

---

**The Somerset Hills School District  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 9, 2012**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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  
Julie Goetz \*arrived at 6:46 p.m.  
Deborah Hawkins  
Linda Kragie  
Karen McMahan  
Nancy Palazzolo  
Louis Palma  
Lauriann Swadba

**Absent****Also Present**

Peter Miller  
Nancy Lee Hunter  
Barbara Walls  
Phil Stern, Esq.

**Executive Session**

At 6:03 p.m., Mrs. Palazzolo 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: Personnel,

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. Palma seconded the motion to adjourn to executive session and the resolution was passed by unanimous vote of 9-0. The Board returned to public session at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Coons reported that the Board discussed Personnel.

### **Personnel**

#### **Action**

#### 1. **Approve Unpaid Leave of Absence**

#### **Resolution**

Mrs. Hawkins moved, Mr. Palma seconded that Mr. Patrick Lott, Assistant Principal Bernardsville Middle School, is placed on an indefinite unpaid leave of absence, effective immediately. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 9-0.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Palma moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Dorr. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 10-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy Lee Hunter*

Board Secretary