

Somerset County Vocational Board of Education
14 Vogt Drive
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

Special Meeting
March 6, 2025

Call to Order

Mr. Lalevee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call of Members

Gregory Lalevee, President
Adam Beder, Vice President
Matthew Loper
Lily Wong, absent
Roger Jinks, absent

Also Present

Robert Presuto, Superintendent of Schools
Raelene Sipple, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the requirement of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, Ch. 231, P.L. 1975 and published in *The Courier News* on March 2, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance

On recommendation of Mr. Presuto and motion by Mr. Beder, seconded by Mr. Loper and on roll call vote, agenda items A and B as follows:

A. Adoption of the Tentative Proposed Budget – 2025-2026 School Year

The Board of Education approved and authorized submission of the tentative proposed 2025-2026 School Year Somerset County Vocational & Technical School District budget in the amount of \$19,481,663 to the Somerset County Superintendent of Schools which includes the County tax levy of \$14,495,019 and withdraw from capital reserve of \$173,700.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total Appropriations	\$18,068,331	\$1,413,332	\$19,481,663
Less: Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$ 3,573,312</u>	<u>\$1,413,332</u>	<u>\$ 4,986,644</u>
County Taxes	\$14,495,019	\$0	\$14,495,019

B. For Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement – 2025-26 School Year

The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

Whereas, the Somerset County Vocational 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 further the efficient operation of the school district, and

Whereas, N.J.A.C. 6A23A-7.2 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 as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-1.2, which includes attendance at regularly scheduled in-State professional development activities for which the registration fee does not exceed \$150 per employee or board member, where prior board approval shall not be required unless that annual threshold or a staff member exceeds \$1,500 in a given school year (July 1 through June 30), and

Whereas, the Somerset County Vocational Board of Education established \$10,000 for the current school year and has expended \$2,362 as of this date, now

Therefore, the Board of Education is requesting approved travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A7.3 to a maximum expenditure of \$10,000 for all staff and board members for the 2025-2026 school year.

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Mr. Lalevee	X	
Mr. Beder	X	
Mr. Loper	X	
Ms. Wong	absent	
Mr. Jinks	absent	

C. School Business/Professional Development Travel

On recommendation of Mr. Presuto and motion by Mr. Loper, seconded by Mr. Beder and on roll call vote, the Board of Education approved requests for district staff and Board of Education members to attend school business and professional development travel as follows:

Date	Participant	Reg. Fee	Expenses	Workshop Description	Location
March 25, 2025	Lauren Heuer	\$325	\$23.41/mileage	What's New in Young Adult Literature	Newark, NJ

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Mr. Lalevee	X	
Mr. Beder	X	
Mr. Loper	X	
Ms. Wong	absent	
Mr. Jinks	absent	

Public Comment

- None

BE IT RESOLVED by the Vocational Board of Education of the County of Somerset that:

- This Board will go into closed session for the purpose of discussing matters within the provisions of 7A(11)c231.
- The general nature of matters to be discussed relates to student matters. Action may or may not be taken.
- Under the provisions of the above stated laws, the public shall be excluded from attendance at the portion of the meeting relating to the above matters.
- It is anticipated that the items discussed will be made public when the matters discussed are resolved.

Closed Session

On motion by Mr. Loper, seconded by Mr. Beder and passed the Board of Education went into closed session at 5:05 p.m.

Open Session

On motion by Mr. Loper, seconded by Mr. Beder and passed, the Board of Education went into open session at 5:25 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Loper, seconded by Mr. Beder and passed, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Raelene Sipple
Business Administrator/Board Secretary