The Somerset Hills School District
Regular Meeting Agenda - December 15, 2021
Executive Session - 6:00 P.M.
Public Input & Action - 7:30 P.M.
Bernards High School Media Center

I. Call to Order & Welcome

Welcome to a 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 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.

II. Roll Call

III. 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.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Roll Call

VI. Report of the Superintendent

- 1. Student Representatives' reports
- 2. Governor's Educator of the Year

Teacher Recognition Program:

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills School District subcommittee selected Jonathan Cherng, Teacher, Bernards High School, Jessica McGinn, Teacher, Bernardsville Middle School, and Jennifer Bohr,

Teacher, Bedwell Elementary School, for recommendation to the Governor's Educator of the Year Program for the 2021-2022 school year and;

WHEREAS, Jonathan Cherng, Jessica McGinn, and Jennifer Bohr have demonstrated their ability to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn and;

WHEREAS, Jonathan Cherng, Jessica McGinn, and Jennifer Bohr have the respect and admiration of students, parents, administrators, and colleagues, and

WHEREAS, Jonathan Cherng, Jessica McGinn, and Jennifer Bohr are exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled professionals,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Administration confirm the selection of Jonathan Cherng, Jessica McGinn, and Jennifer Bohr for the Governor's Educator of the Year Program for the 2021-2022 school year and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Administration commend Jonathan Cherng, Jessica McGinn, and Jennifer Bohr for their outstanding qualities and the high caliber of the services they provide and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Administration enthusiastically approve and support the selection of Jonathan Cherng, Jessica McGinn, and Jennifer Bohr for the Governor's Educator of the Year Program.

Educational Service Provider Recognition Program:

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills School District subcommittee selected Colleen Zuppa, Special Education Paraprofessional, and Carol Guedez, Special Education Paraprofessional, for recommendation to the Governor's Educator of the Year Educational Service Provider Recognition Program for the 2021 – 2022 school year, and

WHEREAS, Colleen Zuppa and Carol Guedez have demonstrated the ability to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn and

WHEREAS, Colleen Zuppa and Carol Guedez have the respect and admiration of students, parents, administrators, and colleagues and

WHEREAS, Colleen Zuppa and Carol Guedez are exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled teacher assistants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Administration confirm the selection of Colleen Zuppa and Carol Guedez for the Governor's Educator of the Year Educational Service Provider Recognition Program for the 2020-2021 school year and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Administration commend Colleen Zuppa and Carol Guedez for their outstanding qualities and the high caliber of the services they provide and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Administration enthusiastically approve and support the selection of Colleen Zuppa and Carol Guedez for the Governor's Educator of the Year Educational Service Provider Recognition Program.

3. Academic Report- Dr. Olga Edgerton, District Testing Coordinator

VII. Public Comments for Actionable Agenda Items

We very much welcome input from the public. Public comments are welcome at this time on any actionable agenda item. Towards the end of the meeting there is a second public forum on any topic. Please state your name and address. Comments are limited to three minutes, but an individual may speak a second time after all others who wish to speak on the topic have been heard. Please understand that our public forums are not structured as question and answer sessions, but are offered as opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board. In instances where the Board feels that there is a misunderstanding or inaccuracy, the Board President or Superintendent may address the comment. In accordance with New Jersey Statute, the Board will not discuss matters regarding specific personnel. Public Comments will be limited to 30 minutes. Thank you for your input.

VIII. Approval of Minutes*

Approval of Minutes

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for November 17, 2021.

IX. FINANCE

- A. Committee Report & Discussion:
- B. Action Items:

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 2021 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary	Treasurer Cash
	Cash Balance (1)	Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$10,490,128.88	\$10,490,128.88
(20) Special Revenue Fund	(\$176,741.85)	(\$176,741.85)
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$371,191.25	\$371,191.25
(40)Debt Service Fund	\$310,969.43	\$310,969.43
Total Government Funds	\$10,995,547.71	\$10,995,547.71

(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 2021-2022 Budget Transfers*

Resolved that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the attached list of budget transfers for October 2021.

3. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached October 2021 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	\$95,753.18
(20) Special Revenue Fund	_
(30) Capital Projects Fund	_
(40) Debt Service Fund	_
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$610.00
(90) Agency Fund	_
TOTAL	\$96,363.18

4. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached November 2021 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:

	0
FUND	
(10) General Fund	\$3,033,252.58
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$49,810.05
(30) Capital Projects Fund	_
(40) Debt Service Fund	_
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$66,967.73
(90) Agency Fund	\$1,048,991.70
TOTAL	\$4,199,022.06

5. Amend American Rescue Plan - IDEA Grant*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the submission and acceptance of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Preschool Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) as follows for the 2021-2022 school year.

