



MEETING MINUTES (revised)

REGULAR MEETING:

Seymour Middle School

December 19, 2011

7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Yashu Putorti, Chairman
James Garofolo
Saundra Gesek
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Jennifer Magri
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello
Reba Putorti, Student Representative
Patricia Gillis, BOE Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent of Finance & Oper.
Mary Lavoie, Director of Instruction
Nancy Snopkowski, Director of Special Education
Bernadette Hamad, Principal, Seymour Middle School
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, Bungay School
Ernie DiStasi, Asst. Principal, Bungay School
David Olechna, Principal, Chatfield/LoPresti Schools
Leslie Sojka, Asst. Principal, Chatfield/LoPresti Schools
Meagan Krushinski, SEA President & SMS Teacher
Cindy Dion
Alison Brett
Judith Moeller
Theresa Dunlop
Richard Grudzian
Melissa Drozd
Allison Bopp

I) CALL TO ORDER

A. Yashu Putorti, Chairman, called the meeting to with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:35 P.M.

Introductions were made by Chairman Putorti and Ms. Mascolo.

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. 21st Century Learning

NONE

B. Recognitions

Mrs. Magri shared with the BOE what a pleasure it was to watch Jacob Drozd, son of our Physical Education teacher Melissa Drozd, during the Army/Navy game recently on television. She noted it was great to see him many times on the television which showed he was from Seymour, CT.

Ms. Mascolo attended the CAPSS Award Banquet on December 12, 2011 and recognized the district's winners: Daniel Robinson and Emily Wrogg from Seymour Middle School, and Mallory Briggs and Lukacz Grabowski from Seymour High School.

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

B. Recognitions (continued)

Mr. Stanek recognized Seymour High School senior and Student Representative Reba Putorti on her early acceptance to Hofstra University.

Mr. Hatfield recognized Christina Cretella, who was honored recently at the Pink Game, for scoring her 1,000 point last year. He noted what an accomplishment this is for her.

C. Correspondence

1. NONE

D. Minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes (revised) – November 21, 2011
2. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – November 30, 2011
3. Special BOE Organizational Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2011
4. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2011

10-3576: MOTION: (Mr. Strumello, sec. Mr. Kubik) to accept the minutes of the Regular BOE Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011 (revised) and December 5, 2011, and Special BOE Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2011 and December 5, 2011

SO VOTED:

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

III) PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Dion, 18 Carriage Drive, Seymour, parent of a student at Bungay School – Mrs. Dion commented how dumbfounded she was at the December 5, 2011 organizational meeting regarding the discussion that was held for 15 minutes on whether or not to take Mrs. Harmeling's voice as her voice over the phone because she was out of town. Mrs. Dion works from home and always signs her paperwork electronically. She hopes this BOE will bring new ideas and moves with the future. Mrs. Dion noted the meeting was an embarrassment to watch and is not the only parent that feels this way.

Theresa Dunlop, 13 Highland Street, Seymour, parent of a student at SMS – Mrs. Dunlop informed the BOE she has noticed over the last couple of months some of the documents on the district's website have changed to doc. X files and she cannot open them on her home computer. She asked the BOE to look into this so her student can open documents from home.

Alison Brett, Seymour resident, parent of two children at Bungay School – Mrs. Brett informed the BOE her children utilize a path out of Bungay School, and during the winter when there is a lot of snow, the path needs to be cleared. She asked if the BOE can look into how we can get the town and the BOE to work together to clear the path for the children. Ms. Mascolo will look into it.

IV) INFORMATION AND REPORTS**A. INFORMATION****1. Student Representative**

- a. CAPSS Banquet – December 12, 2011
- b. High School Winter Concert – December 15, 2011
- c. Girls Basketball "Pink" Game – December 16, 2011
- d. Week of December 19 "Countdown to Vacation"
 - Pajama/Flannel Day – Monday, December 19, 2011
 - Holiday Hat Day – Tuesday, December 20, 2011
 - White Out Wednesday – Wednesday, December 21, 2011
 - Bundle Up Day – Thursday, December 22, 2011
 - Ugly Sweater Day – Friday, December 23, 2011

Discussion was held on how SHS Student Representatives could get information of happenings at the other schools in the district and report back to the BOE. Ms. Mascolo will set this up.

IV) INFORMATION AND REPORTS (continued)

A. INFORMATION (continued)

2. Middle School Concerts

- a. Concert features the Concert Band and 6th Grade Choir –
December 20, 2011, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Concert features the 7th and 8th Grade Choirs and the Jazz Band –
December 21, 2011, 6:30 p.m.

3. English Language Learner (ELL) Data Results

This information was put in the agenda for BOE review

4. Bullying Policy

Discussion was held and Ms. Mascolo answered BOE members' questions. Ms. Mascolo asked BOE members to send her any other questions they might have.

5. Staffing Levels

- a. District – Christine Syriac
Ms. Syriac gave an informative slide show presentation and answered all BOE members' questions.
- b. Tentative Plans – Chatfield School – Christine Syriac
Ms. Syriac gave an informative slide show presentation and answered all BOE members' questions.

B. REPORTS

1. Awards Committee Meeting Minutes (revised) – November 15, 2011

This information was put in the agenda for BOE review

2. Chairman's Report

Chairman Putorti handed out an article about Southbury Selectmen's' meetings, entitled "Selectmen meetings have different look under Edelson". The article gave a brief synopsis of how their meetings are run using modern day technology. Chairman Putorti reported to the BOE on a workshop he recently attended on being a BOE Chairman. As a personal preference, Chairman Putorti decided to do away with having a Consent Agenda on the regular BOE agenda. He asked BOE members to let him know between meetings if they wanted any item(s) added to the next meeting's agenda to have them to him by the Wednesday before the meeting.

a. Board Member Comments

Mrs. Magri reported she also had the opportunity to attend a CABE workshop and learned what was going on in other districts. She found the workshop very informative and encouraged other members to attend one. Mr. Strumello commented he read an interesting article in the "Republican" about the new Superintendent in Watertown, who is from out of the district. Many of the things she said in the article are similar to what Ms. Mascolo has been saying, e.g. "High quality teaching is going on, but high quality teaching still needs improvement." Mr. Stanek would like the Facilities Committee to discuss the heating system at the high school due to the situations today and a few weeks ago in the science wing. He stated the heating system has been problematic since the addition was built, and we need to possibly allocate money in this upcoming budget to get it resolved. Mr. Kubik agreed and will have Ms. Mascolo schedule a meeting. Mr. Garofolo suggested Wayne Natzel be invited to the meeting as well. Mr. Hatfield asked to get a preview of FF& E (Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment) package of Chatfield before the budget workshop to see what we would be looking for there as well as the other schools, and how the district will implement the technology.

3. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo distributed her report to BOE members which detailed her meetings, activities and ebcasts of the previous two weeks, as well as upcoming meetings and activities. She also called BOE members attention to the corrected calendar of meetings.

V) EXECUTIVE SESSION
NONE

VI) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS
A. One Man Team

10-3577: MOTION: (Mr. Strumello, sec. Mr. Hatfield) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve Emmett O'Brien Technical High School student Jacob Henry-Parks to participate with Seymour High School as a one man team in wrestling for the 2011 season

SO VOTED:

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

B. One Man Team

10-3578: MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield, sec. Mr. Strumello) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve Derby High School student Zach Carroll to participate with Seymour High School as a one man team in swimming for the 2011-2012 season

SO VOTED:

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

C. Nutrition Services Financial Report – October, 2011

10-3579: MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield, sec. Mr. Kubik) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the October, 2011 Nutrition Services Financial Report as submitted

Discussion was held.

SO VOTED:

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

D. ACES Representative

10-3580: MOTION: (Mrs. Harmeling, sec. Mr. Kubik) to appoint Kristen Harmeling and Ed Strumello as Board of Education ACES Co-Representatives

SO VOTED:

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

E. Curriculum & Technology Committee

10-3581: MOTION: (Mrs. Harmeling, sec. Mrs. Magri) to change the name of Curriculum & Technology Committee to Curriculum, Library & Technology

Discussion was held.

SO VOTED:

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

VI) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (continued)

E. Curriculum & Technology Committee (continued)

10-3582: MOTION: (Mrs. Harmeling, sec. Mrs. Magri) to make the Curriculum, Library & Technology Committee a committee of the whole

MOTION FAILED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Harmeling, Mrs. Magri

OPPOSED: Chairman Putorti, Mr. Garofolo, Mrs. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

F. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

10-3583: MOTION: (Mr. Strumello, sec. Mr. Garofolo) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve Christopher Durette as a co-coach for the boys swim team at Seymour High School pending SEA approval (the acceptance of splitting the stipend)

SO VOTED:

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

G. Out of State Field Trip

10-3584: MOTION: (Mr. Strumello, sec. Mrs. Harmeling) to approve the request of Stephanie Shelinsky and Paula Burton to take the High School Ski/Snowboard Club on an out of state field trip to Mt. Stratton in Stratton Mountain, NY

SO VOTED:

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

VII) ADJOURNMENT

10-3585: MOTION: (Mr. Strumello, sec. Mr. Hatfield) to adjourn at 9:18 p.m.

SO VOTED:

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

Submitted,

Patricia Gillis, Clerk