



MEETING MINUTES

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING:
Seymour Middle School

December 20, 2010
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Strumello, Chairman
Bruce Baker
Judith Flood
James Garofolo
Peter Kubik
Jeanne Loda
Yashu Putorti
Patricia Gillis, BOE Clerk

ABSENT:

Fred Stanek
Mr. Ward

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Supt.
Rick Belden, Asst. Supt. of Fin. & Oper.
Cathy Goodrich, Principal, SHS
Jim Freund, Assistant Principal, SHS
Paul Lucke, Assistant Principal, SHS
Bernadette Hamad, Principal, SMS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, Bungay
Mary Lavoie, Director of Curriculum, SPS
Paul Roy, First Selectman— Arrived 8:25 p.m.
Reba Putorti, SHS Student Representative
Jennifer Magri, SPS Parent
Jodie Mozdzer, Valley Independent Sentinel
Jay Hatfield, Board of Finance

I) CALL TO ORDER

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

II) BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A) 21st Century Teaching and Learning
NONE

B) Recognition

1. Ms. Mascolo congratulated **Maggie Crocamo and Michelle Pleban** who were named members of the All-NVL Girls Swimming team.
2. Ms. Mascolo congratulated **Kevin Walkley** who was named as a member of the All-NVL Boys Cross Country team.
3. Ms. Mascolo congratulated **Cindy Brooks** who was elected to the National School Nutrition Association's Board of Directors as the chair of the Public Policy and Legislation Committee
4. Ms. Mascolo congratulated the **Bungay School Progress Monitoring Team** (Deborah Bennett, Kimberly Freeman, Katy Freund, Nancy Garlock, Kathy Heiman, Jennifer Karpovich, Lucille McGinn, Michelle Proto, Jennifer Schmoltz, Nancy Staab, and Andrea Teixeira) who received the Connecticut Association of Schools Elementary School Exemplary Program Award

B) Recognition (continued)

5. Ms. Mascolo recognized the staff at Seymour High School for their participation in a program called Angel Tree. They collected gifts and Stop and Shop gift cards which helped thirty families enjoy Christmas this year. She gave special thanks to Karen Studley for putting this together, the Future Business Leaders of America for participating and sponsoring the families, and the HOPE Club for their generous donation of \$500.00 for gifts and gift cards.

C) Correspondence

1. Mr. Belden received a letter dated December 3, 2010 from James Cohen, President of the Valley Community Foundation, thanking the Seymour Public Schools for their contribution of \$51,000.00 to establish the Seymour Public Schools Fund as a donor advised fund.
2. MaryAnne Mascolo sent a letter dated December 13, 2010 to SPS parents/guardians regarding ELL Targets for 2009-10.
3. MaryAnne Mascolo sent a letter dated December 13, 2010 to Rich Kearns acknowledging his investigative skills with regard to the recent bomb threats.
4. MaryAnne Mascolo sent a letter dated December 13, 2010 to Basilla Stevens and the students and staff of the SMS Gold team congratulating them on their very successful food and turkey drive.

III) PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Jennifer Magri, Seymour Public School parent, stated she has attended all Seymour Public School BOE meetings since June 2010 and shared her reflections from these meetings with the BOE.

IV) CONSENT AGENDA

A) Approval of Minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting – December 6, 2010
2. Special BOE Meeting – December 1, 2010
 - a. Expulsion – 2:30 p.m.
 - b. Expulsion – 4:00 p.m.
 - c. Expulsion – 6:30 p.m.
 - d. Expulsion – 8:00 p.m.

B) Staff Hiring - Certified

1. Ferraiolo, Caitlin
 - Grade 7 Social Studies Teacher
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Step 1, Bachelors
 - Replacing Heather Morgan Modica

C) Appointment – Volunteer

1. Vidal, Carlos
 - Coach
 - Wrestling
 - Seymour High School
 - Application for Coaching Permit has been sent to the State of Connecticut Department of Education
2. Hatfield, JJ
 - Coach
 - Girls Basketball
 - Seymour High School

D) Resignation – Appendix E

1. Ramey, Sarah
 - Coach
 - Girls Tennis
 - Seymour High School

IV) CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

E) Finance Committee – December 20, 2010

1. Recommendation to approve the acceptance of the Financial Management Summary for November 2010

F) Nutrition Services

1. Financial Report – November 2010

10-3368: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

SO VOTED:

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

V) ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
NONE

VI) INFORMATION AND REPORTS

A) INFORMATION

1. Student Representative – Reba Putorti

- a. The SHS Winter Concert was a success
- b. Ms. Putorti reported Mrs. Goodrich has allowed the Student Leadership Committee, on a trial basis until the end of first period, to have hot chocolate or coffee in an enclosed mug and carry water bottles all day. Discussion was held as to why there is another Student Leadership committee when SHS already has a Student Council and Link Crew. Ms. Goodrich explained this group focuses on issues of concern to students, increases communication at SHS, and members are nominated by the faculty.

