



## MEETING MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING:**  
Seymour Middle School

May 7, 2012  
7:30 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Yashu Putorti, Chairman  
Jim Garofolo  
Saundra Gesek  
Jay Hatfield  
Peter Kubik  
Jennifer Magri  
Fred Stanek  
Ed Strumello  
Reba Putorti, Student Representative

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Kristen Harmeling

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk  
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent  
MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent of Schools  
Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent, Finance & Operations  
Nancy Snopkowski, Director of Special Services  
Jim Freund, Assistant Principal, Seymour High School  
Roberta Pratt, Systemwide Technology Coordinator  
Bernadette Hamad, Principal Seymour Middle School  
Barbara Eighmie  
Richard Rossik  
Andy Moyher  
Rogue Orts  
Melissa Anelli  
Polly Putorti  
John McCasland  
Glenn Lungarini

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

There was a brief discussion regarding the time limitations for this meeting.

**1112-050701- MOTION:** move to end the regular Board of Education meeting at 8:45 and table any unfinished business move it forward to the May 21, 2012 Board of Education meeting

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Saundra Gesek, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**OPPOSED:** Jim Garofolo, Jay Hatfield

## II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

### B. Recognitions

1. Congratulations to Rich Kearns on the latest program in the continuing effort to educate teens on the dangers of reckless behavior, drug, and substance abuse. Mr. Tim Rader came to Seymour High School on March 23, 2012 to present his "Live to Tell" program
2. Congratulations to Rick Belden who has been elected President of the Connecticut Association of School Business Officials (CASBO)
3. Congratulations to the members of the Seymour Middle School Gold Club who have recently received recognition by the State Department of Education and the Connecticut State Student Advisory Council on Education. Mrs. Stevens received certificates awarded to the Club for their efforts in the Annual Turkey Drive and Shady Knoll activities

Mr. Putorti noted the recognitions in the board agenda. Mr. Stanek wanted to recognize and congratulate Mr. Belden on his election as CASBO president. Mr. Hatfield recognized Mr. Kelo on his 400<sup>th</sup> win as a coach, Stephanie Orts on being selected as one of 44 Leaders Connecticut Leaders and Achievers by the Comcast Foundation and Mr. John Commune for being named as a recipient of one of five John Wentworth Good Sport awards

### C. Minutes

#### 1. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2012

**1112-050702- MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Jay Hatfield) to accept the minutes for the Regular Board of Education meeting of April 2, 2012 as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**1112-050703- MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Jay Hatfield) to accept the minutes for the Special Board of Education meeting of March 28, 2012 as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**1112-050704- MOTION:** (Jay Hatfield/sec., Jim Garofolo) to accept the minutes for the Special Board of Education meeting of April 10, 2012 as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**1112-050705- MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Jay Hatfield) to accept the minutes for the Special Board of Education meeting of April 16, 2012 with the following change:  
Jim Garofolo was in attendance.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

#### **D. Correspondence**

1. Letter dated April 1, 2012 from Verna Bernard-Jones RN MS, NCSN, President of the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut to MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent informing us that May 9, 2012 is School Nurse Day in the State of Connecticut
2. Letter to Cathy Goodrich from Ronald Skurat and Elise Wood, Town of Seymour Registrars of Voters informing us that 27 students registered as voters on March 21, 2012 and thanking the staff for their help and cooperation
3. Letter dated April 30, 2012 from Richard Belden to Alice Schilling, Director of Education Center for the Arts, in response to her letter of April 27, 2012 approving the attendance of eight students for the 2012-13 school year
4. Letter dated May 1, 2012 from Assistant Principals Ernie DiStasi and Leslie Sojka to all parents/guardians notifying them of our partnership in the VITAHLS Program which promotes the health of students, families, and staff in schools in the Lower Naugatuck Valley

#### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **IV. Information and Reports**

##### **1. Student Representative Report**

###### **a. HIGH SCHOOL**

Reba Putorti reported on the activities of Seymour High School

- 8<sup>th</sup> annual "TAKE A STAND" Day – April 27, 2012
- Prom - - April 28, 2012
- Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids sponsored by the US Marines and ASA Entertainment; an action sports agency sponsored a demonstration with BMX medal winners from the X Games – May 1, 2012
- Diversity Day - May 8, 2012
- WNBC will air "Making the Grade" which will feature our music students who will perform on their IPADS with the Waterbury symphony – May 9, 2012, 6:00 p.m. The segment will also air on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:55 a.m., 6:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- High School Concert, SHS Auditorium – May 16, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
- Honors Breakfast, SHS Café - May 17, 2012, 7:15 a.m.

