

Seymour Board of Education



MEETING MINUTES

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING:
Seymour Middle School

May 2, 2011
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Strumello, Chairman
Bruce Baker
Judith Flood
James Garofolo
Peter Kubik – arrived 7:40 p.m.
Jeanne Loda
Yashu Putorti
Fred Stanek
Mr. Ward – arrived 7:35 p.m.
Patricia Gillis, BOE Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Supt.
Rick Belden, Asst. Supt. of Fin. & Oper.
Nancy Snopkowski, Director of Special Education
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, Bungay School
Reba Putorti, SHS Student Representative
Jennifer Magri, Seymour Public School parent
Dawn Marie Hunter, Seymour Public School parent
Dennis Hunter, Seymour Public School parent

I) CALL TO ORDER

A) Ed Strumello, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Stanek asked for a moment of silence for Shirley Hibbard who passed away on April 12, 2011. Mrs. Hibbard worked as a Guidance Secretary in the Seymour Public Schools for more than twenty-five years. Mr. Stanek commented, "Mrs. Hibbard was the heartbeat of the Guidance Department at Seymour High School."

Introductions were made by Chairman Strumello and Ms. Mascolo.

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A) 21st Century Teaching and Learning
None

B) Recognitions

1. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Seymour High School student **Bhupinder Singh** who was selected to participate in the 2011 Youth Financial Literacy Institute on May 13, 2011 at the University of Connecticut School of Business in Storrs, CT
2. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Seymour High School students **Nick Deluca, Bill Novak, Tyler Shea, and Kyle Beedle**, who helped build the new Sikorsky Bank Financial Credit Union located in Seymour High School
3. Ms. Mascolo congratulated **all the Seymour High School students and staff**, who participated in Mr. Seymour and a dress down day. The proceeds (\$1,500.00) from these two activities were donated to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Ms. Mascolo and Mr. Belden attended the 2011 Ceremony for the South West Connecticut Summer Savers Awards at the State Capitol in Hartford on April 28th in recognition of Seymour Middle School winning a Peak Performer Summer Savers Award for its performance during the summer of 2010.

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

C) Correspondence

1. Letter dated April 15, 2011 to MaryAnne Mascolo, from Rich Kearns introducing the 7th Annual "Take a Stand!" Day on May 6, 2011
2. Letter dated March 31, 2011 to Rick Belden from Kevin DelGobbo, State of Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control offering congratulations to Seymour Middle School on being selected a winner of a Peak Performer Summer Savers Award
3. Letter dated April 4, 2011 to MaryAnne Mascolo from Brian Mahoney, State of Connecticut Department of Education regarding the Chatfield School renovation project

III) PUBLIC COMMENT

Seymour Public School parents Dawn Marie and Dennis Hunter spoke before the BOE with regard to an injury their son incurred at LoPresti School. After a lengthy discussion BOE members recommended the Policy Committee take a look at its procedures involving accidents and putting it on the next Policy Committee Meeting agenda scheduled for May 19th.

IV) CONSENT AGENDA

A) Approval of minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting – April 4, 2011

B) Staff Resignation (Retirement) – Certified

1. Coughlin, Patrick
 - a. World Language Teacher
 - b. Seymour High School
 - c. Effective June 15, 2011
2. Laudati, Judith
 - a. English Teacher
 - b. Seymour Middle School
 - c. Effective June 15, 2011
3. Stack, Marianna
 - a. Special Education Teacher
 - b. Seymour Middle School
 - c. Effective July 1, 2011

C) Staff Hiring – Non-Certified

1. Van Bourgondien, Jean
 - a. Instructional Paraprofessional
 - b. Seymour High School
 - c. Replacing Davida Stockman
 - d. Step 1, Paraprofessionals Contract

D) Nutrition Services

1. Financial Report – March, 2011

E) Finance Committee – May 2, 2011

1. Recommendation to approve the acceptance of the Financial Management Summary for March, 2011
2. Recommendation to award bid #11-01 High School track repair and resurfacing to Dalton Track and Tennis, Cheshire, CT in the amount of \$46,500.00
3. Recommendation to award bid #11-02 High School tennis court repair and resurfacing Dalton Track and Tennis, Cheshire, CT in the amount of \$9,527.00

F) Ms. Amarylis Cruz has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school

her child, Isaiah Vargas, for the 2010-2011 school year

Recommendation to acknowledge the receipt of this form and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program

Mr. Stanek asked to remove Item B. 1, 2, & 3, from the Consent Agenda.

