

**The Somerset Hills School District
PUBLIC INPUT & ACTION – MARCH 26, 2018**

Call to Order & Welcome

Mrs. Leiss called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance**Roll Call**

Present:	Absent:	Also Present:
Mr. Baker	Ms. Sooy	Frances Wood
Ms. Burch		Heather Goguen
Mr. DiGiacchino		Cheri Adams, Esq
Mrs. Hoppe		
Mrs. Leiss		

Executive Session

Mrs. Leiss moved the following at 6:30pm

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.

Mr. DiGiacchino seconded. The Board returned to public session at 7:37pm.

Correspondence

Letter from HSA Representatives

Letter from Gretchen Dempsey

Report of the Superintendent

1.
 - A. Student/Staff Recognition-
 - a. BMS Spelling Bee Champions- Mrs. Dempsey presented Pradnesh Thoppay and Eva Malleo
 - b. National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists- Dr. Wood presented David Oliveiri and Matthew Jacobs
 - c. Dr. Wood congratulated Jack Broderick for his admission into the prestigious University of S. California- Writing for Screen & Television program. He was one of 26 students accepted.
 - B. Academic Report
 - C. Student Representative Report - John “Jack” Broderick gave student report commenting on student activities and athletics. Jack commented on the National Student Walkout, Key Club Leukemia Fundraiser, Boston trip, cancellation of school musical on Friday night due to snow, and the Upcoming Intergenerational Prom

2. Budget Presentation- Ms. Goguen presented the 2018-2019 budget.

Ms. Burch wanted to know the amount of tuition for regular education and special education out of the tuition line.

Public Questions & Comments

None

Approval of Minutes***Action** 1. Approval of Minutes

Resolution Mrs. Tober moved and Mr. McDonald seconded that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for February 21, 2018. Minutes were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

Finance

A. Mr. Baker gave the report The committee met on March 20, 2018.

B. Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-15, Mr. DiGioacchino seconded. Items #1-8 and 11-15 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0. Items #9 & 10 were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0.

Action 1. Approve Tentative 2018-2019 Budget*

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve for the 2018-2019 school year and that the Board Secretary be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline and to make all necessary adjustments to the budget to comply with State regulations.

2018-2019	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Total Expenditures	\$39,649,104	\$845,207	\$3,603,739	\$44,098,050
Less Anticipated Revenue	\$8,291,334	\$845,207	\$200,076	\$9,336,617
Taxes to be Raised	\$31,357,770	\$0	\$3,403,663	\$34,761,433

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Bernardsville News or Courier News in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at Bernards High School, Bernardsville NJ on April 25, 2018 at 7:30 pm for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2018-2019 School Year.

Action 2. Approve Capital Reserve Account Deposit*

Resolution Resolved that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves a capital reserve deposit in the amount of \$150,000. The district intends to utilize these funds for future capital projects.

Action 3. Approve Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2018-2019*

Resolution WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et.seq. Requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et.seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of district Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et.seq. Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$75,000.

Action
Resolution

4. Approve 2017-2018 Budget Transfers*

Resolved that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the attached list of budget transfers for February, 2018.

Action
Resolution

5. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached 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	FEBRUARY AMOUNT	MARCH AMOUNT
(10) General Fund	\$1,309,837.97	\$1,720,844.78
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$11,663.95	\$45,791.00
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$0.00	\$81,789.27
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
(90) Agency Fund	\$701,035.54	\$358,319.41
TOTAL	\$2,022,537.46	\$2,206,744.46

Action
Resolution

6. Approve Parent Organization Fundraiser*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following parent organization fundraiser for the 2017-2018 school year:

Organization	School	Event	Date
Fencing Booster Club	BHS	End of year Fencing Sports Banquet, silent auction, basket raffle	Mar. 10

Action
Resolution

7. Accept Class of 2017 Senior Award*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accept a donation in the amount of \$2,750 from the Project Graduation 2017 Committee to establish a yearly award to be given to a graduating senior at the senior award night. The amount of the award would be \$275.00 per year.

