



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2013

Seymour High School

7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Yashu Putorti, Chairman
Jim Garofolo
Saundra Gesek (left at 7:48)
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Jennifer Magri
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Christine Syriac, Superintendent
Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent
Rick Belden, Assistant Superintendent Finance & Operations
Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology
David Olechna, Principal, CLS
Leslie Sojka, Asst. Principal, CLS
Ernie DiStasi, Asst. Principal, SMS
Glenn Lungarini, Principal, SHS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, BS
Pat Sabatini
Debi Durette
Linda Souza
Winnie Scarpa
Sarah Meek
The Bennett Family
Alex Danko
Polly Putorti
Cathy Guerra
Dave and Darlene O'Callaghan
Debra Elder
Sarah Roberts
Harvey Catlin
Mary Deming
Ingrid Conlan
Mort Conlan
Michael Oberdick
Allison Acquavella

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Salute to the Flag

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Putorti with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02.

Mr. Putorti turned the meeting over to Mrs. Syriac who started the Awards Recognitions.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Awards Recognitions

1. 2013 Distinguished Alumnus of Seymour High School
2. Retiring Staff Members (Pin Presentation)
3. 25 Years of Service (Pin Presentation)
4. John J. Gallagher Memorial Athletic Award
5. Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award
6. Thomas J. Petruny Memorial Education and Environment Award
7. David A. Brumer Excellence in Education Award
8. Recognition of Board of Education Student Representatives
9. 2013-2014 Teacher of the Year
10. CABE Student Leadership Award
11. Top 10 Students – Class of 2013

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to take a ten minute break at 7:33 p.m.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

The Board and many guests of the meeting enjoyed cake, cookies and punch to celebrate the awards recipients.

The meeting reconvened at 7:49 p.m.

III. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Recognitions

Mrs. Syriac reviewed the recognitions.

1. NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY – June 5, 2013
New Members Inducted: 28
Two Year Certificates: 24
Three Year Pins: 22
Total: 74
2. HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL BREAKFAST- May 28, 2013
Grade 12: 25 students
Grade 11: 29 students
Grade 10: 23 students
Grade 9: 32 students
3. MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENING OF HONORS – June 5, 2013
Grade 6: 108 students
Grade 7: 99 students
Grade 8: 86 students

Other Recognitions:

1. Mr. Hatfield acknowledged Alex Steinbrick's participation in the Walk for Hearing which was held on June 8, 2013

2. Mr. Hatfield said he was able to attend the Senior Awards Night at the high school where \$83,000 in scholarships were awarded to the class of 2013.
3. Mr. Hatfield thanked all the staff and students who volunteered at the Founder's Day event on Sunday, June 2, 2013.

B. Correspondence

1. None

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments this evening.

IV. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. Washington DC Trip Report – Mr. Catlin and Students

Mr. DiStasi introduced Mr. Catlin and his students, Sam Torres, Noelle Milia, Nicole Augustitus, Will Bennett, Gina Ferrara, Mackenzie Seccombe, Jenny Forsyth, and Toni Nastri who presented a very nice power point program of the trip for the Board of Education. The students highlighted the parts of the trip they enjoyed most and shared pictures at different landmarks in Washington DC.

B. Seymour High School Energy Club – Paul Lucke and Students

Mr. Lucke introduced Charlotte Garguilo (9th grade) and Jakob Elder (11th grade) who spoke of their experiences building the electric vehicle which was on display during the meeting. The students were very proud of their participation in the race at Lime Rock Raceway on May 10 where they placed second in the novice division. The Energy Club looks forward to participating in another race in October. Mr. Lucke thanked the many sponsors who donated toward this project. Mr. Hatfield thanked the Energy Club for taking the vehicle to Founder's Day so it could be viewed by the public.

C. REPORTS

1. Chairman's Report

a. Chairman's Report

Mr. Putorti reminded everyone that the next vote on the Education Budget would be on June 6, 2013. He urged the public to get out there and vote.

b. Board Members Comments

1. Mr. Garofolo, on behalf of the Seymour Remembers Committee, thanked the many students and staff who volunteered and participated in the Memorial Day Parade. He acknowledged the cheerleading team, the Seymour Middle School Marching Band, Mr. Catlin and the banner carriers and essay winners, saying their presence really makes a difference.

