

**The Somerset Hills School District
Regular Meeting Minutes - October 18, 2023
Executive Session - 6:30 P.M.
Public Input & Action - 7:30 P.M.
Bernards High School - Community Room**

Call to Order & Welcome

Mrs. Frenda called the meeting to order 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Mr. Baker
Ms. Cooper
Mrs. deGrandpré
Mrs. Frenda
Ms. Gils

Mr. Joyce
Ms. Nathans
Mrs. Santoror
Mrs. Tober
Mrs. Wry

Absent:

n/a

Also Present:

Dr. Brian Brotschul
Dr. Coleen Butler
Mrs. Jinnee DeMarco

Executive Session

Mrs. deGrandpré moved the following at 6:33 p.m., Mrs. Santoro seconded.

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 public disclosure will no longer clearly endanger the public interest.

The Board returned to Public Session 7:32 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance**Roll Call****Report of the Superintendent**

1. Student Representatives’ Report - BMS representatives Katherine East and Rocco Parente gave their report. BHS representatives Gabrielle DeNicola and Madison Ferruggia gave their report.
2. Recognition of National Merit Scholarship Commended Students
 - a. Brianna Ho
 - b. Kurt Hunziker
 - c. Joshua Kutakoff

- d. Matthew Oliveira
- e. Collin Schlosser
- f. Charles Vaccaro

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Award Recipient**) for academic excellence from the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to those who perform at the highest academic level with effort, responsibility, and a positive attitude;

WHEREAS, (**BHS Award Recipient**) is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to his/her peers and staff members alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend (**BHS Award Recipient**) for his/her strong academic accomplishments and recognition by the National Merit Scholarship Program as a Commended Student.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by (**BHS Award Recipient**). The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

3. Recognition of National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists
- a. Trevor Sardis
 - b. Evan Seker

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Award Recipient**) for academic excellence from the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to those who perform at the highest academic level with effort, responsibility, and a positive attitude;

WHEREAS, **(BHS Award Recipient)** is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to his peers and staff members alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend **(BHS Award Recipient)** for his strong academic accomplishments and recognition by the National Merit Scholarship Program as a Semifinalist.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by **(BHS Award Recipient)**. The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

4. Recognition of College Board National Recognition Program Awardees

a. Kayla Najera - National African American & National Hispanic Recognition Award

A Resolution honoring **Kayla Najera** for academic excellence from the College Board National Recognition Program.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to those who perform at the highest academic level with effort, responsibility, and a positive attitude;

WHEREAS, **Kayla Najera** is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to her peers and staff members alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend **Kayla Najera** for her strong academic accomplishments and recognition by the College Board in earning the National African American Recognition Award.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by **Kayla Najera**.

The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

- b. Matthew Oliveira - National Hispanic Recognition Award
- c. Monserrat Gonzalez - National Hispanic Recognition Award
- d. Sydney Solomon - National Hispanic Recognition Award

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Award Recipient**) for academic excellence from the College Board National Recognition Program.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to those who perform at the highest academic level with effort, responsibility, and a positive attitude;

WHEREAS, (**BHS Award Recipient**) is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to his/her peers and staff members alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend (**BHS Award Recipient**) for his/her strong academic accomplishments and recognition by the College Board in earning the National Hispanic Recognition Award.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by (**BHS Award Recipient**). The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

- 5. Recognition of AP Computer Science Principles Exam Achievement - Student

a. Vanshika Gupta - Perfect Score

A Resolution honoring **Vanshika Gupta** for academic excellence on the College Board Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles examination.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to those who perform at the highest academic level with effort, responsibility, and a positive attitude;

WHEREAS, **Vanshika Gupta** is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to her peers and staff members alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend **Vanshika Gupta** for her strong academic performance overall, and her achievement of a perfect score on the College Board Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles examination.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by **Vanshika Gupta**. The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

6. Recognition of AP Computer Science Principles Exam Achievement - Teacher

b. Lisa Camuto

A Resolution honoring **Lisa Camuto** for service and support to the Somerset Hills School District students and staff.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to those who perform their duties for the school district with effort, responsibility, and a positive attitude;

