

**The Somerset Hills School District
Public Input & Action Meeting - November 18, 2020
Virtual**

Call to Order

Mrs. Leiss called the meeting to order at 6:31pm

Roll Call

Present :

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

Absent:

Ms. Virtue

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.

Mrs. Santoro moved to adjourn Executive Session at 7:29pm, Mrs. Tober seconded. All in favor.

Mrs. Leiss called the Public Session to order at 7:33pm

Pledge of Allegiance**Roll Call**

Present :

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

Absent:

Ms. Virtue

Also Present:

Gretchen Dempsey
Coleen Butler
Jinnee DeMarco
Derlys Gutierrez, Esq.

Correspondence

1. Email from Kristen deGrandpre regarding increase of in-person instruction plan.

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- BMS Representatives, Marley Beers and Ella Damratoski, and BHS Representative, Lucy Taylor, gave updates on their schools' activities, athletics, and academics.
2. Student/Staff Recognition - National Merit Commended Scholars:
Noble Avellino, Anna Gunning, Avinaash Kantamneni, Timothy McGrath, Matthew Sardis, Alexander Shang, Michael Tropp and Noah Youssef.
3. BHS 2020-2021 School Profile
4. Presentation - *Promoting Wellness during Reopening* - Director of Guidance, Jaime Walker

Public Questions & Comments for Actionable Agenda Items

None

Approval of Minutes*

Ms. Cooper made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2020 meeting. Mrs. Frenda seconded. Minutes were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

1. Approval of Minutes

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for October 21, 2020.

FINANCE

Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee met on November 11, 2020. Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-7, Mr. McDonald seconded. Items #1-5 and #7 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0; item #6 was approved by a vote of 8-0 with the exception of 6a, approved with 7-0-1, Mrs. Tober abstained

1. Board Secretary & Treasurer Reports & Board Certification*

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

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$8,159,054.88	\$8,159,054.88
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$ 309,281.68	\$ 309,281.68
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$ 371,191.25	\$ 371,191.25
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$ 355,131.19	\$ 355,131.19
Total Government Funds	\$9,194,659.00	\$9,194,659.00

(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 October 2020.

3. 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:

FUND	
(10) General Fund	\$1,257,571.66
(20) Special Revenue Fund	--
(30) Capital Projects Fund	--
(40) Debt Service Fund	--
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$ 27,340.54
(90) Agency Fund	\$ 695,749.32
TOTAL	\$1,980,661.52

4. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached November 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:

FUND	
(10) General Fund	\$ 684,834.88
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$ 9,066.13
(30) Capital Projects Fund	--
(40) Debt Service Fund	--
(60) Cafeteria Fund	--
(90) Agency Fund	\$ 214.52
TOTAL	\$ 694,115.53

5 Approve Parent Organization Fundraiser*

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

	Organization	School	Event	Date
a	HSASH	BHS	Bernards Logo Holiday Ornament Sale	11/19/2020 - 11/23/2020

6. Approve Parent Organization Fundraiser

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

	Organization	School	Event	Date
a	HSASH	BES	Virtual Holiday Shoppe	11/30/20 - 12/04/20
b	HSASH	BES	Yearbook Sale	01/11/21 - 04/16/21
c	HSASH	BES	Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale	02/01/21 - 02/28/21
d	HSASH	BES	Author Visit	03/01/21 - 03/05/21
e	HSASH	BES	Read-A-Thon	03/01/21 - 03/05/21
f	HSASH	BES	Student Art & Tile Sale	03/10/21 - 03/31/21
g	HSASH	BES	School Supply Kit Sale	05/01/21 - 06/11/21

7. Approve Contract with Altitude Unlimited*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve technology contracts for the 20-21 school year.

	Service	Contract Term	Amount
a	Managed Service Provider	11/23/20 - 06/30/21	\$52,000 (includes one-time onboarding fee \$8,712)
b	IT Management Oversight	8 weeks (TBD)	\$20,922
c	Disaster Recovery	12/01/20 - 06/30/22	\$8,827 (12/01/20 - 06/30/21 includes one-time onboarding fee \$1,995) \$11,712 (07/01/21 - 06/30/22)

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee met on November 11, 2020.

Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-3, Mrs. Tober seconded. Items #1-3 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

1. Approve Comprehensive Maintenance Plan*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the 2020-2021 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan.

2. Approve Annual Maintenance Budget Worksheet*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the annual Maintenance Budget Worksheet (M-1) calculation of \$125,023.

3. Approve Application for Grant from the Office of Clean Energy*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education authorizes application and approve funds for the 2020-2021 school year for the NJ Smart Start program for LED lighting upgrades at all 3 schools in the amount of \$137,125.

CURRICULUM

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Ms. Cooper gave the report. The committee met on November 11, 2020.

B. Action Items: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-4, Mrs. Wry seconded. Items #1 and 4 were approved by a

roll call vote of 9-0, items #2 and 3 were approved by a vote of 8-0.

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	Koransky, J.	Annual Conference Union County Administrators of Special Education Issues	12/04/2020	\$25.00
b	BHS	Hart, A.	MUJC Teachers of Transition Committee Meeting - Virtual	Various	\$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	DeRoberts, T.	Academic Language for MLLs: Unlock the door to academic success in Nonfiction Reading and the Content Areas	01/05/21	\$50.00
b	BMS	Tresslar, K.	Unlocking the Power of Classroom Talk: Make Talk Shine in Person and Online	01/08/21	\$50.00
c	BES	Maddaluna, P.	Reading, Writing and Phonics Transfer	02/08/21	\$50.00
d	BES	Newton, S.	MUJC Autism Symposium	03/03/21	\$0.00

3. Approve New Bernardsville Middle School Course

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the adoption of the following new Bernardsville Middle School courses for the 2020-2021 school Year: Intro to Ceramics

4. Approve New Bernards High School Courses*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the adoption of the following new Bernards High School courses for the 2020-2021 school Year: Art III Honors, Structured Learning Experiences

PERSONNEL AND POLICY

A. Committee Report and Discussion. Mrs. Santoro gave the report. The committee met on November 10, 2020.

PERSONNEL

Action Items: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1-15, Mrs. Frenda seconded. Items #1, 5-8, 10, 12 and 14 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0; items #2-4, 9, 11, 13 and 15 were approved by a vote of 8-0.

1. Accept Resignation*

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

	Name	School	Position	Effective
a	Slockbower, Jeremy	District	IT Manager	12/27/2020

2. Accept Resignation

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

	Name	School	Position	Effective
a	Bhattacharjee, Bratati	BES	Full Time Paraprofessional	11/13/2020
b	Welsh, Ashley	BMS	Part Time Paraprofessional	11/30/2020

3. Approve Appointment Paraprofessional

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

	Name	School	Position	Salary	Effective
a	Brown, Lauren, K.	BMS	Full Time Paraprofessional	\$18.46/hr	<i>Pending clearance</i>

4. Approve Unpaid Absences

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

	Name	School	Position	# of Requested Days	Dates
a	Thepnarong, S.	BMS	Custodian	8	11/04/2020 - 11/13/2020

5. Approve Overloads*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following BHS overloads for the 2020-2021 school year.

	Course	Teacher	Term	Salary	OVERLOAD Salary <i>prorated</i>
a	US History I	Pietroluongo, J.	11/2/20-1/22/21	\$72,875.00	\$3,219.32
b	Sociology A	Clark, K.	11/2/20-1/22/21	\$103,095.00	\$4,554.27
c	US History I	Murphy, T.	11/2/20-1/22/21	\$72,875.00	\$3,219.32
d	AP Computer Science Principles	Camuto, L.	MP2	\$72,875.00	\$3,037.07
e	Pre Calculus A	Cherng, J.	MP2	\$72,875.00	\$3,037.07
f	Algebra 2 (A)	Collins, K.	MP2	\$103,095.00	\$4,296.48
g	Algebra 2 (A)	O'Brien, K.	MP2	\$64,575.00	\$2,691.17
h	Algebra 1	Fallas, H.	MP2	\$61,480.00	\$2,562.18

6. Approve Substitutes*

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

	Last	First	Substitute Position	Certification
a	Walley	Joy	Teacher/Paraprofessional	K-12 County Certification

7. Approve School Nurse Clinical Site Placement*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following clinical site placement for the Spring of 2021:

	Name	Program	School	Mentor	Start Date	End Date
a	Pistilli-Urena, Jaclyn C.	Rutgers University: School Nurse Cert	BHS	Connor	Spring 2021	75 hours

8. Approve Internship*

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

	Intern	School	Subject	Mentor	Date
a	Scura Coughlin, Theresa	District	Administration	Gretchen Dempsey	Spring Semester 2021

9. Approve Leave Replacement Teacher

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following Leave Replacement Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Replace	Level	Step	Salary	Effective
a	Pepe, Michael	BMS	McGovern	MA	3-4	\$65,075 <i>prorated</i>	11/06/2020

10. 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:

	Employee ID	School	Position	Start Date	End Date
a	8644	BHS	Para	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
b	8473	BHS	Para	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
c	9634	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
d	9700	District	Spec Svc	11/09/2020	11/18/2020
e	8962	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
f	9413	BHS	Spec Svc	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
g	9364	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
h	9087	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/18/2020
i	9286	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
j	8830	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
k	9139	BHS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/10/2020
l	9237	BHS	Teacher	11/10/2020	11/10/2020

11. 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:

	Employee ID	School	Position	Start Date	End Date
a	9774	BMS	Spec Svc	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
b	9502	BMS	Para	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
c	9562	BMS	Spec Svc	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
d	9705	BMS	Spec Svc	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
e	8895	BMS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
f	9356	BMS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/20/2020
g	3480	BMS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
h	3980	BES	Teacher	11/11/2020	11/23/2020
i	8392	BMS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
j	9240	BMS	Teacher	11/09/2020	11/11/2020
k	8308	BMS	Para	11/09/2020	11/11/2020

12. Approve the Attainment of the Superintendents' Merit Goals*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, with the approval of the County Superintendent, approve the attainment of the Somerset Hills School District Superintendent's 2020-2021 Merit Goal.

1.	Ensure technology plans for reopening support the health of staff/students and the flexibility needed to provide instruction in varied manners
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13. Approve Field Experience

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following field experience for the 2020-2021 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Intern	School	Subject	Cooperating Teachers	Date
a	Garfield, Alexandra	FDU	Grade 3 Inclusion	O'Day, L. & Kusnic, C.	12/01/2020 - 01/22/2021 <i>Pending Clearance</i>

14. Appoint Interpreters/Translators*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education appoint the following Interpreters/Translators for the 2020-2021 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	Position	Rate	Effective
a	Gonzalez, Victor	Translator /Interpreter	\$59.11/Hr	<i>Pending Clearance</i>

15. 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.

	Employee ID	School	Position	Start Date	End Date
a	9667	BMS	FT Paraprofessional	11/19/2020	2/11/2021

POLICY

Action Items: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1 and 2, Ms. Cooper seconded. Items #1 and 2 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

1. **First Reading***

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

Policy / Regulation #	Title
P6440	Cooperative Purchasing (M) (Revised)
P6470.01&R6470.01	Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification (M) (New)
P7440&R7440	School District Security (M) (Revised)
P7450	Property Inventory (M) (Revised)
P3216	Dress and Grooming (Teaching Staff Members)
P4216	Dress and Grooming (Support Staff Members)

2. **Second Reading***

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the second 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)

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A. Committee Report and Discussion. Mrs. Tober gave the report. The committee met on November 13, 2020

SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS

1. Mrs. Frenda praised the students that were recognized by Dr. Dempsey.
2. Mrs. Santoro also praised the students for their accomplishments.
3. Mrs. Leiss praised the student representatives for their reports and resiliency of all the students.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

1. Joseph Young, BHS teacher. Asked if district could be fully virtual after Thanksgiving for at least two weeks.
2. Jeannette Bracero, BHS teacher, would like more consistency in schedule, instead of back and forth with days off. Need to be more stable.

3. Melissa Leonard, BES teacher, concerned about lack of subs.
4. Holly Jablonski, BES teacher, challenge of teaching in this new environment.
5. Greg deGrandpre, parent, asked when things will get back to normal. Dr. Dempsey responded that everything is constantly changing and nothing definitive for end.
6. Maddelena Violillo, BHS teacher, asked at what point district would be all virtual if numbers of virtual students and staff grow.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:17pm, Mrs. Frenda seconded. All in favor.

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 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)