Mr. Stanek inquired as to why the Mr. Seymour Contest did not happen this year. Ms. Putorti indicated that it was cancelled because people could not get together on it and not because of a lack of participation from the boys. Mr. Stanek noted his disappointment that this great fundraiser did not happen this year

Mr. Freund wanted to let people know that several Seymour High School students would be performing with the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra using their IPADS at Naugatuck Valley Community College on May 12, 2012

###### **b. MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- On May 2, 2012 the New Haven Symphony Orchestra will perform at Seymour Middle School. Fourth and fifth grade students will be invited to attend
- Science Olympics is a fun science-based competition for teams of four girls in sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Each team will take part in a series of activities with a scientific slant, but also requiring teamwork, lateral thinking, organization and planning.

b. MIDDLE SCHOOL (continued)

There will be prizes for the overall winning team and special prizes in various categories. The competition is at Laurelton Hall on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The eighth graders who will be participating in the Science Olympics from SMS: Jessica Collins, Julia Pietruszka, Alex Fryc and Rebecca Flodquist. (These girls participated and represented SMS as seventh graders too.) The seventh graders participating for the first time are: Brianna Gee, Megan Meyer, Brooke Seymour and Brittany LaChance. Mrs. Lindgren has promoted and organized participation in the wonderful program for the past couple of years

c. BUNGAY SCHOOL

- Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation at SMS - April 17, 2012
- SHS Student Council reads to K – 2 - April 18, 2012
- Dept. of Public Utility Control visits grade 5 - April 19, 2012
- Disco Day in support of Lymphoma Society - April 20, 2012
- Diabetes Walk-a-thon (Over \$5000.00 was raised for this wonderful cause) - April 20, 2012
- Grade 4 field trip to Rock Cats - April 25, 2012
- Grade 5 Class Picture - April 26, 2012
- PTA Literacy Jam - April 27, 2012
- Kindergarten Orientation - April 27, 2012
- SMS New Haven Symphony Grades 3, 4, & 5 - May 2, 2012
- Grade 4 (two classes) visits Yale Art Gallery - May 3, 2012
- Donate A Book - May 4, 2012
- All Children Exercising Simultaneously - May 4, 2012

d. CHATFIELD and LoPRESTI SCHOOLS

- On May 2, 2012 Chatfield and LoPresti Schools will be participating in the Project ACES Walk. May 2, 2012 is designated for Project A.C.E.S. (All Children Exercising Simultaneously). This will be the 24<sup>th</sup> annual global event. Project A.C.E.S. is part of National Physical Fitness and Sports Month and National Physical Fitness Week, and has been held annually since 1989. The hope is that at 10:00 a.m. on May 2<sup>nd</sup> millions of students from all over the world will exercise together to promote proper health and fitness habits. It has been labeled, "The World's Largest Exercise Class." We will be doing an activity school-wide between 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. and Chatfield School plans to walk to and around Chatfield Park as it did last year and LoPresti School will walk around the playground on top of the hill
- Over the next few weeks, Chatfield and LoPresti School will be doing some intra-district exchanges as the students get to know each other in anticipation for the merging of the two schools in the fall with the opening of the Chatfield-LoPresti School. In addition, the two schools are also attending curriculum-related field trips together as well
- Kindergarten Orientation for the 2012-13 school year for the Chatfield-LoPresti School will be at Chatfield on Thursday, May 3 at 1:00 p.m.

2. **Staff Resignations – Non Certified**

Grudzias, Barbara

- Instructional Paraprofessional
- Chatfield Elementary School
- Effective June 20, 2012

2. **Staff Resignations – Non Certified (continued)**

Marino, Sandra

- Instructional Paraprofessional
- Chatfield Elementary School
- Effective April 27, 2012

B. **Reports**

1. **Revised Minutes**

- a. Regular BOE Minutes – March 19, 2012  
Mr. Hatfield noted that motion 10-3521 should be corrected to reflect his absence from the meeting

2. **Committee Reports**

- a. HS Principal Focus Group – March 27, 2012, 2:30 p.m.  
b. HS Principal Focus Group – March 27, 2012, 6:30 p.m.  
c. Electronic Board Pack Ad Hoc Committee – March 29, 2012  
d. Liaison Committee – April 2, 2012  
e. Awards Committee – April 11, 2012  
f. Electronic Board Pack Ad Hoc Committee – April 12, 2012, 6:00 p.m.  
g. Electronic Board Pack Ad Hoc Committee – April 12, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
At Mr. Garofolo's request, Mr. Kubik did a brief overview of the three presentations that were done at the Electronic Board Pack Ad Hoc Committee meetings. He indicated that no decision had been made and the committee members would need to have a follow up meeting to discuss the pros/cons of each program  
h. Liaison Committee – April 16, 2012  
i. Awards Committee – April 26, 2012

3. **Chairman's Report**

Mr. Putorti indicated that the Board of Finance met tonight to discuss the town and education budget and Ms. Mascolo indicated the new number for the education budget will be \$903,224. He said we will work with this number if it is approved by the Board of Finance. Mr. Putorti also distributed a booklet entitled "Bullying I Connecticut's Public Schools: Implementation of Public Act 08-160"

- a. Board Member Comments  
Mr. Strumello inquired as to the format that will be used to discuss the CABE conference

4. **Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Mascolo waived the reading of the Superintendent's Report in the interest of time.