ARP IDEA Basic Public:	\$	90,427
ARP IDEA Non Public:	\$	9,436
ARP IDEA Preschool Public:	\$	8,517
TOTAL	\$1	108,380

6. Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Send/Receive Tuition Agreement with Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools for the sending of students to Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools for the 2021-2022 school year.

7. Approve Professional Service Contract*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the professional service agreement with Policy Find for the 2021-2022 school year not to exceed \$7,500.

8. Approve Settlement Agreement*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the settlement agreements with respect to litigation involving an injury to a minor student on a school bus on school premises.

WHEREAS, the proposed settlement involves no admission of liability on the part of the District; and

WHEREAS, the District's portion of the proposed settlement approximately equals the cost of continued defense of the litigation; and

WHEREAS, the District's portion of the settlement will be paid fully by the District's insurance carrier

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby consents to the resolution of this litigation with no admission of liability and with payment being made primarily by the bus transportation company and a contribution on behalf of the Board of Education by the District's insurance carrier.

X. FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

- A. Committee Report & Discussion:
- B. Action Items:

HIB Report*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on November 17, 2021, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent.

- BMS 2021-2022 #5
- BHS 2021-2022 #1

XI. CURRICULUM

- A. Committee Report & Discussion:
- B. Action Items:

1. Approve Field Trips

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following field trips:

	G 1 1	Tuin	# of	# of	# of	
	School	Trip	Students	Faculty	Chaperones	

a	BES	Red Mill Village: Clinton, NJ	85	8	12
b	BMS	Calvary Temple & Dorney Park: Allentown, PA	155	132	20
С	BMS	Virtual Steam Tank Challenge Regionals: Virtual	10	1	0

2. Approve Field Trips*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following field trips:

	School	Trip	# of Students	# of Faculty	# of Chaperones
a	BHS	NJ Physics Olympics: Tinton Falls, NJ	24	1	0
b	BHS	Black River Roasters: Whitehouse Station, NJ	9	4	0
С	BHS	Sweet Melissa Bakery & Destination Athlete: Lebanon, NJ	10	1	0
d	BHS	Observe Live Surgery - Anatomy & Physiology Class: BHS PAC	87	2	4
e	BHS	Rowan Jazz Festival: Glassboro, NJ	19	2	0

3. Approve Professional Development

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following professional development:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BES	Strohman, E.	Demystifying Swallowing & Feeding in the School Setting	12/18/21	\$99
b	BES	O'Day, L.	Making the Most of Spelling Instruction	01/07/22	\$50
С	BES	Falzarano, S.	Making the Most of Spelling Instruction	01/07/22	\$50
d	BES	Ziolkowski, M.	Developing Data Based High Leverage, Transferable Tools to Support your Small Group & 1:1 Work	01/10/22	\$50
е	BES	Westfall, S.	Increasing the Humanity of Reading & Writing Workshop	01/12/22	\$50
f	BES	DeRoberts, T.	Accelerate ELL Students' Learning in PreK & K	01/18/22	\$0
g	BES	Klebaur, G.	Robust Vocabulary Instruction	01/28/22	\$0
h	BES	McCarron, J.	NAEA National Convention	03/03/22- 03/05/22	\$300
i	BMS	Rizzuto, R.	Guided Math: Practical Strategies to Differentiate Your Math Instruction	01/06/22	\$279

j	BMS	Froysland, M.	Guided Math: Practical Strategies to Differentiate Your Math Instruction	01/06/22	\$279
k	BMS	McGinn, J.	Somerset County Health Curriculum Updates	01/13/22	\$0
1	BMS	Porter, S.	Trauma Sensitive Schools	01/18/22	\$0
m	m BMS Marashlian, N.		NGSS - Using Explanation & Argument to Assess Student Learning	03/02/22	\$125
n	n BMS Internoscia, B.		MUJC - Behavioral Disabilities (BD) Symposium Meeting	03/08/22	\$0

4. Approve Professional Development*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the

Superintendent, approves the following professional development:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BHS	Cherng, J.	AP Calculus Roundtable	12/16/21	\$0
b	BHS	Falletta, L.	AP Calculus Roundtable	12/16/21	\$0
С	BHS	Neigel, S.	Somerset County HS Principals Association Meeting	12/17/21	\$0
d	BHS	Miranda, J.	Grief Treatment Certification Training	01/07/22	\$0
е	BHS	O'Connor, L.	Somerset County PE Standards Meeting	01/13/2022	\$0
f	BHS	Miranda, J.	Rewire the Anxious Brain: Neuroscience Informed Treatment of Anxiety, Panic and Worry	01/28/22	\$0
g	BHS	Young, J.	Anatomy & Physiology Class Live Surgery	02/07/22	\$0
h	BHS	Albanese-DeMair, C.	Anatomy & Physiology Class Live Surgery	02/07/22	\$0
i	BHS	Pasqua, J.	NECTFL 68th Annual Conference	02/10/22	\$255
j	District	Barna, L.	Practical & Effective Ways to Support Students' Literacy Growth in Tiers 1, 2, 3 of RT	01/11/22	\$50
k	District	Catelli, M.	Legal One: Code of Conduct Specialized Populations	01/27/22	\$125
1	District	Lucas, D.	s, D. NJBGA Meetings		\$109.12
m	District	DeMarco, J.	NJASA Techspo 22	01/26-01/28	\$899.40

n	District	Schwarz, J.	NJASA Techspo 22	01/26-01/28	\$958.40

XII. **PERSONNEL**

- Committee Report and Discussion. A.
- B. Action Items:

1. **Accept Resignation**

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the resignation of the following employee:

	Name	School	Position	Effective
a	Prinz, Ralph Peter	BMS	Leave Replacement Teacher	01/31/2022

2. Rescind Approval Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional* Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the

Superintendent, rescind the approval of the appointment of the following Full-Time

Paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year:

	Name	Replace	Position	Step	Hourly
a	O'Reilly, Brendan	9531	Para-Spec Ed B Hourly	1	\$17.34

3. Rescind Approval Athletic/Co-Curricular Position*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind the approval of the following BHS athletic stipend for the 2021-2022 school year:

	Last Name	First Name	BHS Co-Curricular Position	Season	Stipend
a	Maginnis	Luke	Basketball: Women's Assistant (FR) (50%)	Winter	\$3,325 (½ of \$6,650)

4. Rescind Approval Athletic/Co-Curricular Volunteers*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescinds the approval of the appointment of the following volunteer for the 2021-2022 school year:

	Last Name	First Name	Season	Position
a	Kulcsar	Christopher	Fall	Volunteer Football

5. Amend Approval Co-Curricular & Athletic Positions*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amends the approval of the following BHS co-curricular and athletic stipends for the 2021-2022 school year:

	Last Name	First Name	BHS Co-Curricular Position	Stipend
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a	Tynan	Jessica	Field Hockey: Assistant (FR)	\$ 6,000 \$5,600
b	LaValle	Alexa	Basketball: Women's Assistant (FR) (50%)	\$6,650

6. Approve Athletic/Co-Curricular Position*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following BHS co-curricular and athletic stipend position for the 2021-2022 school year.

	Last Name	First Name	BHS Co-Curricular Position	Season	Stipend
a	Maginnis	Luke	Winter Track: Assistant	Winter	\$5,400

7. Approve Family Medical Leave*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Family Medical Leave of Absence dates for the 2021-2022 school year:

		ID	School	Position	Dates for Accumulated Sick Leave	Dates for FMLA (Unpaid with Benefits)
a	a	9693	District	Manager	0	11/29/2021 - 1/02/2022

8. Approve Unpaid Absences

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following unpaid absences for the 2021-2022 school year:

	Name	School Position		Dates	
a	Bohr, Jennifer	BES	Teacher BA	01/12/2022 - 01/14/2022	

9. <u>Approve Appointment of Interim Assistant Principal</u>

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the appointment of Lynn Sharp, interim assistant principal at Bernardsville Middle School at an hourly rate of \$70, effective January 3, 2022 through the end of the assignment, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law* (Latzke).

10. Approve Appointment Administrator

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following administrator for the 2021-2022 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	Position	Replace	Salary Prorated	Effective
a	Koellhoffer, Keith B.	Assistant Principal - BMS	Latzke, B.	\$107,000	Pending Clearance

11. Approve Appointment Non - Certified Staff*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following non - certified staff for the 2021-2022 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School Position Salary		Salary	Effective
a	Delapaz, Manuel	District	Bus Driver	\$32./hour	01/03/2022

12. Approve Overloads*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following BMS overloads for the 2021-2022 school year.

