

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Seymour Middle School

March 1, 2010
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Strumello, Chairman
Bruce Baker
Frederick Stanek
Judith Flood
James Garofolo
James Ward
Yashu Putorti
Peter Kubik

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeanne Loda

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Kristiann Kassay
Stephanie Walsh

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations
Mary Lavoie, Curriculum Director
Paul Roy, 1st Selectman
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, Bungay
Kristen Bruno

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Ed Strumello, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

A) Recognitions:

- a. Congratulations to Chatfield students Cayman Geraldino for his excellence in art and Ericka Spaulding for her excellence in music. They will be honored at the Eleventh Annual Elementary Schools Arts Recognitions Festival sponsored by CAS
- b. Congratulations to LoPresti students Hunter Reilly for his excellence in art and Jessica Chambal for her excellence in music. They will be honored at the Eleventh Annual Elementary Schools Arts Recognitions Festival sponsored by CAS
- c. Congratulations to former Seymour High School student Jennifer D'Amato who is being inducted into the Connecticut Scholastic and Collegiate Softball Hall of Fame.
 - i. Fred Stanek suggested that a letter be sent to Jennifer D'Amato from Ed Strumello on behalf of the Seymour Board of Education recognizing her efforts. Ed Strumello agreed and MaryAnne Mascolo consented to drafting the letter.
- d. Congratulations to Margaret Maziuk who has been selected to receive the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Parent-Volunteer Recognition award
- e. Thank you to the students, Student Council, and staff of Bungay School for their generous donation of \$600.00 to the American Red Cross to help with relief efforts in Haiti

- f. In honor of Board Member Appreciation Month, thank you to our Board Members for their dedication and hard work

B) Board Correspondence: Ms. Mascolo reviewed the correspondence. Ed Strumello presented a letter received by him on February 25, 2010 from the 1st Selectman's Office requesting attendance at a FOI Meeting scheduled for March 4, 2010 at 3:00 pm and again at 7:00pm. Ed stated he would be attending the 3:00pm meeting and MaryAnne Mascolo agreed to attend the 7:00pm meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes

1. BOE meeting – February 1, 2010
2. Special BOE Minutes – January 25, 2010

B. Staff Hiring – Non-Certified

1. Hoffman, Adrienne – Clerical Paraprofessional, Seymour High School

C. Staff Resignations – Appendix E

1. Matthews, Kathleen- Special Education Teacher, Chatfield School
2. Moskowitz, Juliann - Library Media Specialist, Seymour Middle School
3. Rosewall, Kathleen - Reading Teacher, Chatfield School
4. Signorile, Aaryn - 4th Grade Teacher, Bungay School

10-2943 MOTION: (Mr. Putorti, sec., Mr. Baker) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Ward, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr Kubik

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: NONE

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS:

INFORMATION

A. Student Representative Report

1. CAPT Testing – Testing for the week of 3/1/10 – 3/5/10 and the week of 3/8/10-3/12/10
2. Mr. Seymour – Will be on Friday, March 19th at 7:00pm in the SHS auditorium. There will be 6 contestants, 5 seniors and 1 junior. Board is encouraged to attend.
3. Dodge Ball Tournament - sponsored by the SHS Student council. Location will be at SMS gymnasium. Original date of April 8th has been cancelled. There is no confirmed date, but are planning for the week before April vacation.
4. Sports Update:
 - Indoor Track: Boys – 2 athletes participated in the State Open. Jake Drowes came in 2nd in the High Jump breaking a 30 year school record. He also participated in Shot Put. Ryan Libby placed 3rd in Pole Vault. Girls: 4X8 team was the only team to medal.
 - Basketball: Girls ended the season 5 and 15 and the boys qualified for the NVL Tournament.
 - Dance: Received 3rd at State for their Kickline Routine.
 - Cheer Team: Participating at NVL March 1, 2010.
 - Swim Team: Participation at NVL March 5, 2010.
 - Wrestling Team: Several wrestlers went to State.

B. Kindergarten Registration, Seymour Library – Mary Sue Feige

- Mary Sue Feige reported that the Kindergarten registration went really well. The Seymour Public Library was very accommodating. Parent feedback about the event was very positive. Bungay School would like to continue this partnership with the Seymour Library next year and hopes to get LoPresti and Chatfield Parents and Staff involved next year.

C. Baby's First Book Gift Pack - Mary Sue Feige

- Mary Sue reported that this project is part of the School Readiness Grant. In partnership with Griffin Hospital, 1000 gift bags that contain books and literacy information are given to new parents to begin a library at home and promote early literacy.

D. MaryAnne Mascolo thanked Mary Sue Feige for all her work with the Kindergarten Registration and the Baby's First Book Project. Both are above and beyond the work she does at Bungay.

REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee Minutes (Revised) – January 14, 2010
 - Next meeting is Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 7:15, Board of Finance, Town Hall.
2. Finance Committee Minutes – January 19, 2010
3. Awards Committee Minutes – January 26, 2010
 - Fred Stanek reminded Board Members that they can make nomination submissions for awards. Nominations are due by April 1, 2010. The form is available online on the Seymour District website. The second meeting of the Awards Committee will be in May and will hopefully adopt nominations at that time and then submit to the whole Board.
 - Ed Strumello raised the questions of why the Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award Nomination form was removed and re-issued. Fred Stanek explained that the award was modified and re-issued 2 years ago so that only graduating seniors can present nominations to three teachers, one at each level. The awards advisory committee had a fumble at the High School level last year, but Kristiann is spearheading the efforts at the high school to make sure everything goes smoothly this year.
4. Residency Committee Agenda – March 1, 2010
 - a. Mr. Ward elected Chairperson
5. Policy Committee Agenda – March 1, 2010
 - a. Mr. Garofolo elected Chairperson

B. Chairman's Report –

10-2944 MOTION – (Mr. Kubik, sec., Mrs. Flood) to add an executive session to the March 1, 2010, Board of Education Meeting to hear an update on the labor board hearing that took place on Thursday, February 25, 2010.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Ward, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr Kubik

Mr. Strumello opened remarks up to Board:

- Mr. Kubik requested a real flag for the Middle School cafeteria.
- Mrs. Flood requested that we have more table space for the Board Meetings.
- Fred Stanek asked the board to reconsider the \$180 parking fee for students at the High School. Mr. Stanek would like to put this on a future Board meeting agenda. Mr. Stanek believes that the prices need to be lowered based on concerns he has heard from students and parents. The finance committee will meet to discuss the financial implications of lowering the fee and then the decision and findings will be brought to the entire board for discussion. Rick Belden was asked to secure the financial information for the finance committee. MaryAnne Mascolo will schedule the finance committee meeting.
- Jim Ward inquired into agenda items for the Curriculum Committee meeting scheduled March 11, 2010. MaryAnne Mascolo indicated that the only agenda item pertained to the Drop Out information. Mr. Stanek stated that our town charter states that the 1st Selectman is an edificial member of any Board, meaning that he has the right to attend BOE meetings and participate in discussions. Not to vote, but to participate in discussion. Mr. Stanek would like to invite Mr. Roy, or any future Selectman, to sit with the board when he/she is present in the meeting and be free to participate in meetings and discussion. Of course the selectman can make the decision whether he/she would like to sit with the board or not. This would apply to public sessions only and not executive sessions of the Board of Education.

C. Superintendent's Report - NO COMMENTS

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- A. The Superintendent recommends that the Seymour Board of Education recognizes and endorses the Seymour Adolescent Mentoring Program (SAMP)

Comments: Mr Kubik asked about cost associated with this program. Mr. Strumello explained that there were costs for training staff but that this will be covered by grant monies requested by Mary Lavoie from the Valley Community Foundation. This program will also be supported by the PTA. Ed Strumello will attend training sessions to represent the Board.

10-2945 MOTION – (Mr. Kubik, Sec. Mrs. Flood) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to recognize and endorse the Seymour Association Mentoring Program (SAMP)

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Ward, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr Kubik

- B. The Superintendent will recommend the non-renewal of five non-tenured teachers (Michael Ahearn, Brian Cleveland, Sarah DeRosa, Natalie Feigen, Mary Alice Williams) at the end of the 2009-2010 school year in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes section 10-151. This recommendation has been made because these teachers covered extended sick leaves as long term substitutes.

10-2946 MOTION- (Mr. Paturi, Sec., Mr. Baker) move that, pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, the Seymour Board of Education non-renew the teaching contracts of Michael Ahearn, Brian Cleveland, Sarah DeRosa, Natalie Feigen, Mary Alice Williams at the end of the 2009-2010 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. I further move that the Superintendent be directed to communicate this action to the Board in writing to Michael Ahearn, Brian Cleveland, Sarah DeRosa, Natalie Feigen, Mary Alice Williams and the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to respond on behalf of the Board 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: Mr. Ward, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr Kubik

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION:

10-2944 MOTION –(Mr. Kubik, sec., Mrs. Flood) to add an executive session to the March 1, 2010 Board meeting to hear an update of the labor board hearing that happened on Thursday, February 25, 2010.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Ward, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr Kubik

The Board of Education entered executive session at 8:00 p.m.

10-2947 MOTION- (Mrs. Flood, Sec., Mr Kubik) to Adjourn Executive Session

ALL AFFIRMATIVE

Executive Session Adjourned at 8:18pm

IX ADJOURNMENT

10-2948 MOTION (Mrs. Flood, Sec., Mr. Ward) to adjourn Board Meeting.

ALL AFFIRMATIVE

Board meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM

Submitted by
April Judd, Clerk