

## SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING  
Seymour Middle School

January 25, 2010  
7:30 P.M.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Edward Strumello, Chairman  
Judith Flood  
Jeanne Loda  
Bruce Baker  
James Ward 7:40  
Peter Kubik  
James Garofolo  
Frederick Stanek 9:45  
Yashu Putorti  
MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent  
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent  
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of  
Finance & Operations

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mary Lavoie, Mary Sue Feige, Kristen Bruno, Nancy Snopkowski, Cathy Goodrich, Paul Lucke, Jim Freund, Monica Briggs, Jamie Giordano, Bernadette Hamad, David Olechna, Paul Roy, K.C. Sirowich, Mike Oberdick, Mort Conlan, Sharon Filipowich, Rosemary Necio, Matt Cosceillo, Marion Beidel, Christopher Motasky and many others

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Strumello, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:38 p.m. Mr. Strumello said after the first presentation there would be a public comment session.

**II. INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

**INFORMTION**

**A. High School Course Presentation: - Paul Lucke**

1. Mr. Lucke presented to Board Members a banking and investment course that would be able to receive funds through a career and technology education innovation grant. Seymour High School would partner with Sikorsky Financial Credit Union to introduce students to the basics of banking. The Credit Union will have a satellite office at the high school this will allow for guest speakers, work-based learning activities and the chance for the students to participate in a Financial Reality Fair

10-2937 MOTION: (Mr. Baker, sec., Mr. Ward) to approve the Career and Technology Education Innovation Grant application base on the partnership with Sikorsky Financial Credit Union and the possibility of an advance course titled "Banking and Investment".

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Baker, Mr. Kubic, Mr. Ward, Mr. Strumello, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo

Mr. Strumello then opened the Public Comment session. Mr. Strumello asked that citizens try to keep their comments to three minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mort Conlan asked that Board Members pass the Superintendent's budget as presented with the addition of freshman sports. Mr. Conlan applauded the Superintendent's efforts. KC Sirowich echoed Mort's comments of the addition of freshman sports added back into the Superintendent's budget. He feels the students miss out not having freshman sports. Marion Bidel agreed to add freshman sports as well as adding the wrestling program back into the budget. Chris Motasky agreed adding freshman sports back into the budget would be important.

Mike Oberdick, Social Studies teacher at Seymour Middle School said that with technology in the classrooms students will reap many benefits. When allocated money for Professional Development and doing the budget please keep technology in mind.

Matt Cosceillo said freshman sports helps with child development. He said you will see growth in the child not only through sports but in other areas too. If there are no freshman sports some students may never get involved with sports again.

#### PRESENTATION OF BUDGET:

Mr. Strumello explained the process. Board Members would be voting on the school budget tonight. This budget would be presented to the Board of Finance. Mr. Strumello told members of the public that their support of the budget at the Board of Finance was very important.

Ms. Mascolo presented her recommendation for the 2010-2011 School Budget. Ms. Mascolo said this budget is focused on the strategic plan of the Seymour School district. The budget proposal includes an additional \$642,573 for new positions/services. The total increase proposed is \$1,624,313 for a total budget of \$30,741,804 which is a 5.6% increase over the 2009-10 budget. Ms. Mascolo reviewed her proposed new initiatives and positions with Board Members and the public. Some of the new positions and initiatives Ms. Mascolo proposed were a district wide Board Certified Behavioral Analyst, Inclusion Facilitator, Technology Integration Specialist to be used throughout the district to help with the integration of technology into the classroom instruction. A district Data Analysis and Research Evaluation position, Communication/Public Relations Specialist, Professional Development, Maintenance, Technology. Other positions that would benefit these schools is an addition of a half-time Spanish Teacher at Seymour Middle School, an Administrative Intern at Chatfield School, an SRBI Interventionist at Bungay and Chatfield schools and a half-time Speech and Language Pathologist. Appendix E Position added to the budget would be the Wrestling program and summer school pilot program for a small group of students.

Reallocations would consist of the following at the High School a Language Arts Consultant, Graphic Arts teacher and a Learning Lab stipend for Math and English. At Seymour Middle School a Language Arts Consultant would be added.

Board Members discussed the Superintendent's proposed budget and adding in freshman sports was a prime thought. Mr. Garofolo said he did not think the position of a Communication/Public Relations Specialist was a needed position.

10-2938 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Baker) to accept the Superintendent's budget as presented and included the addition of freshman sports for an additional 37,715.

Mr. Strumello asked for a roll call vote:

Mr. Baker	Affirmative
Mr. Kubik	Affirmative
Mrs. Loda	Affirmative
Mrs. Flood	Affirmative
Mr. Ward	Affirmative
Mr. Garofolo	Opposed
Mr. Stanek	Affirmative
Mr. Strumello	Affirmative

The motion carries

#### REPORTS

A. Chairman's Report – NONE

B. Superintendent's Report - NONE

10-2939 MOTION (Mr. Baker, sec., Mrs. Loda) to adjourn

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by  
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk