

**The Somerset Hills School District
 Regular Meeting Minutes - February 21, 2024
 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:	Absent:	Also Present:	
Mr. Baker	Ms. Gils (arrived 6:32pm)	n/a	Dr. Brian Brotschul
Ms. Ballard	Mr. Joyce		Dr. Coleen Butler
Ms. Cooper	Ms. Nathans (arrived 6:32pm)		Mrs. Jinnee DeMarco
Mrs. deGrandpré	Mrs. Santoror		Mr. Adam Weiss, Esq.
Mrs. Frenda	Mrs. Wry		

Executive Session

Mrs. Wry moved the following at 6:32 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 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Report of the Superintendent

1. Student Representatives’ Report - BMS representatives Allie Black and Nico Stephani and BHS representatives Gabrielle DeNicola and Madison Ferruggia gave their report.
2. Recognition of *The Pinnacle* - First Place Category in the *Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines* contest and the *American Scholastic Press Association Review* contest
 - a. Allison Snyder, BHS English Teacher/Pinnacle Advisor

A Resolution honoring **Allison Snyder**, Bernards High School Pinnacle Advisor, for exemplary dedication in advising the Bernards High School Pinnacle Staff in publication of their art and literary magazine.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to educators who exemplify dedication, care, and excellence in teaching, and ignite a passion in students;

WHEREAS, **Allison Snyder** is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to her students and colleagues alike;

WHEREAS, **Allison Snyder** is invested in creating meaningful experiences for student writers that prepare them for engagement with authentic audiences;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend **Allison Snyder** for her commitment to the BHS art and literary magazine and its student contributors, who earned first-place recognition in both the National Council of Teachers of English *Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines* contest and the *American Scholastic Press Association Review* contest.

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

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 21st day of February 2024.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

- b. Fiona Vitali, Editor-in-Chief
- c. Vanshika Gupta, Contests Chair
- d. Ava Highland, Advertising Chair
- e. Emily Panjachaichana, Web Chair
- f. Iniya Saravanan, Layout Chair
- g. Morgan Sikes, Editing Chair
- h. Pradnesh Thoppay, Finance Chair
- i. Marley Beers
- j. Ana Carolina Borbolla Menare
- k. Valentina Christen
- l. Rose Costello

- m. Ella Damratoski
- n. Addison Dunn
- o. Jessica Fu
- p. Emma Grau
- q. Joseph Kalinowski
- r. Georgia Kissel
- s. Jack Lopez
- t. Stella MacDonald-Salerno
- u. Kayli McGowan-Kinney
- v. Alana Natilli
- w. Abigail Sebastian
- x. Evan Seker
- y. Claire Taylor
- z. Katherine Adee
- aa. Gabriella Provini
- bb. Meghan Shelley

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Pinnacle Staff**) for publication excellence on the *2022-2023 Pinnacle* literary magazine.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to the dedicated magazine staff who perform at the highest level of publishing with creativity, effort, and a positive attitude;

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

WHEREAS, (**BHS Pinnacle Staff**) is creatively engaged in writing and art-making for meaningful purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend (**BHS Pinnacle Staff**) for first-place recognition in both the National Council of Teachers of English *Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines* contest and the *American Scholastic Press Association Review* contest.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by (**BHS Pinnacle Staff**). 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 21st day of February 2024.

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Board of Education President

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

3. Recognition of *American Association of Teachers of French* Competitions
a. Patricia Kupper, BMS French Teacher

A Resolution honoring **Patricia Kupper** for inspiring academic excellence
in the Bernardsville Middle School French program.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation
to those who encourage students to perform at the highest
academic level and embrace a love of languages;

WHEREAS, **Patricia Kupper** is part of the Bernardsville Middle School French program
and enables students to participate in a wide-range of activities;

WHEREAS, **Patricia Kupper** is dedicated to teaching French language and culture
through speaking, reading, writing, and listening.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of
Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend
Patricia Kupper for her dedication to inspiring students to love learning French.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so
in honor of the achievements earned by **Patricia Kupper**.
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 21st day of February 2024.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

- b. Maria Kolarov
c. David Hunscher
d. Stella Struble
e. Noga Ben-Shimon

A Resolution honoring **(BMS French Student)** for his/her academic excellence in the Bernardsville Middle School French 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 while embracing a love of language;