	Course	Teacher	Term	Salary	OVERLOAD Salary
a	English	Kimmel, Melissa	12/06 per diem until completed as determined by BMS principal	\$74,260	\$61.90 per diem
b	English	Russo, Dawn	12/06 per diem until completed as determined by BMS principal	\$82,675	\$68.91 per diem
С	English	Tchorz, Valerie	12/06 per diem until completed as determined by BMS principal	\$98,179	\$81.83 per diem

13. Approve Job Description*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following job description:

• Director/Supervisor of Student Services

XIII. POLICY

- A. Committee Report and Discussion.
- B. Action Items:

1. First Reading*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the first reading of the following bylaw, policy & regulation:

Policy / Regulation #	Title
P0155	Board Committees

2. Second Reading*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the second reading of the following bylaw, policy & regulation:

Policy / Regulation #	Title
P5751 & R5751	Sexual Harassment of Students (M) (Revised)

XIV. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A. Committee Report & Discussion:

XV. SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments are welcome at this time on any topic. Public Comments will be limited to 3 minutes. Please state your name and address. Thank you for your input.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

*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)

IX. FINANCE

9. Approve Professional Service Contract*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following appointment for the 2021-2022 school year:

Provider	Service	Est Amt. Not to Exceed
Anderson & Shah, LLC	Legal	\$25,000(\$200/hr-attny; \$85/hr paralegal)

10. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached November 2021 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	\$74,122.89
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$9,786.60
(30) Capital Projects Fund	
(40) Debt Service Fund	-
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$56,144.65
(90) Agency Fund	_
TOTAL	\$140,054.14

11. Approve Consulting Service Agreement*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Education Consortium for Telecommunications Savings to provide consulting services for E-Rate applications for the 2021-2022 school year:

Funding range Received	Flat Fee
Up to \$100,000	\$1,200
\$100,001 to \$499,000	\$2,200

12. Amend 2021-2022 Budget for Security Grant Award*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the district audit firm, revise the Somerset Hills School District budget for 2021-2022 fiscal year to reflect a \$114,351 increase for the School Security Grant that was approved by NJDOE on 9/22/2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there will be an increase in Revenue Line - Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act (Alyssa's Law, Account 10-3256) in the amount of \$114,351; and

Somerset Hills School District December 15, 2021 ADDENDUM

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there will be an increase in Appropriation Line - Other Purchased Professional and Technical Services (Account 12-000-3XX) in the amount of \$114,351.

XII. PERSONNEL

14. Approve Substitutes*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following substitute for the 2021-2022 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Last First		Substitute Position	Certification
a	Koczot	Kristen	Teacher/Paraprofessional	K-12 County Certification
b	Hayes	Emily	Teacher/Paraprofessional	K-12 County Certification

15. <u>Amend Approval Unpaid Absences</u>

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent amend the approval of the following unpaid absences for the 2021-2022 school year:

	Name	School	Position	# of Requested days	Dates
a	Sarullo, Dally	BMS	Paraprofessional	2	12/17/21 & 12/20/21 3/24 - 3/25/2022

16. Amend Approval Leave Replacement Teacher

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the approval of the following Leave Replacement Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position	Replace	Level	Step	Salary	Dates
a	Adams, Jennifer	BES	Teacher	8857	MA	4-5	\$67,205 prorated	11/30/21 01/03/2022 - 6/30/22

17. Approve Maintenance Stipend*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following maintenance stipend for the 2021-2022 school year, *effective as of* 7/1/2021:

	Name	Position	Stipend	
a	Brenner, Kevin	System Maintenance	\$16,774	

SOMERSET HILLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bylaws 0155/Page 1 of 2 BOARD COMMITTEES

0155 BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board of Education authorizes the creation of committees of Board members charged to conduct studies, make recommendations to the Board, and act in an advisory capacity. Committees are not authorized to take action on behalf of the Board.

The President shall appoint Board members to serve a one-year term on the following Board standing committees:

- 1. Community Relations;
 - 1. Curriculum;
 - 2. Facilities and Operations;
 - 3. Finance;
 - 4. Negotiations;
 - 5. Personnel; and
 - 6. Policy.

The committee members serve at the discretion of the Board of Education and the board President retains the authority to change committee membership during the course of the year as necessary, and in the best interest of the district.

Whenever possible, there will be representation from Far Hills and/or Peapack-Gladstone on each committee.

An ad hoc committee may be created and charged at any time by the President or a majority of the Board members present and voting. The President shall appoint members to any committee so created and charged; members shall serve until the committee is discharged.

Committees shall consist of no more than five Board members, one of whom shall be the President, who shall serve as ex officio member on all Board committees. A member may request or refuse appointment to a committee; a member's refusal to serve on any one committee shall not prejudice his/her appointment to another committee.

The Board reserves the right to meet and work as a Committee of the Whole in informational, discussion, and exploratory sessions. No official action shall be taken at these meetings, unless so advertised.

A chairperson shall be appointed by the President.



POLICY

SOMERSET HILLS **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Bylaws 0155/Page 2 of 2 BOARD COMMITTEES

Committee meetings may be called at any time by the committee chairperson or when a meeting is requested by a majority of the members of the committee.

Committee meetings shall not be open to the public, except that a majority of the committee or the chairperson may open the meeting to the public or invite persons whose knowledge or expertise may be useful to the committee.

Adopted: 1 October 2008
Revised: 14 December 2011
Revised: 29 February 2012
Revised: 27 March 2013
Revised: 10 May 2017
Revised: 26 January 2022



POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS 5751/page 1 of 3 Sexual Harassment of Students Oct 21

[See POLICY ALERT No. 225]

5751 SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS

The Board of Education will not tolerate sexual harassment of students by school employees, other students, or third parties. Sexual harassment of students is a form of prohibited sex discrimination. In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 34 CFR §106, the school district adopts this Policy and implement practices to investigate and resolve allegations of sexual harassment of students engaged in by school employees, other students, or third parties pursuant to 34 CFR §106.3(c). In addition, reports of sexual harassment shall also be investigated in accordance with the requirements of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act and Policy 5512.

For the purposes of Policy 5751 and in accordance with 34 CFR §106:

- 1. "Sexual harassment" (34 CFR §106.30(a)) means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:
 - a. An employee of the school district conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the school district on a student's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
 - b. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to the school district's education program or activity; or
 - c. "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).

Sexual harassment may take place electronically or on an online platform used by the school, including, but not limited to, computer and internet networks; digital platforms; and computer hardware or software owned or operated by, or used in the operations of the school.

In accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(a), any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report.



POLICY GUIDE

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A school district with "actual knowledge" of sexual harassment in the educational program or activity of the school district against a student, must respond promptly in a manner that is not "deliberately indifferent".

Any school employee who receives a complaint of sexual harassment or is aware of behavior that could constitute sexual harassment is required to report that information to the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with the provisions of 34 CFR §106.8(a) and B.1. of Regulation 5751. The district must report any potential child abuse in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-24; N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25; N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1; and Policy and Regulation 8462.

The Title IX Coordinator shall notify persons entitled to a notification pursuant to 34 CFR §106.8(a)(1) that the school district does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, and that it is required by Title IX and Policy and Regulation 5751 not to discriminate in such a manner in accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(b)(1).

The Title IX Coordinator shall prominently display the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator pursuant to 34 CFR §106.8(b)(2)(i) on the school district's website and in each handbook or catalog the school district makes available to persons entitled to a notification in accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(a). Policy and Regulation 5751 shall be prominently displayed on the district's website and accessible to anyone.

Supportive measures shall be available to the Complainant, Respondent, and as appropriate, witnesses or other impacted individuals.

The school district shall use the grievance process outlined in 34 CFR §106.45 and Regulation 5751 to address formal complaints of sexual harassment. The school district shall offer both parties an appeal process as outlined in 34 CFR §106.45 and Regulation 5751 from a determination regarding responsibility for sexual harassment and from the Title IX Coordinator's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations of sexual harassment.

The Title IX Coordinator shall be responsible for effective implementation of any remedies in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(7)(iv). The appropriate school official designated by the Superintendent, after consultation with the Title IX Coordinator, will determine sanctions imposed and remedies provided, if any.



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Consistent with the laws of New Jersey a student's parent must be permitted to exercise the rights granted to their child under this Policy, whether such rights involve requesting supportive measures, filing a formal complaint, or participating in a grievance process.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, appeal officer, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, receive training in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(1)(iii).

The school district or any employee of the school district shall not intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or Policy 5751, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this Policy, in accordance with 34 CFR §106.71(a).

For each school district response to sexual harassment required under 34 CFR §106.44, the school district shall create and maintain for a period of seven years, records in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(10).

The Superintendent or designee shall consult with the Board Attorney to ensure the school district's response to allegations of sexual harassment and the school district's grievance process are in accordance with 34 CFR §106.44 and 34 CFR §106.45.

Any time a report is made to the Title IX Coordinator or formal complaint is filed pursuant to this Policy and in accordance with 34 CFR §106, the Title IX Coordinator shall forward the report or complaint to the Principal of the school building attended by the alleged victim for the Principal to follow the requirements of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act and Policy 5512.

34 CFR §106

United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights – Questions and Answers on the Title IX Regulations on Sexual Harassment (July 20, 2021)

Adopted:



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[See POLICY ALERT No. 225]

R 5751 SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS

The Board of Education will not tolerate sexual harassment of students by school employees, other students, or third parties. The school district shall investigate and resolve allegations of sexual harassment of students engaged in by school employees, other students, or third parties pursuant to 34 CFR §106.3(c) and Policy and Regulation 5751. In addition, reports of sexual harassment shall also be investigated in accordance with the requirements of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act and Policy 5512.

A. Definitions

- 1. For the purpose of Policy and Regulation 5751 and in accordance with 34 CFR §106:
 - a. "Sexual harassment" (34 CFR §106.30(a)) means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:
 - (1) An employee of the school district conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the school district on a student's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
 - (2) Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to the school district's education program or activity; or
 - (3) "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).



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- b. "Complainant" (34 CFR §106.30(a)) means a student currently enrolled who is alleged to be the Complainant of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.
 - (1) A parent may act on behalf of the Complainant in accordance with State law, court orders, child custody arrangements, or other sources granting legal rights to parents.
 - (2) A parent has a legal right to act on a Complainant's behalf, this right applies throughout all aspects of the Title IX matter, including throughout the grievance process.
- c. "Decision-maker" (34 CFR §106.45(b)(7)) means a staff member(s) who is not the Title IX Coordinator or the school staff member who conducted the investigation, designated by the Superintendent of Schools, to objectively evaluate the relative evidence and reach conclusions about whether the Respondent is responsible for the alleged sexual harassment in accordance with the provisions of 34 CFR. §106.
- d. "Education program or activity" (34 CFR §106.44(a)) includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the school district exercises substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs.
- e. "Formal complaint" (34 CFR §106.30(a)) means a document filed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the school district investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. As used in this definition paragraph, the phrase "document filed by a Complainant" means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal provided for this purpose by the school district) that contains the Complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the Complainant is the person filing the formal complaint.



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- f. "Investigator" (34 CFR §106.45(b)(5)) means a staff member or staff members who may be the Title IX Coordinator and who is not a decision-maker, designated by the Superintendent of Schools, to investigate alleged sexual harassment in accordance with 34 CFR §106. The investigator may be the school district's Affirmative Action Officer only if the Affirmative Action Officer is not the decision-maker.
- g. "Program or activity" and "program" (34 CFR \$106.2(h)(2)(ii)) means all of the operations of a local educational agency (as defined in 20 U.S.C. §8801), system of vocational education, or other school system.
- h. "Respondent" (34 CFR §106.30(a)) means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.
 - (1) A parent may act on behalf of the Respondent in accordance with State law, court orders, child custody arrangements, or other sources granting legal rights to parents.
 - (2) If a parent has a legal right to act on a Respondent's behalf, this right applies throughout all aspects of the Title IX matter, including throughout the grievance process.
- i. "Title IX Coordinator" (34 CFR §106.8(a)) means an individual designated and approved by the Board to coordinate its efforts to comply with its responsibilities under 34 CFR §106 and this Policy. The individual must be referred to as the "Title IX Coordinator" and may also be the investigator but cannot be the decision-maker.
- B. Reporting and Notification Requirements
 - 1. Sexual harassment may take place electronically or on an online platform used by the school, including, but not limited to, computer and internet networks; digital platforms; and computer hardware or software owned or operated by, or used in the operations of the school.



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- 2. In accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(a), any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report.
 - a. Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or by mail to the office address listed for the Title IX Coordinator.
- 3. A school district with "actual knowledge" of sexual harassment in the educational program or activity of the school district against a student, must respond promptly in a manner that is not "deliberately indifferent".
 - a. The school district has "actual knowledge" when an employee receives a complaint of sexual harassment or an employee is aware of behavior that could constitute sexual harassment.
 - (1) Any school employee who receives a complaint of sexual harassment or is aware of behavior that could constitute sexual harassment is required to report that information to the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with the provisions of B.1. above.
 - (2) In addition to the district's response in accordance with this Regulation, the district must report any potential child abuse to appropriate law enforcement and child welfare authorities in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-24; N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25; N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1; and Policy and Regulation 8462.
 - b. A school district is "deliberately indifferent" only if the response to sexual harassment is clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances, pursuant to 34 CFR §106.44(a).



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- 4. The district is required to offer supportive measures to the Complainant even if the Respondent ceased being enrolled or employed by the district prior to the filing of a formal complaint.
 - a. If the Respondent ceases to be enrolled in or employed by the district after a formal complaint is filed, the district may dismiss the complaint, but must still offer supportive measures to the Complainant pursuant to 34 CFR §106.45(b)(3)(ii).
- 5. The Title IX Coordinator shall notify persons entitled to a notification pursuant to 34 CFR §106.8(a) that the school district does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity it operates and it is required by Title IX and Policy and Regulation 5751 not to discriminate in such a manner in accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(b)(1).
- 6. The Title IX Coordinator shall prominently display the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator pursuant to 34 CFR §106.8(b)(2)(i) on the school district's website and in each handbook or catalog the school district makes available to persons entitled to a notification in accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(a).
 - a. Policy 5751 and this Regulation shall be prominently displayed on the district's website and accessible to anyone.

C. Supportive Measures

- 1. "Supportive measures" mean non-disciplinary, non-punitive, individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the Complainant or the Respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed pursuant to 34 CFR §106.30(a).
- 2. Supportive measures shall be available to the Complainant, Respondent, and as appropriate, witnesses or other impacted individuals.



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- 3. The Title IX Coordinator shall maintain consistent contact with the parties to ensure that safety, emotional and physical well-being are being addressed.
- 4. Generally, supportive measures are meant to be short-term in nature and will be re-evaluated on a periodic basis.
 - a. To the extent there is a continuing need for supportive measures after the conclusion of the resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator will work with appropriate school district resources to provide continued assistance to the parties.

D. Grievance Process

- 1. The school district will use the grievance process outlined in 34 CFR §106.45 and this Regulation to address formal complaints of sexual harassment.
- 2. Parents, students, unions and associations, and staff members shall receive notice of the grievance procedures and the Title IX Coordinator's name or title, office, address, email address, and telephone number in accordance with 34 CFR §106.8(a).
- 3. The school district's grievance process may, but need not, provide for a hearing pursuant to 34 CFR §106.45(b)(6)(ii).
- 4. The school district may not require as a condition of enrollment or continuing enrollment, or employment or continuing employment, or enjoyment of any other right, waiver of the right to an investigation and adjudication of formal complaints of sexual harassment consistent with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(9).
- 5. The school district may not require the parties to participate in an informal resolution process regarding a Title IX claim and may not offer an informal resolution process unless a formal complaint is filed pursuant to 34 CFR §106.45(b)(9).



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- 6. The Title IX Coordinator must promptly contact the Complainant in accordance with 34 CFR §106.44(a).
- 7. In response to a formal complaint, the school district will follow a grievance process that complies with 34 CFR §106.45.
 - a. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide written notice to the parties who are known in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(2)(i).
 - b. The Title IX Coordinator shall provide the investigator with a copy of the formal complaint if the Title IX Coordinator is not the investigator.
 - c. The investigator shall investigate the allegations contained in a formal complaint pursuant to 34 CFR §106.45(b).
- 8. The investigator shall create an investigative report in accordance with the provisions of 34 CFR §106.45(b)(5)(vii).
 - a. The investigator will attempt to collect all relevant information and evidence.
 - b. While the investigator will have the burden of gathering evidence, it is crucial that the parties present evidence and identify witnesses to the investigator so that they may be considered during the investigation.
 - c. While all evidence gathered during the investigative process and obtained through the exchange of written questions will be considered, the decision-maker may in their discretion grant lesser weight to last minute information or evidence introduced through the exchange of written questions that was not previously presented for investigation by the investigator.
 - d. To the greatest extent possible, and subject to Title IX, the school will make reasonable accommodations in an investigation to avoid potential re-traumatization of a student.



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- e. The investigative report shall be provided to the decision-maker in accordance with the provisions of 34 CFR §106.45(b)(6)(ii).
- 9. The decision-maker, who cannot be the same person as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator, shall issue a written determination regarding responsibility pursuant to 34 CFR §106.45(b)(7).
 - a. To reach this determination, the decision-maker will apply clear and convincing evidence standard, which shall be the same standard of evidence for formal complaints against students as for formal complaints against employees, including faculty, and apply the same standard of evidence to all formal complaints of sexual harassment pursuant to 34 CFR §106.45(b)(1)(vii).
 - b. The decision-maker will facilitate a written question and answer period between the parties.
 - (1) Each party may submit their written questions for the other party and witnesses to the decision-maker for review.
 - (2) The questions must be relevant to the case and the decision-maker will determine if the questions submitted are relevant and will then forward the relevant questions to the other party or witnesses for a response.
 - (3) The decision-maker shall then review all the responses, determine what is relevant or not relevant, and issue a decision as to whether the Respondent is responsible for the alleged sexual harassment.



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- (4) The decision-maker will issue a written determination following the review of evidence.

 The written determination will include:
 - (a) Identification of allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment as defined in Policy and Regulation 5751 and 34 CFR §106.30;
 - (b) A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, and methods used to gather evidence;
 - (c) Findings of fact supporting the determination, conclusions regarding the application of this formal grievance process to the facts; and
 - (d) A statement of and rationale for the result as including each allegation, determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions the decision-maker imposed on the Respondent that directly relate to the Complainant, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the school's education program or activity will be provided to the Complainant; procedures and permissible bases for the parties to appeal the determination.
- (5) The written determination will be provided to the parties simultaneously.



