

Reorganization Meeting (Thursday, January 6, 2022)
Generated by Julie Gallagher on Monday, January 10, 2022

Julie Gallagher, Board Secretary, called the Somers Point Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:09 P.M. as a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., and as amended by P.L.2020, c. 11.

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to two newspapers, posted on the bulletin board of City Hall and on the doors of the three schools are required in the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 and as amended by P.L. 2020, c11.

Julie Gallagher, Board Secretary led the Board of Education and the members of the public present in the salute to the flag.

Temporary Chair, Julie Gallagher, Board Secretary administered the required Oath of Office to the newly elected Board members:

Heather Samuelson

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stacie Brookbank, Jenna DeCicco, Kathleen Dolton, Alice Myers, Heather Samuelson, Staci Endicott

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Conover, Mike Sweeder

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle CarneyRay-Yoder, Ed. D., Superintendent of Schools, Julie Gallagher, School Business Administrator Board Secretary, Amy Houck-Elco, Board Solicitor

NOMINATIONS/ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Gallagher asked for nominations for the office of President to the Somers Point Board of Education. Nomination of Mrs Endicott for office of President, made by Mrs. Samuelson.

Ms. Gallagher asked for any additional nominations. Hearing none, motion by Mrs. Samuelson, second by Dr. Myers to close the nominations for Board President. Motion carried unanimously. The Board Members were instructed that each member would be asked for their individual vote for Mrs. Endicott for the office of President, through a roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote

Heather Samuelson - Yes

Dr. Alice Myers - Yes

Stacie Brookbank -Yes

Jenna DeCicco - Yes

Dr. Kathleen Dolton - Yes

Staci Endicott - Yes

The Board elected through a majority of the full membership of the Board, Staci Endicott as President of the Somers Point Board of Education for the 2022 calendar year.

Nominations/Election for Vice President

Ms Gallagher asked for nominations for the office of Vice President to the Somers Point Board of Education. Nomination of Mrs Samuelson for office of Vice President President, made by Mrs. Endicott.

Ms Gallagher asked for any additional nominations. Hearing none, motion by Mrs. Endicott, second by Mrs. DeCicco to close the nominations for Board Vice President. Motion carried unanimously. The Board Members were instructed that each member would be asked for their individual vote for Mrs. Samuelson for the office of Vice President, through a roll call vote:

Roll Call:

Jenna DeCicco - Yes

Staci Endicott - Yes

Stacie Brookbank -Yes

Dr. Alice Myers -Yes

Heather Samuelson - Yes

Dr. Kathleen Dolton - Yes

The Board elected through a majority of the full membership of the Board, Heather Samuelson as Vice President of the Somers Point Board of Education for the 2022 calendar year.

Ms. Gallagher turned the meeting over to the President

CODE OF ETHICS

BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A: 12-24.1 the members of the Somers Point Board of Education shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.

I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools; but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.

I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.

I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.

I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution (P.L. 2001, c.178, s.5).

Motion was made by Mrs. Samuelson, second by Mrs. DeCicco that the Somers Point Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt of, and understands, the aforementioned Code of Ethics for School Board members as outline in 18A: 12-24.1. Motion carried unanimously on roll call vote of 6-0.

Board of Education Representatives

Motion was made by Dr. Myers, second by Mrs. Samuelson to appoint the following representatives of the Somers Point Board of Education:

Atlantic County School Board Association Delegate: Dr. Kathleen Dolton, Alternate: Staci Endicott
New Jersey School Board Association Delegate: Michael Sweeder Alternate: Staci Endicott

Committee Appointments

Mrs. Endicott indicated that the committees for the upcoming year are as follows. She will provide administration with membership. Dr Myers requested to be chair of Negotiations for the 2022 year.

- Finance
- Instruction
- Student and Community Affairs
- Policy
- Ad-Hoc – Negotiations

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Motion by Mrs. Endicott to open the meeting to the public at 6:30

No public comment

President Endicott closed the public portion of the meeting at 6:39pm.

5. BOARD FORUM

- Dr. Myers Congratulated to Mrs. Endicott and Mrs. Samuelson
- Dr. Dolton also congratulated Mrs. Endicott and Mrs. Samuelson and thanked them for a good job last year
- Mrs. Brookbank thanked the facilities and maintenance staff for the great job on clearing the sidewalks to the schools. Stating that it made drop off and pick up very smooth.
- Mrs. Endicott asked Dr. CarneyRay-Yoder if there was more information or updates about the virtual conversation from county with regards to moving going virtual.
- Dr. CarneyRay-Yoder explained there was a meeting tomorrow with the county and stating that as a county they are striving to keep students in person. Explained that Virtual is not something that can be deemed by the school to go virtual.
- Mrs. Samuelson appreciated the strive to keep student in person
- Mrs. Endicott thanked all the staff for everything they are doing

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mrs. Samuelson, second by Dr. Myers that at 6:52 PM there being no further business to present the Somers Point Board of Education meeting be adjourned. All in Favor

Respectfully Submitted,


Julie Gallagher
Business Administrator/Board Secretary