2. Mr. Hatfield thanked Roberta Pratt and Lee-Ann Dauerty for their work to deliver the agenda electronically and for the laptops used by the Board Members during the meetings.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Syriac did not have a Superintendent's Report this evening.

3. Committee Reports

Mr. Putorti noted the Committee Agendas were available for review.

a. Curriculum Committee Meeting Agenda – May 29, 2013

b. Finance Committee Meeting Agenda – June 3, 2013

D. INFORMATION

1. School Activities and Recognitions

Monica Mordowanec and Katherine Acquavella reviewed the Student Representatives report for the last time this year. Board members thanked them for their participation throughout the year.

a. High School - Student Representative Report –

- 1) SHS Electric Vehicle Club
- 2) Honors Breakfast
- 3) The Iron Chef will be held on June 12, 2013.
- 4) Spring Sports
- 5) Annual Seymour High School Awards

Mr. Putorti noted the other schools' activities and recognitions were included in the attachments.

b. Middle School (see attached)

c. Bungay School (see attached)

d. Chatfield-LoPresti School (see attached)

2. Staff Resignations – Appendix E

Mr. Putorti acknowledged the staff resignations included in the agenda.

a. Durette, Christopher

- Seymour High School
- Assistant Coach (Split Position)
- Boys Swim Team

b. Scinto, Marissa

- Seymour Middle School
- Head Coach
- Cheerleading Team

3. Long Term Substitutes – End of Year Status

Mrs. Syriac explained that the list of long term substitutes included in this agenda were hired after the Board voted on long term substitutes' non-renewal. Their employment was addressed the way it was based on advice from our board counsel. She indicated she met with each one individually and they understood why we needed to handle the situation in this manner.

a. Kirei, Kim – Bungay Elementary School

b. LePage, Kelly – Chatfield-LoPresti School

c. Lombardozi, Michelle – Chatfield-LoPresti School

d. Oddo, Jon – Bungay Elementary School

4. Technology Update – Rick Belden, Roberta Pratt, Nancy Snopkowski

Mrs. Snopkowski began the Technology Update by explaining that the District Technology Committee meets monthly to discuss technology needs. She then introduced Roberta Pratt who went over a Power Point presentation on the status of technology within our school district and where we hope to be in the future. Ms. Pratt reviewed each school and talked about what has been done in the technology area and what plans they have for upgrading the systems in the future.

Mr. Belden shared technology financial information. Mr. Michael Oberdick spoke of the plan on how the district plans to possibly replace outdated computers with Chromebooks which are a fraction of the cost of a desktop or laptop computer. Because the cost is so low we should be able to increase the number of devices available to students. He explained that the Chromebooks are web based and software is available free from Google. Mr. Lungarini shared his vision of replacing Smartboards with a TV/Video Screen, laptops, and IPADs. He said they have found this "teacher workstation" works better for high school teachers and the curriculum of the high school. Mr. Hatfield expressed some concern that the "Smartboard" fad is now over and we are making changes again. Mrs. Syriac explained that the Smartboards that are being used in the high school would be moved to the middle school. The middle school teachers are very supportive of the use of Smartboards with their students and curriculum. She also noted that the elementary teachers are thrilled to have Smartboards in their classrooms. Mr. Hatfield said he felt we should share this with the public especially the reasons why the shift of the platform used in the high school. Mr. Kubik asked for more detail with regard to the plans at the high school. Mr. Lungarini explained that with the flat screen TV, desktop computer, and IPAD the teacher can be mobile; they can move around the room using the IPAD. It works with the high school curriculum and student devices can interact with the teacher's device. Eventually the "bring your own device" will come into play and this will save us money. Students will be able to access from anywhere in the world. This platform would expose students to the world of Google Apps which is being utilized by many universities and businesses. It will prepare them for the world outside of high school. Ms. Magri asked if Chromebooks would be compatible with taking assessments online. Chromebooks are compatible with the assessments however, we would want to have a pilot program to test the full capabilities of the Chromebooks. We want to be sure we are buying the right thing.