WHEREAS, **(BMS French Student)** is part of the Bernardsville Middle School French program and his/her passion serves as an inspiration to his/her peers and staff members alike;

WHEREAS, **(BMS French Student)** is dedicated to learning French language and culture through listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend **(BMS French Student)** for his/her (creative writing essay/Francophone Cultural Trivia Contest), recognized by the American Association of Teachers of French Jeunes Amis du Français.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by **(BMS French Student)**. 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 21st day of February 2024.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

4. Recognition of the *NJ Physics Olympics* - Second Place Overall
 - a. Dr. James Ferrara - BHS Physics Teacher/Coach

A Resolution honoring **Dr. James Ferrara**, BHS Physics teacher, for exemplary dedication in guiding his students to an extraordinary second-place finish overall in the Physics Olympics 2024.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to educators who exemplify dedication, care, and excellence in teaching, and foster student passion and academic excellence at the highest level;

WHEREAS, **Dr. James Ferrara** is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to his students 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 **Dr. James Ferrara** for his commitment to the BHS Science program, outstanding leadership, and months of dedication and hard work with BHS Physics students, who achieved an extraordinary second-place finish in the NJ Physics Olympics.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by **Dr. James Ferrara**. 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 21st day of February 2024.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

- b. Kilian Schlager
- c. Garrett Senior
- d. Pradnesh Thoppay
- e. Aidan Vineis
- f. Fiona Vitali
- g. Tiffany Zhang

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Physics Student**)
for his/her contribution to the extraordinary team accomplishment
of placing 2nd overall in the
Northern/Central NJ Physics Olympics.

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

WHEREAS, (**BHS Physics Student**) sees the merit in investigation and research,

as well as grit and determination, when applying principles of physics to problem solving and design;

WHEREAS, (**BHS Physics Student**) is part of Bernards High School and serves as an inspiration to 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 Physics Student**) for his/her extraordinary accomplishments, along with his/her team, in placing 2nd overall in the Physics Olympics hosted by the New Jersey Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by (**BHS Physics Student**). 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 21st day of February 2024.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

5. Board Recognition - Retiree

a. WHEREAS, Marcella Craver has been employed from September 2001 through June 2024 as a School Counselor; 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 Marcella Craver's retirement effective July 1, 2024, and extend to her congratulations and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.

6. Audit Report, Joseph Stout, Suplee, Clooney & Company

7. Dr. Brotschul's Update

Public Comments for Actionable Agenda Items

None

Seeing no one from the public, Mrs. Wry moved to close public comments, Mr. Joyce seconded.

Approval of Minutes*

Ms. Cooper moved item #1, Ms. Nathans seconded.

Item #1 - January 24, 2024 minutes was approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

1. Approval of Minutes*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for January 24, 2024.

FINANCE

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee met on February 6, 2024.

B. Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-15, Ms. Nathans seconded.

Item #1-5,7-15, were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

Item #6 was approved by roll call vote of 9-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

1. Board Secretary & Treasurer Reports & Board Certification*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has received the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of January 2024 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$11,003,894.02	\$11,003,894.02
(20) Special Revenue Fund	(\$612,291.52)	(\$612,291.52)
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$114,058.25	\$114,058.25
(40)Debt Service Fund	\$1,124,412.35	\$1,124,412.35
Total Government Funds	\$11,630,073.10	\$11,630,073.10

(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 January 2024.

3. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached January 2024 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	\$1,977,727.26
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$9,806.21
(30) Capital Projects Fund	—

(40) Debt Service Fund	–
(60) Cafeteria Fund	–
(90) Agency Fund	\$733,806.42
TOTAL	\$2,721,339.89

4. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached February 2024 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	\$2,251,139.68
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$38,231.19
(30) Capital Projects Fund	–
(40) Debt Service Fund	–
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$72,411.16
(90) Agency Fund	\$411,564.77
TOTAL	\$2,773,346.80

5. Approve 2023-2024 Non-Public Security Aid*

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

	Non-Public School	Description	Amount
a	School of Saint Elizabeth	I3 International SRX-Lite U1 128GB (Mfg part U-12-L)	\$2,359.61
b	School of Saint Elizabeth	I3 UR Chassis Rack Mount Brkt (Mfg part UR-RMB)	\$43.08
c	School of Saint Elizabeth	I3 10TB 3.5IN 6GBPS 7200 RPM (Mfg part HDD10)	\$850.96
d	School of Saint Elizabeth	I3 5MP 2.8MM Fixed Lens Dome Cam (Mfg part M77R2)	\$3,150.40
e	School of Saint Elizabeth	I3 Back Box Mount F M77 Series (Mfg part B77 V2)	\$459.30
f	School of Saint Elizabeth	I3 International Wallmount Gooseneck (Mfg Part DB60)	\$346.90
g	School of Saint Elizabeth	Tripp Lite 12U Wall Mount Rack Enclosure Cabinet Hinged Deep Acrylic Window (Mfg part SRW12USDPG)	\$533.37
h	School of Saint Elizabeth	Tripp Lite 24-Port Cat6 Patch Panel Rackmount 110 RJ45 Ethernet 1U 568B TAA (Mfg part N252-024)	\$49.87
i	School of Saint Elizabeth	Aruba Instant On 1930 24G Class4 PoE 4SFP/SFP+ 370W Switch - 28 Ports - Manageable - 3 Layer Supported - Modular - 370 W PoE Budget - Optical Fiber, Twisted Pair - PoE Ports - Lifetime Limited Warranty	\$1,200.00
j	School of Saint Elizabeth	Proline-SFP (mini-GBIC) Transceiver Module - GigE- TAA Compliant (Mfg part J4848D-PRO)	\$116.24

k	School of Saint Elizabeth	Corning MIC Tight-Buffered - Bulk Cable - aqua (Mfg part 006T88-31190-A3)	\$1,794.00
l	School of Saint Elizabeth	Corning UniCam Network Connector - black (Mfg part 95-050-99-X)	\$50.86
m	School of Saint Elizabeth	Corning UniCam Network Connector - black (Mfg part 95-050-99-X-Z)	\$910.60
n	School of Saint Elizabeth	Corning Closet Connector Housing for One Rack Space (Two Connector Panels) (Mfg part CCH-01U)	\$574.82
o	School of Saint Elizabeth	Corning Closet Connector Housing Panel CCH-CPO6-E4-P03SH - patch panel (Mfg part CCH-CP06-E4-P03SH)	\$581.62
p	School of Saint Elizabeth	Tripp Lite 1M 10 Gb 100 Gb Duplex Multimode 50 125 OM4 Fiber Cable LC LC Aqua (Mfg part N820-01M-OM-4)	\$38.98
q	School of Saint Elizabeth	Belden 2413 Multi-Conductor - bulk cable - 1000 ft - white (Mfg part 2423 009U1000)	\$1,134.44
r	School of Saint Elizabeth	Tripp Lite 1' Cat6 Gigabit Snagless Molded Patch Cable RJ45 MM Blue, 1ft (Mfg part N201-001-BL)	\$37.18
s	School of Saint Elizabeth	Tripp Lite Cat6 Gigabit Snagless Molded Patch Cable (RJ45 MM) Blue, 3' (Mfg part N201-003-BL)	\$21.15
t	School of Saint Elizabeth	Tripp Lite Cat6 Gigabit Snagless Molded Patch Cable (RJ45 MM) Blue, 5' (Mfg part N201-005-BL)	\$5.08
u	School of Saint Elizabeth	LTW Installation Services (Prevailing Wage) LTW Engineering Services Project Management Expenses Contract: Market	\$16,000.00

6. Approve Parent Organization Fundraiser

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

	Organization	School	Event	Date
a	Bedwell HSA	BES	Simply Dip-Licious	April 2024

7. Approve Parent Organization Fundraiser*

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

	Organization	School	Event	Date
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a	Boys Varsity Lacrosse	BHS	CFS Mattress Fundraiser	TBD (Spring 2024)
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8. Approve Additional Capital Projects*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve additional Capital Projects in the current school year. The Board authorizes the allocation of capital withdrawal funds for the implementation of the following capital projects during the 2023-2024 school year in the amount not to exceed \$112,500:

Planning & Preparation for Bernards High School Track Replacement Project
Bernards High School Lower Sports Field Assessment

9. Approve Capital Project*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a school facilities project of the Track Replacement at Bernards High School. WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take the initial steps in order to proceed with the Project. In accordance with the requirement of Section 6A:26-3 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves the Schematic Plans prepared in connection with the Project and the Board further authorizes the submission of the same to Somerset County Superintendent of Schools and the New Jersey Department of Education for approval by Parette Somjen Architects. This project is designated "Other Capital" and the Board is not seeking state funding.

WHEREAS, The Board hereby authorizes, if necessary, the amendment to its Long-Range Facilities Plan in order to reflect the proposed Project.

BE IT RESOLVED, The School Administration and such other officers and agents of the Board as are necessary, including the Board attorney, bond counsel and architect, are hereby authorized to perform such other acts, to execute such other documents and to do such other things as are necessary to implement the determination of the Board set forth in this resolution, including the submission of Information to the New Jersey Department of Education as applicable to the proposed Project.

10. Approve Shared Service Agreement*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Shared Service Agreement with Somerset County for Purchasing Services for the 2023-2024 school year.

11. Approve DebtBook Services*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve DebtBook Services for subscription management services to comply with GASB 96 auditing preparation for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$12,800.00.

12. Approve Atlantic Tomorrow Office Agreement*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Copier Lease Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount not to exceed \$21,000 (\$75,000 prorated).

13. Approve Pear Deck Subscription Agreement*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Instructional Software Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount not to exceed \$7,089.00.

14. Acceptance of 2022-2023 Audit*

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education engaged the firm of Suplee, Clooney and Company to conduct a yearly audit of the district's financial records; and Whereas the firm audited these records for the 2022-2023 school year; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes reflect that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the 2022-2023 Audit Report, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary be directed to file the necessary reports with the State Department of Education.

Recommendations:

None

15. Approve Settlement Agreement*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the settlement agreement in the matter of McCarron vs. Somerset Hills School District, docket number SOM-L-1114-23.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President, Business Administrator, and Board Attorneys are authorized to take all the necessary measures to effectuate this action of the Board.

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mrs. Santoro gave the report. The committee met on February 6, 2024.

B. Action Items: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1-3, Mrs. Wry seconded.

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

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

1. HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on January 24, 2024, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

<u>School</u>	<u>Report #</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
BES	3	Founded
BES	4	Unfounded
BMS	12	Unfounded
BMS	14	Unfounded
BMS	15	Founded
BMS	16	Unfounded
BMS	17	Founded

2.

HIB Report*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on January 24, 2024, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

<u>School</u>	<u>Report #</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
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BHS	7	Founded
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3. Approve the 2023-2024 District Goals*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following district goals:

- Academic - Devise grade-appropriate K-12 opportunities to explore career choices, including access to experiences beyond the walls of the classroom. Solidify current academic pathways, considering summer programming, complementary professional development, and tiered systems of support.
- Culture & Climate/Social-Emotional Learning - Solidify the district's K-12 vision for Social-Emotional Learning, identifying additional growth opportunities for co-curricular outreach and opportunities among and across groups/buildings.
- Facilities - Develop a Long Range Facility Plan to recommend to the Board of Education, inclusive of developing a budget and operational plan to support the replacement of the track.
- Community - Devise a strategic communication process to solidify the district's favorable public image.

CURRICULUM

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Ms. Cooper gave the report. The committee met on February 8, 2024.

B. Action Items: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-9, Mrs. Santoro seconded.

Items #2,4-9 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

Items #1,3 were approved by roll call vote of 9-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

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	Berry, Courtney	Field Trip Chaperone	4/17/24	\$0
b	BES	Brooten, Darcey	Museum of Natural History-Research for Museum of Natural History Innovation Fair	2/27/24	\$0
c	BMS	Chaffee, Salome	Field Trip Chaperone	4/17/24	\$0
d	BMS	Chaffee, Salome	NJ Principals and Supervisors Association Foundation for Educational Administration Multilingual Learner Summit	5/12/24	\$19.32
e	BES	Collins, Jessica	Field Trip Chaperone	5/2/24	\$0

f	BES	DeRoberts, Theresa	Helping Your English Learners Exit Your ELL Program: Impactful Strategies to Accelerate Student Success	3/14/24	\$279
g	BES	Falzarano, Sarah	Field Trip Chaperone	5/2/24	\$0
h	BES	Falzarano, Sarah	14th Inter-District Conference	3/15/24	\$0
i	BMS	Gash, Adriane	Field Trip Chaperone	4/17/24	\$0
j	BMS	Geyer, Julie	Institute for Educational Development - Responding Successfully when Students Misbehave	3/22/24	\$259
k	BMS	Gori, Michelle	Institute for Educational Development - Responding Successfully when Students Misbehave	3/22/24	\$259
l	BMS	Habermas, Chris	NJ State Bar Foundation - Understanding HIB Characteristics	2/28/24	\$0
m	BES	Hall, Kristine	14th Inter-District Conference	3/15/24	\$0
n	BMS	Koellhoffer, Keith	Field Trip Chaperone	4/25/24	\$0
o	BMS	Kupper, Patricia	Institute for Educational Development - Responding Successfully when Students Misbehave	3/22/24	\$259
p	BMS	Kupper, Patricia	French Day - Montclair State University	3/6/24	\$0
q	BMS	Kupper, Patricia	2024 Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey Annual Conference	3/13/24	\$0
r	BES	Leonard, Melissa	Museum of Natural History-Research for Museum of Natural History Innovation Fair	2/27/24	\$0
s	BES	Palmieri, Jeremy	NJ Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance 2024 Annual Convention	2/26/24, 2/27/24	\$411.10
t	BES	Panik, Meredith	TCNJ - Bilingualism & Disabilities: Critical Steps to Differentiate Both	4/18/24	\$233.16
u	BES	Paterno, Amy	NJ Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance 2024 Annual Convention	2/26/24, 2/27/24	\$411.48
v	BMS	Reilly, Katie	Institute for Educational Development - Responding Successfully when Students Misbehave	3/22/24	\$259
w	BES	Sheehan, Carolyn	Field Trip Chaperone	5/2/24	\$0
x	BMS	Shemon, Eileen	Northern NJ Physical Education & Health Coaching Conference	2/27/24	\$149
y	BES	Strohman, Elizabeth	TCNJ - Bilingualism & Disabilities: Critical Steps to Differentiate Both	4/18/24	\$211.07

z	BES	Thurlow, Allen	Museum of Natural History-Research for Museum of Natural History Innovation Fair	2/27/24	\$90.67
aa	BMS	Walker, Carrie	Field Trip Chaperone	4/17/24	\$0
bb	BES	Ziolkowski, Maureen	Keeping a Spotlight on Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar, and Editing within Your Writing Instruction Grades K-3	3/4/24	\$60 (TC Contract)
cc	BES	Ziolkowski, Maureen	Field Trip Chaperone	5/2/24	\$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:

a	District	Barna, Lindsay	Arts Ed NJ Professional Learning - Planning and Assessment for Impactful Arts Learning	4/15/24	\$125
b	BHS	Brothers, David	New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletics Association Wrestling Tournament	2/28/24-3/2/24	\$649.93
c	District	Brotschul, Brian	New Jersey School Public Relations Association - Spring 2024 Workshop	3/12/24	\$125
d	BHS	Cannon, Steven	2024 Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey Annual Conference	3/13/24	\$161.33
e	BHS	Carmon, Dave	Hudl Leadership Summit and Clinic	3/8/24	\$0
f	District	Catelli, Michael	NJ Principals and Supervisors Association Foundation for Educational Administration Multilingual Learner Summit	3/1/24	\$100
g	BHS	Ellis, Amanda	Fairleigh Dickinson University Luncheon for High School Counselors	3/28/24	\$0
h	BHS	Ellis, Amanda	Rider University Counselor Breakfast and Information Session	3/21/24	\$0
i	BHS	Falletta, LuAnn	AP Calculus Reading - College Board	6/11/24-6/17/24	\$0
j	BHS	Ferrara, James	AP Physics Reading - College Board	6/4/24-6/17/24	\$0
k	BHS	Hart, Amy	Morris-Union Jointure Committee - Aide Support in IEPs	4/25/24	\$90
l	BHS	Hogge, Jay	Field Trip Chaperone	2/22/24-2/25/24	\$0
m	BHS	Hoppe, Michael	New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletics Association Wrestling Tournament	2/29/24-3/2/24	\$323.87
n	BHS	Hunkele, Heather	School Newspapers Online Advisor Academy	6/10/24-6/13/24	\$205
o	BHS	Kaplan, Dan	Field Trip Chaperone	2/22/24-2/25/24	\$0
p	BHS	Johnson, Alec	Fairleigh Dickinson University Luncheon for High School Counselors	3/28/24	\$0