- Action 8. Transportation for Professional Development Day April 9, 2018*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following two SCESC buses on Delayed Opening school days at a total cost of \$247.50 for each day needed.

Peapack-Gladstone Train Station	Pick up at 8:50am	Cost: \$123.75
Far Hills Train Station	Pick up at 9:15am	Cost: \$123.75

- Action 9. Approve Special Education Service Provider
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following Special Education service provider for the 2017-2018 year and extended school year program:

Provider	Service	Location
A Caring Connection	Nursing Services	Westfield, N.J.
Assessments Counseling & Education Supports (ACES)	Evaluations and Counseling	Mountain Lakes, N.J.

- Action 10. Approve Settlement Agreement
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the settlement agreement for Student #2032000.

- Action 11. Approve Settlement Agreement *
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the settlement agreement for Student #2021109.

- Action 12. Approve Transfer from Capital Reserve *
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the transfer of \$10,400 out of Capital Reserve to Capital Outlay for the construction of stairwell railings at the Bernardsville Middle School for the purpose of student safety.

- Action 13. Approve Transfer from Maintenance Reserve *
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the transfer of \$34,000 out of Maintenance Reserve to BHS Maintenance Projects account for an emergent repair of the Chilled Water System at Bernards High School by John Westenberger Plumbing, Heating & Mechanical Contractor, LLC.

- Action 14. Approve Ameresco for Energy Consultant Management Services *
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve to extend the existing agreement with Ameresco for Energy Management Consulting Services for a term of 3 years beginning May 1, 2018. The Somerset Hills Board of Education will pay a fee to Ameresco of \$0.0025 per kWh of electricity usage and \$0.025 per therm of gas usage for the following services, at the following locations:
- BES – Bedwell Elementary School
 - BHS- Bernards High School
 - BMS= Bernards Middle School
 - OAB – Olcott Administration Building

- Action** 15. Approve Payment of Late Fee *
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the amount of \$96.62 for employee # 8296 as late fee incurred due to payroll transition.

Curriculum

- A. Ms. Virtue gave the report. The committee met on March 13, 2018.
 B. Action Items Ms. Virtue moved items #1-3, Mrs. Hoppe seconded. Item #1 was approved by a roll call vote of 8-0, items #2 & 3 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

- Action** 1. Approve Field Trips
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following field trips:

School	Trip	Date(s)	# of Students	# of Faculty	# of Chaperones
a) BMS	Math Club- Math League Competition - Pingry	Mar. 28	5-10	1	0
b) BMS	Forensics Club- Forensics Competition-Long Valley MS	May 4	12-20	1	1

- Action** 2. Approve Field Trips*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following field trips:

School	Trip	Date(s)	# of Students	# of Faculty	# of Chaperones
a) BHS	AP Environmental Science- Wastewater Treatment Facility- Bernardsville	Mar. 19	32	1	1
b) BHS	Special Ed Program- Royal Cleaners, Bernardsville	Mar. 29	7	3-4	
c) BHS	AP Computer Sci/AP Computer Principles- AppNexus-NYC	May 29	50	1	3
d) BHS	Special Ed Program- Chester Diner and Adam's Pet Safari-Chester	April 12	7	5	0
e) BHS	Accuplacer Test for Remediation class - RVCC	Mar. 27	3	1	0

- Action** 3. Approve Professional Development
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following professional development:

School	Name	Workshop/Conference	Est. Cost	Date
a) BES	Carey, Amanda	Teachers College-NYC- Writing about Reading	\$64.76	April 25
b) BMS	King, Brian	Climate and the Ocean- Princeton	\$300.00	July 9-13
c) BMS	Craver, Marcy	Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools- Bound Brook	\$10.79	April 4 (am)
d) BHS	Froysland, Megan	Varsity Softball Spring Training- Orlando	0	Mar. 15-16
e) BHS	O'Connor, Leslie	Sports Performance Course-NYC	\$614.50	Aug. 4 & 5
f) BHS	Murphy, Theresa	AP Summer Institute- Govt & Politics- Drew University	\$1014.78	Aug. 6-9

g) District	Vail, Peggy	Annual Cooperative Transportation Mtg- Piscataway	\$8.93	Apr. 10
h) District	Goguen, Heather	School Safety Specialist Training	0	June 25-28
i) District	Goguen, Heather	NJ School Business Officials Conf- Atlantic City	\$801.03	June 5-8
j) District	Butler, Brenda	Semi Program - Morris Plains	0	Apr. 9 (pm)
k) District	Latzke, Sarah	Semi Program - Morris Plains	0	Apr.9 (am)
l) District	Vaught, Teresa	Semi Program - Morris Plains	0	Apr. 9 (am)
m) BES	Dooley, Megan	College Visits-Fordham & Manhattan College	0	Mar. 29
n) BHS	Stolarz, Lizabeth	College Visits-Fordham & Manhattan College	0	Mar. 29

Facilities & Operations*

A. Mr. DiGioacchino gave the report. The committee met on March 26, 2018.

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

Action Resolution

1. HIB Report*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on **March 26, 2018** and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent.

Action Resolution

2. Approve Change Order*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve a change order to increase the Accurate Construction contract for the BHS Media Center by \$1,641.00.

Action Resolution

3. Approve Sale of Pro-Tech Turf Pusher*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the sale of the Pro-Tech Turf Pusher for the amount of \$2,000.00 to Paramus Board of Education.

Policy

A. Dr. Wood spoke of the Random Drug Testing policy and the public notice regarding it.

B. Action Items: Ms. Virtue moved item #1, Mrs. Leiss seconded. Items #1 was approved by a roll call vote of 8-0-1.

Action

1. Public Hearing and Approval of First Reading of Random Drug Testing Policy

Resolution

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

Policy & Regulation#	Title
5131	Student Random Drug Testing

Personnel

A. The committee met on March 13 and March 20, 2018. Mrs. Leiss spoke about a Security Officer and Student Resource Officer. No decision has been made at this time. Mrs. Leiss read a

statement regarding the three options for security and then opened the topic for discussion among the board.

B. Action Items: Mrs. Leiss moved items #1-9, Mrs. Tober seconded. Items #1-6 & #9 were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0, items #7 & 8 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

Action 1. Approve Observation

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following student observation for the 2017-2018 school year:

Student Observer	Program	Teacher	Date
Fischer, Taylor	MA in Spec Ed	Various for 4 sessions	TBD

Action 2. Approve Parenthood Leave

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following parenthood leave for the 2018-2019 school year:

Name	School	Position	Date
a) Heydt, Jaimie	BMS	Special Education	5/14/18 - 11/26/18
b) Camuto, Lisa	BHS	Math	9/1/18 to beginning of third marking period

Action 3. Approve Appointment Non-Certified Staff

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the appointment of the following non-certified staff for the 2017-2018 school year:

Name	School	Position	Level	Step	Salary	Effective
Shimko, Maria	BES	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional		1	\$15.70/hr	3/26/18

Action 4. Approve Resignation

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the following resignation:

Name	School	Position
Sorge, Melissa	BMS	Reading Specialist

Action 5. Amend Start Date

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education amend the start date for:

Employee	Position	Change
a) Stokes, Marianne	Business Office Assistant-Payroll	from March 19 to March 1, 2018
b) Williams, Caroline	BHS-Social Studies - Leave Replacement	From March 19 to March 16, 2018

Action 6. Accept Retirement

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accept the following retirements, effective June 30, 2018.

Employee	School	Position	Years of Service
a) Flynn, Kimberly	BMS	Language Arts	17

b) Fulton, Cynthia	BES	Grade 1	11
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Action 7. Approve the Attainment of Superintendent's Merit Goal*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, with the approval of the County Superintendent, approve the Superintendent's Quantitative Merit Goal.

Action 8. Amend End Date*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education amend the end date for Patricia Lampa, Leave Replacement in the Bernards High School Guidance Department for Amanda Ellis, from March 23 to May 4, 2018, or earlier.

Action 9. Approve Substitute
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Substitute:

Name	Position	Certification
Guedez, Carol	Teacher/Paraprofessional	Substitute Certificate

Community Engagement

Mr. DiGioacchino gave the report. The committee met on March 8 and 22, 2018. Mrs. Tober presented regarding two workshops she attended at the NJ School Boards Association convention. Sam Habibi and Lou Palma attended the meeting. Gretchen Dempsey also attended and is fully involved.

Public Questions & Comments

1. Sam Habibi asked Mrs. Hoppe to abstain from the vote on the Student Random Drug Testing Policy. Cheri Adams, Board Attorney, responded that Mrs. Hoppe could vote on the policy.
2. Marianne Rivello, BMS HSA Co-President, spoke of a School Resource Officer and the benefits of having one. SRO's educate our students and work with them.
3. Sam Frenda, BMS HSA Co-President, spoke of the correspondence the HSA sent to the board. She wanted to elaborate on the underrepresentation of the non-English speaking community and suggestions made for providing additional support.
4. Marianne Rivello added to Sam Frenda's comment and spoke of a specific instance of a parent who showed up at a meeting and was unable to participate due to the language barrier. She read from the letter and spoke of the importance of providing support for the community.
5. Dante Purro spoke of the bedbug situation at Bedwell and wanted to know what the protocol is. Dr. Wood spoke of the policy as to how if it is in a homeroom, the students in that homeroom get notified, which was what occurred the first time.. The second instance was in a classroom and those parents were notified. Our pest control company was called to remediate areas where the affected student would go to. An All-School alert was sent to all parents in the school. A letter was only sent to parents affected. The Board of Health is contacted to send company to fumigate the home if the district knows where the student lives, but the student has not been identified. The Board of Health follows up with the district to notify the district that the home has been remediated.
6. Jim McCarron, Bedwell art teacher, spoke about his passion about the elementary school garden and his passion about teaching it. He wants the board to visit the garden. We have an opportunity to get an \$8000 grant for installation of a pond at the Bedwell School Garden. He needs a letter from the Board of Education, but when he brought this to the Superintendent and Business Administrator, there were concerns about student safety regarding the pond. McKinley Elementary School, New Brunswick; Wilson Elementary

School, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, Lord Stirling Elementary School, Von Mauger Middle School, Middlesex, Long Valley Middle School all have ponds.

7. Sam Habibi spoke with parents from Peapack-Gladstone regarding buses. Many elementary school parents have pulled their students off the bus and are driving them to school. She would like to see the district hire paras for the problem buses.
8. Emily Maillet spoke about the incidents on the bus and how it's being handled. She would like to see good behavior reinforced and bad behavior addressed.
9. Kelly Dunnder - Two years ago her son was involved in an incident on the bus and she does not let her children ride the bus because of this.
10. Eliza Sutte – there is a problem with how the incidents are handled and that it's a free-for-all when the students are on the bus. She would like to see prevention. She would be willing to ride the bus, and she knows other parents who would be willing to supervise on the bus.
11. Jen Sciarra spoke of her frustration regarding the pond in the garden. She would like to see us find ways to support it. She feels our garden is an inspiration to the kids. She also spoke about the bussing. She spoke that her daughter, Layla, has multiple drivers, and a 26 minute window for pickup.

Supplementary Matters

Adjournment

Ms. Burch moved to adjourn at 10:10pm; Mr. DiGiacchino seconded. Meeting was adjourned by a roll call vote of 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Goguen
Board Secretary

Resolutions:

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

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

