



## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2013

Seymour Middle School

7:30 p.m.

### BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Yashu Putorti, Chairman  
Saundra Gesek  
Kristen Harmeling  
Jay Hatfield  
Peter Kubik  
Jennifer Magri  
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jim Garofolo  
Fred Stanek  
Ed Strumello

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Christine Syriac, Superintendent  
Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent  
Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent Finance & Operations  
Roberta Pratt, Systemwide Technology Coordinator  
Virginia Bauer, Director of Special Services  
Wayne Natzel, Director of Facilities  
Ed Rostowsky, Athletic Director  
Glenn Lungarini, Principal, Seymour High School  
Don Smith  
Shae Roscoe  
Greg Macmillen

### I. CALL TO ORDER

#### A. Salute to the Flag

Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

#### A. Recognitions

1. None

#### B. Administrative Communications

1. None

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None

#### **IV. REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

##### **A. Reports**

###### **1. BOE Reports**

###### **a. Chairman's Report**

Mr. Putorti commented on the high school graduation ceremony and the middle school promotion ceremony, saying both went really well.

###### **b. Board Members Comments**

Mrs. Harmeling reported on her attendance at a workshop where she met many people involved with the Math Common Core implementation and stated that we cannot underestimate the work that needs to be done and how without Math coaches how difficult it will be to go to the next level. She said the Board of Education must pay close attention to Christine's work and support her as she goes through this process.

###### **2. Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Syriac reported that she attended the high school graduation ceremony, the promotion ceremony at the middle school and both moving up ceremonies at Bungay and Chatfield-LoPresti School. She said all of them went very well but she particularly was moved by the program put on by the Chatfield-LoPresti students' program that had a theme of coming together. She said the students did a wonderful job and she thought the program was very thoughtful and nice. She shared a brief article from the Waterbury Republican about how we dodged the rain on the day of the high school graduation. She informed the Board that she would be on vacation from July 8 through July 15; she will be looking at emails but will not be in the area. She reported that negotiations are ongoing for the custodians and administrators and secretaries will be going to mediation.

###### **3. Committee Reports**

###### **a. None**

##### **B. Information**

###### **1. School Activities and Recognitions**

###### **a. High School (see attached)**

###### **b. Middle School (see attached)**

###### **c. Bungay School (see attached)**

###### **d. Chatfield-LoPresti School (see attached)**

###### **2. Boys and Girls Club – Donald Smith**

Mr. Donald Smith, 56 Greenwood Circle who serves on the Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors and sits on the Executive Committee introduced Shae Roscoe who will be replacing Jack Ribas who has retired. Ms. Roscoe has worked at the Boys & Girls Club for 12 years. Ms. Roscoe explained that she just wanted to introduce herself to the Board and to talk briefly about a proposal she has been working on with the First Selectman of Seymour to bring a satellite unit to Seymour. They are looking at being housed in the Community Center bottom floor if they are able to find funding for the renovations. When asked about transportation to the center from the schools, Ms. Roscoe said they hoped to utilize the regular school buses to have a drop off at the Community Center. Mr. Hatfield asked how this would affect SONCCA and Ms. Roscoe said they try to co-exist with daycares and after school programs.

3. **Athletic Team Report**

Mr. Putorti asked Board members if they had any questions regarding the Athletic Report and there were none.