q	District	Lucas, Doug	2024 NJ School Buildings and Grounds Association Expo	3/18/24-3/20/24	\$841.88
r	BHS	Maurizio, Andrew	New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletics Association Wrestling Tournament	2/28/24-3/2/24	\$611.63
s	District	Mehan, Kathy	New Jersey School Public Relations Association - Spring 2024 Workshop	3/12/24	\$136.10
t	BHS	Murphy, Theresa	AP US Government & Politics Reading - College Board	6/3/24-6/9/24	\$0
u	BHS	Pietroluongo, Jade	Field Trip Chaperone	2/22/24-2/25/24	\$0
v	BHS	Pistilli-Urena, Jaclyn	Field Trip Chaperone	2/22/24-2/25/24	\$0
w	District	Riccio, Frank	School Transportation Supervisors of NJ - CDL Modernized Training	4/17/24	\$0
x	District	Riccio, Frank	2024 NJ School Buildings and Grounds Association Expo	3/18/24-3/19/24	\$500
w	BHS	Simoneau, Jon	Hudl Leadership Summit and Clinic	3/8/24	\$0
z	BHS	Szostak, David	AP Macroeconomics Pre-Reading and Reading - College Board	5/28/24-6/10/24	\$0

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	BMS	Civically Engaged Districts Project (Youth in Action Summit) - New Brunswick, NJ	18	2	0
b	BES	Fairview Farm - Bedminster, NJ	83	5	12

4. 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	Warren Racquet Club - Warren, NJ	4	2	0
b	BHS	Somerset Hills Learning Institute - Bedminster, NJ	4	2	0
c	BHS	Summit High School - Summit, NJ	4	2	0
d	BHS	Boardwalk Hall - Atlantic City, NJ	4	4	4

5. Approve 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 District Calendars*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the district calendar for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years.

6. Approval of the Extended School Year Program for Summer 2024*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Extended School Year Program for Summer 2024 to commence on July 8, 2024 and conclude on August 8, 2024 (Note: There will be no school on Fridays during this program).

7. Approve Professional Development Program*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Good Grief to provide professional development on trauma informed strategies for district staff during the 2023-2024 school year, in the amount of \$1,000.

8. Approve Professional Development Program*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Advancing Literacy to provide professional development on technology for district staff during the 2023-2024 school year, in the amount of \$2,800.

9. Approve the BHS ESL Tutoring Program for 2024*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the BHS ESL Tutoring Program for 2024 for grades 9-12 to commence on February 26, 2024 and conclude on May 31, 2024, with funding through Title III.

PERSONNEL

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mrs. deGrandpré gave the report. The committee met on February 8, 2024.

B. Action Items: Mrs. deGrandpré moved items #1-14, Mr. Joyce seconded.

Items #3,6-8,10,12-14 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

Items #1,2,4,5,9,11 were approved by roll call vote of 9-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Santoro, 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	Craver, Marcella	BMS	School Counselor	7/1/24

2. Amend Leave Replacement Teacher

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the following Leave Replacement Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year:

	Name	School	Position	Replace	Level	Step	Salary	Effective
a	Thoms, Allyson	BES	Teacher	9494	MA	4-5	\$70,645	11/13/23-3/20/24 3/15/24

3. Appoint Interpreters/Translators*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Interpreters & Translators for the 2023-2024 school year.

	Name	Position	Rate	Effective
a	Rivers, Denise	Translator /Interpreter	\$61.12/Hr	23-24 school year

4. Rescind Athletic Positions

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

	Name	School	Season	Position	Stipend
a	Mahlik, Philip	BMS	Spring	Baseball Boys Head 50%	\$2,173.99
b	Mahlik, Philip	BMS	Spring	Baseball Boys Assistant 50%	\$1,412.96

5. Approve Athletic Positions

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

	Name	School	Season	Position	Stipend
a	Mahlik, Philip	BMS	Spring	Baseball Boy's Head	\$4,347.97
b	Infusino, Andrew	BMS	Spring	Baseball Boy's Assistant	\$2,825.92
c	McNamara, Patrick	BMS	Spring	Softball Girl's Assistant	\$2,825.92

6. Rescind Athletic Positions*

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

	Name	School	Season	Position	Stipend
a	Carfaro, Chris	BHS	Spring	Lacrosse Women's Asst JV	\$6,204.00

