
**The Somerset Hills School District
PUBLIC INPUT & ACTION MEETING MINUTES – MAY 19, 2010**

Call to Order

The Public Input & Action meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Coons, President.

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.

Roll Call**Present**

Robert Baker
Donna Coons
John Dorr
Deborah Hawkins
Linda Kragie
Karen McMahon
Nancy Palazzolo
Louis Palma
Caitlyn Parker
Lauriann Swadba

Absent**Also Present**

Peter Miller
Nancy Lee Hunter
Barbara Walls

Executive Session

At 6:35 p.m., Mr. Palma moved the following:

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: Student Matters

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. Hawkins seconded the motion to adjourn to executive session and the resolution was passed by unanimous vote of 10-0. The Board returned to public session at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Coons reported that the Board discussed student matters.

Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence

None

Report of the Superintendent

1. Student/Staff Recognition

Mr. Miller congratulated BHS Senior Sean Brown for being nominated for outstanding lead in a musical for his role as Billy Crocker in “Anything Goes” in The Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards. In addition, Judi Martin received honorable mention in the category of lobby decoration. Congratulations to Scholar Athletes Kristin Smoot and Josh Hammond. They represented BHS in the Skyland Conference and Somerset County.

Mr. Miller said The 2010 Earth Science portion of the New Jersey Science League competition had 49 teams from across the state registered to compete: 48 of the teams consisted of high school students; the BMS team was the only group of 8th graders! Congratulations to the 26 member BMS Earth Science team – they placed 2nd in the state, which is an amazing accomplishment! The BMS Team had two individuals who ranked in the top 10 students in Earth Science: Navaneethan Vaikunthan ranked in 1st Place and Caleigh Cassidy placed 10th. Also noteworthy, Jonathon Gillespie ranked 13th in the state.

- #### 2. S.H.E.F. Presentation of Check.
- Mr. Kebel presented a check for \$90,000 to fund a district-wide wireless initiative. Mr. Miller reported that SHEF belongs to the Mid-Atlantic Consortium of Education Foundations and in one of their recent reports, SHEF was featured in an article as still being “King of the Mountain.” The SHEF Chili Cook-Off has become one of the most successful foundation fundraisers. This is the third consecutive year of ticket sales greater than 640 and net proceeds exceeding \$95,000! The seven Chili Cook-Off events have collectively raised more than \$500,000, all of which has been disbursed to the school district as technology grants for Computers on Wheels, SMART classrooms, and this year’s initiative, District-wide Wireless. Mr. Miller recognized all of the SHEF volunteers, in particular, Ellen Clark and Laura Ruggeri.

Public Questions & Comments

1. Mr. Foglia reported on a staff survey regarding entrance into the honors programs.
2. Mrs. Waite asked the Board to look at the scheduling conflicts of the National Honor Society.

Approval of Minutes

Action

1. Approval of Minutes*

Resolution

Ms. Kragie moved that the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes of April 28, 2010, be approved. Mr. Palma seconded the motion. Roll call vote 9-0-1. Mrs. Parker abstained.

- Action 2. Approval of Minutes*
Resolution Ms. Kragie moved that the Special Meeting and Executive Meeting minutes of May 4, 2010, be approved. Mr. Palma seconded the motion. Roll call vote 9-0-1. Mrs. Parker abstained.

Finance

Committee Report

No report.

Action Items

Mr. Dorr moved Finance resolutions 1-7, seconded by Mr. Palma. Resolutions 1-7 were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

- Action 1. Board Secretary & Treasurer Reports & Board Certification
Resolution WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has received the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of April, 2010 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$4,795,172.44	\$4,795,172.44
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$1,824.07	\$1,824.07
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$(991,668.12)	\$(991,668.12)
(40)Debt Service Fund	\$(536,475.00)	\$(536,475.00)
Total Government Funds	\$3,268,853.39	\$3,268,853.39

(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.

- Action 2. Approve April 2009 Budget Transfers
Resolution Resolved that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the attached list of 2009-2010 budget transfers for April, 2010.

- Action 3. Payment of Bills*
Resolution WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented a check register dated April 30, 2010 covering check numbers 20537 to 20541 in the amount of \$1,182,789.42 with the recommendation that they 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	AMOUNT
(10) General Fund	\$1,089,199.76
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$73,740.30
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$1,000.00
(40) Debt Service Fund	-0-
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$18,849.36
TOTAL	\$1,182,789.42

Action
Resolution

4. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented a check register dated May 12, 2010 covering check numbers 20542 to 20681 in the amount of \$669,616.45 with the recommendation that they 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	AMOUNT
(10) General Fund	\$642,409.96
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$26,982.99
(30) Capital Projects Fund	-0-
(40) Debt Service Fund	-0-
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$223.50
TOTAL	\$669,616.45

Action
Resolution

5. Approval of 2010/2011 Health Insurance Renewal Contract

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the renewal of our 2010/2011 Medical and Dental Insurance rates with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield with no increase in medical and a 3% decrease in traditional dental as follows:

	Medical*				Dental*	
	Single	2 Adults	Parent/Child	Family	Traditional	HMO
2009/2010	\$7,153	\$15,529	\$10,408	\$18,173	\$879	\$477
2010/2011	\$7,153	\$15,529	\$10,408	\$18,173	\$851	\$477

*yearly cost/per employee

Action
Resolution

6. Approve Submission of Memorandum of Agreement

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the submission of a Memorandum of Agreement to the N.J. Department of Education for participation in the "Race to the Top" (Round 2) federal grant.

Action
Resolution

7. Accept Somerset Hills Education Foundation (S.H.E.F) Donation

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accepts a donation of \$90,000 for a district wireless project from S.H.E.F, with gratitude.

Curriculum**Committee Report & Discussion**

Mrs. Palazzolo reported that the Committee met on May 4th.

Action Items

Mrs. Palazzolo moved Curriculum resolutions 1-11, seconded by Mr. Palma. The resolutions were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

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
BHS	a) Peer Leadership B.M.S. Field Day	5/28/10	10	1	0
BHS	b) Girls Track Team North Carolina University Greensboro, JC	6/17/2010 To 6/19/2010	5	1	3
BHS	c) AB/IB Calculus, Math Studies, AP Stat Eureka! Apply your Imagination Bergen Performing Arts Center Englewood (Approved 3/10/2010 Change of Location)	5/28/10	104	6	0
BHS	d) BHS Math League Math Contest for 4 th Grade Student Bedwell Elementary School	6/15/2010	3	1	0

Action 2. Approve B.H.S Textbook Adoption

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following Bernards High School Spanish III (A) and III (H) textbook for the 2010-2011 school year:

Realidades (2008)

Publisher: Pearson

Action 3. Approve B.H.S Textbook Adoption

Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following Bernards High School French V (H) textbook for the 2010-2011 school year:

Tresors du Temps-Level 4 (2005)

Publisher: Glencoe

Action 4. Approve B.H.S Textbook Adoption

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- Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following Bernards High School French III (H), IV (A), IV (H) textbook for the 2010-2011 school year:
Discovering French -Level 3 (2009)
Publisher: Holt
- Action 5. Approve B.H.S Textbook Adoption
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following Bernards High School Chemistry (AP) textbook for the 2010-2011 school year:
Chemistry the Central Science (2009)
Publisher: Pearson/Prentice Hall
- Action 6. Approve 2010-2011 Professional Development Plan
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Professional Development Plan for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Action 7. Approve Professional Affiliation with the College of New Jersey
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve participation in the College of New Jersey Professional Development of Schools Network through June 2011 at an annual cost of \$200.
Note: Paid for with Federal Title II Funds
- Action 8. Approve District Participation in State pilot assessments
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve participation in state assessment pilots, K-12, for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Action 9. Approve BHS Summer Reading List
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve Bernards High School summer reading list for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Action 10. Approve Sale of BHS Textbooks
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the sale of the following used Bernards High School Physics textbooks:
Conceptual Physics (1997)
Publisher: Addison-Wesley
- Action 11. Discontinue Membership in the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Inc.
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve to discontinue membership in the Middle States Association of Colleges and School, Inc. effective July 1, 2010.

Facilities & Operations

Committee Report & Discussion

Mr. Palma reported on the Committee meeting.

Action Items

Mr. Palma moved Facilities & Operations resolutions 1-5, seconded by Ms. Kragie. The resolutions were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

Action Resolution 1. Approve Purchase of School Van
Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the purchase of a 2011 Thomas 24 passenger school van at a cost of \$45,896.96 under the Middlesex County Regional Services Commission bid, awarded February 20, 2010.

Action Resolution 2. Approve Award of Bid for BHS Parking Improvements
Resolved that bids were received for the Parking Improvements project at Bernards High School on May 18, 2010 from:

	Front Entrance Improvements	Parking Lot Improvements
Pave-Rite, Bridgewater, NJ	\$494,122.00	\$198,904.00
Renda Roads, Whitehouse, NJ	\$484,740.85	\$173,814.50
Top Line Construction Corp., Somerville, NJ	\$379,578.55	\$156,756.40

Be it resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education will award the bid to Top Line Construction Corp. for the Front Entrance Improvements in the amount of \$379,578.55 and Parking Lot Improvement in the amount of \$156,756.40 at Bernards High School for a combined total bid of \$536,334.95.

Policy

Committee Report & Discussion

Mrs. McMahan reported the Committee will meet on May 25th.

Action Items

Mrs. McMahan moved Finance resolutions 1-5, seconded by Mr. Palma. The resolutions were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

Action Resolution 1. First Reading Policy #3351 Healthy Workplace Environment – New
Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve first reading of Policy #3351 Healthy Workplace Environment – New

Action Resolution 2. First Reading Policy #4351 Healthy Workplace Environment – New
Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve first reading of Policy #4351 Healthy Workplace Environment – New

Action Resolution 3. First Reading Policy # 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicle – Revision
Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve first reading of Policy # 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicle – Revision

Action Resolution 4. Reading/Approval Policy #1550 Affirmative Action Program for Employment Contract Practices/Employment Practices Plan (M) – Revision
Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve first reading of Policy #1550 Affirmative Action Program for Employment Contract Practices/Employment Practices Plan (M) – Revision

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- Action 5. Reading/Approval Policy #2260 Affirmative Action Program for School and Classroom Practices (M) – Revision
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve first reading of Policy #2260 Affirmative Action Program for School and Classroom Practices (M) – Revision

Personnel**Committee Report & Discussion**

No report.

Action Items

Mrs. Hawkins moved Personnel resolutions 1-15, seconded by Mrs. McMahon. Resolutions 1-3, 6, 15 were approved by a roll call vote of 9-0. Resolutions 4-5, 7-14 were approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

All personnel action is on the recommendation of the Superintendent.

- Action 1. Approve Appointment of Social Studies Teacher
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the appointment of Lisa Drew, social studies teacher at Bernardsville Middle School, Level MA+15, Step 14, at an annual salary of \$77,154, for the 2010-2011 school year.

- Action 2. Approve Appointment of Vocal Music Teacher
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the appointment of Matthew LaPine, vocal music teacher at Bernardsville Middle School, Level MA, Step 1-2, at an annual salary of \$55,660, for the 2010-2011 school year.

- Action 3. Approval of Change in Teacher Assignment
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the change in assignment for Deborah Rokosky from elementary school teacher at Bedwell Elementary School to special education teacher at Bedwell Elementary School, for the 2010-2011 school year.

- Action 4. Approval of Parenthood Leave*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves a parenthood leave for Anna Sosely, effective September 1, 2010 through January 30, 2011.

- Action 5. Approve Appointment of Leave Replacement Counselor*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the appointment of Patricia Lampa, Leave Replacement School Counselor at the high school, Level MA, Step 20 at a per diem rate of \$474, effective September 1, 2010 through January 30, 2011 (Sosely)

- Action 6. Approval of Parenthood Leave
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves a parenthood leave for Karrie Obert-Thorn, effective April 19, 2010 through November 14, 2010.

- Action 7. Approval of Payment for IB Visual Arts Assessment*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves payment of \$365.21 to Dennis Babicke for IB Visual Arts Assessment on Saturday, April 17, 2010.

Action 8. Approval of Salary Adjustment
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves a salary adjustment for Jacqueline Duskin, secretary at Bernards High School, Step 4, from \$41,331 (09-10) to \$43,091 (10-11).

Action 9. Approval of Job Description*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves job description for Supervisor of Instruction – High School.

