



MEETING MINUTES

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING:
Seymour Middle School

October 3, 2011
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Strumello, Chairman
Bruce Baker
Judith Flood
James Garofolo – arrived at 7:55 p.m.
Peter Kubik
Jeanne Loda
Yashu Putorti
Fred Stanek – arrived at 7:41 p.m.
James Ward
Patricia Gillis, BOE Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent of Finance & Oper.
Nancy Snopkowski, Director of Special Education
Cathy Goodrich, Principal, Seymour High School
Jim Freund, Asst. Principal, Seymour High School
Bernadette Hamad, Principal, Seymour Middle School
Monica Briggs, Asst. Principal, Seymour Middle School
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, Bungay School
Ernie DiStasi, Assistant Principal, Bungay School
Lukacz Grabowski, SHS Student Representative
Paul Roy, First Selectman, Town of Seymour
Saundra J. Gesek, Board of Selectman, Seymour
Kristen Harmeling, Seymour Board of Finance
Jay Hatfield, Seymour Board of Finance
Meagan Krushinski, SEA President & SMS Teacher
Harvey Catlin, SMS Teacher
Cathy Guerrero, SMS Secretary
Bruce Deming, Seymour Public School Teacher
Mary Deming, Seymour Public School Teacher
Jennifer Magri, Seymour Public School Parent
Paul Sponheimer, Seymour Resident
Susan DeRosa, Seymour Public School Parent

I) CALL TO ORDER

- A.** Ed Strumello, Chairman, called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. Hamad to lead all in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:38 P.M.

Introductions were made by Chairman Strumello and Ms. Mascolo.

Ms. Mascolo thanked Cathy Guerrero, Secretary of Food Services, for the cake and coffee provided for the "New Teacher and Staff Welcome" prior to the start of the BOE meeting.

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. 21st Century Learning

Ms. Mascolo handed out a report for BOE members reading and gave a synopsis of information in the report.

1. 2010 Common Core of Teaching

Ms. Mascolo gave a brief overview of what good instruction and teaching looked like back in the early nineties put together by the State of Connecticut, which was part of a teacher's evaluation and recently revised.

2. Code of Professional Responsibility for Educators

Ms. Mascolo presented points of professional responsibilities for educators e.g. learn from each other, be responsible for seeking out professional development, respect all students, and teachers should seek out their own professional development.

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

B. Recognitions

Ms. Mascolo invited Mary Deming to speak on behalf of Seymour Pink. Ms. Deming thanked the BOE for their support of Seymour Pink and use of the SMS auditorium for the Candy Coburn concert to be held on October 21st; and she also reported Ms. Mascolo has tickets for all BOE members who would like to attend the concert.

C. Correspondence

1. Letter to Town of Seymour First Selectman Paul Roy from MaryAnne Mascolo dated September 27, 2011 regarding the commitment and payment for Servers and SANs
2. Letter to Harvey Catlin from Joanne White, Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program, dated September 21, 2011 announcing the date of the Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony
3. Letter to all parents/guardians from MaryAnne Mascolo dated September 27, 2011 announcing the date and times for Parent Visitation in our schools

Chairman Strumello complimented the team members who wrote the letter on Servers and Sans addressed to First Selectman Paul Roy.

III) PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan DeRosa, 1 Evening Star Drive, Seymour, asked for the BOE to look into and implement safer bus stops in several areas near her neighborhood. She handed out pictures for the BOE's review of the areas. Chairman Strumello asked Ms. Mascolo to set up a Transportation Committee meeting to address this issue.

Joseph and Lori Todice, 28 Evening Star Drive, Seymour, also spoke about this issue and noted some areas do not have sidewalks and how dark and dangerous it is in the mornings walking to the bus stops.

IV) CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting – September 6, 2011 (revised)
2. Regular BOE Meeting – September 19, 2011
3. Special BOE Meeting – September 22, 2011

B. Staff Resignations – Non Certified

1. Van Bourgondien, Jean
 - Instructional Paraprofessional
 - High School
 - Effective September 2, 2011

C. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Brown, Heather
 - Class Advisor
 - High School
 - Replacing Fran DiVito

IV) CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

C. Staff Hiring – Appendix E (continued)

2. DeMarco, Eric
 - National Honor Society Co Advisor
 - High School
 - Replacing Fran DiVito
3. Ortiz, Christina
 - Coach
 - Dance Team
 - High School
 - Replacing Aimee Tkacz-Casini
4. Shelinsky, Stephanie
 - National Honor Society Co Advisor
 - High School
 - Replacing Fran DiVito

D. Volunteers

1. Giarratano, Jennifer
 - Assistant Coach
 - Volleyball
 - High School

Mr. Garofolo asked to remove Items A. 3 from the Consent Agenda

10-3526: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Kubik) moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with the removal of Item A. 3

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Item A 3: Mr. Garofolo stated since he was not in attendance at the September 22, 2011 meeting and would have voted as abstained, he would like a separate vote to be taken.

10-3527: MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec. Mr. Putorti) to have a separate vote taken on the September 22, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Baker commented that since there was not a quorum at the September 22, 2011 meeting, it was not really a BOE meeting. Discussion was held. Ms. Syriac noted that it was an Ad Hoc meeting and not a BOE meeting.

Mrs. Flood withdrew her motion, and Mr. Putorti withdrew his second to the motion.

VI) INFORMATION AND REPORTS

A. INFORMATION

1. **Student Representatives** – Lukacz Grabowski
 - a. Homecoming Week
 - Tuesday, 10/11/11– Twin Day
 - Wednesday, 10/12/11 – Western Wednesday
 - Thursday, 10/13/11 – Pajama Day
 - ***Ansonia/Seymour Football Game starts at 6:00 p.m.***
 - Friday, 10/14/11 – Color Wars
 - Saturday, 10/15/11 – Homecoming Dance 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
 - b. College Board ReadStep, 9th and 10th Grades, PSAT, 11th Grade – 10/12/11,
 - c. College Admission Session with Area Colleges, 12th Grade – 10/12/11

Ms. Goodrich noted the Alumni Fair is the day before Thanksgiving, Wednesday, November 23, 2011, and there is no cost to the BOE for the College Board ReadStep.

VI) INFORMATION AND REPORTS (continued)

A. INFORMATION

- 2. Seymour Middle School Improvement Plan** – Bernadette Hamad / Monica Briggs
Mrs. Hamad and Mrs. Briggs gave an in-depth slide show presentation of the Seymour Middle School Improvement Plan and answered BOE members questions.
- 3. Update on School Climate Plan** – Christine Syriac
Ms. Syriac reported that she, Cathy Goodrich and Bernadette attended a state conference the previous week on Implementing Safe School Climate Plans within Districts. Ms. Syriac gave an overview of what the state mandates and how the district will complete their requirements. Discussion was held and Ms. Syriac answered all BOE members' questions.
- 4. Meet the Teachers**
 - Bungay PreK-2 – September 13, 2011
 - Bungay 3-5 – September 15, 2011
 - Chatfield – September 12, 2011
 - LoPresti – September 14, 2011
 - Middle – September 7, 2011
 - High – September 8, 2011

B. REPORTS

1. Minutes

- a. Finance Committee – September 6, 2011 - Revised
- b. Finance Committee – September 19, 2011

2. Committee Reports

- a. Chatfield LoPresti Building Committee
Chairman Strumello reported he had a tour of the new addition and commented it will be a phenomenal school

3. Chairman's Report

- a. Chairman Strumello received a letter from Kevin Lembo, State of Connecticut Comptroller asking for membership recommendations for the newly established Non-State Public Health Care Advisory Committee. He also received correspondence from Connecticut Appleseed, a non-profit organization devoted to developing solutions to the causes rather than the symptoms of our state's social problems
- b. Board Members' Comments
None

4. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo reviewed the details of her report, including meetings, activities and ebasts of the previous two weeks. She will attend the Teacher of the Year Award presentation. The Curriculum committee will meet on November 15th at 7:30 p.m., and the Awards ceremony will be held just before at 7:00 p.m. The Policy Committee will meet on November 16th. A Parent Focus Group meeting is scheduled for November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at SMS to solicit parent input for the 2012-2013 school year budget

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Out of State Field Trip

10-3528: MOTION: (Mr. Kubik, sec. Mrs. Loda) to approve the request of Harvey Catlin, trip organizer, to approve a field trip for the Class of 2016 to Washington DC on April 25, 2012 through April 27, 2012

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (continued)

B. One Man Team

10-3529: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Derby High School student Jonathan Dean to participate with Seymour High School as a one man team in Cross County for the 2011 season

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

C. Notification of School Closing

10-3530: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to send a letter to Mr. Paul Roy, Town of Seymour First Selectman, notifying the town that LoPresti Elementary School will be closing

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

D. Appointment of School System Medical Doctor

10-3531: MOTION: (Mr. Loda, sec. Putorti) to approve the recommendation to appoint Dr. Douglas Curtiss and his designated associates as the school physician(s) for the Seymour Public Schools for a three (3) year period beginning September 1, 2011 and ending August 31, 2014. The annual fee shall be \$11,250 for 2011-12, and the annual fee for 2012-13 and 2013-14 shall be mutually negotiated and agreed to prior to the beginning of the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school year

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

E. Waiving the Bidding Process

10-3532: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Baker) per Board policy #3320 (attached) the Board of Education waives formal bidding for goods or services in excess of \$25,000 for the 2011-12 fiscal year per the reasons stated in policy, including but not limited to: legal services (Siegel, O'Connor, Shipman, & Goodwin); third party maintenance (Siemens, Environmental Services Corporation, A&B Mechanical); transportation services (All Star Transportation); heating oil diesel fuel, and natural gas (East River Energy, Yankee Gas); Indoor Air Quality Testing (Fuss& O'Neill, Industrial Health & Safety Consultants; Custodial and maintenance supplies (Dumouchel, Benman, Grainger); Instructional materials(School Specialties); Technology Equipment (RnB Enterprises, Dell, CDWG)

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

OPPOSED: Mr. Garofolo

VIII) EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

IX) ADJOURNMENT

10-3533: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Baker) to adjourn at 9:55 p.m.

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Chairman Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Ward

Submitted,

Patricia Gillis, Clerk