7. Approve Athletic Positions*

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

	Name	School	Season	Position	Stipend
a	Petrie, George	BHS	Spring	Baseball Men's Assistant FR	\$5,790.40
b	Shemon, Thomas	BHS	Spring	Lacrosse Women's Asst JV	\$6,204.00
c	Carfaro, Chris	BHS	Spring	Volunteer Lacrosse Women's	\$0
d	Caponigro, Chris	BHS	Winter	Volunteer Wrestling	\$0

8. Approve Tutor*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following tutor for the 2023-2024 school year Funded by Title 3 *subject to further investigation pursuant to law:*

	Name	Subject	Location	Not to exceed	Effective
a	Medina, Pilar	ESL Tutoring Support: Funded by Title 3	BHS	11 hours	2/26/24 - 5/31/24

9. 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	8642	BES	Teacher	Disability Sick FMLA Anticipated Return	04/29/24 - 06/18/24 (paid; w/benefits) 06/19/24 - 06/21/24 (unpaid; w/benefits) 09/03/24 - 11/18/24 (unpaid; w/benefits) First day of the 3rd quarter 24-25 sch year

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	9139	BHS	Teacher	Disability Sick Disability Sick FMLA Anticipated Return	05/21/24 - 06/30/24 (paid; w/benefits) 09/01/24 - 09/02/24 (paid; w/benefits) 09/03/24 - 11/26/24 (unpaid; w/benefits) 11/27/24

11. Approve Clinical Practice Internship

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following clinical practice internship for the 2024-2025 school year:

	Name	School/Subject	Mentor	Program	Effective
a	Lodato, Claire	BES: P-3 & TOSD	L Jastrabek (fall) J Bohr (spring)	Centenary University Education Clinical Internship	2024 - 2025 School Year

12. Approve Evaluation Schedule*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following evaluation schedule for the Superintendent of Schools, for the 2023-2024 school year:

- April 24: Evaluation completed by Superintendent
- April 24: Board Training NJSBA-Superintendent Evaluation
- April 27: Board members receive an email from NJSBA to begin the evaluation
- April 27 - May 9: Window for Board members to complete evaluation software from NJSBA
- By May 13: The Board President coordinates evaluation results from NJSBA
- May 14: The Board President discusses/shares documentation with the Board in an Executive Session.
- June 20 (estimated/tentative): The Board President meets with the Superintendent to review the written evaluation
- June 26: In Executive Session, the Board conducts an evaluation conference in Executive Session.
- June 26: On public agenda a motion will appear that the evaluation has been completed in accordance with the Code by the Board.

13. 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	Riley, Cindy	Regular Paraprofessional	n/a	3/1/24
b	Worstel, Laura	Nurse	County Substitute Certificate & RN license	3/1/24
c	Wolf, Alison	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	2/22/24 <i>Pending clearance</i>
d	Alvarez, Maria	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	2/22/24 <i>Pending clearance</i>
e	DeJesus, Frances	Bus Driver	CDL	2/22/24 <i>Pending clearance</i>

14. Approve Administrative Leave with Pay*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following administrative leave with pay pending the outcome of an investigation by Board counsel:

	Employee	Effective
a	3980	1/31/2024

POLICY

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mrs. deGrandpré gave the report. The committee met on February 8, 2024.

Public Comments

1. Allicen Librera - resident, parent - about Silvia's comments at last month's board meeting regarding the incident during the November 2023 board election.
2. Sujin Beckerman - resident, parent - regarding board member conduct, Silvia's attack on another board member.
3. Kate Long - resident, parent - thanked board members for dedicating their time, and wanted to publicly support Sam Frenda as Board President and as a person.
4. Heather Eich - resident, parent - thanked Sam Frenda for all she has done to support our children in our community.
5. Mike Long - resident, parent - expressed support for President Sam Frenda, regarding the development of the athletic facilities and lights.
6. Jodi Sebastian - resident, parent - thanked the board and recognized their accomplishments since COVID.
7. Mary - resident, parent - regarding last month's meeting. Thanked the board for caring.
8. Jen Liming - resident, parent - support of lights on the athletic field.

Supplementary Matters

1. Ms. Gils - Clarified and responded to public comments from the public. She also restated the comments she made during last month's board meeting regarding the incident during the November 2023 board election.
2. Mrs. Frenda - stated that this is not a matter for the Board of Education.

Adjournment

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Mrs. Wry 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)