IV) CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

10-3423: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to accept Items A, C, D, E, & F of the Consent Agenda with the removal of Item B. 1, 2 & 3 from the Consent Agenda.

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

10-3424: MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec. Mrs. Flood) to accept the retirement resignation of Patrick Coughlin with great appreciation and regret.

SO VOTED:

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

10-3425: MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec. Mrs. Loda) to accept the retirement resignation of Judy Laudati with great appreciation and regret.

Chairman Strumello complimented Mrs. Laudati on her choice of wording in her retirement resignation letter. He noted that his son and daughter had the pleasure of having Mrs. Laudati as a teacher.

SO VOTED:

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

10-3426: MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec. Mrs. Loda) to accept the retirement resignation of Marianna Stack with great appreciation and regret.

Mr. Stanek commented we are losing a great deal of talent with the resignations and retirements of all three individuals.

SO VOTED:

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

VI) INFORMATION AND REPORTS

A) INFORMATION

1. Student Representative – Reba Putorti

- a. AP Testing – started on 5/2/11
- b. Honors Breakfast – 5/5/11; 7:30 a.m. Board Members are invited to attend
- c. Take A Stand Day – 5/6/11; 8:30 a.m. – High School Auditorium / Oxford
HS students will be joining Seymour Junior Class for the day. BOE members are invited to attend
- d. Talent Show – 5/6/11; 6:00 p.m., \$5.00 admission to benefit the Music Department

e. Inside Out Art Show - 5/14/11; Reception at 2:00 p.m.; Greenwich Workshop

Ms. Putorti also reported the Seymour High School National Honor Society held their banquet on April 28th. Ms. Mascolo reported there are currently 30 seniors and 20 juniors in the Honor Society, and there are 27 new inductees, 2 seniors, 4 juniors, and 21 sophomores.

2. **Special BOE Meeting Minutes Revised** – March 28, 2011

VI) INFORMATION AND REPORTS (continued)

B) REPORTS

1. Committee Reports

a. Athletic Committee Meeting Minutes - April 5, 2011

Mr. Putorti reported he had some concerns regarding students being taken out of school for appointments and missing class time, and being punished for missing practices and/or games for after school appointments, family vacations, and religious events. A lengthy discussion was held regarding SPS rules and regulations with regard to sports. Chairman Strumello suggested BOE members attend a Policy Committee meeting to review these rules and regulations. Mr. Putorti also reported the Girl's Softball dugout was dedicated.

b. Policy Committee Meeting Minutes - April 13, 2011

Chairman Strumello passed out Policy Committee packets and complimented Mr. Belden on a thorough presentation he gave to the committee

c. Awards Committee Meeting Minutes - April 13, 2011

Mr. Stanek reported the following award recipients were recommended:

- DAVID A. BRUMER AWARD – **Mort and Ingrid Conlan**
- JOHN J. GALLAGHER AWARD – **John K. Hummel**
- VINCENTENA KOBASA EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD – **David Fleming** (elementary), **Steven Tilki** (middle school), **Shane Cather** (high school)
- THOMAS J. PETRUNY MEMORIAL EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT AWARD – **Dan Shibu** (Grade 6 - SMS Audubon Club)

10-3427: MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec. Mrs. Flood) to go out of order to consider Item 7, B. Awards

SO VOTED:

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

10-3428: MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec. Mrs. Loda) to accept the Awards Committee recommendation to approve and confer the Brumer Award, the Gallagher Award, the Kobasa Award, and the Petruny Award as follows:

- DAVID A. BRUMER AWARD – **Mort and Ingrid Conlan**
- JOHN J. GALLAGHER AWARD – **John K. Hummel**
- VINCENTENA KOBASA EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD – **David Fleming** (elementary), **Steven Tilki** (middle school), **Shane Cather** (high school)
- THOMAS J. PETRUNY MEMORIAL EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT AWARD – **Dan Shibu** (Grade 6 - SMS Audubon Club)

SO VOTED:

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

2. Chairman's Report

a. Board Members' Comments

Chairman Strumello thanked all parents who worked hard in an attempt to get the BOE's budget passed through the BOF. Mr. Ward inquired as to how much money we are

saving through the Peak Performer Program. Mr. Belden explained how the award program works and we are saving about \$9,000 - \$10,000 a year. Mr. Ward requested the Athletic Committee look at the condition of all the district's fields and report back to the BOE on them.

3. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo reviewed the details of her report, including meetings and activities of the last three weeks, upcoming meetings and events.

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A) Team of One

10-3429: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to approve the request of Seymour High School student Jules Montojo to represent Seymour High School as a team of one in Tennis at Woodland Regional High School

SO VOTED:

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

B) Awards – Motion passed under Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Motion for Consideration: to accept the Awards Committee recommendation to approve the chosen recipients of the Brumer Award, the Gallagher Award, the Kobasa Award, and the Petruny Award

C) Monetary Donation

10-3430: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Kubik) to accept the generous donation of \$100.00 from Mr. and Mrs. David Brezina to cover the cost of a school banner to be used at the Class Day ceremony

SO VOTED:

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

D) Policy #3100 – Budget Planning

10-3431: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Baker) to approve the revision of policy #3100 – Budget Planning as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

E) Policy #3105 – Fiscal Year

10-3432: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Kubik) to approve the addition of policy #3105 – Fiscal Year as recommended by the Policy Committee

F) Policy #3110 – Budget Development

10-3433: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) to approve the revision of policy #3110 – Budget Development as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

G) Policy #3113 – Setting Budget Priorities

10-3434: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to approve the deletion of policy #3113 – Setting Budget Priorities as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (continued)

H) Policy #3150 – Budget Adoption

10-3435: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to approve the revision of policy #3150 – Budget Adoption as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

I) Policy and Regulation #3160 – Transfer of Funds

10-3436: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to approve the revision of policy and regulation #3160 – Transfer of Funds as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

J) Policy and Regulation #3231 – Medical Reimbursement

10-3437: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Ward) to approve the revision of policy and regulation #3231 – Medical Reimbursement as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

K) Policy #3432 – Financial Records and Reports

10-3438: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Kubik) to approve the revision of policy #3432 – Financial Records and Reports as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

L) Policy #3440 – Inventories

10-3439: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Kubik) to approve the revision of policy and regulation #3440 – Inventories as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

M) Policy #3450 – Monies in School Buildings

10-3440: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) to approve the revision of policy #3450 – Monies in School Buildings as recommended by the Policy Committee

SO VOTED:

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

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (continued)

10-3441: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) to add to the agenda approval of a salary increase for Nurses for the 2011-2012 school year as recommended by the Liaison Committee.

SO VOTED:

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

10-3442: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) to approve salary increase for the Nurses for the 2011-2012 school year as recommended by the Liaison Committee.

SO VOTED:

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

VIII) EXECUTIVE SESSION

A) Discussion and possible action upon the appointment of the Superintendent of Schools

10-3443: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Baker) to enter into Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss the appointment of a new Superintendent.

SO VOTED:

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

Members came out of Executive Session at 8:52 p.m.

10-3444 MOTION TO APPOINT: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Flood) move to appoint Christine Syriac as Superintendent of Schools for the Seymour School District effective July 1, 2012 and to authorize the Liaison Committee to negotiate a contract with said Superintendent, not to exceed three (3) years, to be presented to the Board for approval

SO VOTED:

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Putorti

SO VOTED:

IX) ADJOURNMENT

10-3444: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Flood) to adjourn at 8:56 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