5. Discussion of 2013-14 Education Budget

Mr. Putorti said the Board of Finance cut the Board of Education budget again by \$35,000.00 which we are very thankful for; it could have been more. He asked the Board members to do all that they can do to get the vote out. Ms. Harmeling said she has about a dozen signs that say "vote Thursday" to put out on lawns. She also said she had a copy of the voters list and she will be sharing on social media sites what streets had a small turnout at the last referendum and will be encouraging those streets to get out and vote. Mr. Putorti and Ms. Harmeling spoke about laying the groundwork for the ad hoc committee on community outreach. Ms. Harmeling said she thought a good first step would be a mission statement and volunteered to work on one. Ms. Harmeling asked what the process would be after the budget passes. Mrs. Syriac said last year it was discussed during the first meeting in July. Mr. Belden noted that for his purposes, it can be settled at any time during the month of July. Ms. Harmeling explained that if it doesn't pass by June 15, a tax bill will be sent to the public based on last year's budget and then, when the new budget passed, the public would get an additional bill reflecting the change. Mr. Putorti again encouraged everyone to do all that they can so we get a positive result.

V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Minutes

1. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2013

MOTION: (Mr. Kubik/sec Mr. Strumello) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on May 20, 2013 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

2. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2013

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec Ms. Magri) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on May 23, 2013 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Strumello

ABSTAINED: Mr. Stanek

B. Nutrition Services Financial Report – March - April, 2013

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to approve the Nutrition Services Financial Report for March - April, 2013 as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

C. Revised Seymour Middle School Language Arts Curriculum –Grades 6-8

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to approve the revised Seymour Middle School Language Arts Curriculum – Grades 6-8

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

D. Elementary Language Arts Curriculum – Grades K-5

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to approve the Elementary Language Arts Curriculum Grades K-5

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

E. Seymour High School Textbook Requests

1. *Forensic Science for High School*

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt the textbook entitled *Forensic Science for High School* for the Introduction to Forensics class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri,
Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

2. *Elementary Statistics, Picturing the World*

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt the textbook entitled *Elementary Statistics, Picturing the World* for the Probability & Statistics class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

3. *The Practice of Statistics, 4th Edition*

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt the textbook entitled *The Practice of Statistics, 4th Edition* for the AP Statistics class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

4. *Fundamentals of Athletic Training*

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt the textbook entitled *Fundamentals of Athletic Training* for the Injury Care and Prevention class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

5. *The Compact Bedford Introduction to Drama*

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt the textbook entitled *The Compact Bedford Introduction to Drama* for The Play's the Thing class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

6. *The Western Heritage Since 1300*

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt the textbook entitled *The Western Heritage since 1300* for AP European History class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

F. **Policy Changes**

1. **Policy #6146 - Graduation Policy** (accepted by BOE 05/06/13)

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to adopt the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the changes to Policy #6146 – Graduation Policy

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

2. **Policy #5141.5 - Suicide Prevention and Intervention** (accepted by BOE 05/06/13)

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adopt the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the changes to Policy #5141.5 – Suicide Prevention and Intervention Graduation Policy

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

3. **Policy #4118.51 - Social Media for Educators and Employees** (accepted by BOE 05/06/13)

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adopt the recommendation of the Policy Committee to add Policy #4118.5 – Social Media for Educators and Employees

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, , Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello
Mr. Kubik stepped away and did not vote.

4. **Policy #6141.326 – Social Media for Students** (accepted by BOE 05/06/13)

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to adopt the recommendation of the Policy Committee to add Policy #6141.326 – Social Media for Students

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, , Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello
Mr. Kubik stepped away and did not vote.

5. **Policy #6141.321 – Computers: Acceptable Use for Students Policy** (accepted by BOE 05/06/13)

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adopt the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve Policy #6141.321

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, , Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello
Mr. Kubik stepped away and did not vote.

VI. **IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE ASTERISKED ITEMS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

◆ 1. None

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

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to adjourn the meeting
The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk