

**The Somerset Hills School District  
 Regular Meeting Minutes - December 18, 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 at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Present:		Absent:		Also Present:
Mr. Baker	Ms. Gils (arrived 6:49 pm)	None		Dr. Brian Brotschul
Ms. Ballard	Ms. Nathans			Dr. Coleen Butler
Ms. Cooper	Mrs. Santoro			Mrs. Debe Besold
Mrs. deGrandpré	Mrs. Wry			
Mrs. Frenda				

**Board Norms**

<b>Before a Meeting</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Arrive on time and prepared (read agenda and all attachments, including committee minutes in advance).</li> <li>● Understand the placement of items on the agenda and understand why.</li> <li>● Observe the board chain of command and respect the distinction between the role of the superintendent and the board.</li> <li>● Understand what our role as members of the board is, including what items are executive session discussions versus public meeting discussions.</li> <li>● 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.</li> </ul>
<b>During a Meeting</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No active use of phones in executive sessions or at the board table.</li> <li>● Why speaking/why not?</li> <li>● Value all voices; everyone has a chance to respond while being respectful of others.</li> <li>● Non-repetition of issues/debate by the same individual until all have had the opportunity to speak.</li> <li>● Signal to the board president to speak, the board president acknowledges the next speaker to allow uninterrupted opinions with time in mind.</li> <li>● No surprises to the board or administration.</li> </ul>
<b>After a Meeting</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support the outcomes determined by the majority while ensuring that minority voices are acknowledged.</li> </ul>

- 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.

### Executive Session

Mrs. Wry moved the following at 6:34 p.m., Mrs. deGrandpré 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.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Report of the Superintendent**

1. Student Representatives' Report - BMS representatives Grace Healy and Prabir Sawhney gave their reports. BHS representative Nora Jurczak gave her report.
2. Dr. Brotschul's Update

### **Public Comments for Actionable Agenda Items**

None.

Seeing no one from the public, Ms. Santoro moved to close public comments, Ms. Nathans seconded.

Mrs. Frenda had two informational items to share with the Board and public:

- The Board will be honoring outgoing Board members, Mrs. deGranpré and Mr. Joyce at the January meeting.
- Reviewed organizational board governance related items and highlighted best practices and greatest adherence to parliamentary procedures as it relates to Robert's Rules of Order.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES\***

Mrs. Wry moved item #1, Mr. Baker seconded.

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

#### 1. Approval of Minutes\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the Public Input & Action and Executive meeting minutes for November 20, 2024.

Mrs. Frenda reported on the following:

- As Dr. Broschul mentioned earlier, the Board will honor outgoing Board members, Mrs. deGrandpré and Mr. Joyce at the January 2nd Board meeting.
- Emphasized the importance of adhering to parliamentary procedures as it relates to Roberts Rules.

**FINANCE**

- A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mr. Baker gave the report. The committee did not meet in December 2024
- B. Action Items: Mr. Baker moved items #1-10, Ms. Cooper seconded.

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

Item #9 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 November 2024 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$11,783,823.88	\$11,783,823.88
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$175,209.52	\$175,209.52
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$114,058.25	\$114,058.25
(40)Debt Service Fund	\$525,104.88	\$525,104.88
Total Government Funds	\$12,598,196.53	\$12,598,196.53

(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 November 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	\$216,048.32
(20) Special Revenue Fund	—
(30) Capital Projects Fund	—
(40) Debt Service Fund	—
(60) Cafeteria Fund	—

(90) Agency Fund	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$216,048.32</b>

3. Payment of Bills\*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached November 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	\$4,176,961.34
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$58,901.53
(30) Capital Projects Fund	—
(40) Debt Service Fund	—
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$71,559.10
(90) Agency Fund	\$1,184,950.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,492,372.77</b>

4. Payment of Bills\*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached December 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	\$545,132.27
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$52,688.19
(30) Capital Projects Fund	—
(40) Debt Service Fund	—
(60) Cafeteria Fund	—
(90) Agency Fund	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$597,820.46</b>

5. Approve 2024-2025 Budget Transfers\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approve the attached list of budget transfers for November 2024.

6. Approve Carryover Funds for IDEA Grant for 2024-2025\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve amended funds to include carryover from the 2023-2024 school year for the IDEA Federal Grant Allocation as follows:

IDEA Basic Carryover Non-Public (23-24):	\$38,256
IDEA Basic Non-Public (24-25):	<u>\$30,895</u>
IDEA Basic Non-Public:	\$69,151
IDEA Preschool Carryover (23-24):	\$ 3,360
IDEA Preschool (24-25):	<u>\$18,172</u>
IDEA Preschool:	\$21,532

7. 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	Far Hills Country Day School	TriState Golf Carts EZGO Express L6 Electric	\$16,404.35
b	Far Hills Country Day School	Bai Lar Interior Service Roller Blinds	6,064.66

8. Approve and Accept Donation for Culinary Arts Scholarship\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve and accept the donation from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$13,713.02 to establish and fund the new Bernards High School Culinary Arts Scholarship as per respective trust documentation.

9. Approve High Impact Tutoring Grant

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve funds for the 2024-2025 school year for the New Jersey Learning Acceleration Program: High Impact Tutoring Grant in the amount of \$4,607.

10. Approve Architectural Projects\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Architectural services from Solutions Architecture for the 2024-2025 school year.

	Services	Location	Not to Exceed
a	Facilities Assessments, LRFP Updates, Capacity Analysis	District	\$76,800
b	Pre-Referendum & Communications Services	District	\$68,500

C. Finance Old Business / New Business: N/A.

**FACILITIES & OPERATIONS**

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Mrs. Santoro gave the report. The committee did not meet in December 2024..

B. Action Items: Mrs. Santoro moved items #1-2, Ms. deGrandpré seconded.

Item #2 was 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 November 20, 2024, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Report #	Outcomes
BES	5A	Unfounded
BES	5B	Founded
BES	6	Unfounded
BES	7	Unfounded
BES	8	Unfounded
BES	9	Unfounded
BES	10	Unfounded
BES	11	Unfounded
BMS	5	Unfounded
BMS	6	Founded
BMS	7	Unfounded
BMS	8	Unfounded

HIBs to Date (24-25 SY)	Founded	Unfounded	Total
BES	1	10	11
BMS	2	6	8

2. HIB Report\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on November 20, 2024, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Report #	Outcome
BHS	6	Founded
BHS	7	Founded
BHS	8	Founded

HIBs to Date (24-25 SY)	Founded	Unfounded	Total
BHS	4	4	8

## C. Facilities &amp; Operations Old Business / New Business: N/A.

**CURRICULUM**

A. Committee Report & Discussion: Ms. Cooper gave the report. The committee met on December 3, 2024..

B. Action Items: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-6, Mrs. Wry seconded.

Items #2 and 4-6 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

Items #1 and 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 2024-2025 school year:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BMS	Boudreau, Derek	Supporting RTI/MTSS/Student Efficacy	12/16/24, 2/13/25	\$0
b	BMS	Calabrese, Eric	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
c	BMS	Cronin, Sara	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
d	BMS	Filieri, Michael	Mental Health Association of Monmouth County - Lifelines Training	10/24/24	\$50
e	BES	Fischer, Dana	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
f	BMS	Froysland, Megan	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
g	BMS	Froysland, Megan	Defusing Anger, Anxiety and Aggression: Improving Student Behavior	2/6/25	\$295
h	BMS	Geyer, Julie	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
i	BES	Hall, Kris	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
j	BMS	Kimmel, Melissa	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
k	BMS	Kleinstein, Mary	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
l	BMS	Kupper, Patricia	Field Trip Chaperone	3/21/25	\$0
m	BES	Mariani, Jessica	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0

n	BMS	Marashlian, Nicole	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
o	BMS	Marashlian, Nicole	EcoSchools Project and Place based Learning	2/5/25	\$0
p	BES	McCloskey, Heather	Speechpathology.com Online Webinars (3)	TBD	\$129
q	BMS	Obert-Thorn, Karrie	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
r	BMS	Persico, Jacqueline	Diffusing Anger, Anxiety and Aggression: Improving Student Behavior	2/6/25	\$295
s	BES	Reed, Patrick	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
t	BMS	Rizzuto, Rosemarie	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$0
u	BES	Roll, Jill	Occupationaltherapy.com Online Webinars (3)	TBD	\$129
v	BES	Sakin, Jordan	Field Trip Chaperone	6/2/25	\$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	Griffith, Chris	Genesis SIS User Group Workshop	12/18/24	\$0
b	BHS	Kaplan, Dan	Field Trip Chaperone	12/5/24	\$0
c	BHS	Koch, Kevin	Field Trip Chaperone	1/17/25	\$0
d	BHS	Koch, Kevin	Field Trip Chaperone	TBD	\$0
e	District	Koransky, Jamie	NJ Association of Pupil Services Administrators Winter Academy: "An Inconvenient Truth"	2/28/25	\$22.65
f	BHS	Mathus, Peter	Field Trip Chaperone	1/17/25	\$0
g	BHS	Newman, Amy	Field Trip Chaperone	1/14/25	\$0
h	District	Riccio, Frank	Integrated Pest Management - Waretown, NJ	12/6/24	\$76.44
i	BHS	Simoneau, Jon	Frank Glazier Football Clinic - Atlantic City, NJ	2/20/25-2/22/25	\$537.30

j	BHS	Young, Joseph	Field Trip Chaperone	12/5/24	\$0
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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	Franklin Institute - Philadelphia, PA	95	7	8
b	BMS	Lake Hopatcong State Park, Lake Hopatcong, NJ	107	11	0
c	BMS	Montclair State University - Montclair, NJ	12	1	1
d	BMS	Bernards High School - Bernardsville, NJ	48	1	0
e	BES	Meadowbrook Day Camp - Long Valley, NJ	84	9	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	Passaic County Technical Institute - Wayne, NJ	6	1	0
b	BHS	Pascack Valley High School - Montvale, NJ	6	1	0
c	BHS	Metropolitan Opera - New York, NY	10	1	1
d	BHS	Metropolitan Museum of Art - New York, NY	40	2	0

5. Approve I&RS and MTSS Training\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Foundation for Educational Administration for Intervention and Referral Services and MTSS training in the amount of \$750.

6. Approve MOU with University of Delaware\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Delaware for Horn Entrepreneurship's Entrepreneurship Experience Lab Program for the 2025-2026 school year.

C. Curriculum Old Business / New Business: N/A.

**PERSONNEL**

A. Committee Report and Discussion. Mrs. deGranpré gave the report. The committee met on December 5, 2024.

B. Action Items: Mrs. deGranpré moved items #1-15, Ms. Gils seconded.

Items #1, 7, 12 and 14-15 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Nathans, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

Items #2-6, 8-11 and 13 were approved by roll call vote of 9-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Baker, Ballard, Cooper, deGrandpré, Gils, Joyce, Santoro, Wry, Frenda.

1. Approve Organizational Chart\*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the updated Somerset Hills School District Organizational Chart.

2. Rescind Appointment Certificated Staff

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

	Name	School	Position	Level	Step	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Cortinas, Carmen Amanda	BES	Teacher TCH.ES.TITLE1.01	MA+30	20	\$107,785 <i>prorated</i>	Acuna	11/25/24

3. Accepts Resignation

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

	Employee	School	Position	Effective
a	Reibel, Kelly	BES	Special Education Paraprofessional PARA.DIST.RR.NA.12	11/19/24
b	Hennessey, Diana	BMS	Special Education Paraprofessional PARA.DIST.RR.NA.10	12/20/24

4. Approve Appointment Administrative Staff

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

	Name	School	Position	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Vlietstra, Beverly	District	Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary ADM.DIST.BADM.LR.01	\$750/diem	DeMarco	12/16/24

5. Approve Transition Days Administrative Staff

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

	Name	School	Position	Transition Days	Per diem
a	Vlietstra, Beverly	District	Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary	2	\$750.00

6. Approve Appointment 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 2024-2025 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law:*

	Name	School	Position	Level	Step	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Och, Laurie	BES	Teacher TCH.ES.ELME..03.04.LR	MA+30	1-2	\$77,140 <i>prorated .7 FTE</i>	9376	12/2/24 - TBD <i>to be determined by the superintendent</i>

7. Approve Athletic and Co-Curricular Positions\*

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

	Name	School	Season	Position	Stipend
a	Zangara, Timothy	BHS	Winter	Basketball Mens Asst:FR	\$6,876.10

8. Approve Athletic and Co-Curricular Positions

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

	Name	School	Season	Position	Stipend
a	Inclendon, Cassandra	BMS	Spring	Track: Boys/Girls Assistant	\$2,825.92

9. Approve Volunteer Internship

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

	Name	School/Subject	Mentor	Program	Effective
a	Sierra, Angela	Child Development Associate Program BES PreK level	Taylor Rice	Union College of Union County, NJ	2024 - 2025 School Year

10. Approve School Volunteer

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

	Name	School/Subject	Effective
a	Foran, Staci	BES/Library	12/1/24

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	9551	BMS	Teacher	Disability Sick FMLA	11/11/24-01/06/25 12/31/24 (paid w/ benefits) 01/07/25-04/01/25 (unpaid w/benefits)
				Parenthood Leave	01/01/25-03/26/25 (unpaid w/benefits) 04/02/25-06/30/25 (unpaid w/o benefits)
				Anticipated Return	03/27/25-06/30/25 (unpaid w/o benefits) 09/01/25

12. 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	9634	BHS	Teacher	Disability Sick FMLA Parenthood Leave Anticipated Return	<del>10/21/24-11/27/24</del> <b>12/05/24</b> (paid w/ benefits) <del>12/01/24-03/01/25</del> <b>12/06/24-03/06/25</b> (unpaid w/benefits) <del>03/02/25</del> <b>03/07/25-06/30/25</b> (unpaid w/o benefits) 09/01/25

13. 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	8642	BES	Teacher	Disability Sick FMLA FMLA Parenthood Leave Anticipated Return	04/29/24-06/17/24 (paid; w/benefits) 06/18/24-06/21/24 (unpaid; w/benefits) 09/01/24-11/16/24 (unpaid; w/benefits) 11/17/24- <del>01/24/25</del> <b>06/30/25</b> (unpaid; w/o benefits) <del>01/27/25</del> <b>09/01/25</b>

14. 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	Raja, Humza	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	12/19/24 <i>Pending approval</i>
b	Blakeslee, Garrett	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	12/19/24
c	Palton, William	Bus Driver	CDL	12/19/24
d	Nadolny, Tyler	Teacher/Paraprofessional	CEAS	12/19/24
e	Schenck, Christopher	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	12/19/24 <i>Pending clearance</i>
f	Duque, Elizabeth	Custodian	n/a	12/19/24 <i>Pending clearance</i>
g	Dorsainvil, Jaylen	Custodian	n/a	12/19/24 <i>Pending clearance</i>
h	Pringle, Rayjuon	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	12/19/24 <i>Pending approval</i>

15. 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	3410	12/13/24 - TBD as determined by the Superintendent pending investigation

**POLICY**

- A. Committee Report and Discussion. Mrs. deGranpré gave the report. The committee met on December 5, 2024.
- B. Action Items: Mrs. deGranpré moved item #1, Ms. Ballard seconded.

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

1. **Second Reading\***

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the second reading of the following bylaws, policies & regulations:

Policy/Regulation #	Title
P7510	Use of School Facilities

- C. Policy Old Business / New Business: N/A.

**STUDENT SERVICES**

- A. Committee Report and Discussion. Ms. Ballard gave the report. The committee met on December 5, 2024..
- B. Items: N/A.
- C. Student Services Old Business / New Business: N/A.

**Board Announcements**

- Mrs. deGranpré took a moment to thank the Board for her service and recognized the Board's accomplishments during her tenure.
- Ms. Gils commented on how beautiful last night's choir concert was.

**Public Comments**

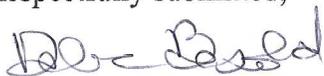
- Kelly Hunt - resident, parent: spoke about her child's 3rd grade class that parents are grateful that Mrs. Och will be the substitute. Ms. Hunt also thanked outgoing Board members, Mrs. deGranpré and Mr. Joyce, for their service.
- Meredith Panik - district school psychologist, resident: took the opportunity to share her experience as part of the child study team and clarify how the Special Education Department serves students and works hard to meet their needs.
- Ash Davis - resident, parent: thanked Mr. Joyce and Mrs. deGranpré for their service. Mr. Davis also thanked the Special Education Department for their service and what they mean to families. He also encouraged the Board to ban cell phone use in school.

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

**Adjournment**

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Ms. Gils seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Debe Besold  
Interim 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)