

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NJ  
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING  
January 22, 2018**

**RESOLUTION            3670**

**FOR ACTION**

**SUBJECT:                SETH BOYDEN CHOICE    2018-2019 School Year**

**WHEREAS**, elementary families residing in the geographic zones for Tuscan, Marshall, Jefferson, Clinton and South Mountain elementary schools have had the choice of enrolling in the Seth Boyden Demonstration School since the Demonstration School's inception, but it was not until the pilot in the 2017-2018 school year that families zoned for Seth Boyden were provided with a choice to opt in to another elementary school; and

**WHEREAS**, the SOMSD believes that all elementary families should be afforded equal access and choice; and

**WHEREAS**, the SOMSD is currently developing an expansion plan to increase the capacity of the District's elementary schools and as part of that plan, the District will adopt an organizational model and/or attendance zones that will ensure integration and socioeconomic diversity in the District's elementary schools and it is anticipated that a plan will be approved by the Board in 2018 for submission and approval by the New Jersey Department of Education and the Board of School Estimate;

**WHEREAS**, the SOMSD can create a level playing field for all students and all families to have choice at the elementary level with courtesy busing if they reside more than one (1) mile away from the designated school;

**WE RESOLVE** that the Interim Superintendent and the Administration are directed to provide for opportunities for Seth Boyden-zoned families to have choice in elementary schools for the 2018-2019 school year by opting in to Marshall and Jefferson within a defined timeframe to be determined by the Interim Superintendent;

**BE IT FURTHER** resolved that the SOMSD shall provide courtesy bussing to Seth Boyden-zoned families who opt to enroll in Marshall or Jefferson in accordance with the existing courtesy busing practices; and

**BE IT FURTHER** resolved that the SOMSD shall communicate with all families seeking to register in elementary school regarding the Seth Boyden Demonstration School and its programming and how families who are outside the Seth Boyden Zone can opt in, and the District shall likewise communicate with families in the Seth Boyden the zone who are seeking to register the option of opting in to Marshall and Jefferson.