Action 10. Approval of Affirmative Action Committee*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following staff members to serve on the Affirmative Action Committee for 2010-2011:

Barbara Walls	Affirmative Action Officer/Assistant Superintendent
Debra Wilkins	Director of Curriculum
Malinda Davis-Campbell	School Counselor/K-4
Christopher Habermas	School Counselor/5-8
Nancy Lee Hunter	School Business Administrator
Mike Hoppe	Assistant Principal/Athletics

Action 11. Approval of Seasonal Employees*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following seasonal employees from June 28 through September 3:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Michael Clark	Technology	\$ 15.50
Kevin Grant	Maintenance	15.00
Bradley Oosterveld	Custodian	11.00
Maria Barron	Custodian	11.00
Alan Yunghahn, Jr.	Custodian	10.50

Action 12. Approval of Student Teachers/Field Placements/Internships*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following student teachers, field placements, and internships for the 2010-2011 school year:

Leanne Hershkowitz (Seton Hall)	Fall – Practicum	HS Counseling
Leanne Hershkowitz (Seton Hall)	Spring – Internship	HS Counseling
Casey Windisch (Rutgers)	Fall – Internship	HS English
Alex Drumbore (Kean)	Fall – Practicum	HS Phys.Ed.
Charity Dilts (TCNJ)	Spring – Internship	HS Soc.Stud.
Eleanor Klinger (Felician College)	Spring – Internship	HS Nursing
Nicole Bolash (Kean)	Fall – Internship	MS Phys.Ed.
Lynne Cinella (Fairleigh Dickinson)	Fall (7 days)	MS Science
Eric Calabrese (Kean)	Fall – Field Study	MS Admin.
Dana Hanna (Felician College)	Fall – Internship	Bedwell
Rebecca Crawford (TCNJ)	Fall – Internship	Bedwell
Jianna Spadaccini (TCNJ)	Fall – Internship	Bedwell

Molly Walsh (TCNJ)	Fall – Internship	Bedwell
Rutgers – 2 students	Fall – 4 observations	Bedwell
Rutgers – 2 students	Fall – 9 observations	Bedwell
Rutgers – 2 students	Fall – 4 observations	Bedwell
Rutgers – 1 student	Fall – 4 observations	Bedwell
Rutgers – 4 students	Fall – 4 observations	HS

Action 13. Rescind Co-Curricular Positions*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education rescind the following co-curricular positions at the middle school, effective May 3, 2010:

Open Gym: Boys Spring	Maddalena Violillo
Open Gym: Girls Spring	Dianna Horvath

Action 14. Approval of Substitute*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the following substitute for the remainder of 2009-2010, and for the 2010-2011 school year:

Teacher
Emily Dello Russo
Carol Engel
Dana Hanna
Julia Runte
Paraprofessional & Secretary
Carol Engel
Custodial/Maintenance
Aleksander Lamcaj

Action 15. Accept Retirement*
Resolution Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education accepts, with regret, the retirement of Linda McMahon, science teacher at Bernardsville Middle School, effective June 30, 2010, with thanks for 25 years of service to the district.

Neighborhood Relations

No report.

Community Relations

No report.

Supplementary Matters

1. Mrs. Coons asked all chairpersons to prepare a list of Committee meetings for the year. The Board Retreat will be held on June 2 at 4:15 p.m.
2. Mr. Baker reported that he attended the Somerset County School Board Association on Tuesday, May 18.
3. Mr. Dorr reported that he attended a special education parent advisory group. He reported on the concerns of the parents.

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4. Mr. Palma requested that a representative from Peapack/Gladstone be on the Finance Committee. Mrs. Coons responded that the Committee is at maximum and if we added Peapack/Gladstone, we would not have proportionate representation from Bernardsville.

Public Questions & Comments

1. Mrs. Waite had questions regarding the policy on parents driving student athletes to and from practice and games.

Adjournment

Ms. Kragie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m., Mrs. Swadba seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote of 10-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Lee Hunter

Board Secretary

Resolutions:

***Note: The areas of permitted voting for the Bedminster district representative of the Board of Education are: 1) tuition charged by the sending district and bill lists or contracts to be used for the sending district's pupils; 2) new capital construction to be used by the sending district's pupils; 3) appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff serving the sending district's pupils, including central administration; 4) addition or deletion of curricular or extracurricular programs involving the sending district's pupils.**