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- (6) Notwithstanding a temporary delay of the grievance procedure or the limited extension of the grievance procedure time frames with good cause, the written determination shall be provided within sixty calendar days from receipt of the Complaint.
 - (a) The sixty calendar day time frame does not include the appeal process.
- (7) Remedies and supportive measures that do not impact the Respondent should not be disclosed in the written determination; rather the determination should simply state that remedies will be provided to the Complainant.

E. Appeals

- 1. The school district will offer both parties an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, and from the Title IX Coordinator's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(8)(i).
- 2. As to all appeals, the school district will comply with the requirements of 34 CFR §106.45(b)(8).
- 3. The Superintendent shall designate an appeal officer for each appeal filed.
 - a. The appeal officer shall not be the same person as the decision-maker that reached the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(8)(iii)(B).
- 4. The Complainant and Respondent shall have an equal opportunity to appeal the policy violation determination and any sanctions.
- 5. The school district shall administer the appeal process, but is not a party and will not advocate for or against any appeal.



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- 6. A party may appeal only on the following grounds and the appeal shall identify the reason(s) why the party is appealing:
 - a. There was a procedural error in the hearing process that materially affected the outcome;
 - (1) Procedural error refers to alleged deviations from school district policy, and not challenges to policies or procedures themselves;
 - b. There is new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time of the hearing and that could have affected the outcome;
 - c. The decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias that affected the outcome;
 - d. The determination regarding the policy violation was unreasonable based on the evidence before the decision-maker;
 - (1) Appealing on this basis is available only to a party who participated in the hearing; and
 - e. The sanctions were disproportionate to the hearing officer's findings.
- 7. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Title IX Coordinator within ten calendar days following the issuance of the notice of determination.
- 8. The appeal must identify the ground(s) for appeal and contain specific arguments supporting each ground for appeal.
- 9. The Title IX Coordinator shall notify the other party of the appeal, and that other party shall have an opportunity to submit a written statement in response to the appeal, within ten calendar days.



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- 10. The Title IX Coordinator shall inform the parties that they have an opportunity to meet with the appeal officer separately to discuss the proportionality of the sanction.
- 11. The appeal officer shall decide the appeal considering the evidence presented at the hearing, the investigation file, and the appeal statements of both parties.
- 12. In disproportionate sanction appeals, input the parties provided during the meeting may also be considered.
- 13. The appeal officer shall summarize their decision in a written report that will be sent to the Complainant and Respondent within twenty calendar days of receiving the appeal.

F. Remedies

- 1. The Title IX Coordinator shall be responsible for effective implementation of any remedies in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(7)(iv).
- 2. Following receipt of the written determination from the decision-maker, the Title IX Coordinator will facilitate the imposition of sanctions, if any, the provision of remedies, if any, and to otherwise complete the formal resolution process.
- 3. The appropriate school official designated by the Superintendent, after consultation with the Title IX Coordinator, will determine the sanctions imposed and remedies provided, if any.
 - a. The imposition of sanctions or provisions of remedies will be revisited by the Title IX Coordinator following the appeal officer's decision, as appropriate.
- 4. The Title IX Coordinator must provide written notice to the parties simultaneously.
- 5. The school district must disclose to the Complainant the sanctions imposed on the Respondent that directly relate to the Complainant when such disclosure is necessary to ensure equal access to the school district's education program or activity.



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6. It is important to note that conduct that does not meet the criteria under Title IX may violate other Federal or State laws or school district policies regarding student misconduct or may be inappropriate and require an immediate response in the form of supportive measures and remedies to prevent its recurrence and address its effects.

G. Parent Rights

- 1. Consistent with the laws of New Jersey, a student's parent must be permitted to exercise the rights granted to their child under Policy and Regulation 5751, whether such rights involve requesting supportive measures, filing a formal complaint, or participating in a grievance process.
- 2. A student's parent must also be permitted to accompany the student to meetings, interviews, and hearings, if applicable, during a grievance process in order to exercise rights on behalf of the student.
- 3. The student may have an advisor in addition to the parent.

H. Training

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, appeal officers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, receive training in accordance with 34 CFR §106.45(b)(1)(iii).

I. Compliance

The Superintendent or designee shall consult with the Board Attorney to ensure the school district's response to any allegations of sexual harassment and the school district's grievance process are in accordance with 34 CFR §106.44 and 34 CFR §106.45.



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J. Requirements of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act

Any time a report is made to the Title IX Coordinator or formal complaint is filed pursuant to Policy and Regulation 5751 and in accordance with 34 CFR §106, the Title IX Coordinator shall forward the report or complaint to the Principal of the school building attended by the alleged victim for the Principal to follow the requirements of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act and Policy 5512.

Adopted:

