anti-Racist Future	11/09/2020	\$50.00
j	BMS	Porter, Shane	Distance Learning: Strengthening Online SS Instruction - Online Event (BER)	10/29/2020	\$279.00

k	BMS	Wells, Carolyn	Distance Learning: Strengthening Online SS Instruction - Online Event (BER)	10/29/2020	\$279.00
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3. School Self-Assessment/Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act 2019-2020\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for July 1, 2019– June 30, 2020 for the following schools:

- Marion T. Bedwell Elementary School
- Bernardsville Middle School
- Bernards High School

## PERSONNEL AND POLICY

A. Committee Report and Discussion: Mrs. Santoro gave the report. The committee met on October 13, 2020.

### PERSONNEL

Action Items: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1-12, Ms. Virtue seconded. Items #1-5 and 8-12 were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0, items #6 & 7 were approved by a vote of 9-0. Mr. McDonald not available for the roll call vote.

1. Accept Retirement

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accept the retirement of the following employee:

	Name	School	Position	Effective
a	Matero, Cynthia	BES	Para	01/01/2021

2. Approve Family Medical Leave of Absence

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following family medical leave of absence dates for the 2020-2021 school year:

	Name	School	Position	Start Date	End Date
a	9639	BMS	Teacher	11/06/2020	01/25/2021
b	9700	BES	BCBA	01/08/2021	06/01/2021

3. Approve Leave Replacement Certified Staff

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the appointment of the following leave replacement certified staff for the 2020-2021 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position	Replace	Level	Step	Salary	Effective
a	Hermelee, Mara Ann	BMS	School Social Worker	Gandhi	MA	3-4	\$65,075.00 (prorated)	10/15/2020

4. Approve Leave of Absence under Family First Coronavirus Response Act

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following leave of absence under Family First Coronavirus Response Act dates for the 2020-2021 school year:

	Name	School	Position	Start Date	End Date
a	9550	BMS	CST	11/06/2020	01/25/2021

b	9544	BMS	Paraprofessional	09/16/2020	09/20/2020
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5. Approve Co-Curricular Positions

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following co-curricular positions for the 2020-2021 school year funded by Municipal Alliance:

	Last	First	School	Co Curricular Positions	Stipend
a	De Roberts	Theresa	BES	B-Well Girls Program (Municipal Alliance Funded)	\$59.11/hour
b	Jablonski	Holly	BES	B-Well Girls Program (Municipal Alliance Funded)	\$59.11/hour
c	Kelbaur	Grace	BES	B-Well Girls Program (Municipal Alliance Funded)	\$59.11/hour
d	Och	Laurie	BES	B-Well Girls Program (Municipal Alliance Funded)	\$59.11/hour
e	O'Day	Lauren	BES	B-Well Girls Program (Municipal Alliance Funded)	\$59.11/hour
f	Pike	Emily	BES	B-Well Girls Program (Municipal Alliance Funded)	\$59.11/hour

6. Approve Co-Curricular Positions \*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following co-curricular positions for the 2020-2021 school year:

	Last	First	School	Co Curricular Positions	Stipend
a	O'Brien	Kyle	BHS	Math League	\$2,750
b	Harvey	Marcus	BHS	Drama: Fall Director	\$4,000
c	Dunsdon	Amanda	BHS	Drama: Fall Assistant Director	\$2,000
d	Martinez	German	BHS	Drama: Fall Set Construction	\$2,500

7. Approve Salary Guide Level Advancement\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve salary guide level advancement for the following teacher for the 2020-2021 school year (*retroactive September 1, 2020*):

	Name	School	Current Level/Step	\$ Old Salary	Step	New Level/Step	\$ New Salary
a	Nelson, Ryan	BHS	MA15	\$68,230.00	5	MA+30	\$70,480.00
b	Pietroluongo, Jade	BHS	BA	\$68,375.00	10-11	MA	\$72,875.00
c	Samson, Alyssa	BHS	MA	\$69,495.00	8	MA+15	\$71,745.00

8. Approve Salary Guide Level Advancement

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve salary guide level advancement for the following teachers for the 2020-2021 school year (*retroactive September 1, 2020*):

	Name	School	Current Level/Step	\$ Old Salary	Step	New Level/Step	\$ New Salary
a	Davis, Emma	BES	MA+15	\$77,040.00	12	MA+30	\$79,290.00
b	DeMarco, Monica	BES	MA+30	\$75,610.00	9	MA+45	\$77,860.00
c	Jablonski, Holly	BES	MA+30	\$81,355.00	14	MA+45	\$85,820.00
d	McGovern, Courtney	BMS	BA	<del>\$62,835.00</del> \$62,385.00	6	MA	\$66,885.00
e	Szesko, Julie-Ann	BMS	BA	\$66,610	9	MA	\$71,110.00

9. Approve Observation

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following observation for the 2020-2021 school year:

	Student Observer	Program	School	Teacher	Date
a	Negri, Nancy	KEAN University PK-3 Cert	BES	TBD	TBD

10. Approve Revised Leave of Absence under Family First Coronavirus Response Act

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following revised leave of absence under Family First Coronavirus Response Act dates for the 2020-2021 school year:

	Employee ID	School	Position	Original Date(s)	Modified Date(s)
a	9298	BES	Paraprofessional	09/09/20 - 11/8/20	09/09/20 - 11/19/20

11. Accept Resignation

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accept the resignation of the following Employee:

	Name	School	Position	Effective
a	Jones, April	BES	Full Time Para	11/19/2020

12. Approve Transfer

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following transfer for the 2020-2021 school year.

	Name	Position	From	To	Effective
a	Noonan, Mark	Music	BMS	Bedwell	10/5/2020

**POLICY**

Action Items: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1 & 2, Mrs. Tober seconded. Items #1 & 2 were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

1. First Reading\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the first reading of the following bylaw, policy & regulation:

Policy / Regulation #	Title
P1620	Administrative Employment Contracts (M) (Revised)
P2431	Athletic Competition (M) (Revised)
R2431.1	Emergency Procedures for Sports and Other Athletic Activity (M) (Revised)
P2451	Adult High School (M) (Revised)
P2464	Gifted & Talented Students (M) (Revised)
P5330.05 & R5330.05	Seizure Action Plan(M) (New)

2. Second Reading\*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the second reading of the following bylaw, policy & regulation:

Policy / Regulation #	Title
P 5111 & R5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
P 5200 & R5200	Attendance (M) (Revised)
P 7510	Use of School Facilities

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

A. Committee Report and Discussion: Mrs. Tober gave the report. The committee met on October 15, 2020.

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS**

1. This is New Jersey School Boards week. Virtual this year. Board members are attending several workshops.
2. Mrs. Frenda commented she attended School Board workshop on supporting the ELL generally and at this time. Michael Catelli's presentation showed we are working to successfully provide what is needed.
3. Ms. Virtue attended a legislative meeting that brought out that everything is difficult but people are supportive of teachers and students.
4. Ms. Santoro asked about transportation in the district. Mrs. DeMarco responded that we had a rough start and it is a challenge with constant changes with school schedules (ours and out-of-district schools). Buses are regularly cleaned and disinfected.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

1. Donald Crooks - Questioned policy on residency. Also commented on rankings.
2. John Tober - student- if athletics can meet in person, wants to know why co-curriculars can't. Dr. Dempsey responded that it was thought that clubs could meet virtually. We can revisit.
3. Christine Albanese-DeMair- teacher, -holidays and gatherings might have negative health concerns. Dr. Dempsey responded that they are looking at this.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm, Ms. Virtue seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jinnee DeMarco  
Board Secretary

**\*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

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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)