

**The Somerset Hills School District
 Regular Meeting Agenda - April 29, 2026
 Executive Session - 6:30 pm
 Regular Public Meeting - 7:30 pm
 Bernards High School - Community Room**

Call to Order & Welcome

Board President Mrs. Frenda called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call

Present:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Ms. Ballard | Mrs. Hunt |
| Ms. Clark-Emery (arrived 6:40 pm) | Mrs. Librera |
| Ms. Cooper | Mrs. Santoro |
| Mrs. Gomez | Mrs. Wry |
| Mrs. Hoppe | Mrs. Frenda |

Absent: None.

Also Present:

- Dr. Brian Brotschul, Superintendent
- Dr. Coleen Butler, Assistant Superintendent
- Mr. Richard Liguori, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
- Ms. Kelly Florio, Esq., Busch Law Group

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

2025-2026 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.
- **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.
- **Culture & Climate / Social Emotional Learning**
 - 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 made a motion to go to Executive Session at 6:32 pm. Mrs. Hoppe 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: Superintendent Evaluation and Student Matters.

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.

During the Executive Session, Dr. Brotschul, Dr. Butler, Mr. Liguori, and Mrs. Hoppe recused themselves at 6:32 pm.

Mrs. Librera made a motion to return to Public Session at 7:29 pm. Mrs. Hunt seconded.

Dr. Brotschul, Dr. Butler, Mr. Liguori, and Mrs. Hoppe returned at 7:32 pm. The public meeting resumed at 7:32 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Report of the Superintendent

1. Board Recognition Retirees - read by Ms. Ballard, Chair of Personnel Committee
 - a. WHEREAS, Soukan Chandara has been employed from July 1999 through June 2026 as a Custodian; and
WHEREAS, he exemplified expertise, commitment, and professionalism in his duties;
and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills School District and Board of Education recognize Soukan Chandara retirement effective July 1, 2026, and extend to him congratulations and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.
 - b. Dr. Brotschul’s Update: FY27 Budget Presentation

BUDGET HEARING - 2026-2027 BUDGET

A. Public Hearing Regarding 2026-2027 Budget

WHEREAS pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-13, the Board is required to conduct a public hearing for the 2026-2027 budget; and

WHEREAS on March 21, 2026, the Board of Education adopted a preliminary budget for the operation of the Somerset Hills Public Schools during the 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 Budget.

· Discussion: Mrs. Hoppe indicated an excellent job presenting. Mrs. Santoro indicated that between the referendum, the budget retreat, and this hearing, that the public had a good crash course in budgeting this year. Mrs. Gomez asked a question regarding tuition and Dr. Brotschul described the many capital projects that have occurred in the District since his arrival. Mrs. Wry reinforced that 77.3% of expenses are fixed costs in salaries and benefits. Mrs. Hoppe reinforced new programs and a rich curriculum. Mrs. Frenda discussed that the budget does more with less and delivers on the strategic plan.

· Public Comments - None.

· Motion to close public hearing - seeing no one from the public, Mrs. Hunt moved to close the public hearing. Ms. Cooper seconded. All present were in favor.

B. Action Items #1-2 Mrs. Wry moved items #1-2. Mrs. Hunt seconded.

Items #1-2 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda.

1. Approve Final 2026-2027 Budget*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education adopts the 2026-2027 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.

2026-2027	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Total Expenditures	\$50,453,334	\$736,330	\$3,006,270	\$54,195,934
Less Anticipated Revenue	\$12,156,914	\$736,330	\$ 175,243	\$13,068,487
Taxes to be Raised	\$38,296,420	\$ 0	\$2,831,027	\$41,127,447

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 \$1,350,000 from the Capital Reserve account to provide funding for the following projects/equipment for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Bernards High School Paging/Bell Systems, Door Access, & Emergency Notification Upgrades
- Bernardsville Middle School Paging/Bell Systems, Door Access, & Emergency Notification Upgrades
- Bedwell Elementary School Paging/Bell Systems, Door Access, & Emergency Notification Upgrades
- Olcott Building Door Access & Emergency Notification Upgrades

Total costs for these projects are \$1,350,000, 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 2026-2027 school year:

- Tennis Courts: Phase 2

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 \$1,005,396. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increase in health benefit premiums.

2. Approve Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2026-2027*

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-7, to a maximum expenditure of \$70,000 for all staff and board members for the 2026-2027 school year. \$70,000 was budgeted for the 2025-2026 school year, of which \$28,072.27 was expended as of March 1, 2026.

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

Public Comments for Actionable Agenda Items - seeing no one from the public, Mrs. Librera moved to close public comments. Mrs. Hoppe seconded. All present were in favor.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

A. Committee Report & Discussion of Actionable Agenda Items - No report, and no discussion.

B. Action Items: Ms. Cooper moved items #1-5. Ms. Ballard seconded.

Items #1-4 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda.

Item #5 was approved by roll call vote of 9-0-1. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda. Abstain: Mrs. Gomez.

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 2026 showing the following balances:

FUND	Board Secretary Cash Balance (1)	Treasurer Cash Balance (2)
(10) General Fund	\$7,864,939.70	\$7,864,939.70
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$170,407.85	\$170,407.85
(30) Capital Projects Fund	-	-
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$(782,825.62)	\$(782,825.62)
Total Government Funds	\$7,252,521.93	\$7,252,521.93

(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 2025-2026 Budget Transfers*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education approves the attached list of budget transfers for March 2026.

3. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached final March 2026 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	\$5,335,905.69
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$51,774.40
(30) Capital Projects Fund	-
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$2,666,135.00
(60) Cafeteria Fund	\$61,359.24
(90) Agency Fund	\$1,221,291.41
TOTAL	\$9,336,465.74

4. Payment of Bills*

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has presented attached April 2026 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	\$2,065,639.63
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$19,239.18
(30) Capital Projects Fund	-
(40) Debt Service Fund	-
(60) Cafeteria Fund	-
(90) Agency Fund	\$436,729.69
TOTAL	\$2,521,608.50

5. Resolution to Award RFP - SREP Feasibility Study

WHEREAS, the Somerset Hills Board of Education issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a School Regionalization Efficiency Program (SREP) Feasibility Study; and

WHEREAS, proposals were received and evaluated in accordance with the criteria set forth in the RFP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, awards the contract for the SREP Feasibility Study to Kennedy Green, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00, for the period April 30, 2026 through April 29, 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this award is made pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1 et seq.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are authorized to execute all necessary documents.

CURRICULUM

A. Committee Report & Discussion of Actionable Agenda Items - No report, and no discussion.

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

Item #2 was approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda.

Item #1 was approved by roll call vote of 9-0-1. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda. Abstain: Mrs. Gomez.

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 2025-2026 school year:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BES	Johnson, Kim	Field Trip Chaperone- Grade 1	5/14/26	\$0
b	BES	Sierra, Angela	Field Trip Chaperone- Grade 1	5/14/26	\$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 2025-2026 school year:

	School	Name	Workshop/Conference/School Business	Date(s)	Est. Cost
a	BHS	Rovtar, Kristina	Field Trip Chaperone- Art III H, AP Art	5/20/26	\$0

C. Curriculum Old Business / New Business - None.

PERSONNEL

A. Committee Report & Discussion of Actionable Agenda Items: No report. Dr. Brotschul reviewed agenda items with the Board.

B. Action Items: Mrs. Librera moved items #1-22, Mrs. Hunt seconded.

Items #1-4, 9-10, 12-22 were approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda.

Items #5-8, 11 were approved by roll call vote of 9-0-1. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda. Abstain: Mrs. Gomez.

1. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Certificated Staff BHS (2026-2027)*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for certificated staff for the 2026-2027 school year; Attachment A

2. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Non-Certificated Staff District & BHS (2026-2027)*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for non-certificated staff for 2026-2027; Attachment A

3. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Administrators District & BHS (2026-2027)*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for administrators for the 2026-2027 school year; Attachment A

4. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Transportation Staff District (2026-2027)*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for transportation staff for the 2026-2027: Attachment A

5. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Certificated Staff BES & BMS (2026-2027)

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for certificated staff for the 2026-2027 school year; Attachment B

6. Approve Renewal & Salary for Title 1 Certificated Staff BES (2026-2027)

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salary for Title 1 certificated staff for the 2026-2027 school year; Attachment B

7. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Non-Certificated Staff BES & BMS (2026-2027)

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for the non-certificated staff for the 2026-2027; Attachment B

8. Approve Renewal & Salaries for Administrators BES & BMS (2026-2027)

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal and salaries for administrators for the 2026-2027 school year; Attachment B

9. Reappointment Unaffiliated Administrator 2026-2027 School Year*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the reappointment of the following unaffiliated administrator for the 2026-2027 school year;

	Name	School	Position	Salary	Effective
a	Liguori, Richard	District	Business Administrator/Board Secretary ADM.DIST.BADM.NA.01	\$166,625	7/1/26

10. 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 certified staff for the 2026-2027 school year, subject to further investigation pursuant to law:

	Name	School	Position	Step	Level	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Smith, Taylor	BHS	Math TCH.hS.MATH.NA.06	1	BA	\$69,205	Falletta	8/31/26 <i>Pending clearance</i>
b	Wasyalak, Nicole	BHS	English TCH.hS.ENGL.NA.08	2	BA	\$69,705	Weltler	8/31/26 <i>Pending clearance</i>
c	Swank, Allison	BHS	English TCH.hS.ENGL.NA.01	7-8	BA	\$73,900	Falzarano	8/31/26 <i>Pending clearance</i>

11. 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 certified staff for the 2026-2027 school year, subject to further investigation pursuant to law:

	Name	School	Position	Step	Level	Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Bhuyan, Mayashree	BMS	Special Education Teacher TCH.MS.RERM.NA.07	1	MA	\$75,555	Freda	8/31/26 <i>Pending clearance</i>

12. Abolish Items in Position Control Roster*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, abolish the following items in the District Position Control Roster for the 2026-2027 School Year:

	Job Title	Location	Effective
a	Teacher of Social Studies	BHS	7/1/26
b	Teacher of Physical Education	BHS	7/1/26
c	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development	District	7/1/26
d	Custodial Foreman	District	7/1/26
e	Maintenance Foreman	District	7/1/26
f	Administrative Assistant to the Director of Operations	District	7/1/26

13. Approve Additions in Position Control Roster*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following additions in the District Position Control Roster for the 2026-2027 School Year:

	Job Title	Location	Effective
a	Supervisor of Athletics, Health, and Physical Education	District	7/1/26
b	Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development	District	7/1/26

14. Retitle Items in Position Control Roster*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retitle the following items in the District Position Control Roster for the 2026-2027 School Year:

	Old Title	New Title	Location	Effective
a	Director of Guidance, K-12	Director of School Counseling	District	7/1/26
b	Accounts Payable Clerk	Assistant Business Administrator, Operations and Purchasing	District	7/1/26
c	Business Office Assistant - Payroll Confidential	Business Office Payroll and Benefits Analyst	District	7/1/26
d	Business Office Assistant - Confidential	Business Office Senior Accountant	District	7/1/26
e	Assistant Principal/Athletic Director	Assistant Principal	District	7/1/26

15. Approve Job Descriptions*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following job descriptions:

	Job Titles
a	Supervisor of Athletics, Health and Physical Education

b	Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development
c	Director of School Counseling
d	Business Office Senior Accountant
e	Business Office Payroll and Benefits Analyst
f	Assistant Business Administrator, Operations and Purchasing
g	Assistant Principal - High School Operations

16. Amend Job Descriptions*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amend the following job descriptions:

	Job Titles
a	Assistant Principal - High School Curriculum
b	Business Office Payroll and Benefits Analyst

17. Approve Increment Withholding*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following increment withholding for the 2026-2027 school year:

	Employee ID	School	Position	Effective
a	8546	BHS	Certified Staff	9/1/26

18. Accept 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	Chandara, Soukan	BES	Custodian CUS.DIST.CUST.05	7/1/26

19. Accept Resignation*

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	DiSabato, Felicia	BHS	Permanent Substitute SUB.HS.SUBS.NA.01	4/15/26

20. Approve Appointment Non-Certified Staff*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the following non-certified staff for the 2025-2026 school year, *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	School	Position	Step	Salary	Total Salary	Replace	Effective
a	Cantor Duran, Lady	District	Custodian CUS.DIST.CUST.09	11	\$46,285 base \$1,206 Boiler License \$1,800 Night Differential	\$49,291	Turner	5/1/26
b	Cantor Duran, Luisa	District	Custodian CUS.DIST.CUST.22	2-3	\$19,850 base (FTE .50)	\$19,850	Duran	5/1/26

21. Approve Permanent Substitute*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following permanent substitute for the 2025-2026 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	Permanent Substitute Position	School	Certification	Effective
a	Sanguiliano, Amanda	Teacher/Paraprofessional	BHS	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/26

22. Approve Substitutes*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year *subject to further investigation pursuant to law*:

	Name	Substitute Position	Certification	Effective
a	Ryan, Kelsey	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/26
b	Donovan, Sherry	Teacher/Paraprofessional	County Substitute Certificate	4/30/26

C. Personnel Old Business / New Business - None.

STUDENT SERVICES

A. Committee Report & Discussion of Actionable Agenda Items: No report, and no discussion.

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

Item #2 was approved by roll call vote of 10-0-0. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda.

Item #1 was approved by roll call vote of 9-0-1. Voting: Ayes: Ms. Ballard, Ms. Clark-Emery, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Hoppe, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Librera, Mrs. Santoro, Mrs. Wry, Mrs. Frenda. Abstain: Mrs. Gomez.

1. HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on April 15, 2026, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Report #	Outcomes
BMS	24	Unfounded
BMS	25	Unfounded

HIBs to Date (25-26 SY)	Founded	Unfounded	Split	Total
BES	0	1	0	1
BMS	15	8	2	25

2. HIB Report*

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Hills Board of Education reviewed the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying cases presented on April 15, 2026, and upheld the findings and/or consequences recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Report #	Outcomes
BHS	18	Unfounded
BHS	19	Unfounded

HIBs to Date (25-26 SY)	Founded	Unfounded	Split	Total
BHS	10	8	1	19

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

Board Announcements

1. Mrs. Hoppe discussed the upcoming intergenerational prom.
2. Mrs. Gomez thanked Dr. Brotschul for his budget explanations.
3. Mrs. Librera indicated that next week is Teacher Appreciation Week, with items planned at all three schools.

Public Comments

1. Sarah Falzarano - SHEA President & resident - thank you for the budget, with unprecedented rising costs. And thank you for supporting employees.

Seeing no one else from the public, Mrs. Librera moved to close public comments. Mrs. Hoppe seconded. All were in favor.

Executive Session #2

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to go to a second Executive Session at 8:32 pm, for one additional hour. Mrs. Wry 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: Superintendent Evaluation and Student Matters.

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.

During the Executive Session, Dr. Brotschul, Dr. Butler, Mr. Liguori, and Mrs. Hoppe recused themselves at 8:32 pm.

Mrs. Hoppe left at 8:32 pm.

Mrs. Gomez made a motion to return to Public Session at 9:40 pm. Mrs. Librera seconded.

Dr. Brotschul, Dr. Butler, and Mr. Liguori returned at 9:43 pm. The public meeting resumed at 9:43 pm.

Adjournment

Mrs. Santoro moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 pm. Mrs. Wry seconded the motion. All in favor. Ayes: 9-0-0.

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)