V. **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*

VI. **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

A. Awards

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** to accept the recommendation of the Awards Committee to approve the chosen recipients of the Brumer Award, the Gallagher Award, the Kobasa Award, and the Petruny Award

**1112-050706 - MOTION:** (Fred Stanek/sec., Ed Strumello) to amend the motion to include the names of the recipients

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**1112-050707 - MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Jennifer Magri) to accept the recommendation of the Awards Committee to approve the chosen recipients of the Brumer Award (Don Smith), the Gallagher Award (Jay Gesek), the Kobasa Award (Michael Milia, Lee Angelosek, Stephanie Shelinsky), and the Petruny Award (Umma Minhaz)

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

B. Non Renewal of Teachers

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** Move that, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, the Seymour Board of Education non-renew the teaching contract of Alexandra Gaudio at the end of the 2011-2012 school year as recommended by the Superintendent

I further move that the Superintendent be directed to communicate this action of the Board in writing to Alexandra Gaudio and that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to respond on behalf of the Board to any request, if required by law, or for other data which may be forthcoming from the teacher and/or his/her representative pursuant to applicable provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151

Mr. Garofolo inquired as to what Ms. Gaudio's position was and where she was employed. Ms. Mascolo said she was a long term substitute at Chatfield Elementary School

**1112-050708 - MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Jennifer Magri) move that, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, the Seymour Board of Education non-renew the teaching contract of Alexandra Gaudio at the end of the 2011-2012 school year as recommended by the Superintendent

I further move that the Superintendent be directed to communicate this action of the Board in writing to Alexandra Gaudio and that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to respond on behalf of the Board to any request, if required by law, or for other data which may be forthcoming from the teacher and/or his/her representative pursuant to applicable provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

C. Bid Waiver

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** to waive formal bidding per Board Policy 3320 and award a contract for the acquisition of Cisco switches and wireless access points in the amount of \$220,023.33 to Atrion, 30 Service Avenue, Warwick, RI. 02886 (Cisco authorized dealer) utilizing State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services Contract 06ITZ0034

A lengthy discussion regarding the need for a bid waiver, the availability of vendors from inside the State of Connecticut, and the warranty details took place.

**1112-050709 - MOTION:** (Jay Hatfield/sec., Jennifer Magri) to waive formal bidding per Board Policy 3320 and award a contract for the acquisition of Cisco switches and wireless access points in the amount of \$220,023.33 to Atrion, 30 Service Avenue, Warwick, RI. 02886 (Cisco authorized dealer) utilizing State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services Contract 06ITZ0034

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**OPPOSED:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek

D. Financing Agreement

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a five (5) year financing agreement for \$230,695.51 at 0% interest with Cisco Financial Systems with an annual payment of \$46,139.02

Ms. Gesek questioned the accounting of this cost and where in the budget it would impact. Mr. Belden explained how this amount would be removed from one line item and placed in another line item. After a lengthy discussion regarding the accounting procedure, the motion was moved forward

**1112-050710 - MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Mr. Kubik) to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a five (5) year financing agreement for \$228,394.39 at 0% interest with Cisco Financial Systems with an annual payment of \$45,678.88

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

**OPPOSED:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek

E. Paraprofessionals Union Contract:

**1112-050711 – MOTION:** (Mr. Strumello/sec., Jennifer Magri): to approve the mediated agreement between the Seymour Board of Education and the Seymour Schools Paraprofessionals' Association, CSEA SEIU Local 2001, as recommended by the Seymour Board of Education Liaison Committee. The mediated agreement shall be for a three (3) year period beginning August 1, 2011 and ending July 31, 2014

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

F. Grievance

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** to approve the recommendation of the Liaison Committee to deny grievance #11-12-04

There was a brief discussion regarding what policy was violated.

**1112-050712 – MOTION:** (Ed Strumello/sec., Jennifer Magri) to approve the recommendation of the Liaison Committee to deny grievance #11-12-04

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Ed Strumello

**OPPOSED:** Sandra Gesek, Fred Stanek

G. Graduation

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** discussion and possible action on making it a practice to issue an invitation to the First Selectman to walk and be on the stand for the high school graduation

**1112-050712 – MOTION:** (Fred Stanek/sec., Ed Strumello) to table this motion and move it forward to the Board of Education agenda of May 21, 2012

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

VII. ADJOURMENT

**1112-050713 – MOTION:** (Jay Hatfield/sec., Ed Strumello) to adjourn the meeting

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Jim Garofolo, Sandra Gesek, Jay Hatfield, Peter Kubik, Jennifer Magri, Yashu Putorti, Fred Stanek, Ed Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Lee-Ann Dauerty