2. ELL Presentation – Mary Lavoie

Mary Lavoie, Director of Curriculum, gave an informative PowerPoint presentation on ELL in the SPS. SPS currently has 76 ELL students as follows: Bungay 40, LoPresti 15, Chatfield 7, SMS 4, and SHS 10, and includes 16 languages among these students. Discussion followed the ELL presentation, and Ms. Lavoie answered BOE member's questions.

3. Kindergarten Registration

Ms. Mascolo updated BOE members

4. Revised Minutes

1. BOE Regular Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2010
NONE

B) REPORTS

1. Committee Reports

- a. Facilities Committee Agenda – December 14, 2010
 - There was discussion among the board members and Selectman Roy on the possibilities of selling three school owned buildings to the town and leasing them back from the town.
 - Mr. Kubik reported things are moving forward at Chatfield School and on schedule.

10-3369: MOTION: (Mr. Putorti, sec. Mrs. Loda) to authorize Chairman Strumello to draft a letter to First Selectman Roy regarding the creation of a committee to investigate the possibility of selling BOE properties and move Central Office to the Community Center

SO VOTED:

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

- b. Finance Committee Agenda – December 20, 2010

- Mr. Belden reviewed the financial summary of November 2010 and the sub committee recommended the approval of the financial summary.

VI) INFORMATION AND REPORTS (continued)

2. Chairman's Report

- a. CABE/CAPSS Convention Recap
 - Chairman Strumello presented notes regarding communications from the 2nd session he attended along with Ms. Mascolo
- b. Board Members Comments
 - Discussion was held on how much money SPS and other districts spend on professional development per teacher

3. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo reviewed the details of her report, including meetings and activities of the last two weeks, upcoming meetings and events. She thanked Mrs. Loda and Mr. Putorti for attending the CAPSS award ceremony held December 8, 2010, which recognized two SPS students (one high school and one middle school) for achievement, and also thanked Mr. Putorti and Mr. Stanek for attending the Graduation Committee meeting. Ms. Mascolo reported CABES representative Lisa Stimler sent a list of districts along with contact numbers to call already using CABES.

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A) High School Graduation Requirements

Ms. Goodrich and Mr. Lucke gave a presentation on increased graduation requirements required by the State of Connecticut and future plans to add new courses at SHS to meet these requirements with the Board's approval. Discussion was held regarding the benefits of adding the new courses to SHS.

10-3370: MOTION: (Mr. Putorti, sec. Mrs. Loda) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Administration to increase the graduation requirement from 22 credits to 24 credits for the class of 2015.

SO VOTED:

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

B) Course Addition – AP US Government

10-3371: MOTION: (Ms. Loda, sec Mrs. Flood) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Administration to add a new course entitled AP US Government.

SO VOTED:

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

C) Course Addition – Banking Systems

10-3372: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec Mr. Kubik) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Administration to add a new course entitled Banking Systems.

SO VOTED:

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

D) Course Addition – Alternative Energies 1

10-3373: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Kubik) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Administration to add anew course entitled Alternative Energies 1.

SO VOTED:

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

VII) RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (continued)
E) Course Addition – Alternative Energies 2

10-3374: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Administration to add a new course entitled Alternative Energies 2.

SO VOTED:

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

F) Course Addition – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Methods

10-3375: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Administration to add a new course entitled Energy Efficiency and Conservation Methods.

SO VOTED:

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

G) School Calendar 2011-2012 Revision

10-3376: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mr. Putorti) moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2011-2012 school calendar with revisions.

SO VOTED:

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

10-3377: MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec. Mrs. Flood) moved to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. and enter into Executive Session and invited Ms. Mascolo, Ms. Syriac and Mr. Belden to attend to discuss personnel matters.

There was much discussion on who should be invited to attend the executive session.

SO VOTED:

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

VIII) EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board then entered into Executive Session at 10:12 p.m.

- A)** Discussion and possible action upon the employment and performance of the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent, and Assistant superintendent of Finance and Operations

The Board exited Executive Session at 10:31 p.m.

10-3378: MOTION: (Mr. Baker, sec. Mrs. Loda) to extend the current contracts of the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations for an additional year (2012-13 school year) with salary to be determined (TBD).

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda

OPPOSED: Mr. Putorti

10-3379: MOTION: (Mr. Bader, sec. Mrs. Loda) to increase the salaries of the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations for the 2011-2012 school year by 2.5%.

VIII) EXECUTIVE SESSION (continued)

SO VOTED:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Kubik, Mrs. Loda

OPPOSED: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Putorti

IX) ADJOURNMENT

10-3380: MOTION: (Mr. Baker, sec. Mr. Kubik) moved to adjourn at 10:37 P.M.

SO VOTED:

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

Submitted,

Patricia Gillis, Clerk