WHEREAS, **Lisa Camuto** is part of the Somerset Hills School District, and Bernards High School, serving as a Teacher of Computer Science

and Mathematics, who ensures that students in her charge
have world-class instruction;

WHEREAS, **Lisa Camuto**, for the second year in a row, taught a student
who earned a perfect score on the College Board Advanced Placement
Computer Science Principles examination;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education
that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend
Lisa Camuto for service to Somerset Hills students and staff.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so
in honor of the achievements earned by **Lisa Camuto**.
The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected
in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education
on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

7. Recognition of 100th Football Win

- a. Jon Simoneau
- b. David Carmon
- c. Wayne Simoneau

A Resolution honoring (**Football Coach**) for excellence
to the Somerset Hills School District student-athletes, resulting in
winning 100 football games (and counting).

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education recognizes that, as the
world of coaching student-athletes continues to evolve, it requires hundreds
of hours to make deep and broad advancements, and thus gives special
commendation to those who perform coaching roles within the District;

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education recognizes that student engagement is
a critical outcome of the high school experience, and thus gives special commendation
to coaches, as weekly over 60% of the Bernards High School students either play
football, perform in the marching band, or enthusiastically cheer as fans;

WHEREAS, (**Football Coach**) is part of an athletic leadership team, whose
shared goal is to afford every student-athlete the opportunity to

learn and work in highly competitive settings;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that:
The members of the Board of Education hereby commend (**Football Coach**) for earning the distinction of winning over 100 games throughout his career in Somerset Hills.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by (**Football Coach**).

The Board of Education Secretary is directed to have this Resolution reflected in the permanent minutes of the Somerset Hills Board of Education on this 18th day of October 2023.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

Brian B. Brotschul, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

8. Board Recognition - Retiree

a. WHEREAS, Deborah Rodenbach has been employed from November 2013 through December 2023 as a Secretary; and

WHEREAS, she exemplified expertise, commitment, and professionalism in her duties;
and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills School District and Board of Education recognize Deborah Rodenbach's retirement effective January 1, 2024, and extend to her congratulations and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.

9. Dr. Brotschul's Update

Public Comments for Actionable Agenda Items

1. Megan Dooley - staff - regarding Policy 5756.
2. Michele Dooley - resident, parent, staff - regarding the transgender community.
3. Bob Weible - resident, parent - regarding suicide rate.
4. Nat Hills - resident, parent - thanked the teachers involved in her life.

Ms. Nathans moved to close public comments, Mrs. Santoro seconded

Approval of Minutes*

Mrs. Wry moved item #1, Ms. Cooper seconded.

Item #1 was approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

1. Approval of Minutes*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for September 27, 2023.

FINANCE

- A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee met on October 3, 2023.
 B. Action Items: Mrs. Tober moved items #1-9, Mr. Baker seconded.

Items #1-8 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

Item #9 was approved by roll call vote of 9-0-1. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Tober, Wry, Frenda. Santoro abstained.

1. Board Secretary & Treasurer Reports & Board Certification*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has received the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of September 2023 showing the following balances:

| FUND | Board Secretary Cash Balance (1) | Treasurer Cash Balance (2) |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| (10) General Fund | \$10,915,617.45 | \$10,915,617.45 |
| (20) Special Revenue Fund | (\$598,890.01) | (\$598,890.01) |
| (30) Capital Projects Fund | \$114,058.25 | \$114,058.25 |
| (40)Debt Service Fund | \$185,470.03 | \$185,470.03 |
| Total Government Funds | \$10,616,255.72 | \$10,616,255.72 |

(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.

2. Approve 2023-2024 Budget Transfers*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the attached list of budget transfers for September 2023.

3. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached September 2023 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 | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (10) General Fund | \$2,741,592.78 |
| (20) Special Revenue Fund | \$4,734.32 |
| (30) Capital Projects Fund | – |
| (40) Debt Service Fund | \$661,085.00 |
| (60) Cafeteria Fund | – |
| (90) Agency Fund | \$722,732.68 |
| TOTAL | \$4,130,144.78 |

4. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached October 2023 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 | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (10) General Fund | \$2,174,913.35 |
| (20) Special Revenue Fund | \$119,654.24 |
| (30) Capital Projects Fund | – |
| (40) Debt Service Fund | – |
| (60) Cafeteria Fund | \$12,616.86 |
| (90) Agency Fund | \$400,649.13 |
| TOTAL | \$2,707,833.58 |

5. Approve Parent Organization Fundraisers*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following parent organization fundraisers for the 2023-2024 school year:

| | Organization | School | Event | Date |
|---|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a | Tennis Parents | BHS | Got Sneakers? | October 2023 - May 2024 |
| b | PAC Parents | BHS | Fall Play - Concession Sales | November 3-5, 2023 |
| c | PAC Parents | BHS | Spring Musical - Program Ad Sales | January 2024 - February 2024 |
| d | PAC Parents | BHS | Spring Musical - Concession Sales | March 1-3, 2024 |

6. Approve 2023-2024 Non-Public Technology Aid*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the use of funds for Non-Public Technology Aid for the following school:

| | Non-Public School | Description | Amount |
|---|---------------------------|--|---------------|
| a | School of Saint Elizabeth | Acer Chromebox CX14-mini PC-CORE i3 10110U 2.1 GHz-B-GB-flash 128 G | \$2,456.25 |

7. Approve Elevate K-12 Services*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Elevate K-12 Services for French leave instruction at BHS for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$52,450.

8. Approve SOR Consulting Engineers Proposal*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve SOR Consulting Engineers, Inc. proposal for Pavement and Subsurface Investigation for BHS Running Track in the amount of \$5,700.

9. Approve Creature Comfort Pet Therapy Agreement*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Creature Comfort Pet Therapy Agreement to provide therapy pet visits for the students amount not to exceed \$1,000.

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mrs. Santoro gave the report. The committee met on October 3, 2023.

B. Action Items: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-2, Ms. Nathans seconded

Items #1-3 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

1. Approve Comprehensive Maintenance Plan*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan.

2. Approve Annual Maintenance Budget Worksheet*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the annual Maintenance Budget Worksheet (M-1) calculation of \$125,023.

3. HIB Report*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education confirms that there are no HIB cases to be approved for the October 18, 2023 meeting.

CURRICULUM

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Ms. Cooper gave the report. The committee met on October 3, 2023.

B. Action Items: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-4, Mrs. Wry seconded.

Items #2,3 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

Item #1 were approved by roll call vote of 9-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

A. Committee Report & Discussion:

B. Action Items:

1. Approve Professional Development/School Business

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following professional development/school business for the 2023-2024 school year:

| | School | Name | Workshop/Conference/School Business | Date(s) | Est. Cost |
|---|--------|-----------------|--|----------|-----------|
| a | BMS | Calabrese, Eric | NJ Council for Social Studies: “Continuity and Change: Social Studies Education in Our 21st Century Classrooms” | 10/23/23 | \$90.00 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| b | BMS | Cox, Brett | When Kids are Reading in the KLM Band, How Can We Use Our Knowledge of Text Complexity, Small Group Work, Graphic Novels and New Series and Partnerships to Develop Toolkits that Accelerate Kids to NOPQ | 10/30/23 | \$60 (TC Contract) |
| c | BES | DeStefano, Phyllis | Bilingual Program Visit - New Brunswick Schools | 10/26/23 | \$0 |
| d | BES | Falzarano, Sarah | Understanding Crucial Phonics Development | 10/20/23 | \$60 (TC Contract) |
| e | BES | Fischer, Dana | Ensuring MLLs at the Entering & Emerging Stages of Language Acquisition Are a Full Part of the Classroom Community & Are Supported Academically | 10/27/23 | \$60 (TC Contract) |
| f | BMS | Freda, Michele | When 3-6 Kids are Writing Far Below Benchmark Levels: What Are the Small Groups, Tools and Teaching Methods that Ensure These Students Make More than One Year's Growth in Writing? | 11/28/23 | \$60 (TC Contract) |
| g | BMS | Geyer, Julie | When Your 3-6 Readers are Reading at Far Below Benchmark, How Can You Accelerate Their Fiction Reading Progress through Small Group Work, Tools and Classroom Structure | 1/10/24 | \$60 (TC Contract) |
| h | BMS | Geyer, Julie | Strengthen Your Math Instruction for your ELL Learners | 12/5/23 | \$279.00 |
| i | BMS | Koellhoffer, Keith | Observe collaboration with educators in Franklin School District | 1/4/24 | \$0 |
| j | BMS | Marashlian, Nicole | Improve your ELL Students' Learning Using Multisensory Vocabulary Instruction | 1/5/24 | \$279.00 |
| k | BES | McCarron, Jim | Art Educators of NJ Fall Conference | 10/30/23, 10/31/23 | \$250.00 |
| l | BMS | McGovern, Danielle | Being the Change: Leveraging Identity and Co-Constructing Social Comprehension in our Schools | 12/6/23 | \$180.00 |
| m | BES | McSpiritt, Kelly | MUJC - Welcome to CST - Now What?; Challenges Related to Working as a Member of CST; Difficulties and Disputes | 10/30/23, 11/15/23, 12/15/23 | \$300.46 |
| n | BMS | Pasquarelli, Jaclyn | MUJC - Strengthening Resilience to Nurture Wellbeing and Improve Performance | 10/26/23 | \$100.00 |
| o | BES | Rodriguez, Tatiana | Bilingual Program Visit - New Brunswick Schools | 10/26/23 | \$15.51 |
| p | BES | Rokosky, Debbie | Bilingual Program Visit - New Brunswick Schools | 10/26/23 | \$0 |

2. Approve Professional Development/School Business*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following professional development/school business, for the 2023-2024 school year:

| | School | Name | Workshop/Conference/School Business | Date | Est. Cost |
|---|---------------|------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| a | BHS | Alvez, Abigail | Lifelines Suicide Prevention Training | 10/26/23 | \$0 |
| b | District | Barna, Lindsay | Studying Your K-2 Screener Data & Planning for Responsive Instruction & Schoolwide Structures | 10/27/23 | \$60 (TC Contract) |
| c | District | Barna, Lindsay | AI in K-12 Education - NJ Executive Briefing | 11/7/23 | \$0 |
| d | District | Barna, Lindsay | Bilingual Program Visit - New Brunswick Schools | 10/26/23 | \$0 |
| e | District | Butler, Coleen | Bilingual Program Visit - New Brunswick Schools | 10/26/23 | \$0 |
| f | District | Butler, Coleen | AI in K-12 Education - NJ Executive Briefing | 11/7/23 | \$0 |
| g | BHS | Camuto, Lisa | Field Trip Chaperone | 11/2/23 | \$0 |
| h | District | Catelli, Michael | Bilingual Program Visit - New Brunswick Schools | 10/26/23 | \$0 |
| i | District | Catelli, Michael | Field Trip Chaperone | 11/2/23 | \$0 |
| j | BHS | Crisman, Gillian | Art Educators of NJ Fall Conference | 10/30/23 | \$275.00 |
| k | District | DeMarco, Jinnee | NJSIG ERIC North Meeting - Workers' Comp. | 5/9/24 | \$0 |
| l | BHS | Dolson, Margaret | Field Trip Chaperone | 11/17/23 | \$0 |
| m | BHS | Ellis, Amanda | HESAA School Counselor Training | 11/1/23 | \$0 |
| n | BHS | Ellis, Amanda | Rutgers NJ School Counselor Day featuring The Business School | 10/20/23 | \$0 |
| o | BHS | Ellis, Amanda | Raritan Valley Community College Principal and Counselor Program | 11/3/23 | \$0 |
| p | BHS | Garay, Janet | Newcomers & SLIFE Summit - Changing Systems Together for Newcomers & SLIFE | 11/9/23 | \$200.00 |
| q | BHS | Falletta, LuAnn | Field Trip Chaperone | 11/2/23 | \$0 |
| r | BHS | Ferrara, James | AP STEM Roundtable | 12/8/23 | \$10.81 |
| s | BHS | Lavalle, Alexa | MUJC Transition Committee - Post-Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities | 10/23/23, 11/29/24, 3/18/24, 6/3/24 | \$43.62 |
| t | BHS | Medina, Pilar | Newcomers & SLIFE Summit - Changing Systems Together for Newcomers & SLIFE | 11/9/23 | \$200.00 |

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|--------------------|--|---------------------|----------|
| u | BHS | Neigel, Scott | Somerset County High School Principals Association Meeting | 12/8/23, 6/20/24 | \$0 |
| v | BHS | Newman, Amy | Art Educators of NJ Fall Conference | 10/30/23 | \$300.00 |
| w | BHS | Pietroluongo, Jade | Field Trip Chaperone | 11/2/23 | \$0 |
| x | District | Spiridakis, Nina | NJSIG ERIC North Meeting - Workers' Comp. | 5/9/24 | \$0 |
| y | District | Spiridakis, Nina | Payroll Administrator Program | 5/21/24 | \$125.00 |

3. Approve Field Trips*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following field trips:

| | School | Trip | # of Students | # of Faculty | # of Chaperones |
|---|--------|--|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| a | BHS | St. Bernard's Church - Bernardsville, NJ | 24 | 1 | 1 |
| b | BHS | Spring Break LAX Preseason Training - Clearwater, FL | 25 | 3 | 5 |
| c | BHS | Six Flags Great Adventure - Jackson, NJ | 90 | 2 | 4 |
| d | BHS | Faraday Physics Christmas Lecture & Demo Show - Piscataway, NJ | 24 | 1 | 0 |
| e | BHS | NJ Physics Olympics - Bayonne, NJ | 24 | 1 | 0 |
| f | BHS | Tree Lighting - Far Hills, NJ | 24 | 1 | 1 |
| g | BHS | Architecture as an Untold Source of History - New York, NY | 13 | 3 | 0 |
| h | BHS | Digital for Girls STEM Program - Peapack/Gladstone, NJ | 15 | 2 | 0 |

PERSONNEL

- A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mrs. deGrandpré gave the report. The committee met on October 4, 2023.
 B. Action Items: Mrs. deGrandpré moved items #1-12, Mrs. Tober seconded.

Items #1,2,6-9,12 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

Items #3-5,10,11 were approved by roll call vote of 9-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Santoro, Tober, Wry, Frenda.

1. Accepts Retirement*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the retirement of the following employee:

| | Name | School | Position | Effective |
|---|--------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| a | Rodenbach, Deborah | BHS | Secretary | 1/1/24 |

2. Approve Salary Guide Level Advancement (2023-2024)*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve salary guide level advancements for the following certificated staff for the 2023-2024 school year retroactive to September 1, 2023:

| | Name | School | Assignment | Current Level | New Level | Salary |
|---|----------------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| a | Albanese Demair, Christine | BHS | Science | MA+15 | MA+30 | \$86,805 |
| b | Bale Pena, Matthew | BHS | PE/Health | MA+30 | MA+45 | \$96,625 |
| c | DiGiacomo, Angelina | BHS | Special Education | MA | MA+15 | \$77,545 |
| d | Dolson, Margaret | BHS | Media Specialist | MA+30 | MA+45 | \$91,265 |
| e | Samson, Alyssa | BHS | PE/Health | MA+15 | MA+30 | \$84,035 |
| f | Teets, Ashley | BHS | Special Education | MA | MA+15 | \$74,445 |
| g | Young, Joseph | BHS | Science | MA+15 | MA+30 | \$80,195 |

3. Approve Salary Guide Level Advancement (2023-2024)

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve salary guide level advancements for the following certificated staff for the 2023-2024 school year retroactive to September 1, 2023:

| | Name | School | Assignment | Current Level | New Level | Salary |
|---|---------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| a | Collins, Jessica | BES | Elementary | MA | MA+15 | \$88,595 |
| b | Jablonski, Holly | BES | Elementary | MA+45 | MA+60 | \$99,210 |
| c | Jaeger, Jamie | BES | Special Education | MA+45 | MA+60 | \$96,480 |
| d | McCloskey, Heather | BES | Speech | MA+15 | MA+30 | \$84,035 |
| e | Mirando, Stephan | BES | Spanish | MA | MA+15 | \$74,445 |
| f | Palmieri, Jeremy | BES | PE/Health | MA | MA+15 | \$75,920 |
| g | Paterno, Amy* | BES | PE/Health | MA+45 | MA+60 | \$115,110 |
| h | Rodriguez, Tatiana | BES | ESL/MLL | MA | MA+15 | \$72,385 |
| i | St. Ours, Elizabeth | BMS | PE/Health | MA+45 | MA+60 | \$102,040 |
| j | Venezia, David | BMS | ESL/MLL | MA | MA+15 | \$74,445 |

*Longevity included

4. Approve Leave Replacement Teacher

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following Leave Replacement Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law:*

| | Name | School | Position | Replace | Level | Step | Salary | Effective |
|---|-----------------|--------|----------|---------|-------|------|----------|--------------------|
| a | Bienko, Jocelyn | BMS | Teacher | 9088 | BA | 8 | \$67,305 | 12/4/23 - 6/30/24 |
| b | Thoms, Allyson | BES | Teacher | 9494 | MA | 4-5 | \$70,645 | 11/13/23 - 3/20/24 |

5. Amend Reappointment Non-Certificated Staff

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the reappointment of the following non-certificated staff for the 2023-2024 school year:

| | Name | School | Position | Step | Salary | Effective Date |
|---|-------------------|----------|---|------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| a | Phommachanh, Lita | District | FT Custodian/Boiler License PT Custodian/Boiler License | 14 | \$48,371 \$24,186 | 7/1/23 |

6. Approve Appointment Non-Certified Staff*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following non-certified staff for the 2023-2024 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

| | Name | School | Position | Replace | Step | Salary | Effective Date |
|---|----------------------|----------|------------------------------------|------------|------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| a | Winebrake, Cassandra | District | Special Education Paraprofessional | Pernaselli | 1 | \$21.41/hour | 11/01/23 <i>Pending clearance</i> |
| b | Rosa, Brenda | District | Bus Driver | new | n/a | \$32.00/hour | 11/01/23 |
| c | Klocinski, Lisa | District | Bus Paraprofessional | new | n/a | \$23.00/hour | 11/01/23 |

7. Amend Appointment Non-Certified Staff*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the appointment of the following non-certified staff for the 2023-2024 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

| | Name | School | Position | Replace | Step | Salary | Effective Date |
|---|-----------------|--------|--------------------------|----------------|------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| a | Uvarova, Zhenya | BES | Regular Paraprofessional | Contracted Svc | 1 | \$20.21/hour | 10/01/23 10/16/23 |

8. Rescind Co-Curricular Positions*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind the following co-curricular positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

| | Name | School | Season | Position | Stipend |
|---|------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------------|---------|
| a | Sina, Jaren | BHS | Winter | Men's Head Basketball Coach | \$9,823 |
| b | Maurizio, Andrew | BHS | Spring | Track & Field M/W Asst | \$6,204 |

9. Approve Co-Curricular & Athletic Positions*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following co-curricular and athletic positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

| | Name | School | Season | Position | Stipend |
|---|------------------|--------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a | Carfaro, Chris | BHS | Spring | Volunteer Girls Lacrosse | \$0 <i>Pending clearance</i> |
| b | Riley, Pat | BHS | Winter | Volunteer Wrestling | \$0 <i>Pending clearance</i> |
| c | Lakatos, Zachary | BHS | Fall | Volunteer Football | \$0 |

10. Approve Leave of Absence

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following leave of absence:

| | Employee | School | Position | Type of leave | Dated of Leave/Notes |
|---|----------|--------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| a | 8329 | BMS | School Counselor | Intermittent Disability/ Sick days Intermittent FMLA Anticipated Return | 10/04/23 - 10/27/23 (paid; w/benefits) 10/28/23 - 11/03/23 (unpaid; w/benefits) 11/4/23 |
| b | 9576 | BES | Regular Paraprofessional | Intermittent Unpaid Leave/ Anticipated Return | 10/16/23 - 11/26/23 11/27/23 |

11. Amend Leave of Absence

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the following leave of absence:

| | Employee | School | Position | Type of leave | Dated of Leave/Notes |
|---|----------|--------|--|----------------------------|--|
| a | 9645 | BES | Special Education Paraprofessional | FMLA Anticipated Return | 09/01/23-09/30/23 10/13/23 (unpaid w/benefits 10/01/23 10/16/23 |

12. Approve Substitutes*

Resolved, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

| | Name | Substitute Position | Certification | Effective |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a | Ortega, Estefany | Custodial | n/a | 10/19/23 <i>Pending clearance</i> |
| b | Vera, Victor | Custodial | n/a | 10/19/23 <i>Pending clearance</i> |
| c | Carey, Jennifer | Teacher/Paraprofessional | County Substitute Certificate | 10/19/23 <i>Pending clearance</i> |
| d | Worstell, Laura | Nurse | County Substitute Certificate | 10/19/23 |
| e | Davi, Danielle | Teacher/Paraprofessional | CEAS | 10/19/23 <i>Pending clearance</i> |

POLICY

A. Committee Report and Discussion. Mrs. deGrandpré gave the report. The committee met on October 4, 2023.

Public Comments

- Holl Clark-Emery - resident, parent - read a letter from Michele Smith regarding Mr. McCarron.
- Bob Weible - resident, parent - regarding Mr. McCarron.
- Nat Hill - resident, parent - thanked the board for supporting English Learners but ashamed of lack of district's celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Christine Zamorra - resident - commends the board for working on Mam, the Mayan language.

9:05 p.m. - Ms. Gils left the meeting.

9:08 p.m. - Ms. Gils joined the meeting.

5. Nat Hill - resident, parent - regarding the importance of outreach to the community.
6. Kelly Hunt - resident, parent - regarding National Hispanic Heritage Month, our teachers and librarians are addressing in Bedwell.
7. Holl Clark-Emery - resident, parent - regarding Mr. McCarron.

Dr. Brotschul clarified that there are items that the board is unable to discuss as they relate to personnel matters and litigation, that is the reason why we cannot give you the information that you had asked for.

9:13 p.m. - Ms. Gils left the meeting.

9:17 p.m. - Ms. Gils joined the meeting.

8. Sama Habibi - resident, parent - shocked that board members state that our district is terrible and our scores are low. Also, parents have been very involved with the English Language Learners Community.
9. Felicia Ballard - resident - supports Dooleys' comments. We're a successful school district that has work to do.
10. Maura McGrail - resident, parent - supports Dooleys' comments. I am looking forward to having these meetings becoming more about what we can do to actually improve our children's education.

Dr. Butler clarified all the efforts the district is making for the English Language Learners Community and looking at different ways of addressing the concerns.

Mrs. Santoro moved to close public comments, Ms. Cooper seconded

Supplementary Matters

1. Mrs. Frenda spoke about the anti-bias and antisemitism she attended with Dr. Brotschul.
2. Mrs. Santoro spoke about Policy 5756 and the Traumatic Loss and Resiliency Program at the BMS.
3. Ms. Gils spoke about Policy 5756. The district's 2023 NJSLA test scores and district ranking.
4. Dr. Brotschul recapped that the board had accomplished much this evening, and we celebrated great work and achievements.
5. Mrs. Frenda would like to conclude with the recognition of absolutely extraordinary accomplishments that were presented this evening. Also stated that we have a tremendous amount of work to do because that is the work to serve students, every single one.

Adjournment

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn at 9:48 p.m. Mrs. Santoro seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Jinnee DeMarco
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

***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)