

**SHREWSBURY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
SHREWSBURY, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 2020
MINUTES**

1.0 Opening Procedures

- 1.1 Call to order – 6:30 p.m.
- 1.2 Flag salute
- 1.3 Opening Statement

“Public notice of this was emailed to the Asbury Park Press on August 6th, 2020 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act PL 1975 CH 231, effective January 16, 1976. Notice has been posted in the Fern Ross entrance and Bell Foyer entrance to Shrewsbury Borough School. A copy of this notice is also on file in the office of the Borough Clerk. The public notice also included that the meeting will be using a virtual platform. ”

- 1.4 Roll Call:

Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	Mr. Sweeney
Mrs. Groom – arrived 6:47 p.m.	Mrs. Barber
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg - arrived 6:30 p.m.	Mrs. Hemel
Mrs. Humes	Mr. MacConnell, Superintendent
Mr. Jannuzzi	Ms. Avento, Business Administrator
Mrs. Montgomery	Mr. William Donio, Board Attorney

2.0 Closed Executive Session

- 2.1 It was motioned by Mrs. Montgomery, seconded by Mrs. Gourley-Thompson, to move into Closed Executive Session at 6:36 p.m. to discuss confidential personnel matters or Board Business and/or matters of attorney/client privilege and/or matters of litigation and/or negotiations or contractual matters from which the public may be excluded. Minutes of this meeting will be made available to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X				
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X				
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a voice vote, nine (9) members voted yes.

2.2 It was motioned by Mrs. Hemel, seconded by Mr. Jannuzzi, to reconvene into public session at 7:30 p.m.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X				
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X				
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a voice vote, nine (9) members voted yes.

3.0 Communications ~

➤ Email from Mrs. Ngo regarding concerns about the 5th grade virtual program.

4.0 Public Participation ~ Agenda Items Only – There was no public participation.

5.0 Superintendent’s Report ~ Mr. MacConnell

5.1 Superintendent’s Report:

Good evening Parents, Guardians, and Members of the Board:

A few short weeks ago I would not have been able to sit here and predict the success of our in-person return to school nor would I have wanted to boast about any aspect of our return that has worked out better than we thought it would. From drop off to pick up, I see all of our school community members wearing masks, practicing important social distancing, washing hands and utilizing copious amounts of hand sanitizer. I can tell you that everyone here students, teachers, and staff are intently focused on keeping everyone safe and healthy at all times. Our culture of safety, health, and security have all dovetailed into an environment that looks safe and more importantly feels safe to everyone coming into the school each day.

Thank you parents for your patience, your active involvement, and your support through the summer to get us to this point. But, please, do not relax, do not relent for even one second outside of school. Your choices outside of school can have a catastrophic effect on all of us in school. Already this year, we have had several close calls that could have resulted in a school closure if not for proactive, honest parents who knew that they needed to contact us and share the details of their potential exposure. As we head further into the fall, and into flu and allergy season, I ask that you remain vigilant and that you are also proactive when faced with a possible exposure. We here at SBS are counting on you.

As of today, we are 8 days into the school year. We have been able to successfully reacclimate our students back to school after a difficult spring break and an abrupt closure that has left us all somewhat unsettled and incomplete no matter what age we are. In a few short weeks, we have also launched two brand new models of instruction for our school to accommodate the current global pandemic. We also

5.1 Continued:

managed to listen to many parents about how our programs needed to change and offered personalized scheduling to help make this school year more organized and structured for them to be able to plan for child care, transportation, and yes, even learning pods outside of the school day.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their patience, understanding, and active involvement in our successful launch of the school year at SBS. We continue to evaluate and adapt our instructional models to meet the needs of every student in this new era of public education during the current pandemic. Your feedback has been critical to our shift and I encourage you to communicate with our administration and teachers frequently as we focus on providing intensive instruction and a rich learning environment.

