



SPECIAL MEETING

May 20, 2013

Seymour Middle School

7:30 p.m.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. **Salute to the Flag**

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. **Recognitions**

1. None

B. **Correspondence**

1. Letter dated May 1, 2013 to Christine Syriac from Rich Kearns describing the participation of Seymour High School teens in the Melanoma Foundation of New England's 6th Annual Your Skin is In No Tanning Pledge.
2. Letter dated April 29, 2013 to Christine Syriac from Rich Kearns regarding the Teen Distracted Driver week held at Seymour High School.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. **REPORTS**

1. **Chairman's Report**

- a. Chairman's Report
- b. Board Members Comments

2. **Superintendent's Report**

3. **Committee Reports**

- a. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2013
- b. Awards Committee Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2013

B. **INFORMATION**

1. **2013-14 Education Budget Discussion**

V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. **Minutes**

1. **Regular BOE Meeting – May 6, 2013**

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting on May 6, 2013 as presented

2. **Special BOE Meeting – May 6, 2013**

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on May 6, 2013 as presented

B. **Awards Recipients**

MOTION: approve the recipient recommendations of the Awards Advisory Committee for the David A. Brumer Excellence in Education Award, the John J. Gallagher Memorial Athletic Award, the Thomas J. Petruny Memorial Education and Environment Award and the Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award

C. Contingency Fund

MOTION: pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Sec. 10-248a the Board of Education requests that the Board of Finance create a non-lapsing "Unexpended education funds account" as of June 30, 2013. The purpose of this account is to allow unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year from the budgeted appropriation for education to be deposited into the account by the Board of Finance for future use by the Board of Education for education purposes. Further, such amount shall not exceed one per cent (1%) of the total budgeted appropriation for education for such prior fiscal year.

D. ACES Educational Center for the Arts

MOTION: to approve the attendance of nine (9) Seymour students for the 2013-14 school year, as outlined in the May 10, 2013 letter from the Educational Center for the Arts.

E. Donation

MOTION: to approve the donation of the book entitled "The Art of James Christensen: A Journey of the Imagination" to the Seymour High School library by Mr. Chris Usher, The Greenwich Workshop Gallery

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

* **A.** Interview the recommended candidate for the Assistant Principal of Bungay Elementary School

* *It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session from which the public will be excluded.*

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Note: The next Regular Board of Education meeting will be held on **Monday, June 3, 2013** at 7:00 p.m. in Seymour High School

Richard Kearns
Director of Security
Seymour Connecticut Public Schools



May 1, 2013

Christine Syriac
Superintendent of Schools
Seymour Public Schools
98 Bank Street
Seymour, CT 06483

RECEIVED

MAY 01 2013

Superintendent of Schools
Seymour Board of Education

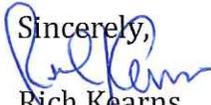
Dear Superintendent Syriac

Seymour High School teens recently participated in the Melanoma Foundation of New England's 6th annual *Your Skin Is In* No-Tanning Pledge contest from January to April 2013 which was held at high schools and colleges across New England. The program was coordinated by Seymour Schools Director of Security Rich Kearns and Seymour High School Health Teacher Nick Aprea

The Melanoma Foundation of New England's program educates teens on the dangers of tanning and the direct link between tanning beds and melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. Schools that gathered the required percentage of No-Tanning Pledges from teens were entered into a raffle to win cash, gift certificates, and trips to Six Flags New England.

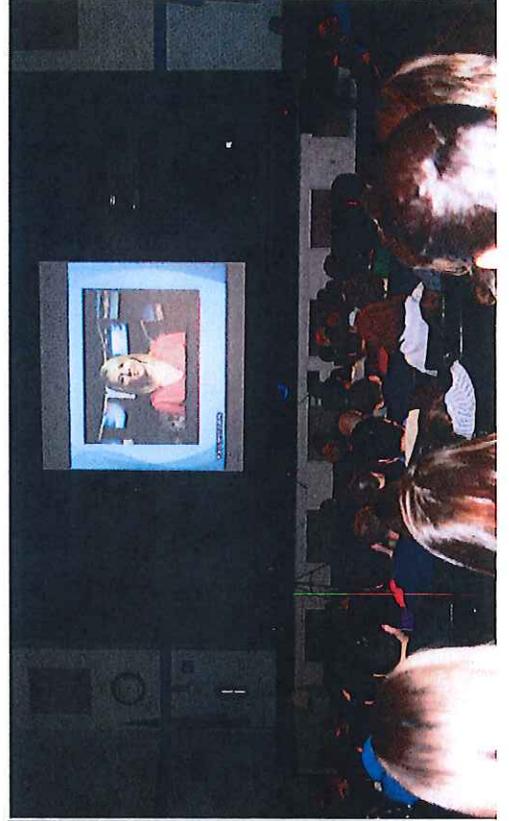
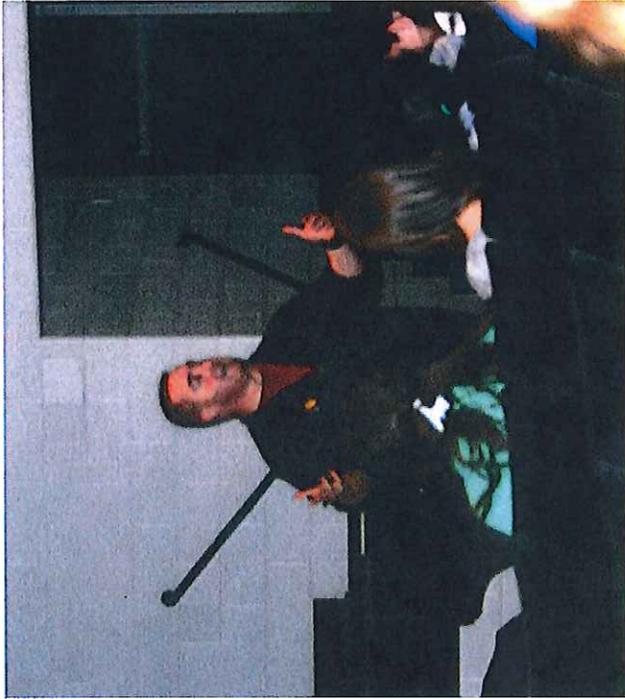
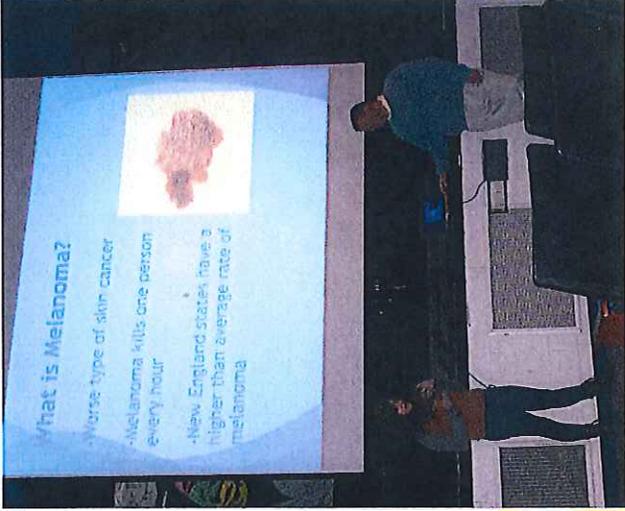
Seymour High School students Julia Maturo, Kristina Biblekaj, Margaret Bruce and Abigail Lynch took things a step further and held a teen assembly for 11th and 12th grade students. At the assembly teens were given information on the dangers of tanning, viewed an informative powerful presentation and heard stories of people who suffered the harmful effects of tanning.

On behalf of the Melanoma Foundation of New England for participating in the *Your Skin Is In* program and for creating awareness about the dangers of tanning Seymour High School was chosen as one of two winners from Connecticut from across New England! Seymour High School will receive a \$500 award for its participation in gathering pledges and informing teens about the dangers of tanning. Seymour High School had 75.85% of the Junior and Senior Classes sign the pledge!

Sincerely,

Rich Kearns
Director of Security
Seymour Public Schools

Making our Schools safe for our Children and Staff!
2 Botsford Rd. Seymour, CT 06483 Office (203) 888-2561 ext. 1003 / Fax (203) 888-7511

Some Pictures from our Program



Richard Kearns
Director of Security
Seymour Connecticut Public Schools



April 29, 2013

Christine Syriac
Superintendent of Schools
Seymour Public Schools
98 Bank Street
Seymour, CT 06483

RECEIVED

MAY 01 2013

Superintendent of Schools
Seymour Board of Education

Dear Superintendent Syriac

As you are aware, during the week of April 22nd we held a teen distracted driver week. The week started with a great assembly for our Junior and Senior classes. At the assembly teens heard from: our First Selectman Kurt Miller, CT State Representative Theresa a Conroy, Attorney John Haymond, Rich Toce from Bearingstar Insurance and Kelly Bettuchi from AT&T who presented the "It Can Wait" Program. The speakers shared stories with teens about the dangers of distracted driving.

During the rest of the week I had the "Distractology 101" mobile classroom on Campus. This 36" trailer housed driving simulators which teens were able to sign-up to use for a one-on-one 45 minute driving sessions by appointment with professional driving instructors who came to Connecticut. After each session teens received a \$15 gas card, flashlight and a safe driving certificate which they can present to their insurance company for possible safe driver discounts! This week long program was presented at no cost to the District as I applied for sponsorship through the Arbella Insurance Company Charitable Foundation and Bearingstar Insurance.

I am happy to say 86 teen drivers were able to take advantage of this life saving educational program! After speaking with the teens who participated in these sessions, I was told it was a worthwhile experience and they learned a lot.

I also received a Valley Community Foundation Small grant award of \$1,000 to use toward the program. All teens were given a t-shirt and I held a "Car Care Raffle" where 20 teens won among other things their choice of: roadside emergency kits, car detailing kits, bungee cords, air freshener kits, car wash kits, flashlights, car vacuum, car towels and more! We all had a great week!

Sincerely,

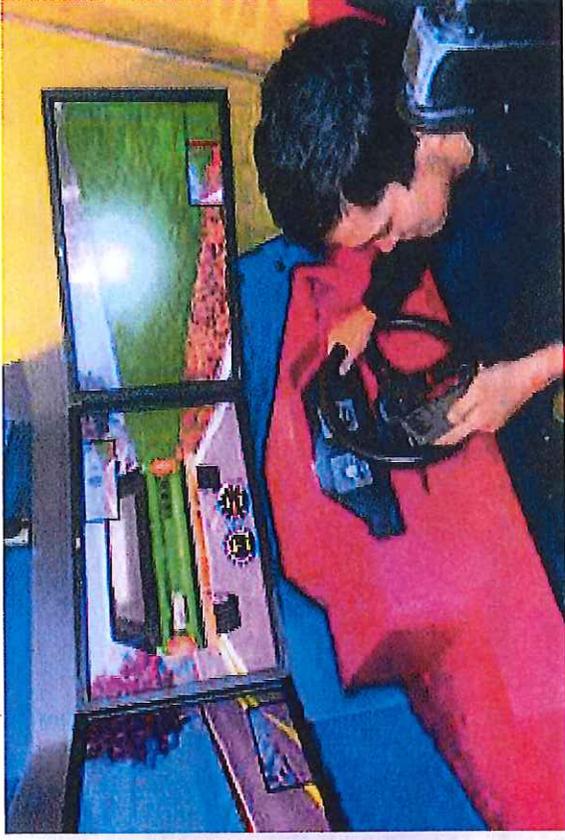
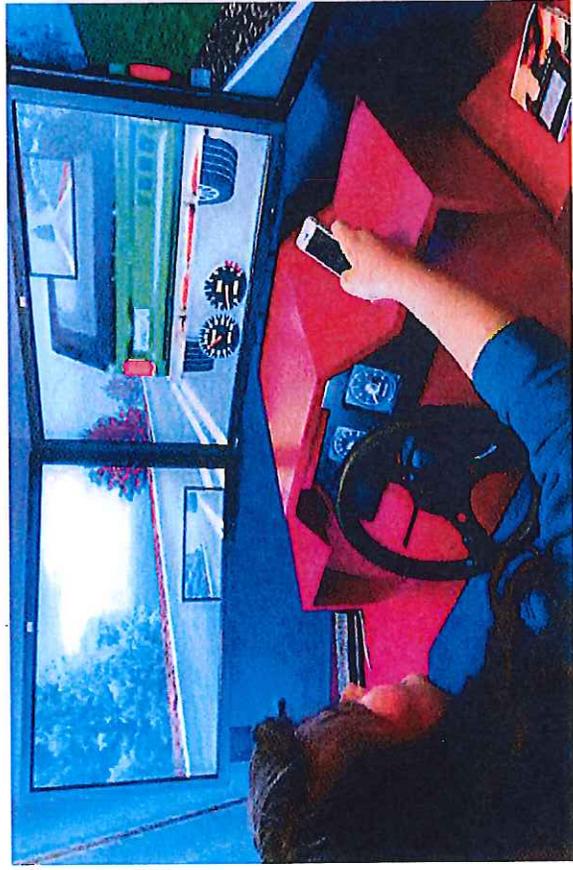
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Kearns".

Rich Kearns
Director of Security
Seymour Public Schools

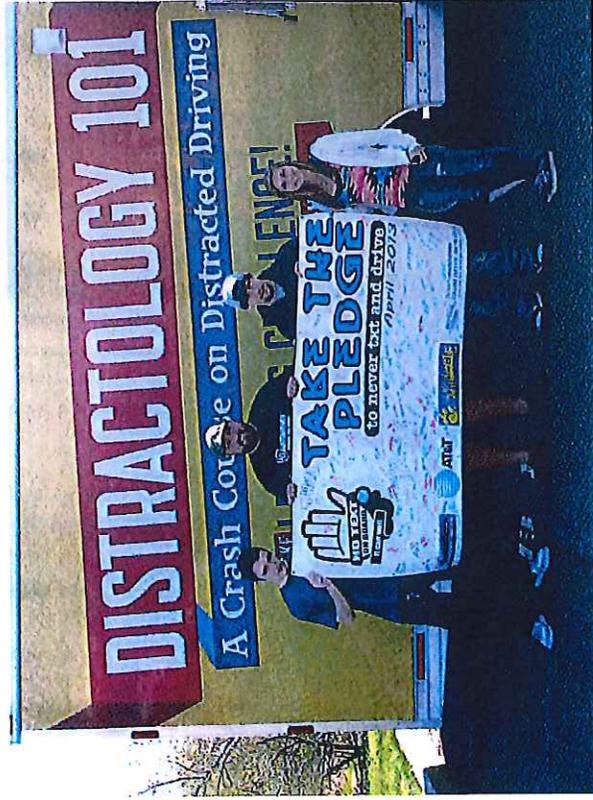
Making our Schools safe for our Children and Staff!

2 Botsford Rd. Seymour, CT 06483

Office (203) 888-2561 ext. 1003 / Fax (203) 888-7511



Our Seymour High School Teens in action on the driving simulators!



The Distractology 101 Mobile Classroom

Our care "Care Raffle"





FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2013

Seymour Middle School

6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jim Garofolo

Jennifer Magri

Yashu Putorti

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kristen Harmeling

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Christine Syriac, Superintendent

Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent Finance & Operations

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order 6:32 p.m.

1. **Review and recommendation to the full Board of Education to approve the Financial Management Summary ending April 30, 2013**

Mr. Belden reviewed the Financial Management Summary ending April 30, 2013 with the committee. Mr. Belden noted where various line items were trending. Mr. Belden stated a workman's compensation claim had been settled in the BOE's favor and he remains optimistic although the claim decision is being appealed. Mr. Belden indicated that while there a few line items trending over there are other line items trending under and he is not concerned about the bottom line being over extended. Overall the budget is in good shape, there will need to be some line item transfers at the end of the school year however the bottom line will be fine. Mr. Garofolo asked about the special education tuition line item being over by nearly one quarter of a million dollars. Mr. Belden explained that the BOE will still receive an excess cost grant from the State and this will offset that number to about \$48,000. Mr. Garofolo asked why the equipment line item was over budget and Mr. Belden explained that during the snow storms new snow blowers had to be purchased. Mr. Garofolo stated that he feels Mr. Belden has managed the budget superbly over the years that he has been on the board however he would like something to guide the BOE when asked about over extended line items. Mr. Belden stated he would put together a sheet on projected year end amounts that should assist in explaining.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mrs. Magri) to recommend to the full Board of Education the approval of the Financial Management Summary ending April 30, 2013

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

2. **Chairman's report**
None
3. **Superintendent's Report**
None

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mrs. Magri) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by:
Christine Syriac



AWARDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2013
Central Office
6:30 p.m.

- COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mort Conlan, Chairman
Gene Coppola
Regina Fitzgerald
Pallavi Kasturi
Yashu Putorti
Zach Sirowich
Fred Stanek
Christine Syriac
- OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 6:32.

1. **Review nominations forms and select recipients for Brumer, Gallagher, Kobasa, and Petruny Awards.**

The committee members reviewed the nominations that were received for each award. There was a brief discussion on the lack of nominations received and what we might be able to do next year to get more people involved. Mr. Stanek reminded the committee that they could nominate for the awards during this meeting.

As has been the practice in the past, paper ballots were distributed to the committee members so they could vote for their choice for each award.

As a result of the voting for the David A. Brumer Excellence in Education Award, Mr. Rich Kearns was selected as the recipient this year.

As a result of the voting for the John J. Gallagher Memorial Athletic Award, Mr. Paul Sponheimer was selected as the recipient this year.

As a result of the voting for the Thomas J. Petruny Memorial Education and Environment Award, Miss Melanie Danka was selected as the recipient this year.

As a result of a tie in the voting for the Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award, Ms. Elaine Roche and Ms. Allison Cunningham were selected as co recipients this year.

2. Discussion of next year's Awards Advisory Committee members

Mr. Conlan reviewed the committee members and confirmed:

Both student representatives were juniors and would return as representatives next year.

Terri Ferrara (MS, HS)

Mort Conlan (HS)

Regina Fitzgerald (MS, HS)

Donna Tomas (BS)

Vacant (CLS) – need representation. Ms. Fitzgerald volunteered to approach the CLS PTA to find a representative for this school.

Mr. Conlan asked Mr. Stanek to confirm the requirement to have a representative from each school and he confirmed that this has been the practice but not a policy. He also noted that in addition to a representative from each school, we need a board member, the board chairman, and a member from the Board of Selectman although this has not been done in recent years.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Conlan thanked the members of the committee for their time and dedication to the process of selecting the awards recipients. He said the committee needs to come up with ideas on how we can get more participation in the nomination process. Mr. Conlan said he would contact Donna Tomas to see if she was interested in continuing on the committee next year. Mr. Stanek reminded the committee members that they can make nominations and should think about coming to next year's meeting with a nomination in mind. Mr. Conlan said he thought maybe members could submit their nominations before the meeting so there would not be an uneven playing field when discussing nominations. He also asked if the nominee for the Gallagher Award had to be a volunteer and Mr. Stanek confirmed that it did not have to be a volunteer; it could be a staff member or even a fan of Seymour sports.

4. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Syriac said that in an effort to boost participation, she had requested Mrs. Hamad and Mr. Lungarini approach the Student Council in their respective schools which they did. In addition, Mrs. Syriac shared Mr. Lungarini's idea for next year which was to have the marketing class produce a commercial to share with their classmates. He said he finds if the information comes from their peers it sometimes produces a more favorable response. The committee thought this was a good idea.

MOTION: (Ms. Fitzgerald/sec., Mr. Coppola) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Conlan, Mr. Coppola, Ms. Fitzgerald, Ms. Kasturi, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Sirowich, Mr. Stanek

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2013
Seymour Middle School
7:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Yashu Putorti, Chairman
Jim Garofolo
Saundra Gesek
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Jennifer Magri
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kristen Harmeling
Christine Syriac, Superintendent
Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent
Rick Belden, Assistant Superintendent Finance & Operations
Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology
Virginia Bauer, Director of Special Services
Glenn Lungarini, Principal SHS
Jim Freund, Assistant Principal SHS
Paul Lucke, Assistant Principal SHS
Ed Rostowsky, Athletic Director
Bernadette Hamad, Principal SMS
Ernie DiStasi, Assistant Principal, SMS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, Bungay School
David Willadsen
Wayne Natzel, Director of Facilities
Kevin Flaherty

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Salute to the Flag

Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

Mr. Stanek spoke of a retired Seymour School teacher, Mr. Leonard Albaitis, who passed away on Sunday May 5.

Mr. Albaitis taught in the district for 47 years and a moment of silence was observed in his honor.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Recognitions

1. Presentation of certificates to the Spring Citizens Academy members. Mrs. Syriac spoke fondly of the members of the Spring Citizens Academy and presented a certificate to Mr. Kevin Flaherty who was able to attend tonight's meeting. Mrs. Syriac said we would do another Citizens Academy in the fall and encouraged people to attend.
2. Congratulations to Bungay Elementary School on their very successful effort to raise funds for the Lymphomas Research Foundation. They were able to donate \$500.00.
3. Mr. Jay Hatfield and Kristen Harmeling were able to attend the post prom event at Shelton Sports Center. Mr. Hatfield praised the event and thanked all the wonderful volunteers who organized the event and who stayed up all night chaperoning our students.

4. Mr. Ed Strumello noted our softball coach, Ken Pereiras, achieved 200 wins in nine years. This is a huge accomplishment based on the number of games that are played each year.

B. Correspondence

1. Letter dated April 24, 2013 to Glenn Lungarini from NEASC granting the request for a postponement of the scheduled evaluation of Seymour High School from 2015 to the calendar year 2016.
2. Letter dated March 25, 2013 to Christine Syriac from PACE.ECA thanking the Seymour Public Schools for funding the tuition for students to attend ACES Educational Center for the Arts (ECA).
3. Email dated April 30, 2013 to Nancy Snopkowski, Christine Syriac, Glenn Lungarini, and Jim Freund from Paul Lucke inviting all board members and members of our community to see Seymour High School participate in the Electrathon race on May 10, 2013 at Lime Rock Park

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. REPORTS

1. Chairman's Report

- a. Chairman's Report

None

- b. Board Members Comments

- 1) Mr. Ed Strumello noted that May 8 is Teacher Appreciation Day and asked that an email be sent to teachers and administrators from the board members thanking them for their service to the students of Seymour.
- 2) Mr. Jim Garofolo requested the administration do a presentation on technology to the Board of Education prior to the 2013-14 school year and to specifically address the concerns brought up by the members of the student council.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Syriac reminded everyone that the referendum on the budget will be on Thursday, May 9, 2013. She said she has been reaching out to parents and leaders of the school PTAs. She noted that she will send an additional reminder. Mr. Strumello asked if Mr. Putorti, Mr. Miller, and Mrs. Danka had drafted a letter to the public. Mr. Putorti indicated that this had not been done. Mrs. Syriac said she had been contacted by a newspaper related to the New Haven Register concerning a story that was being done about teacher attendance statewide. Regarding the last two days of school, Mrs. Syriac indicated that she continues to get requests from teachers to reduce the number of school days and use the last two days for professional development. Secretaries' negotiations have been cancelled on May 8 due to a scheduling conflict. She spoke of the interviewing process for the Bungay School Assistant Principal position and said the committee interviewed many fine candidates and has narrowed the field to three. Those three candidates will return for additional interviews and she is very hopeful to bring a candidate forward at the June 3 meeting. Mr. Strumello agreed with Mrs. Syriac saying the candidates were outstanding. Mrs. Syriac reminded the Board members that the Awards meeting would take place on June 3, 2013 and there would be a Special Board of Education meeting on May 20, 2013 at 7:30 in Seymour Middle School.

3. Committee Reports

- a. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – April 1, 2013

- b. Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – April 4, 2013

Mr. Hatfield asked about the voting abilities of committee members when no chair is present and said he could find no past practice.

- c. Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – April 4, 2013

- d. Finance Committee Meeting Agenda – May 6, 2013

B. INFORMATION

1. School Activities and Recognitions

a. High School Student Representative Report

- 1) Inside Out 10th Annual Seymour High School Student Art Show
- 2) FBLA State Leadership Conference
- 3) Core Values and Beliefs focus group
- 4) Sikorsky Financial Reality Fair
- 5) Diversity Day
- 6) Distractology
- 7) Take a Stand Day
- 8) Prom and Post Prom

b. Middle School (see attached)

c. Bungay School (see attached)

d. Chatfield-LoPresti School (see attached)

2. Staff Resignation – Non Certified

a. Sandra Guard

- Part time Clerical Paraprofessional
- Bungay Elementary School
- Effective April 19, 2013

3. Staff Resignation – Appendix E

a. Joseph Poulson

- Head Coach
- High School Cross Country Team
- Effective immediately

4. School Improvement Plan Mid Year Report

a. Seymour Middle School – Bernadette Hamad

Mrs. Hamad presented the mid year report on the School Improvement plan for Seymour Middle School. She thanked the Board for allowing her to present this very important information. Mr. Strumello questioned the reference to 20% growth in math and expressed some concern that this was not flattering to the district. Mrs. Hamad said overall she felt we were in a good place and would continue to grow for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Garofolo asked for more detail when she says we are increasing rigor. Mrs. Hamad said teachers are forming questions, and developing student tasks that increase rigor. Basically it's the way the teachers are teaching. When asked for a specific example; Mrs. Hamad indicated the way Social Studies is taught is a perfect example. In previous years, they taught about each country now they ask students to compare each country and gather information themselves. Teachers encourage students to take a stance and defend it. Teachers have higher expectations of their students.

5. Women in Science Seminar

6. Seymour High School Assistant Football Coach Discussion

Mr. Hatfield questioned why this was on the agenda without going through the Athletic Committee first. Mrs. Syriac reminded him that a Board member had questioned whether we might be able to reduce the number of coaches. When this position was vacated, she felt it would be important for the Board to review and decide if we should move forward with a replacement. Mr. Lungarini and Mr. Rostowsky indicated we currently have 1 head coach and 5 assistants which is one coach less than when Oxford exited. The current ratio is 51 students to 6 coaches. Both Mr. Lungarini and Mr. Rostowsky advocated for keeping the position. Mr. Kubik asked about surrounding schools and the number of coaches they had. Woodland has six coaches; Waterbury has five coaches but no freshman teams. Ms. Magri said the contract says we should have 1 head coach and six assistants and wondered if having less would be a problem. Mr. Belden said we are not obligated to the number of coaches, only to the salaries of coaches.

When asked about volunteers, Mr. Lungarini indicated we do have volunteers but cannot count on them for a set schedule and therefore do not rely on volunteers for coaching duties. After the discussion, the board decided that they have no problem with the position and approved the replacement hiring of one assistant coach.

7. Contingency Fund Discussion

Mr. Belden discussed the need to request the opening of a contingency fund in writing to the Board of Finance and indicated that if they wanted to move forward this would be the next step and he could provide the necessary wording for the motion for the next meeting. Mr. Belden said he has found this has become more common in districts in recent years. The amount that can be deposited into a contingency fund is up to 1% which would be \$300,000 for Seymour. He again said that the Board would need to take formal action to request the Board of Finance to establish the contingency fund and we should be flexible when making plans for the use of the funds. There was a discussion among the Board members regarding the impact a contingency fund might have on future budget requests. The fear being, the amount in the fund would be used as an argument to reduce our budget. Mr. Belden said this is why he feels it is important that we identify specific uses for any funds in the account. Mr. Garofolo said if we deposited money into the account each year and did not use it, we would probably get scathing reviews from the public and town officials. He said he was uneasy about this and fearful that we would suffer damage. Mr. Putorti agreed and Ms. Magri asked if it would have an impact on our funding from the state. Mr. Belden indicated it would not because those dollars are based on our budget. Mr. Stanek said he was in favor of a contingency fund and said the funds could be used to address security and beyond, it would help with unforeseen infrastructure needs, unexpected Special Education costs or unexpected failures of equipment. He also indicated he often hears about the need for a late bus and the funds could be utilized to solve that problem. He reminded the Board that we have no idea what the amount would be. Mr. Garofolo asked if we could have the Board of Finance sign a memorandum of agreement to not cut our budget requests based on the amount in our contingency fund and they would understand that it would be used for the growth of our district. Mr. Stanek reminded everyone that we have been criticized in the past for spending down our budget and that the public would question why we returned funds to the town. Mr. Putorti reminded the Board that the amount is not going to be \$300,000 and noted that the Town has a contingency fund. Mr. Strumello wondered if the memorandum of agreement would go forth when a new Board of Finance was elected. Mr. Stanek said it would be an understanding at the time it was written. It establishes a history and could help to establish precedence. There would have to be good faith involved. He said if this doesn't work we can simply stop funding the account. The board ended the discussion by directing Mr. Belden to get the wording for a formal request to the Board of Finance and bring it to the next meeting.

8. School Resource Officer Discussion

Mr. Putorti said that what he said at the budget meeting was misinterpreted and that the Board is not interested in a school resource officer at this time until we get all the facts. Currently we have one police officer in the schools. The Board still has a lot of questions regarding SRO's in our schools. How many would we need? Four SRO's would cost the district \$377,000. Who would fund the position – the town or the Board of Education? Who would be the decision maker? The current police officer in our schools is not an SRO because he has not yet taken that training. Mr. Strumello stated that because of the training the officer has a different demeanor in the schools. He said he was in favor as long as we have a say in the selection of the officer and the decision making. Mr. Putorti noted that the residents of Newtown voted down their budget because security costs were too high. Mr. Stanek said he would reserve his opinion until after we had a chance to meet with the chief of police. He said he would like one officer assigned to each school and that they do random visits to the schools. He likes the idea of having an officer in the schools and would like to try and work out a plan. Mr. Kearns indicated that Detective Ditria is currently the only officer that has been trained as an SRO. SRO courses are offered throughout the year in different locations across the country.

Mr. Strumello wondered why, given the number of people assembled at our schools, an officer is not assigned. Mr. Hatfield noted that we have not heard from the Board of Police Commissioners and for all we know they may be opposed to having an officer in the schools. It was again noted that we still had many questions to answer before the Board could make a decision.

V. **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

A. **Minutes**

Mr. Putorti reminded Board members that they can vote to approve minutes even if they did not attend the meeting as long as they have read them.

1. **Regular BOE Meeting – April 1, 2013**

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting on April 1, 2013 as presented

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Magri

2. **Special BOE Meeting – April 22, 2013**

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting on April 22, 2013 as presented

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mr. Stanek

B. **Financial Management Summary**

MOTION: (Mr. Kubik/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the Financial Management Summary ending April 30, 2013 as recommended by the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent, Finance & Operations and approved by the Finance Sub-Committee

SO VOTED

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

C. **2013 High School Graduation Date**

Mr. Glenn Lungarini, Principal of Seymour High School proposed changing the date for the high school graduation from the traditional last day of school to June 27. Mr. Lungarini noted that it backs up to the week of July 4th when many families take their vacations. Mr. Stanek reminded the Board it wasn't too many years ago that parents were indicating they wanted graduation to always fall on a Friday and noted this is how things change. Mr. Lungarini indicated many local schools have moved back their graduation for the same reasons. Mr. Lungarini said changing the graduation date would not impact instruction; underclassmen would be taking exams as usual.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to set the 2013 Seymour High School graduation date as June 27, 2013.

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Stanek

Mr. Hatfield said he thought this was a good time to bring up the idea of Board members wearing academic gowns to the graduation ceremony.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to add to the agenda the wearing of academic regalia by members of the Board of Education to the graduation ceremony

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

OPPOSED: Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri

ABSTAINED: Ms. Gesek

Mr. Hatfield is in favor of this, saying it brings continuity to the ceremony for those sitting on the stage. He knows in the past there was an issue of not everyone having a degree but everyone on the Board has a degree now. When asked, Mr. Lungarini indicated that only the Board members who spoke were on the stage and wore academic robes in Oxford. Mrs. Syriac said she has not been in a district where Board members wore robes. Ms. Magri was opposed saying she felt strongly that graduation is about the students and the educators. Mrs. Gesek said she felt that the Board members should not even be on the stage; that the top ten students should be there instead. It was noted that Board members should wear proper business attire to the ceremony and no motion was made.

D. 2012-13 CTE Innovation Grant

Mr. Paul Lucke, Assistant Principal of Seymour High School gave an overview of the innovation grant he is applying for and indicated there was a need for the Board to approve in order for him to apply for the grant. The money from this grant would be used to purchase 3D desktop replicators.

MOTION: (Mr. Kubik/ sec., Mr. Strumello) to approve the application for the 2012-2013 innovation grant to develop a model curriculum and culminating project to engage students in the Rapid/Direct Manufacturing process and will continue to support the program within the Technology Department at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

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

E. Musical Instrument Donations

1. Acrosonic (Baldwin) Piano

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Stanek) to accept the donation of an Acrosonic (Baldwin) Piano from Mr. Hillel Weisel to the Middle School Music Program

SO VOTED

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

2. Drum Set

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Kubik) to accept the donation of a drum set from Ms. Rose Cantore to the Bungay School Music Program

SO VOTED

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

F. Staff Hiring – Non Certified

1. Michelle Martelli

- Instructional Paraprofessional
- Seymour High School
- Step 4, Paraprofessionals Contract
- Replacing Kelli Wrogg

MOTION: (Mr. Jay Hatfield/sec., Mr. Ed Strumello) to approve the recommendation of the Administrator and the Superintendent to hire Michelle Martelli as an Instructional paraprofessional at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

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

G. Contract Extension – All Star Transportation Company

MOTION: (Mr. Ed Strumello/sec., Mr. Pete Kubik) to authorize the Superintendent to enter into an agreement with All Star Transportation to extend the current bus services contract an additional three (3) years from an end date of June 30, 2015 to an end date of June 30, 2018. The contract extension shall incorporate the terms and conditions included in the proposal from All Star Transportation dated April 30, 2013

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Strumello

OPPOSED: Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Gesek, Mr. Stanek

H. Policy Changes

1. Policy #6146 - Graduation Policy

MOTION: (Mr. Ed Strumello/sec., Mr. Pete Kubik) to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the changes to Policy #6146 – Graduation Policy