4. **Staff Resignations**

a. **Appendix E**

Ray Nappi

- Assistant Football Coach
- Seymour High School
- Effective Immediately

b. **Non Certified**

Roberta Pratt

- Systemwide Technology Coordinator
- Central Office
- Effective June 30, 2013

5. **Systemwide Coordinator of Technology Discussion – Christine Syriac**

Mrs. Syriac explained that she wanted to have a discussion regarding the Systemwide Coordinator of Technology since Mrs. Snopkowski and Mr. Belden would be starting the interviewing process in mid-July. She would like to discuss the salary as well as the possibility of combining this job with the town, who is interested in doing so. They have money in their budget that could be used to fund their portion of the salary if the position was combined and the Board agreed. She said she envisioned a system like we use, where a work order would be placed and the work would be scheduled for completion. Mr. Putorti said this would be a good time to combine with the town since we are replacing Roberta Pratt and the person would know the job responsibilities from the start. Mr. Kubik said he felt that is was a good idea but has concerns about the town work overtaking the district work and the Board of Education potentially falling behind on our technology plan. The town needs a great deal of work to be up to speed with where we are as a district. Mrs. Harmeling said she felt uncomfortable making a decision without the details. She also voiced concern at the amount of work that needs to be done on the town side. She asked if another technician would be hired. Mrs. Syriac said that after we hire the Technology Coordinator, hiring a technician would be looked at by the town with their remaining funds in the budget. Mr. Kubik again stated that we would need to monitor very closely and track hours spent. Mr. Hatfield asked how much was budgeted for the position and Mrs. Syriac responded \$70,000 stating that she felt this amount was not enough. Mrs. Harmeling agreed saying the town is way behind with regard to technology. Mrs. Harmeling said she felt a job description would be needed but that truthfully, she would be more comfortable combining the Director of Facilities job with the town instead of technology. Ms. Gesek asked if the police department would also use our technology person and Mrs. Syriac said in previous discussions that included Roberta Pratt, the person would begin with the town and consult with the Police department. They would probably have conversations to insure we are being compatible with them. Mrs. Magri said the salary is not sufficient and it is an underpaid position. She noted that Ansonia and Derby share a technology director and maybe we should check with them on how well it works. She said she also feels we need a plan before we commit to combining the function. It's her opinion that we are going to lose good candidates if we don't have a clear and concise plan.

She felt we will not get good applicants at the current salary. Mr. Kubik said he felt it was a good idea but we would have to be sure we are not short changing ourselves. Mrs. Harmeling said she could not vote yes on this without a job description. Mrs. Syriac said she was looking for a salary range so she could discuss it with the candidates. Mrs. Magri said her research indicates in the range of \$90,000. The Board decided that we can only hire at the current budgeted amount of \$70,000 unless we vote to combine with the town so that the budgeted amount can contribute toward a higher salary. Mr. Kubik took this opportunity to thank Roberta Pratt for all of her hard work for our district. "She has done a fabulous job, always timely and responsive to our needs." We wish her good luck in her new position.

**6. Pool Update - Rick Belden, Wayne Natzel**

Mr. Belden, Mr. Natzel, and Mr. Macmillan from Connecticut Custom Aquatics, explained that we have two options with regard to the repair of the pool. Problems have been uncovered since the work began. We can choose to 1) patch a few spots, forego the painting of the pool and do a big repair next year or 2) sandblast the whole pool which will remove all the bad plaster, apply a new surface and the pool will be like new. To do option 1 there is a risk since only half of the work is done and there is no way to predict what other problems might be uncovered. Mr. Kubik asked why the plan is to not take everything off. Mr. Macmillan explained that taking off plaster that is still good could cause damage. They will remove the bad plaster and then cover all the plaster with  $\frac{3}{4}$ " new surface. When asked how we can fund the additional costs, Mr. Belden explained how he can defer the high school door work and the balance of the middle school VCTT along with deferring equipment purchases for a scissor lift and a floor burnisher. Mrs. Magri asked who actually uses the pool and if it is mostly town users, should we approach the town to contribute toward the cost of the repairs. After a discussion regarding who uses the pool, Mr. Hatfield said we basically have four options: 1) do half of the repair work 2) do all of the repair work 3) ask for money from the town to defer the cost of repairs 4) close the pool. Mr. Belden said he felt the best thing to do is Option 2, repair all of the problems since the problems are not going to go away and in the next year, we could encounter even more problems. Ms. Harmeling said she was concerned that if we choose to cover the cost of the whole repair, we might lose the opportunity for people to fundraise to help to defer the cost.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Harmeling) to authorize a change in the project cost as proposed by Connecticut Custom Aquatics for high school pool repairs from \$59,508.70 to \$97,245.00 and to authorize the transfer of \$23,300.00 from Line Item 731 Equipment Non-Instructional to Line Item 431 Repairs and Maintenance in the 2013-14 budget

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

**A. Minutes**

**1. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2013**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on June 3, 2013 as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**B. Nutrition Services Financial Report**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the Nutrition Services Financial Report for May, 2013 as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

At 8:41 the meeting recessed until 8:44 p.m.

**C. Accept Proposal**

**MOTION:** accept the proposal for Aerohive Wireless Access Points from Advanced Corporate Networking (BDA Digital Back Office), 192 Naugatuck Ave., Milford, CT 06460 in the amount of \$122,377.50. Further, to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a sixty (60) month Fair Market Value Operating Lease with Hewlett Packard for the Aerohive Wireless Access Points in an amount not to exceed \$2,550.00 monthly

Mr. Belden requested time to explain the latest development in the RFP which was a result of further work by Roberta Pratt and him which resulted in a change to the motion.

**MOTION:** (Mrs. Magri/sec., Mr. Kubik) to accept the proposal for Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points from Atrion, 30 Service Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886 in the amount of \$115,403.75. Further to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a thirty six (36) month Fair Market Value Operating Lease at 0% financing with Cisco Financial Services for the Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points in the amount of \$3,196.68 month, with the initial two (2) months of lease payments waived

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**D. Waive Formal Bidding**

**1. Dell Corporation**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to waive formal bidding and accept the proposal for eighty (80) Dell Optiplex 3010 Personal Computers from Dell Corp., 12545 Round Rock, TX. 78727 in the amount of \$50,624.00

Mr. Hatfield asked where the computers would be used and the answer was 50 at the high school and 30 at Bungay School

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**2. Apple, Inc.**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to waive formal bidding and accept the proposal for fifty (50) Apple iPads from Apple Inc., 12545 Riata Vista Circle, Austin, TX 78727 in the amount of \$32,900.00

Mr. Hatfield asked if the iPADS would be synched up and Ms. Pratt replied they would be synched and they would be inventory tagged also.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**E. ACER Chromebooks**

Ms. Pratt reviewed two proposals and is making the recommendation to purchase Chromebooks from SHI, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873

**MOTION:** (Mrs. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Kubik) to accept the proposal for ACER Chromebooks from SHI, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873 in the amount of \$57,982.50 for 187 Chromebooks and 6 storage carts.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**F. Staff Hiring – Certified**

**1. Keeffe, Darlene**

- Art Teacher
- Seymour High School
- Step 6, Masters
- Replacing Lynn Warecke

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the recommendation of the Administrator and the Superintendent to hire Darlene Keeffe as the Art Teacher at Seymour High School

Mr. Hatfield asked about cost savings of hiring this teacher and Mrs. Syriac said she would report to the board on all the cost savings at the end of summer hiring.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**G. Staff Hiring – Appendix E**

**1. Mihaly, Zach**

- Assistant Coach, Football
- Seymour High School
- Replacing Michael Sirowich

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., no second) to approve the recommendation of the Administrator to hire Zach Mihaly as an Assistant Coach for Seymour High School

No second to the motion was made, therefore the motion fails

**H. Board Certified Behavior Analyst Contract**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the contract design for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst as recommended by the Superintendent

Mrs. Syriac explained this motion was not to hire a person for the position but to approve the contract for the position. She confirmed that the position had previously been approved by the Board. Mrs. Harmeling asked if a contract was mandatory and Mr. Belden said while not mandatory but very useful to outline the parameters of the job and it is for our benefit to have a contract. Ms. Bauer explained the board certification process saying the person must serve a certain number of hours and then take exams similar to what a doctor takes to become certified. It is a national certification. There was a brief discussion on the content of the contract and how the Liaison Committee agreed on the content. Mrs. Syriac said an offer was made to a finalist and a counter offer has been received. The contract is currently for three years, with the final two years of compensation to be determined in negotiations with the Liaison Committee and then brought to the full board.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**I. Student Representatives**

