

Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee  
Open Session Minutes – June 25, 2015  
Somerset Berkley Regional High School Library

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by **Mr. Richard Peirce, Chair**.

**Mr. Peirce stated, "Let the record show that this meeting is being electronically recorded and if anyone in the audience also wishes to electronically record this meeting, you should notify the Committee at this time. Any such recording may be subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by the Chair to the extent permitted under the Open Meeting Law."**

**Members Present:**

**Mr. Richard M. Peirce, Chair**  
**Mrs. Julie Ramos-Gagliardi, Vice Chair**  
**Mrs. Stephanie Field**  
**Mr. Cris Ghilarducci (absent)**  
**Mrs. Lori Rothwell (absent)**  
**Mrs. Melissa Terra**  
**Mr. Dean Larabee**

**Also Present:**

**Mr. Thomas Lynch, Superintendent**  
**Mr. Jeffrey Schoonover, Superintendent**  
**Mrs. Lindsey Albernaz, Dir. of Business + Finance**  
**Ms. Melissa Deyo-Silvia, Dir. of Special Education**  
**Ms. Carolyn Blackmar, Treasurer**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

Mr. Peirce introduced the SBRHS Unified Sports Team. Mrs. Cindy DeCosta, teacher at SBRHS and coach, gave a presentation on the program which is a youth-centered, school-focused inclusion program sponsored by Special Olympics. Student leader, John Myron, introduced the competitors and asked the Committee for future funding as the grant from the Special Olympics wasn't enough to cover expenses and was only a 3-year grant. Mrs. DeCosta estimated that \$5,000 per year would be needed to fund the program yearly. Students and parents gave their favorite memories from the program and noted how it had really helped their children. Special Education Director, Melissa Silvia, said she would make sure the team gets the funding it needs. The Committee thanked all the participants.

**Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to accept the Executive Session minutes of June 11, 2015. Mrs. Gagliardi moved the motion. Mrs. Terra seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Peirce noted that on page 2 of the Open Session minutes of June 11, 2015 the vote was taken on the Joseph Viveiros, Jr. Insurance Agency *endowment*, not scholarship as presented.

**Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to accept the Open Session minutes of June 11, 2015 with the change on page 2 from scholarship to endowment. Mrs. Gagliardi moved the motion. Mr. Larabee seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.**

**Unfinished Business:** Mr. Peirce asked the Committee if they had any questions for Principal Lanczycki, who was in attendance, on the Student/Parent Handbook. There were no questions.

**Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to approve the Student/Parent Handbook as presented. Mrs. Terra moved the motion. Mrs. Gagliardi seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Peirce asked if a host family had been found for the foreign exchange student who wanted to attend SBRHS in the fall. Mr. Lynch said that Cultural Homestay said they had seven host families waiting. Mr. Lanczycki said he would be conducting an interview with a potential student from Spain next week. Mr. Lynch noted that the original applicant from China had withdrawn their application.

Director Silvia said that all the proposed changes had been made to the English Language Education Programming Guide. The changes were for formatting, spelling and grammar issues.

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to approve the English Language Education Programming Guide. Mrs. Gagliardi moved the motion. Mrs. Field seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

Mrs. Gagliardi said at the last Strategic Planning subcommittee meeting the members had looked at questionnaires. Mr. Schoonover said surveys had gone out to staff and that discussion was ongoing as to the best time of year to send them to parents. The student surveys will go out in the fall and the company is proceeding with the community surveys.

Mrs. Gagliardi said the Communications subcommittee had not had another meeting since the last Committee meeting. She said the Thank You event for Mr. Lynch was well received. The Committee thanked Mr. Lynch for his service. Mr. Peirce noted he had attended the Chamber of Commerce Awards dinner in support of recipient, Diane Goodwin, of the Somerset Historical Society.

**New Business:** Mr. Schoonover explained that the Somerset Committee had recently revised the substitute policy and had lowered the requirements and raised the rates. Mr. Larabee noted that most of the substitute comparisons that were provided to the Committee were for districts on the Cape. Mr. Lynch said he would ask READS Collaborative members, who are more local, for their rates for comparison. This would be discussed at the next meeting along with discussion on a possible separate rate for retired teachers.

The Committee chose July 25 as the tentative date for their Summer Workshop. Mrs. Gagliardi and Mrs. Field will plan the event. Mr. Peirce said that the Committee's Goals for 2015-2016 could be discussed at the workshop.

**Budget/Financial Matters:** The Committee decided to defer on the Solar RFP due to National Grid having met their net metering credit cap. Mrs. Albernaz noted that Borrego Solar, who is doing the project at SMS feels that there will be a positive resolution by the end of the summer.

Mrs. Gagliardi said the Budget Subcommittee had met on June 17 and allocated the estimated \$150,000 of available funds to technology purchases, purchase of a recording device, special education prepaid tuitions and food service deficit. They decided to table purchases on the TV studio and to charge changes to the front office reconfiguration to the building project funds. She said they would discuss user fees at their next meeting and look to modify a budget calendar and prepare for long-term budget plans. Further discussion took place on music software and whether computers would be purchased or leased.

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to authorize the prepayment of Special Education tuitions in the amount of \$250,000 as proposed in our FY16 budget. Mrs. Gagliardi moved the motion. Mrs. Field seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to authorize the prepayment of Special Education tuitions in the amount of \$76,000 from funds in the FY15 budget taken from line items not fully expended. Mrs. Gagliardi moved the motion. Mrs. Field seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to purchase a digital recording system at the high school for use at subcommittee meetings and any other purpose it might serve at the high school. Mrs. Field moved the motion. Mrs. Terra and Mr. Larabee seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

Mrs. Albernaz explained the budget transfer requests that were in the memo to the Committee that were necessary to close out any remaining balances and take into account necessary funds to cover encumbered expenditures.

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to approve the transfers set forth on the schedule presented. Mrs. Field moved the motion. Mrs. Gagliardi seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

Ms. Blackmar said she had met with the financial advisors from Rockland Trust and they had put together a draft OPEB Liability Trust Investment Policy Statement. It was decided that the OPEB Trust subcommittee would review this statement first.

Mrs. Albernaz said that the fourth bond sale was held recently and the \$5,978,500 bond sold for 2.92% over 20 years. Mr. Peirce read the required vote as outlined below:

VOTE OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

I, the Secretary (the "District Secretary") for the Regional School District School Committee (the "Committee") of the Somerset-Berkley Regional School District, Massachusetts (the "District"), certify that at a meeting of the Committee held June 25, 2015, of which meeting all members of the Committee were duly notified and at which a quorum was present, the following votes were unanimously passed, all of which appear upon the official record of the Committee in my custody:

Voted: that the sale of the \$5,978,500 State Qualified General Obligation School Bonds of the District dated July 1, 2015 (the "Bonds"), to Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc. at the price of \$6,127,650.19 and accrued interest, if any, is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on September 1 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
2016	\$193,500	2.00%	2026	\$300,000	3.00%
2017	230,000	3.00	2027	310,000	3.00
2018	235,000	2.50	2029	650,000	3.00
2019	240,000	2.50	2030	340,000	3.00
2020	245,000	2.50	2031	350,000	3.00
2021	255,000	4.00	2032	360,000	3.15
2022	265,000	4.00	2033	370,000	3.25
2023	275,000	4.00	2034	385,000	3.35
2024	285,000	3.00	2035	395,000	3.45
2025	295,000	3.00			

Further Voted: that the Bonds maturing on September 1, 2029 (a "Term Bond") shall be subject to mandatory redemption or mature as follows:

Term Bond due September 1, 2029

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2028	\$320,000
2029*	330,000

\*Final Maturity

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated June 5, 2015, and a final Official Statement dated June 17, 2015 (the "Official Statement"), each in such form as may be approved by the District Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption, at the option of the District, upon such terms and conditions as are set forth in the Official Statement.

Further Voted: that the District Treasurer and the Chair of the Committee be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the District, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the District Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures in such form as the District Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such

procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds.

Further Voted: that each member of the Committee, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerks of each of the member Towns of Somerset and Berkley (together, the "Town Clerks") and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal buildings in which the offices of the Town Clerks and the District Secretary are located, or in accordance with an alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Massachusetts Attorney General as set forth in 940 CMR 29.03(4), at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Bonds were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25, as amended.

***Mrs. Gagliardi made a motion to accept the vote. Mrs. Field seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

Mr. Schoonover said that Mr. Victor Machado, Somerset School Committee member, had suggested that the Committee set aside a sum of money for salary increases for non-union personnel. This would allow the Superintendent to assign increases based on performance rather than have a number tied to a salary line. Mr. Peirce said this could be discussed again at the next meeting with the understanding that amounts could be retroactive to July 1 if necessary. Mrs. Terra wondered if this would increase or decrease transparencies. Mr. Peirce noted that all public employees' salaries are public record.

Mr. Peirce said he would like more time to review the Fiscal Policies and Procedures Manual. Mrs. Albernaz noted that she would not be in attendance at the next Committee meeting so perhaps the Budget Subcommittee could review it first.

**Building Committee Update:** Mr. Peirce said they anticipate that the punchlist items will be completed over the summer. He noted that quite a bit of progress was being made on the site work in front of the building and that the asbestos abatement issue was on-going. Mr. Peirce said the Building Committee would be meeting on June 30 and he was asking the Committee to approve the invoices subject to the Building Committee's approval. The invoices were: Ai3 in the amount of \$10,534.20; Skanska USA in the amount of \$31,380 and Bacon Agostini in the amount of \$315,809.

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to approve the invoices for Ai3, Skanska USA and Bacon Agostini, not to exceed the amounts shown on the scheduled presented to the Committee, totaling \$357,723.20. Mrs. Field moved the motion. Mr. Larabee seconded. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion.***

**Informational Items:** Mrs. Terra provided the Committee with an update on the last Somerset Committee meeting. She noted that they changed the lunch prices and substitute rates, set their protocols and approved RFPs for the roof and parking lot at South.

Mr. Larabee said the Berkley Committee had not met since the last Committee meeting but noted that he had attended the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony which was a really nice ceremony.

**Other Matters/Public Input:** There wasn't any at this time.

***Mr. Peirce entertained a motion to enter Executive Session per MA General Laws, Chapter 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with AFSCME because discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the Committee's bargaining position. The Committee will not return to open session. Mrs. Terra***

*moved the motion. Mr. Larabee seconded. On a roll call vote, the Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion: Mrs. Field, aye; Mr. Peirce, aye; Mrs. Gagliardi, aye; Mrs. Terra, aye; and Mr. Larabee, aye.*

Open session adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Robin Vaccaro**

Recording Secretary

**Documents Listed:**

SPS/SBRSD English Language Education Programming

Budget Transfers Request Memorandum

Vote on Bond Sale

Building Committee Invoices