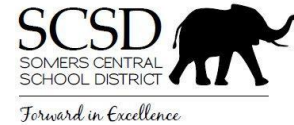


**Members Present:**

Sarena Meyer, President  
Donna Rosenblum, Vice President  
Ifay Chang, Trustee  
Linda Graffitti, Trustee  
Michael D'Anna, Trustee – arrived at 7:39 pm  
Joseph Marra, Trustee  
Chadwick Olsen, Trustee – arrived at 6:08 pm



**THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS.**

1. **ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Raymond Blanch, Superintendent, Mr. Kenneth Crowley, Assistant Superintendent for Business.
2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education goes into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular persons.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Linda Graffitti VOTE 5-0 TIME 6:06 pm

3. **RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION:**  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education returns to Public Session.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Chadwick Olsen VOTE 6-0 TIME 6:45 pm

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Raymond Blanch, Superintendent; Mr. Kenneth Crowley, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Mrs. Julie Gherardi, Assistant Superintendent for Learning; Ms. Nancy Corrado, District Clerk, members of the media, staff and community.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** President Meyer led those present with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02pm.
5. **CENTRAL OFFICE REPORT**
  - A. **Budget Planning** – Dr. Blanch, Mr. Crowley and Mrs. Gherardi discussed the 2017/18 proposed budget. Mr. Crowley discussed the tax cap, state aid, retirement systems and health insurance rates, the estimated tax rate. Dr. Blanch went over staffing, and Mrs. Gherardi talked about the instructional program. Additionally, Mr. Crowley discussed a proposition that will be on the ballot for voter approval to expend monies from the capital reserve fund. Voter approval to expend money from this fund is required, however, there is no cost to the taxpayer.

6. **BOARD ACTION:**
  - A. **Personnel**  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the attached Personnel Agenda.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Chadwick Olsen VOTE 7-0

- B. **Business**  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the attached Business Agenda.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Michael D'Anna VOTE 7-0  
Mr. Crowley discussed the business agenda items with the Board.

**C. Professional Services Agreement – Syracuse University**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Somers Central School District hereby authorizes the District to enter into an agreement with Julie Causton, Ph.D. of Syracuse University, to evaluate the District's Special Education program, per attached. The Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreement.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Linda Graffitti VOTE 7-0  
The Board asked for a copy of the evaluation once completed.

**D. Stipulation of Settlement**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized and empowered to execute the Stipulation of Settlement signed on February 14, 2017, by the parent of student #3874, and the Superintendent is further authorized to take all action necessary to effectuate the terms of this Agreement.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Ifay Chang VOTE 7-0

**E. Hearing Officer Appointment – Section 3214**

WHEREAS, Joseph Wooley, Esq., has been duly designated as a Hearing Officer pursuant to Section 3214 of the New York State Education Law to hold a hearing and make recommendations; and  
WHEREAS, the functions performed by said Hearing Officer for the District are required by law;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Wooley shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed \$175.00 per hour for services rendered.

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Michael D'Anna VOTE 7-0

**F. Agreement with Westchester County (Use of Voting Machines)**

WHEREAS, Somers Central School District asked the Board of Elections of Westchester County if the School District could use two optical scan voting machines, one ballot marking device and four privacy booths for the School District's election and budget vote on May 16, 2017; and  
WHEREAS, the Board of Elections of Westchester County is willing to allow the School District to use the requested voting machines and equipment subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in an Agreement between the County of Westchester and the School District; and  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Somers Central School District approves the Agreement with the County of Westchester for the use of certain voting machines and equipment and authorizes and empowers the District Clerk to execute the Agreement; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the that Board of Education of Somers Central School District authorizes and directs its officers and employees to take all actions necessary to effect the purposes of and to cause compliance with the Agreement.

MOVED Michael D'Anna SECONDED Joseph Marra VOTE 7-0

7. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None
8. **BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS:** Trustee Chang asked if we had any events scheduled the evening of the budget vote. At this time, we do not. President Meyer congratulated the girls basketball team for a championship season. She asked about the road and tree work taking place in front of the high school. Mr. Crowley explained that the turn-lane project has begun, with the heavier construction being done in the summer months.
9. **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:** Dr. Blanch congratulated our high school students (over 20) who participated in WESEF and won awards. Mr. Crowley informed the Board that the high school will be hosting a science research event this year, and the middle school will be hosting the Destination Imagination competition. Our district will also be hosting the NYSSMA (Music) competition in May. Mr. Crowley gave the Board a brief update on the bond project which is waiting to be approved by the State. The State is way behind on the review of the applications, and the project unfortunately will be delayed due to this.

**10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made to enter into executive session to discuss a student matter made exempt under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

MOVED Donna Rosenblum SECONDED Linda Graffitti VOTE 7-0

**11. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AND ADJOURN:**

RESOLVED, that the Board returns to public session and that this Special Meeting/Workshop of the Board of Education be adjourned.

MOVED Linda Graffitti SECONDED Donna Rosenblum VOTE 7-0 TIME 8:12 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Corrado  
*Clerk of the Board of Education*

1. LEAVE REPLACEMENT

- a. **Marc Hattem: Teacher, Leave Replacement** **Somers Intermediate School**  
RESOLVED, that Mr. Hattem, holder of Permanent Physical Education certificate, is hereby appointed as a long term substitute during the paid leave of absence of Ms. Cheryl Rinaldi, effective March 1, 2017; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mr. Hattem shall be paid a per diem rate of \$296.76 (based on MA, Step 1 of the Teachers' Salary Schedule)

- b. **Jennifer Mojica: Teacher, Long Term Substitute** **Somers Intermediate School**  
RESOLVED that Ms. Mojica, holder of an Initial Students with Disabilities grades 1-6 certificate, is hereby appointed to provide special education services at Somers Intermediate School, Special Education Teacher, commencing February 27, 2017 through June 30, 2017; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Ms. Mojica shall be paid an annual salary of \$66,182 (\$27,134.62 prorated, MA, Step 2, based on the Teachers' Salary Schedule).

2. SUBSTITUTE NURSES

- a. Approval of the following individuals as a per diem substitute nurse for the 2016-2017 School Year:

<u>Nurse:</u>
Barbara Avedisian
Eileen DeRosa
Barbara Quigley

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. CONTRACT WITH ELISSA MARIE FANNING, PT PLLC

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Somers Central School District hereby authorizes the District to enter into an Agreement with Elissa Marie Fanning to provide physical therapy services to Somers students at a rate of \$110 per contact hour. The President of the Board of Education is authorized and directed to execute the contract.