**1. Student Representative**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to approve the recommendation of the Seymour High School Student Council to appoint Izabella Guzzo as the Board of Education Student Representative for the 2013-14 school year

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**2. Student Representative (Alternate)**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to approve the recommendation of the Seymour High School Student Council to appoint Jonathan Han as the alternate Board of Education Student Representative for the 2013-14 school year

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**J. Intra District Transfers**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to consider the Superintendent's recommendation for approval of the intra district transfer requests for the 2013-2014 school year

Mrs. Syriac explained that all the requests received this year are for students currently enrolled and there is no impact to the enrollment numbers. She indicated that in future years, we may want to review the reasons for new requests and make sure there are very good reasons before the requests are granted.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**K. Donations**

**a. The Wichman Family**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the cash donation in the amount \$350 from The Wichman Family and direct the Superintendent to use the donation to purchase a picnic table for Chatfield-LoPresti School

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**b. Chatfield-LoPresti PTA**

**MOTION:** (Mrs. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Kubik) to approve the donation of no more than 25 Chromebooks from the Chatfield-LoPresti PTA

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**L. Out of State Field Trip**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Harmeling) to approve the request of Mr. David Willadsen to take 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to Washington DC for the CloseUp Program on March 16-21, 2014.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**M. Fall Coaching Recommendations**

**1. Seymour Middle School Fall Coaches**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the recommendation of the Assistant Principal and the Superintendent to hire the following fall coaches for Seymour Middle School:

Steven Tilki	Head Coach, Girls Volleyball
Nicole Markey	Head Coach, Girls Soccer
Gary Freeman	Head Coach, Boys Soccer

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**2. Seymour High School Fall Coaches**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the recommendation of the Athletic Director and the Superintendent to hire the following fall coaches for Seymour High School:

Tom Lennon	Head Coach, Football
John Johnson	Assistant Coach, Football
Eric DeMarco	Assistant Coach, Football
Joe Perrucci	Head Coach, Boys Soccer
Aaron Pawluk	Assistant Coach, Boys Soccer
Antonio Ciccone	Head Coach, Girls Soccer
Jennifer Monaco	Assistant Coach, Girls Soccer
Cathy Federowicz	Head Coach, Girls Volleyball
Heather Yablonski	Assistant Coach, Girls Volleyball
Missy Orosz	Head Coach, Girls Swimming
Tom Jurzynski	Assistant Girls Swimming
Brandt Schneider	Assistant Coach, Cross Country
Ashly Scharn	Head Coach, Cheerleading
Katie Tylinski	Assistant Coach, Cheerleading
Teressa Diaz-Hennessey	Head Coach, Dance

Mrs. Syriac explained that this list includes coaches who are already in the position and we must rehire each year.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**M. Volunteers**

**1. Seymour High School Fall Coaching Volunteers**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Magri) to approve the recommendation of the Athletic Director and the Superintendent to appoint the following fall coaching volunteers for Seymour High School: Mike Sirowich - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Football, James Yakushevich - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Football, Dennis DeBarber - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Football, Chris Pagliaro - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Football, Martin Cheney - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Boys Soccer, Gary Freeman - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Girls Soccer, Pat DiCaprio - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Girls Swimming, Jennifer Giarratano - Volunteer Assistant Coach, Girls Volleyball

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti



VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

\* 1. Security Matters

\* 2. Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Contract

\* 3. Superintendent's Performance Evaluation

\* *It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session*

**MOTION:** (Mrs. Harmeling/sec., Mrs. Magri) move to enter executive session for discussion and potential action on: 1. Security Matters, 2. The Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Contract, 3. Superintendent's Performance Evaluation and to invite Christine Syriac, Superintendent

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

Entered Executive Session: 9:28 p.m.

Returned to Regular Session: 10:26 p.m.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Kubik/sec., Mrs. Harmeling) to extend the contract of the Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations from July 1, 2013 until June 30, 2116

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

**OPPOSED:** Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mrs. Harmeling) to adjourn the meeting

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Lee-Ann Dauerty  
Board Clerk