And, please know that no one here at SBS thinks that this is how our school year should be or that any of this is in any way normal. But, we have the opportunity, and the obligation, to make this a safe, healthy, and important year for all of our students. I think I speak for everyone here when I say that we are hopeful and optimistic that we can return to “normal” school days so as no one enjoys school during the pandemic.

To our parents of our Remote Learning Option students please know that we are listening to you and making changes based on your input and feedback. I know that this was a difficult decision for each of you to make for your children and your family. We know that all of our families are facing incredible challenges as parents juggle work, school, and the many other obligations as they send their children back to our 100% virtual option. After Governor Murphy announced that every public school must offer, we listened to many members of our school community and have tried to create an option that would best meet the needs of our students. We recognize that there is more work to be done. And we are addressing your concerns as quickly as we can. We have made changes and improvements each week and we will continue to make changes so that this Remote Learning Option supports the needs of each of our students who are learning remotely.

Please know that we need your continued support, trust, and cooperation as this year continues. I suspect that we will continue to have challenges to face and the need to solve problems that we haven't encountered yet.

I want to thank our teachers, our support staff, our custodians, and our administrative team for a great launch to the school year. We have a great team and I am confident that we will make this great year, all while hoping that we can return to full time, in-person school as soon as possible. As a final note this evening, I wanted to let everyone know that we have made some changes to the school calendar. Governor Murphy has ordered all school buildings closed on Election Day, November 3rd, so we are adjusting our calendar to reflect a Virtual Day that day.

Thank you and good luck to everyone this year.

- The school opened on Tuesday, September 1st and Wednesday, September 2nd for Staff. Workshops were held for the staff and afterwards they continued to set up their classrooms.
- Kindergarten and Pre School Orientation were held Thursday, August 27th for parents and students.
- School opened on Thursday, September 3rd for A students and Friday, September 4th for B students – we have had a smooth opening so far.
- Back to School night will be held virtual on Wednesday, September 16th at 6:30 PM. The teachers will do zoom meetings with their parents for Back to School Night.

5.1 Continued:

- Monday, September 21st and Tuesday, September 22nd School Picture Day will be held for all grades. Students in Cohort A will be Monday, September 21st and students in Cohort B will be on Tuesday, September 22nd. Remote Learning Students will be scheduled to come on both days from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM.
- Red Ribbon Week will be held the week of October 5th. Various assemblies will be held that week for Pre – K – 8th Grade students for the prevention of drugs, alcohol and bullying.
- Warning Notices will be published by 3:00 PM on Wednesday, October 7th.
- The Foundation 5K Race will be held on Sunday, October 18th. Many staff members as well as students and their families come out and support this great cause. More information will be emailed home from The Foundation.
- Please be reminded – School is closed on Monday, September 28th for Yom Kippur.
- We have some new faculty members for the 2020-2021 school year:
 - Miss Eleni Katsoras – 3rd Grade Teacher
 - Miss Alyssa Amato - Co-Teacher 5th and 6th Grade Language Arts – with Miss Cosentino
 - Miss Alyssa Okpych – Long Term Substitute Teacher (Speech)
 - Mrs. Melissa Sypniewski – Co Teacher 5th and 6th Grade Math Teacher with Miss Long

It was motioned by Mrs. Gourley-Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Humes, to approve items 5.2 through 5.6 as listed:

- 5.2 Recommend that the Board of Education approve the District HIB Report for the month of August 2020.
- 5.3 Recommend that the Board of Education approve the SSDS (Student Safety Data System) Report submission to the State for January 1, 2020 - June 30, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 5.4 Recommend that the Board of Education approve the District Lead Testing Program Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 school year
- 5.5 Recommend the Board of Education approve the 2020-2021 Para Professional Statement of Assurance submitted to the County Office September 16, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 5.6 Recommend the Board of Education approve the revised 2020-2021 school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X				
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X				
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a roll call vote, nine (9) members voted yes.

6.0 Business Administrator’s Report ~ Ms. Avento

It was motioned by Mrs. Hemel, seconded by Mrs. Humes, to approve items 6.1 as amended:

6.1 Recommend that the Board of Education approve the following minutes as amended:

- 6.1.1 Regular Meeting Minutes, August 11th, 2020
- 6.1.2 Executive Session Minutes, August 11th, 2020
- 6.1.3 Special Meeting Minutes, August 25th, 2020
- 6.1.4 Executive Session Special Meeting Minutes, August 25th, 2020
- 6.1.5 Special Meeting Minutes, September 9th, 2020 Board Goal Setting Session
- 6.1.6 Executive Session Special Meeting Minutes, September 9th, 2020 Board Goal Setting Session

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X		6.1.1 & 6.1.2		
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X		6.1.1 & 6.1.2		
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a voice vote, nine (9) members voted yes. Two (2) members abstained as listed.

7.0 Facilities Committee ~ Mr. Sweeney

7.1 Committee Report:

Mr. Sweeney reported that the Committee met virtually September 14th, 2020 and reviewed the following:

- District Precautions Installation Update
- Touchless Systems Update
- Bi-polar Ionization UV units: Fully Installed
- Antimicrobial Tape: Fully Installed
- Social Distance Markers: Fully Installed
- Teacher Desk Shields
- Student Desk Shields

8.0 Finance Committee ~ Mr. Sweeney

8.1 Committee Report

Mr. Sweeney reported that the Committee met virtually September 14th, 2020 and reviewed the bills and claims, discuss budget strategies & current status of the budget and year end procedures, reviewed ongoing state directives and the items listed below.

It was motioned by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Barber, to approve items 8.2 through 8.7 as amended:

8.2 Recommend that the Board of Education approve the following bills:

August 2020 Payroll – 2 nd half	\$ 55,433.16
September 2020 Payroll – 1 st half	\$ 254,718.86
September 2020 Bills & Claims	<u>\$ 149,323.76</u>
	\$ 459,475.78

8.3 Recommend that the Board of Education approve the following final transfers for the 2019-2020 school year as amended:

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-190-100-580-01 Teacher Travel Reimb. Rcl for Addt'l Funds Needed	\$ 75	11-190-100-340-02 Purch. Prof. Svc. – Instruction	\$ 75
11-000-219-320-02 Purch. Prof. Svc. CST Rcl for Addt'l Funds Needed	\$ 22,000	11-000-261-610-01 Maintenance Supplies	\$ 22,000
11-000-219-320-02 Purch. Prof. Svc. CST Rcl for Addt'l Funds Needed	\$ 743	11-000-261-420-01 R&M	\$ 743
11-000-261-580-01 Cust/Maint. Travel Rcl for Addt'l Funds Needed	\$ 125	11-000-261-890-01 Maint. Misc.	\$ 125
11-000-262-520-01 Dist. Insurance Rcl for Addt'l Funds Needed	\$ 52	11-000-262-490-01 Water & Sewer	\$ 26
		11-000-262-610-01 Cust. Maint. Uniforms	\$ 26
11-000-263-420-01 Cont. Svc. Grounds	\$ 2,000	11-000-263-610-01 Ground Supplies	\$ 8,150
11-000-262-107-01 Salaries – Lunch Aides	\$ 1,437		
11-000-291-250-01 Unemployment Rcl for Addt'l Funds Needed	\$ 4,713		

8.4 Pursuant to N.J.A.C. § 6A:23A-16.10(c) (3), I certify that as of August 31st, 2020, after review of the appropriations section of the monthly financial reports and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of my knowledge no major account or fund has been overextended in violation of N.J.A.C. § 6A:23A-16.10(c) (3), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

 Debora Avento

 Date

8.5 Recommend that the Board Secretary’s Report for the month of July 2020 with the respective Treasurer’s Report be accepted, filed for audit, attached to, and made part of the official minutes of this meeting.

8.6 Recommend that the Board of Education accept the following 2020-2021 New Jersey Additional Nonpublic School initiatives and applicable contracts by MOESC as required by the state:

NP Technology Initiative Program

NP Security Aid Program

NP Covid-19 Technology Aid Program

8.7 WHEREAS on July 10, 2020 the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) posted revised state aid notices for districts which indicated a decrease in state aid compared to the district's February 27, 2020 state aid notice; and

WHEREAS, the Shrewsbury Board of Education was awarded Extraordinary Aid of \$25,823 that was not originally appropriated in the 2020-2021 school district budget:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Shrewsbury Borough Board of Education appropriate the Extraordinary Aid amount of \$25,823 and an additional fund balance allocation of \$6,794 for the express purpose of addressing the reduction of the 2020-2021 state aid in the amount of \$32,617.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X				
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X				
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a roll call vote, nine (9) members voted yes.

9.0 Curriculum Committee ~ Mrs. Montgomery

- 9.1 Mrs. Montgomery reported that the Committee met virtually on September 10th, 2020 and discussed the following:
- Curricular expectations for learning programs
 - Google Classroom
 - Lunch Periods
 - Old Business

10.0 Personnel Committee ~ Mrs. Barber

- 10.1 Committee Report:

Mrs. Barber reported that the Personnel Committee met virtually on September 14th, 2020 and discussed matters of a confidential nature.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was motioned by Mrs. Barber, seconded by Mrs. Gourley-Thompson, that the Board of Education approve item 10.2 through 10.3 as listed.

- 10.2 Recommend the Board of Education accept the resignation of Timothy Burns, Maintenance Worker, effective September 18, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 10.3 Recommend the Board of Education accept the resignation of Donna Leston, Technology Coordinator, effective September 18, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X				
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X				
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a roll call vote, nine (9) members voted yes.

11.0 Policy ~ Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg

- 11.1 Committee Report: The Policy Committee did not meet this month.

12.0 School and Community Relations ~ Mrs. Humes

- 12.1 Committee Report: The School and Community Relations Committee did not meet this month.

13.0 Old Business ~ There is no Old Business.

14.0 New Business ~ There was no New Business.

15.0 Public Participation ~

Two (2) members of the Public spoke. Topics included the following:

- Concern regarding remote learning instructional and contact time.
- Concern regarding sidewalk safety and bikers.

16.0 President's Comments ~ Mrs. Hemel

I want to thank everyone for being on this call.

I know school has started. It is not what any of us had hoped we would see back in March that we would still be in the same place as we are today. It is our hope that this is going to be short lived; however, it is something we just don't know. I know a lot of people are frustrated. We hear you. The administration hears you and we are working on solutions to make this better. I want everyone to know that. We're all parents. We all are feeling the same frustrations as everyone in the public is feeling. By no means does it go unnoticed. So, I would like everyone to know that it is being worked on, it will be addressed and more positive results is our hope and that is our goal. I want to calm everyone's fears for that. It is something we have been discussing as a Board. The administration is working on it. The kids are definitely the most important. I want to emphasize that our teachers are working tirelessly to make this very positive. They are your first go to so please communicate with your teachers. Our teachers are going to respond to the parents. That is your first line of communication. They can help you out with that. They are working very hard and I want to thank them as well. I want to thank everybody - the administration, the teachers, the maintenance staff, everybody in SBS, and Debi for order all those supplies to keep our kids and staff and the school staff healthy. I know other places are having a hard time getting all that equipment, so thank you for being on that.

I want to wish everyone well and good health. Stay safe and be smart. In this day and age, you can't be too safe or too smart, so lets continue to do that so that we all remain in school as long as we can.

17.0 Adjournment

17.1 It was motioned by Mr. Jannuzzi, seconded by Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg, to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Mrs. Gourley-Thompson	X				
Mrs. Groom	X				
Mrs. Hepburn-Goldberg	X				
Mrs. Humes	X				
Mr. Jannuzzi	X				
Mrs. Montgomery	X				
Mr. Sweeney	X				
Mrs. Barber	X				
Mrs. Hemel	X				

On a voice vote, nine (9) members voted yes.

Submitted,

Debi Avento
Business Administrator/Board Secretary