SO VOTED

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

2. Policy #5141.5 - Suicide Prevention and Intervention

MOTION: (Mr. Jay Hatfield/sec., Mr. Pete Kubik) to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the changes to Policy #5141.5 – Suicide Prevention and Intervention Policy

SO VOTED

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

3. Policy #4118.51 - Social Media for Educators and Employees

MOTION: (Mr. Ed Strumello/sec., Mr. Pete Kubik) to accept the recommendation of the Policy

SO VOTED

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

4. Policy #6141.326 – Social Media for Students

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

SO VOTED

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

5. Policy #6141.321 – Computers: Acceptable Use for Students Policy

MOTION: (Mr. Ed Strumello/sec., Mr. Pete Kubik) to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve Policy #6141.321

SO VOTED

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

I. High School Pool Project

Ms. Magri asked why the amount was different than what was originally budgeted (\$39,500). Mr. Belden explained that since the time that a problem was identified with the pool drains which are cracked and deteriorated, the pool surface is beginning to degrade and rusting was noted by Valley Health during their inspection. Originally the pipes would be relined but this is no longer an option. To make up the difference in the amount, Mr. Belden is planning on taking \$20,000 from the middle school flooring project which is being deferred. Mr. Belden explained he had two bids but one was not legally acceptable because it was not submitted on time which left one bid. He said the work on the pool can be deferred but we are at a point where the work needs to be done and waiting will probably result in higher costs.

MOTION: (Mr. Pete Kubik/sec., Ms. Jennifer Magri) to award the contract for RFP #12-004 Seymour High School Pool to Connecticut Custom Aquatics, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$59,508.70 - Items 1-8 with Item #3 amended.

SO VOTED

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

J. Waiver of Bidding Process

Mr. Hatfield asked if we had gotten quotes on legal services and wanted to be sure we are getting the best possible price. He noted last year the legal services were from Siegel O'Connor. Mrs. Syriac explained that Attorney Fred Dorsey changed firms and because of his knowledge and history with the Seymour Public Schools, it was felt that we should switch to Kainen, Escalera, & McHale. She noted that there is no formal contract and we pay hourly rates. When asked why the items that are listed are included in the Bid Waiver, Mr. Belden said that the services listed are ones that are typically \$25,000 or more. The bid waiver is placed on the agenda each year so that we have a record for audit purposes. He noted that we still do RFP's as needed.

MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Kubik) per Board Policy #3320, the Board of Education waives formal bidding for the following Per Board policy #3320, the Board of Education waives formal bidding for the following goods or services in excess of \$25,000 for the 2013-14 fiscal year per the reasons provided in the policy:

- Legal services (Kainen, Escalera & McHale; Shipman & Goodwin);
- Third party proprietary HVAC maintenance and support services (Siemens, Johnson Controls, Andover Systems, Environmental Services Corporation, A&B Mechanical);
- Heating oil and diesel fuel utilizing Ct. Fuel Consortium and DAS (East River Energy 12PSX0028);
- Custodial and maintenance supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (Grainger 10PSX0204, Dumouchel, and Benham);
- Instructional and office supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (School Specialty 12PSX0108AF, W.B. Mason, Staples 12PSX0108AG);
- Computer supplies utilizing PEPPM consortium and DAS (CDWG 12PSX0308, RnB Enterprises 10PSX0104AJ, Connecticut Business Systems 10PSX0104AF)

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Hatfield

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- * A. Discussion and possible action upon matters concerning security strategy or the deployment of security personnel, or devices affecting school and public security.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Garofolo) move that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss matters concerning security strategy or the deployment of security personnel, or devices affecting school and public security and to invite Mrs. Christine Syriac, Mr. Rich Kearns, Ms. Roberta Pratt, Mrs. Nancy Snopkowski, Mr. Rick Belden, and First Selectman Kurt Miller to attend

SO VOTED

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

- * B. Discussion and possible action concerning a personnel matter

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Gesek) move that the Board enter Executive Session for discussion and possible action concerning a personnel matter and to invite Mrs. Christine Syriac to attend.

SO VOTED

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

* *It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session from which the public will be excluded.*

Enter Executive Session: 9:50 p.m.

Out of Executive Session: 10:40 p.m.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Strumello) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2013
Central Office
7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Yashu Putorti, Chairman
Jim Garofolo
Saundra Gesek
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Jennifer Magri
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Christine Syriac, Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent
Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent, Finance & Operations
Glenn Lungarini, Principal, SHS
Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology
David Willadsen, Teacher, SHS
Jessica Alves
Mike Espinell
Jon Han
Izabella Guzzo
Claudia Mojkner
Chris Bogardus
Patrick Martin
Urman Singh
Rubin Caiza
Justine Inzero
Miranda Zygmunt
Dan Robinson
Corey Marchetti
Tyler Sirowich
Zach Wiacok

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

The Seymour High School Student Council met with the Seymour Board of Education to have a joint discussion. Mr. Putorti began the meeting by thanking the students for joining the BOE and stated that he is hopeful to see the student council members attend future meetings.

II. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. Seymour High School Student Council – Introductions and discussion of matters of interest

During the meeting members of the student council shared with the BOE concerns or requests that they have for the high school.

1. The students would like a late bus for the high school.
2. The students would like new speakers in the gymnasium.
3. The students shared their concern that the computers at the school operate slowly taking a considerable amount of time to log on. Some of the older computers take 10-15 minutes according to students. Ms. Pratt, the Director of Technology for the district, shared with the students and the BOE some of the work that has been done to try and rectify this situation such as added memory to some of the older computers, rebuilding the network and stated that new computers need to be purchased. One student stated there has been some improvement since the start of the school year however it is still frustrating. Another student shared that his teachers have difficulty downloading items to utilize in the classroom. Students shared that they are not able to access all the web sites for researching projects. It was explained that the teachers have different access rights than the students and therefore a site that opens for a teacher may not open for a student. Teachers need to follow a process to have sites opened for student use. When a problem with some computers in Room 223 was discussed, Ms. Pratt clarified the importance of teachers completing School Dude requests so that she and her staff are aware of the problems. A student discussed that it would be helpful if a solution was found that would provide the students an opportunity to print documents created at home in the school setting. He understands the concern of a virus getting into the network and was hopeful that a separate computer/printer off the network could be made available in a central location for students to print documents off their thumb drives.

Mr. Garofolo stated his concern about our not achieving the level of technology that the BOE is investing in and is seeking a method to evaluate the issues. Mrs. Syriac stated that there would be a special BOE meeting later in May where some of the topics mentioned will be addressed.

4. Students requested a room to record morning announcements and there was some discussion on announcements.
5. Students mentioned they would like air conditioning at the high school.

Mr. Stanek commended the students for being part of the Student Council and that he would like for this type of dialog to occur more often. He asked the seniors to share the bad and good things they had experienced while attending SHS. One senior stated that the lack of air conditioning is bad. She went on to state she feels the curriculum is getting better with more AP offerings. Another senior stated he would have liked the opportunity to take an AP Physics class. A junior stated a concern about the sequencing of AP classes. Mr. Stanek told the students that they can be movers of change. He shared examples where student requests had resulted in changes at the high school, such as the breakfast program and vending machines.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Kubik) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Submitted by:
Christine Syriac

Sec. 10-248a. ~~Unexpended~~ education funds account. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year thereafter, notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, municipal charter, home rule ordinance or other ordinance, the board of finance in each town having a board of finance, the board of selectman in each town having no board of finance or the authority making appropriations for the school district for each town may deposit into a nonlapsing account any ~~unexpended~~ funds from the prior fiscal year from the budgeted appropriation for education for the town, provided such amount does not exceed one per cent of the total budgeted appropriation for education for such prior fiscal year.

Sec. 10-222. Appropriations and budget. Financial information system. (a) Each local board of education shall prepare an itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public schools for the ensuing year and shall submit such estimate to the board of finance in each town or city having a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town having no board of finance or otherwise to the authority making appropriations for the school district, not later than two months preceding the annual meeting at which appropriations are to be made. The money appropriated by any municipality for the maintenance of public schools shall be expended by and in the discretion of the board of education. Except as provided in this subsection, any such board may transfer any ~~unexpended~~ or uncontracted-for portion of any appropriation for school purposes to any other item of such itemized estimate. Boards may, by adopting policies and procedures, authorize designated personnel to make limited transfers under emergency circumstances if the urgent need for the transfer prevents the board from meeting in a timely fashion to consider such transfer. All transfers made in such instances shall be announced at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board. Expenditures by the board of education shall not exceed the appropriation made by the municipality, with such money as may be received from other sources for school purposes. If any occasion arises whereby additional funds are needed by such board, the chairman of such board shall notify the board of finance, board of selectmen or appropriating authority, as the case may be, and shall submit a request for additional funds in the same manner as is provided for departments, boards or agencies of the municipality and no additional funds shall be expended unless such supplemental appropriation shall be granted and no supplemental expenditures shall be made in excess of those granted through the appropriating authority. The annual report of the board of education shall, in accordance with section 10-224, include a summary showing (1) the total cost of the maintenance of schools, (2) the amount received from the state and other sources for the maintenance of schools, and (3) the net cost to the municipality of the maintenance of schools. For purposes of this subsection, "meeting" means a meeting, as defined in section 1-200.

Eugene F Croce
Manager - Bureau of Grants Management
860-713-6466



Educational Center for the Arts

55 Audubon Street • New Haven, CT 06510-1205 • Phone 203.777.5451 • Fax 203.782.3596

May 10, 2013

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2013

Superintendent of Schools
Seymour Board of Education

Christine Syriac, Superintendent
Seymour Public Schools
98 Bank Street
Seymour, CT 06483-2892

Dear Superintendent Syriac:

We have completed our application process for students who are interested in attending ACES Educational Center for the Arts for the 2013-2014 school year.

The following student(s) are **returning**:

1. **Joanna Collins, Music**
2. **Jessica Gagne, Music**
3. **Miles Livolsi, Music**
4. **Corinne O'Connor, Theatre**
5. **Shanen Seale, Theatre (moving into Seymour from Milford)**

We would like to **enroll** the following student(s):

Lauren Mahoney, Theatre
Austin Sherwood, Creative Writing
Jacob Hunnicutt, Visual Arts
Zmara Harrison, Music

We would waitlist:

Anya Garasimowicz, Music

The ACES Governing Board has set next year's tuition at \$8,952.00. After subtracting the anticipated funding we receive for each student from the CSDE Interdistrict Magnet School grant, the remaining balance of tuition to be paid would be approximately \$3,999.00 per student for a total of \$35,991.00.

An **ACES** Interdistrict Magnet School • www.aces.org

Area Cooperative Educational Services • The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut

ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

The ECA staff is sensitive to the needs of our applicants. Our goal is to receive confirmation from districts by May 28, 2032, so we may notify applicants of their enrollment status.

Please call with any questions you may have. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Alice Schilling
Principal

cc: Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent, Finance & Operations
Glenn Lungarini, Principal, Seymour H.S.

From: Warecke, Lynn
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2013 8:09 AM
To: Dauerty, Lee-Ann
Subject: RE: BOOK DONATION

Hi Lee-Ann,

Last night I received an email from Chris Usher from The Greenwich Workshop Gallery saying that he would like to donate that book to the school and wants to return our payment! They have been so-o-o generous!

Chris Usher
The Greenwich Workshop Gallery at Seymour
151 Main Street Seymour, CT 06483
(800) 243-4260
www.greenwichworkshopgallery.com

Lynn