



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

April 7, 2014

Bungay Elementary School

7:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Yashu Putorti, Chairman
Saundra Gesek
Jay Hatfield
Theodora Klarides
Allison Sobieski-McAndrew
Fred Stanek
Jonathan Han, Student Representative
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kristen Harmeling
Jennifer Magri
Ed Strumello

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Christine Syriac, Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent
Rob Dyer, Systemwide Technology Coordinator
Glenn Lungarini, Principal, SHS
Jim Freund, Assistant Principal, SHS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, BS
Kristopher Boyle, Assistant Principal, BS
Leslie Sojka, Assistant Principal, CLS
Malaysia Jimenez
Lori Robinson
Melissa Sprelez
Elizabeth White

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Recognitions

1. **Congratulations to Ms. Julia Maturo** who was honored at the SCASA Student Recognition Luncheon on March 14, 2014 as a recipient of the South Central Area Superintendents' Association Memorial Scholarship
2. **Congratulations to the Seymour High School Cheerleading Team** on their first place win in the S Division of the State Tournament on March 8, 2014
3. **Congratulations to the Seymour High School Boys Swim Team** members who made the top 36 times for Class S and participated at the state trials on March 19-20, 2014
4. **Congratulations to Chatfield-LoPresti Grade 3 student Sharlea Jean** who won the district spelling bee to advance to the New Haven Register Regional Spelling Bee

B. Correspondence

1. Letter dated January 22, 2014 from NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation to Katie McGinnis, Site Director TEAM Early Education-Seymour School Readiness indicating the program has achieved a new, five year term of NAEYC Accreditation

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. REPORTS

1. Chairman's Report

a. Chairman's Report

Mr. Putorti reported on the budget webinar that was held on March 26, noting there were 22 people in attendance live. The webinar was posted on the Valley Independent Sentinel website and it has received 143 hits since then. Mr. Putorti reported that he will be appearing on the cable access show "Arnie's Place" with Arnie Renkewith to discuss the BOE budget.

b. Board Member Comments

Mr. Stanek wanted to recognize the high school staff and students for the wonderful job they did on the musical "Seussical". He really enjoyed the show and is very happy to have productions such as this come back to the high school. Mr. Hatfield noted that he had a tour of the schools with Mrs. Snopkowski and wanted to thank the staff and administration on the condition of the schools. They have done a phenomenal job; the schools were very clean and impressive. Mr. Stanek also recognized the Board of Police Commissioners on their successful efforts on getting an Officer assigned to the schools.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Syriac reported that she will be posting for two science teachers and two language arts positions in the near future. She will not be hiring until after the passage of the referendum but wants to get started with the interview process. The Spring Citizens Academy will start on April 9. She reported on the mandatory spring conferences.

B. INFORMATION

1. School Activities and Recognitions

a. High School Student Representative Report

- Spring Talent Show was held on April 1, 2014
- Seussical was performed under the direction of Mr. Schneider on March 14 and 15
- A spring and winter sports pep rally will be held on Friday, April 11
- Seymour High School has successfully completed all SBAC and CAPT testing
- Spring sports will begin regular season games on Wednesday, April 9, 2014
- Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and 8th graders will continue to develop their 2014-15 course schedules along with their guidance counselors through the month of April
- The Clean Energy Car Club is preparing for their next race in May and will be learning the technique of welding during the month of April
- Mr. Seymour Contest will be held on April 8

b. Middle School Activities and Recognitions (see attached)

c. Bungay School Activities and Recognitions (see attached)

d. Chatfield-LoPresti School Activities and Recognitions (see attached)

2. Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

- 1) March 11, 2014
- 2) March 12, 2014
- 3) March 13, 2014
- 4) March 26, 2014

3. **Staff Retirement - Certified**
 - a. Mary Ellen Coppola, RN
 - School Nurse
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Effective end of 2013-14 School year

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to accept the retirement of Mary Ellen Coppola with sincere appreciation for her years of service

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek
4. **Appendix E Resignation**
 - a. Erika Natzel
 - Assistant Coach, Girls Baseball
 - Seymour High School
 - Effective March 6, 2014
 - b. Ashly Scharn
 - Head Coach, Cheerleading
 - Seymour High School
 - Effective March 28, 2014
5. **Staff Resignation – Non Certified**
 - a. Melanie Strang
 - Clerical Paraprofessional
 - Central Office
 - Effective March 27, 2014
6. **Improving our Relationship with Local State Representatives**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Putorti) to postpone this item to the April 21, 2014 meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek
7. **First Annual Healthy Cooking Challenge, May 8, 2014 – Nancy Snopkowski**

Mrs. Snopkowski informed the Board that the First Annual Healthy Cooking Challenge will be held on May 8, 2014 and our 6th graders submitted 13 salad recipes. Mr. Putorti is one of the judges. The finalist will participate in another challenge against other valley schools. This event is sponsored by VITHALS.

 - a. District Awards Nominations (Deadline: 04/22/14)
 - 1) David A. Brumer Excellence in Education Award
 - 2) John J. Gallagher Memorial Athletic Award
 - 3) Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award
 - 4) Thomas J. Petruny Memorial Education and Environment Award

Mr. Stanek encouraged Board members to nominate for these awards saying the more submissions we have the better.
 - b. Teacher of the Year (Deadline: 04/24/14)
8. **Appointment of a School Resource Officer**

Officer Shook began her duties on Friday, April 4. Mr. Stanek said we are grateful this position has been reinstated. Mrs. Syriac said Officer Shook will be introducing herself to staff, students, and parents and become familiar with the security measures that are already in place. Mr. Hatfield expressed some concern with regard to the communication of this position. Mr. Putorti confirmed that the Board or Mrs. Syriac was not made aware of the final appointment of the position by the Police Commissioners until it was in the newspaper. There was a brief discussion regarding the position responsibilities.

V. **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

A. **Minutes**

1. **Regular BOE Meeting – March 3, 2014**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on March 3, 2014 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

2. **Special BOE Meeting (Expulsion) – March 24, 2014**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on March 24, 2014 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew

ABSTAIN: Mr. Stanek

3. **Special BOE Meeting (Budget) – March 24, 2014**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Klarides) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on March 24, 2014 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

B. **Nutrition Services Financial Report - February, 2014**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the Nutrition Services Financial Report for February, 2014 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

C. **ACES Representative**

1. **Discussion and possible action on the appointment of a new ACES Representative**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to postpone this item to the May 5, 2014 BOE meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

D. **Donations**

Mr. Hatfield asked if his voting on this matter would it be a conflict of interest since he is employed by Platt Technical High School. Mr. Stanek confirmed it would not.

1. **Donation of a Bridgeport Milling Machine and Accessories to Seymour High School**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the donation of a Bridgeport milling machine and accessories from Mr. David Tuttle, Platt Technical High School and direct the Superintendent to use this machine at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

2. **Donation of Two Bicycles**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the donation of two bicycles from the Nutrition Services Department and direct the Superintendent to use one for a raffle in support of Seymour High School Take a Stand Day and one for a raffle in support of the Healthy Cooking Challenge

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

3. Donation of Miscellaneous Cooking Items

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to approve the donation of chef hats, cut resistant gloves, and six (6) display platters from the Warehouse Store Fixture in Waterbury and direct the Superintendent to use these items for the Seymour Middle School and VITAHLS Healthy Cooking Challenge on May 8, 2014.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

E. Award of Bid #13-03 Chromebooks and Mobile Carts

Mrs. Syriac explained that this is a bid proposal and this is the bid they would like to accept. Mr. Hatfield expressed some concerns and Mrs. Syriac assured him that our IT department and technology committee are not steering us in the wrong direction. She reminded the Board that the original proposal was reworked at the request of the Board.

MOTION: (Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew/sec., Mr. Putorti) to award Bid #03-13 Chromebooks and Mobile Computer Carts to Dell Computer, Round Rock, TX in the amount of \$202,131 and authorize the Superintendent to enter into an agreement to purchase 580 Dell Chromebooks and 19 Dell Mobile Computer Carts

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

F. 2014 High School Graduation Date

Mrs. Syriac explained that at this time she would like to recommend the graduation date be set on June 20, 2014, while all other students will attend on June 23, 2014. Similar to what was done last year. If additional closings occur, we will need to revisit the date. Mr. Stanek said while he normally does not support shortening the educational days, he will support this given the reasons Mrs. Syriac has presented.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to set the 2014 Seymour High School graduation date as June 20, 2014, provided there are no further school closings

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

G. Staff Hiring – Non-Certified

1. Emily Spear

- Instructional Paraprofessional
- Seymour High School
- Replacing Denise Pokrywka

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Klarides) to approve the hiring of Emily Spear as an Instructional Paraprofessional in Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

2. Jake Boncal

- Part Time Custodian
- Replacing Alex Moore

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Klarides) to approve the hiring of Jake Boncal as a part time custodian

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

3. **Michael Petronchak**

- Part Time Custodian
- Replacing Maxwell Dunn

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the hiring of Michael Petronchak as a part time custodian

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

H. **Home Schooling Notification**

1. **Ms. Cynthia Kostick** has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school her child, Marya Kostick, for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Klarides) to acknowledge the receipt of the intent to home school her child, Marya Kostick from Ms. Cynthia Kostick and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

2. **Ms. Cynthia Kostick** has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school her child, John Kostick, for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Klarides) to acknowledge the receipt of the intent to home school her child, John Kostick from Ms. Cynthia Kostick and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

I. **BOE Policy Changes**

Mr. Hatfield made a motion to adopt policies #6141.328, #4111, #4112.4, #6130, and Bylaw #9321 that were approved by the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting of March 3, 2014. Ms. Stanek said he wanted the policies bifurcated.

1. **Policy #6141.328 Bring Your Own Device (New)**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to adopt Policy #6141.328 that was approved by the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting of March 3, 2014

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew

OPPOSED: Mr. Stanek

2. **Policy #4111 Recruitment and Selection (Revision)**

MOTION: (Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew/sec., Ms. Gesek) to adopt Policy #4111 that was approved by the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting of March 3, 2014

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

3. **Policy #4112.4 Physical Examinations (Revision)**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Klarides) to adopt Policy #4112.4 that was approved by the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting of March 3, 2014

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

4. **Policy #6130 Organizational Plan (Revision)**

MOTION: (Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew/sec., Ms. Gesek) to adopt Policy #6130 that was approved by the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting of March 3, 2014

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

5. **Bylaw #9321 Notification of Meetings (Revision)**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to adopt Bylaw #9321 that was approved by the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting of March 3, 2014

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Stanek

The meeting adjourned at: 8:12 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk