

**The Somerset Hills School District
 Regular Meeting Agenda - April 30, 2025
 Board of Education Training (open to the public) - 5:30 P.M.
 Executive Session - 6:30 P.M.
 Public Budget Hearing & Regular Public Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
 Bernards High School - Community Room**

Call to Order & Welcome

Board President Mrs. Frenda called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Mr. Baker | Ms. Gils |
| Ms. Ballard | Mrs. Santoro |
| Ms. Clark-Emery (arrived 5:38 p.m.) | Mrs. Wry |
| Ms. Cooper | Mrs. Frenda |

Absent:

Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Hoppe

Also Present:

- Dr. Brian Brotschul, Superintendent
- Dr. Coleen Butler, Assistant Superintendent
- Mr. Richard Liguori, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Board Norms

Before a Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arrive on time and prepared (read agenda and all attachments, including committee minutes in advance). ● Understand the placement of items on the agenda and understand why. ● Observe the board chain of command and respect the distinction between the role of the superintendent and the board. ● Understand what our role as members of the board is, including what items are executive session discussions versus public meeting discussions. ● Be problem solvers by working through issues and seeking advice and clarity from fellow board members and NJSBA if there are points of concern or contention.
During a Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No active use of phones in executive sessions or at the board table. ● Why speaking/why not? ● Value all voices; everyone has a chance to respond while being respectful of others. ● Non-repetition of issues/debate by the same individual until all have had the opportunity to speak.

- Signal to the board president to speak, the board president acknowledges the next speaker to allow uninterrupted opinions with time in mind.
- No surprises to the board or administration.

After a Meeting

- Support the outcomes determined by the majority while ensuring that minority voices are acknowledged.
- Abide by your responsibilities as a board member and be respectful of administrative and board time constraints.
- Be dedicated to supporting and attending school functions.
- Strive to develop professionally as individual board members and as a Board.
- Remember that students are always at the center of our decisions.

District Goals

2024-2025 District Goals

- **Academic**
 - Show progress in decreasing achievement gaps by advancing academic performance through increased support in areas of instruction for academic subgroups. Evaluate progress annually using all available assessment data.
 - Identify staff to leverage existing education by assessing interest in obtaining further certifications to expand available dual enrollment and career and technical education (CTE) student course offerings.
- **Facilities**
 - To prioritize planning for STEM/Robotics/CTE curriculum, develop a prioritized long-range facility plan and cost estimates by November 2024.
- **Community Integration**
 - To support the belief that every community member is a stakeholder, develop 2-3 avenues to expand community connectivity and engage with all community members to communicate district outcomes and opportunities for further engagement with those residents with and without school-aged children by June 2025.
- **Culture & Climate / Social Emotional Learning**
 - By June 2025 identify and implement tools and mechanisms to establish a baseline understanding of student and staff experience in Somerset Hills School District to develop a future strategic plan to enhance workplace and school culture, climate, and social-emotional learning.

Board Training

Annual Ethics Training was conducted by Patti Rees from the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Executive Session

Ms. Ballard made a motion to go to Executive Session at 6:34 p.m. Ms. Cooper 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 Potential 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.

Mrs. Wry made a motion to return to Public Session at 7:27 p.m. Ms. Gils seconded.

Pledge of Allegiance

Report of the Superintendent

1. Student Representatives’ Report - BMS representatives Owen Woolf and Jane Freisen and BHS representative Nora Jurczak gave their reports.

2. Recognition of the 2025 St. Baldrick’s event - Dr. Brotschul congratulated and recognized the following advisors, teachers, and students for their involvement in this event:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Janice O’Brien | Annabel Lander |
| Kelly Clark | Brigette McGee |
| Heather Hunkele | Meredith Mitchell |
| Andalora Parente | Aletha Reynolds |
| Ari Rosen | Jane Stauffer |
| Paige Encin | Kaley Welsh |

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Flutterflies**)
for their leadership role/as committee head in the extraordinary
March 13, 2025 St. Baldrick’s event
in honor of their friend Campbell Grace Hoyt.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to students who perform selfless acts

for the betterment of others;

WHEREAS, (**BHS Flutterflies**) recruited shavee participants and barbers, solicited donations and door prizes, and organized countless details with grit and determination;

WHEREAS, (**BHS Flutterflies**) are part of the Bernards High School Flutterflies and serve 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 Flutterflies**) for their extraordinary accomplishment in seeing the St. Baldrick's event through from concept to completion, an event that reached and surpassed its initial goal of \$25,000, by raising \$25,180 in the hopes of conquering childhood cancer.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by (**BHS Flutterflies**). 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 30th day of April 2025.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

A Resolution honoring (**BHS Teachers**),
for their role in the extraordinary March 13, 2025
St. Baldrick's event in honor of Campbell Grace Hoyt.

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education gives special honor and commendation to esteemed educators who exemplify dedication to their students, in the classroom and beyond;

WHEREAS, (**BHS Teachers**) are part of Bernards High School and serve to inspire students and staff members alike, with kindness, helpfulness and altruism.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Somerset Hills Board of Education that: The members of the Board of Education hereby commend (**BHS Teachers**) for their commitment to supporting the student event organizers, and orchestrating an amazing fundraiser, which took over six months of planning, and ultimately surpassed

its initial goal of \$25,000, by raising \$25,180.

When the Somerset Hills Board of Education adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the achievements earned by **(BHS Teachers)**.
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 30th day of April 2025.

Samantha Frenda
Board of Education President

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

3. Board Recognition - Retiree

WHEREAS, Lillian Bartow has been employed from July 2011 through June 2025 as a School Bus Driver; 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 Lillian Bartow’s retirement effective July 1, 2025, and extend to her congratulations and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.

4. Dr. Brotschul’s Update/Presentation of Corrective Action Plan for Chronic Absenteeism for Bedwell Elementary School

Public Comments for Actionable Agenda Items - none.

Seeing no one from the public, Ms. Cooper moved to close public comments. Ms. Gils seconded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for March 15, 2025, March 19, 2025, March 25, 2025, March 31, 2025, and April 14, 2025.

All minutes listed were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0. Mrs. Wry moved to approve, and Mrs. Santoro seconded. Voting: Ayes: Mr. Baker, Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Gils, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, and Mrs. Frenda.

BUDGET HEARING - 2025-2026 BUDGET

WHEREAS pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-13, the Board is required to conduct a public hearing for the 2025-2026 budget; and

WHEREAS on March 15, 2025, the Board of Education adopted a preliminary budget for the operation of the Somerset Hills Public Schools during the 2025-2026 school year and submitted it to the County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and

WHEREAS, the approved budget and notice of a public hearing were advertised in the Bernardsville News and Courier News.

Now, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board hereby opens the public hearing on the 2025-2026 Budget.

Presentation and Discussion - Dr. Brotschul presented the Final 2025-2026 Budget. Discussion took place between several Board members and Dr. Brotschul.

Public Comments for Final Budget - none.

Seeing no one from the public, Ms. Cooper moved to close public comments. Mr. Baker seconded.

Action Items #1-2: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1-2, Mrs. Wry seconded.

Items #1-2 were approved by roll call vote of 8-0. Voting: Ayes: Mr. Baker, Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Gils, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda.

1. Approve Final 2025-2026 Budget*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education adopts the 2025-2026 Budget, as approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the statutory deadline, and to make all necessary adjustments to the budget to comply with State regulations.

2025-2026	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Total Expenditures	\$48,204,630	\$848,217	\$3,256,770	\$52,309,617
Less Anticipated Revenue	\$11,644,803	\$848,217	\$ 173,254	\$12,666,274
Taxes to be Raised	\$36,559,827	\$ 0	\$3,083,516	\$39,643,343

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, in the County of Somerset, New Jersey, approves the following capital projects and the withdrawal of \$1,435,000 from the Capital Reserve account to provide funding for the following projects/equipment for the 2025-2026 school year:

Bernards High School PAC Audio Upgrade
 Bernards High School PAC Curtain Replacement
 Bernards High School Retaining Wall Replacement
 Door Access Upgrade
 Lighting Projects

Total costs for these projects are \$1,435,000, which represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, in the County of Somerset, New Jersey, approves the following capital project and the withdrawal of \$600,000 from the Maintenance Reserve account to provide funding for the following projects/equipment for the 2025-2026 school year:

Tennis Courts: Phase 1

Total costs for this project are \$600,000, which represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$397,108. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increase in health benefit premiums.

2. Approve Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2025-2026*

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills 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 furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B:1.1 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 only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B:1.1 et. seq. , but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel, and Reimbursement Forms; now

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of \$70,000, with \$21,824 expended as of March 1, 2025 for all staff and board members for the 2024-2025 school year.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

A. Committee Report & Discussion - Mr. Baker gave the report. The Committee met on April 9, 2025. The following items were discussed:

- 2025-2026 Budget update - draft budget approved by the Executive County Superintendent; next step is public hearing on 4/30.
- High School Lane roadway improvements - addressed ongoing safety concerns. Committee agreed that a feasibility study should be conducted by our engineering company, T&M Associates, and a resolution will be on the 4/30 agenda.
- Maschio's Food Service - a BHS student-led committee was formed to address food quality.
- Demographic report - draft report was shared with the Committee, which provides projected enrollment for the next four years, excluding projected housing developments.
- Recent lockdown at BHS - Dr. Brotschul reported this was accidental but all authorities notified, per policy, and measures being taken to avoid a recurrence.

- School start times - Dr. Brotschul has discussed high school school start time with the Bedminster administration, to potentially push back to better accommodate train riders. Goal is to accomplish the change for the 2026-27 school year.
- Water dispensers at BMS - school HSA asked to donate money for installation of water dispensers. Dr. Brotschul reported that such capital expenditures should be funded through the normal budget process, and that the HSA should look to help find supplementary educational programs for students.
- School calendar - since all allotted snow days were not used, Dr. Brotschul recommended giving back the unused snow day as May 23, 2025. A resolution will appear on the 4/30 agenda for approval to close school on this day.
- Positive Pay - fraud prevention at Peapack-Gladstone Bank. Committee agreed we should enroll in the process, and a resolution will appear on the 4/30 agenda.
- Board Financial Disclosure process - Mr. Liguori reminded the Committee that all Board members are obligated to complete the annual Financial Disclosure forms by 4/30.
- SHEF update - Mr. Liguori attended the recent SHEF Board of Trustees meeting and reported that several new members have been added. They also discussed future fundraising plans.

B. Action Items: #1-12: Mr. Baker moved items #1-12, Mrs. Wry seconded.

Items #1-12 were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0. Voting: Ayes: Mr. Baker, Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Gils, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. 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 March 2025 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$9,842,004.17	\$9,842,004.17
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$130,626.54	\$130,626.54
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$114,058.25	\$114,058.25
(40) Debt Service Fund	(\$795,531.71)	(\$795,531.71)
Total Government Funds	\$9,291,157.25	\$9,291,157.25

(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. Payment of Bills

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached final March 2025 check register 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	\$5,335,994.26
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$8,940.36
(30) Capital Projects Fund	-
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$2,338,735.00
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$58,131.51
(90) Agency Fund	\$1,190,466.29
TOTAL	\$8,932,267.42

3. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached April 2025 check register 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	\$2,191,092.07
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$84,290.28
(30) Capital Projects Fund	-
(40) Debt Service Fund	-
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$64,648.98
(90) Agency Fund	\$413,329.81
TOTAL	\$2,753,361.14

4. Approve 2024-2025 Budget Transfers*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the attached list of budget transfers for March 2025.

5. Approve 2024-2025 Budget Transfers Exceeding Ten Percent (10%)*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve budget transfers in account lines #11-000-230-XXX and #11-000-251-XXX as approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.

6. Approve 2024-2025 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 St. Elizabeth	CDW-G Security Camera materials and installation	\$13,939.86

7. Approve 2024-2025 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 St. Elizabeth	CDW-G Projector and related supplies	\$2,692.98

8. Approve Positive Pay Banking Platform*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the addition of the Positive Pay Platform, as a means of fraud prevention, for all accounts at Peapack Private Bank & Trust, at no cost to the district.

9. Approve Borough of Far Hills Agreement*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Permit Application and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Borough of Far Hills to use their fields for baseball from March 10, 2025-April 1, 2025 and April 7, 2025-May 23, 2025 at no cost to the District.

10. Approve High School Lane Feasibility Study*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve T&M Associates to conduct a feasibility study regarding traffic patterns on High School Lane at Bernards High School at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.

11. Approve Emergency Closing Giveback Day*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve May 23, 2025 as an emergency closing giveback day. Somerset Hills School District will be closed on May 23, 2025, as approved at the February 21, 2024 Regular Public Meeting of the Somerset Hills Board of Education.

12. Approve Musco Lighting Contract*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves a contract with Musco Lighting in the amount of \$630,183 for the Olcott Field Lighting Project through Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Master Project: 236989, Contract Number: ESCNJ 24/25-06 Expiration: 06/30/2026, Co-Op Number: 65MCESCCPS, Contract Number: ESCNJ 24/25-06.

C. Business Operations Old Business / New Business - none.

CURRICULUM

A. Committee Report & Discussion - Ms. Cooper gave the report. The Committee met on April 8, 2025 and discussed the following items:

- ML 20th year application - Mr. Catelli discussed new procedures for ML students who may need additional time to complete graduation requirements.
- English Language Arts - Ms. Barna discussed updates about ELA instruction throughout the district.
- QSAC chronic absenteeism - given the rate of chronic absenteeism at Bedwell (14.5% in 2023-24), the county has mandated a corrective action plan to comply with QSAC chronic absenteeism requirements.
- Class size (Bedwell) - reviewed projected class sizes for the 2025-26 school year.

B. Action Items: #1-10: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-10, Ms. Ballard seconded.

Items #1-10 were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0. Voting: Ayes: Mr. Baker, Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Gils, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. 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 2024-2025 school year:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BMS	Adkins, Michelle	Field Trip Chaperone	5/28/25	\$0
b	BMS	Boudreau, Derek	Field Trip Chaperone	5/28/25	\$0
c	BMS	Calabrese, Eric	Field Trip Chaperone	5/21/25	\$0
d	BMS	Chaffee, Salome	Field Trip Chaperone	5/9/25	\$0
e	BMS	Cox, Brett	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$0
f	BMS	Fabregas, Kelly	Field Trip Chaperone	5/22/25	\$0
g	BES	Fischer, Dana	Field Trip Chaperone	6/5/25	\$0
h	BMS	Froysland, Megan	Field Trip Chaperone	5/21/25	\$0
i	BMS	Gash, Adriane	Field Trip Chaperone	5/28/25	\$0
j	BMS	Georgiana, Michael	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$0
k	BMS	Geyer, Julie	Field Trip Chaperone	5/21/25	\$0
l	BMS	Gilly, Zoltan	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$0
m	BMS	Gilly, Zoltan	Field Trip Chaperone	5/5/25	\$0
n	BES	Hall, Kristine	Field Trip Chaperone	6/5/25	\$0
o	BMS	Heydt, Jaimie	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
p	BMS	Jurgens, Allyssa	Field Trip Chaperone	5/5/25	\$0
q	BMS	Jurgens, Allyssa	Field Trip Chaperone	5/9/25	\$0
r	BMS	King, Brian	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$0

s	BMS	Kupper, Patricia	Field Trip Chaperone	5/5/25	\$0
t	BMS	LaChac, Luke	ALL IN Summer Inclusion Leadership Conference 2025	6/6/25	\$0
u	BMS	Mahlik, Philip	Field Trip Chaperone	5/28/25	\$0
v	BMS	Mahlik, Philip	Field Trip Chaperone	5/5/25	\$0
w	BMS	Marashlian, Nicole	Field Trip Chaperone	5/21/25	\$0
x	BES	Mariani, Jessica	Field Trip Chaperone	6/5/25	\$0
y	BMS	McGovern, Danielle	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$0
z	BES	McShane, Sarah	Field Trip Chaperone	4/15/25	\$0
aa	BES	Mirando, Stephan	Translator for Out of District School Visit	3/31/25	\$16.96
bb	BES	Noonan, Mark	Field Trip Chaperone	5/9/25	\$0
cc	BMS	Oliveira, Ashley	Field Trip Chaperone	5/5/25	\$0
dd	BMS	Oliveira, Ashley	Field Trip Chaperone	5/9/25	\$0
ee	BMS	Petrie, George	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
ff	BMS	Porter, Shane	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$0
gg	BES	Reed, Patrick	Field Trip Chaperone	6/5/25	\$0
hh	BES	Rudin, Beth	Field Trip Chaperone	4/15/25	\$0
ii	BES	Sakin, Jordan	Field Trip Chaperone	6/5/25	\$0
jj	BMS	Tchorz, Valerie	Field Trip Chaperone	6/4/25	\$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 2024-2025 school year:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	District	Butler, Coleen	NJ Association of School Administrators/NJ Association of Pupil Services Administrators Leadership Conference 2025	5/14/25-5/16/25	\$521.33

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
b	BHS	Cannon, Steven	NJ Principals & Supervisors Association/Foundation for Educational Administration - Teaching Grammar in Proficiency-Based Classrooms	5/8/25	\$182.84
c	BHS	Carmon, David	Field Trip Chaperone	5/22/25	\$0
d	BHS	Ciocco, Jared	Field Trip Chaperone	5/19/25	\$0
e	BHS	Daben, Jose	Field Trip Chaperone	3/26/25- 3/28/25	\$0
f	District	Galuppo, Julianne	Systems 3000 Payroll Quarterly Training	3/18/25	\$24.37
g	BHS	Hunkele, Heather	Garden State Scholastic Press Association Spring Advisers Conference	5/2/25	\$0
h	BHS	Hunkele, Heather	Jostens Yearbook Cover Workshop	5/22/25	\$0
i	BHS	Kaplan, Daniel	Field Trip Chaperone	5/22/25	\$0
j	BHS	Koch, Kevin	Field Trip Chaperone	5/30/25	\$0
k	BHS	Koch, Kevin	Field Trip Chaperone	5/21/25	\$0
l	District	Koransky, Jamie	NJ Association of School Administrators/NJ Association of Pupil Services Administrators Leadership Conference 2025	5/14/25- 5/16/25	\$1018.47
m	District	Koransky, Jamie	NJ Principals & Supervisors Association/Foundation for Educational Administration - Understanding and Protecting the Legal Rights of LGBTQIA+ School Leaders and Staff	3/31/25	\$22.80 \$8.27
n	District	Liguori, Richard	NJ Association of School Business Officials 2025 Annual Conference	6/4/25- 6/6/25	\$1045.21
o	District	Liguori, Richard	NJ Association of School Business Officials Pupil Transportation and School Plant Planning	4/5/25, 4/12/25, 4/26/25, 5/3/25, 5/10/25	\$375
p	District	Liguori, Richard	NJ Association of School Business Officials 24-25 Audit Review	4/10/25	\$156.56
q	BHS	Newman, Amy	Field Trip Chaperone	5/21/25	\$0
r	BHS	O'Brien, Janice	Garden State Scholastic Press Association Spring Advisers Conference	5/2/25	\$0

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
s	BHS	O'Brien, Janice	Jostens Yearbook Cover Workshop	5/22/25	\$0
t	District	Smith, Jodi	NJ Association of School Business Officials 24-25 Audit Review	4/10/25	\$206.66
u	District	Smith, Jodi	Systems 3000 Accounting Year-End Training	5/6/25, 8/12/25	\$25.19
v	BHS	Snyder, Allison	Field Trip Chaperone	5/30/25	\$0
w	BHS	Taesler, Stephen	Field Trip Chaperone	5/1/25	\$0
x	BHS	Taesler, Stephen	Field Trip Chaperone	TBD	\$0
y	BHS	Wertman, Suzanne	Field Trip Chaperone	5/22/25	\$0
z	BHS	Young, Joseph	Field Trip Chaperone	5/30/25	\$0

3. Approve Field Trips

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following field trips:

	School	Trip	# of Students	# of Faculty	# of Chaperones
a	BMS	Bernards High School - Bernardsville, NJ	224	6	0
b	BMS	Six Flags Great Adventure - Jackson, NJ	40	5	1
c	BMS	The Brick Academy - Basking Ridge, NJ	111	6	0
d	BES	Bernardsville Pool - Bernardsville, NJ	84	8	12

4. Approve Field Trips*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following field trips:

	School	Trip	# of Students	# of Faculty	# of Chaperones
a	BHS	Bedminster Township School - Bedminster, NJ	10	2	0
b	BMS/ BHS	Eleventh Hour Rescue - Rockaway, NJ	8	3	0
c	BHS	Carteret Performing Arts Center - Carteret, NJ	60	4	1
d	BHS	Jenkinson's Aquarium - Point Pleasant, NJ	26	2	0

e	BHS	STEM Competition at Ramsey Town Pool - Ramsey, NJ	6	1	0
f	BHS	Chinatown Tenement Museum - New York, NY	41	1	3
g	BHS	Turtleback Zoo - West Orange, NJ	26	2	0
h	BHS	William Paterson University - Wayne, NJ	25	1	1
i	BHS	The Mahan Collection - Basking Ridge, NJ	2	2	0
j	BHS	Yestercades - Somerville, NJ	7	3	0
k	BHS	Bernardsville Middle School - Bernardsville, NJ	10	2	0
l	BHS	Applebee's - Bridgewater, NJ	2	2	0

5. Rescind Professional Development/School Business

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind the following professional development/school business, which was approved on March 19, 2025:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BMS	Kupper, Patricia	Fellowship of Language Educators of NJ Annual Conference	3/19/25	\$140

6. Approval of Anticipated BHS Summer History Support Programs for Summer 2025*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Summer History Support Program for Summer 2025, grades 9-11, to commence on August 4, 2025 and to conclude on August 8, 2025 to be funded with Title III federal grant.

7. Approval of Anticipated BHS Summer Algebra Support Program for Summer 2025*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Summer Algebra Support Program for Summer 2025, grades 9-11, to commence on August 11, 2025 and to conclude on August 22, 2025 to be funded with Title III federal grant.

8. Approval of Anticipated BHS Summer Geometry Support Program for Summer 2025*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Summer Geometry Support Program for Summer 2025, grades 9-11, to commence on August 11, 2025 and to conclude on August 22, 2025 to be funded with Title III federal grant.

9. Approve Summer Kindergarten Support Program for Summer 2025

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Summer Kindergarten Support Program for Summer 2025 to commence on July 7, 2025 and conclude on July 31, 2025, with funding through Title III federal grant. (Note: There will be no school on Fridays during this program.)

10. Approve Summer Grades 1-4 Support Program for Summer 2025

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Summer Grades 1-4 Support Program for Summer 2025 to commence on July 7, 2025 and conclude on July 31, 2025, with funding through Title 1. (Note: There will be no school on Fridays during this program.)

C. Curriculum Old Business / New Business - none.

PERSONNEL

A. Committee Report and Discussion: Ms. Ballard reported that personnel motions on tonight's agenda were reviewed at the last meeting.

B. Action Items: #1-15: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-15, Mrs. Wry seconded.

Items #1-10 were approved by a roll call vote of 8-0. Voting: Ayes: Mr. Baker, Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Gils, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. 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:

	Employee	School	Position	Effective
a	Bartow, Lillian	District	Bus Driver BUS.DIST.TRDR.NA.01	7/1/25

2. Accepts Resignation*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the resignation of the following employees:

	Employee	School	Position	Effective
a	Clark, David	District	Custodial Foreman CUS.DIST.FORE.NA	5/7/25
b	Palmere, Lilian	BHS	Teacher TCH.HS.SCNC.NA.06	6/30/25

3. Approve Appointment Certified Staff*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following non-tenured certificated staff for the 2025-2026 school year; step and salary may be adjusted upon contract ratification, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position/UPC	Step	Level	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Heesemann, Diana	District	School Nurse TCH.MS.NURSE.NA.01	17	BA	\$86,960	Ryan	9/1/25 pending clearance
b	Torres, Maiya	BHS	Teacher TCH.HS.HIST.NA.06	3-4	MA	\$72,390	Lallis	9/1/25 pending clearance
c	Mason, Mark	BHS	Teacher TCH.HS.RERM.NA.09	16	MA	\$90,435	Ryersen	9/1/25 pending clearance

d	Camooso, Stephanie	BHS	Teacher TCH.HS.SPAN.NA.02	18	BA	\$89,935	Bracero	9/1/25 pending clearance
e	Nadolny, Tyler	BHS	Teacher TCH.HS.PHED.NA.02	5-6	MA	\$73,540	Brothers	9/1/25 pending clearance
f	Richard, Rachael	BHS	Teacher TCH.HS.HIST.NA.03	5-6	MA	\$73,540	Hogge	9/1/25 pending clearance

4. Approve Appointment Certified Staff

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following non-tenured certificated staff for the 2025-2026 school year; step and salary may be adjusted upon contract ratification, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position/UPC	Step	Level	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Weinstein, Julie	BMS	Special Education Teacher TCH.MS.RERM.NA.08	1-2	MA	\$71,980	Cronin	9/1/25 pending clearance
b	Pacheco, Yarelis	BES	Bilingual Teacher TCH.HS.BILL.NA.03	7-8	MA	\$74,990	New	9/1/25 pending clearance

5. Approve Appointment Leave Replacement

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following leave replacement certificated staff for the 2024-2025 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position	Level	Step	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Cortigiani, Deborah	BES	Teacher TCH.ES.ESL.NA.02.LR	MA	15	\$87,660 <i>prorated</i>	9878	4/28/25-6/19/25

6. Approve Appointment Leave Replacement*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following leave replacement staff for the 2024-2025 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position	Step	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Lucas, Kerry	District	Maintenance	10	\$68,213 <i>prorated</i>	6470	5/1/25-6/30/25 pending clearance

7. Approve Overloads*

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

	Type of Support	Teacher	Term	Periods/ week	Salary	OVERLOAD Salary prorated
a	English - SIP	Weltler, Lynn	MKP4*	5	\$115,960	\$4,832.64
b	Math - SIP	Camuto, Lisa	MKP4*	5	\$87,660	\$730.65

★ Per diem until completed as determined by Principal

8. Approve Overloads

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

	Type of Support	Certified Staff	School	Term	Periods/week	Salary	OVERLOAD salary
a	Social Worker	Incedon, Cassandra	BMS	3/3/25 - 5/5/25	5	\$75,090	\$2,628.69
b	Special Education	Fabergas, Kelly	BMS	5/5/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$78,310	\$2,610.86
c	Special Education	Clark, Michelle	BMS	5/5/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$74,206	\$2,474.03
d	Special Education	Russo, Dawn	BMS	5/5/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$92,285	\$3,076.78
e	Special Education	Geyer, Julie	BMS	5/5/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$74,990	\$2,500.17
f	Special Education	Heydt, Jaimie	BMS	5/5/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$87,660	\$2,922.58
g	Special Education	Cox, Brett	BMS	5/5/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$104,610	\$3,487.70
h	Special Education	Reilly, Kathryn	BMS	5/27/25 - 6/19/25	5	\$66,040	\$990.80

9. Approve Summer Work*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve summer work for the following *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position	Not To Exceed	Rate
a	Kacanski, Markus	District	Technology Substitute	60 days	\$37.00/hour

10. Approve Temporary Shift Change*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a temporary shift change for the following employee:

	Name	School	Position	Night Differential Stipend	Effective
a	Urena Hernandez, Eric	BHS	Custodian - Night Shift	\$187.50	4/7/25 - 5/9/25

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	Date of Leave/Notes
a	9874	BMS	Certified Staff	FMLA Intermittent FMLA FMLA Anticipated Return	03/03/25-03/14/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 03/15/25- 03/27/25 03/28/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 03/29/25-05/04/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 03/28/25 05/05/25
b	9413	BMS	Certified Staff	Unpaid Disability FMLA Extnd Parenthood Leave Anticipated Return	06/02/25 05/27/25-06/23/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 09/02/25-11/25/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 11/26/25-06/30/26 (unpaid w/o benefits) 09/01/26
c	9427	BES	Certified Staff	Disability Sick FMLA Anticipated Return	05/27/25 - 06/19/25 03/28/25-04/29/25 (paid w/benefits) 04/30/25 - 06/20/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 09/01/25

12. 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	9468	BES	Paraprofessional	Intermittent FMLA Anticipated Return	04/11/25-04/17/25 (unpaid w/ benefits) 05/01/25

13. Approve Instructional Observation*

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

	Name	School/Subject	Educator	Program	Hours/Effective
a	Barracato, Michaela	Career and Technical Education: Marketing	Bradley Cameron	William Paterson CTE Teacher Pathway Initiative	50 hours Spring 2025

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:

	Employee	Effective
a	9969	4/1/25 - TBD <i>as determined by the Superintendent pending investigation</i>
b	10050	4/3/25 - TBD <i>as determined by the Superintendent pending investigation</i>

15. Approve Substitutes*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	Substitute Position	Certification	Effective
a	Hands, Emma	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/01/25
b	El-Hassan, SarahNajht	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/01/25
c	Salemi, Margaret	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/25

d	Flynn, Alexa	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/25
e	Collins-Horn, Peyton	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/25 Pending clearance
f	Ferguson, Alec	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/25 Pending clearance
g	Francis, Kristal	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/25 Pending clearance

C. Personnel Old Business / New Business - none.

XV. POLICY

A. Committee Report and Discussion: Ms. Ballard reported that there were no policies discussed at the last meeting which required action on tonight's agenda.

B. Policy Old Business / New Business: Ms. Gils asked if the Board would consider school uniforms. Dr. Brotschul indicated the committee should have future discussion.

XVI. STUDENT SERVICES

A. Committee Report and Discussion: Mrs. Santoro did not provide a report, as the committee did not meet last month.

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

Items #1-4 were approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-1. Voting: Ayes: Mr. Baker, Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda. Abstain: Ms. Gils.

1. HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on March 19, 2025, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Report #	Outcomes
BES	23	Unfounded
BES	24	Unfounded
BES	25	Unfounded
BES	26	Unfounded
BES	28	Unfounded
BES	29	Unfounded
BMS	18	Unfounded
BMS	19	Founded

HIBs to Date (24-25 SY)	Founded	Unfounded	Split	Total

BES	5	22	2	29
BMS	5	13	1	19

2. HIB Report*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on March 19, 2025, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Report #	Outcome
BHS	20	Founded
BHS	21	Unfounded
BHS	22	Unfounded
BHS	23	Unfounded
BHS	24	Unfounded

HIBs to Date (24-25 SY)	Founded	Unfounded	Total
BHS	10	14	24

3. Approve HIB Determination

RESOLVED, that the Board affirm the Superintendent's decision on HIB Case BES #25 following a Board hearing of an appeal on behalf of the student, as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(b)(6)(e).

4. Approve Corrective Action Plan

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) developed for Bedwell Elementary School for Addressing Chronic Absenteeism.

C. Student Services Old Business / New Business - none.

Board Announcements

Ms. Gils thanked the Board for their assistance.

Mrs. Frenda and Mrs. Wry both commented on their recent attendance at the NJSBA Equity Expo. Mrs. Frenda provided insights on the special education breakout session, the math strategies breakout session, and the hands-on hospitality training conducted by Chartwells. Mrs. Wry also commented on the keynote address.

Mrs. Santoro addressed the Rutgers Collaborative and work between the administration, the SHEA, and the Board.

Public Comments

Kelly Hunt addressed the BMS water fillers, and asked that if they will not be donated, that the Board should make a priority to fix them.

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

Adjournment

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Ms. Ballard seconded the motion. All in favor. Ayes: 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. Liguori
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)