

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Chatfield Elementary School

October 5, 2009
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Baker, Chairman
Frederick Stanek
Judith Flood
Jeanne Loda
Rose Marie Yitts
James Garofolo
James Ward 7:40 p.m.
Rhonda Geffert

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Jason Buchsbaum
Stephanie
MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations
Mary Lavoie, Curriculum Director

Peter Kubik, Mary Sue Feige, Edward Strumello, Kristen Bruno, Norm & Jean Kellogg, Wayne & Tammy Mattutini, Brenda & Casie Quintiliand, Kim Seeland, April & Raymond Hinds, May Sami, Bili & Brittany Kelly, Heather Fite, Christine Brenny, Lt. Paul Satkowski

I. CALL TO ORDER:

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

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Recognitions

1. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Jennifer Conroy, Colleen Garman, Joseph Kassay, Steven Miller and Ashley Pratt for being named AP Scholars.
2. Congratulations to Peter Corkery, Shadaab Kazi, Andre Melms and Sean Simoneau who were named AP Scholars with Honors.
3. Congratulations to Rich Kearns who accepted an award in the amount of \$1,000 as part of the recent national recognition for the annual "Take a Stand!" program.

B. Board Correspondence: Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Strumello asked about the letters from Mr. Koskelowski regarding the 1-year moratorium on school construction projects and how this would affect the Chatfield/LoPresti building project. Mr. Baker said he could not add anything since he had heard nothing. He will let Mr. Strumello know when he hears something.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes –

BOE meeting – September 21, 2009
Special BOE Meeting – September 24, 2009
Special BOE Meeting – September 28, 2009 with the addition of Mr. Garofolo's name to the adjournment.

B. Staff Hiring – Non Certified

1. Robert Tkacz as night Custodian at Seymour High School replacing David Cyr

C. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Katie Dombroski as Assistant Cheerleading Coach at Seymour High School replacing Ashley Scharn

09-2870 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Loda) to approve the consent agenda with item D removed and Mr. Garofolo's name added to the adjournment of the Special meeting of 9-28-09.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

A. Staff Resignations- Certified Staff

1. Brian Hourigan – English Teacher at Seymour High School

09-2871 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the resignation of Brian Hourigan as English Teacher at Seymour High with great regret and appreciation.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

INFORMATION

A. Student Representatives:

Stephanie told Board Members how the sports teams were doing and that the football team would be playing Derby/Emmett O'Brien this Friday away and next Friday, October 17th the game would be played at home.

B. Big E Writing Process Piece – Grade 5 Chatfield School students

Ms. Cunningham and several students from the 5th grade at Chatfield School told Board Members of their Big E writing projects and about their trip to the Big E on September 21st. The students brought and showed Board Members the different pieces of their work.

C. Chatfield School Improvement Plan – Jamie Giordano

Mrs. Giordano, Principal at Chatfield School, presented her school improvement plan for the 2009-10 school year. Through a Power Point presentation Mrs. Giordano reviewed the goals from spring 2009 and showed Board Members where the students have achieved. Mrs. Giordano told Board Members what they plan to do to increase the number of students that reach goal in reading and writing and to continue to meet goal in math. The staff will use teacher created CFA's, Professional Development, vertical teams and SRBI to help students reach these goals.

09-2872 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Flood) to move item VII A Policy Committee recommendation up on the agenda

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

A. The Policy Committee recommends approval of Policy 5145.122(a) use of Trained Sniffer Dogs to Detect Odor of Illegal Drugs and Other Illegal Substances on School Property as presented.

09-2873 MOTION: to approve the recommendation of the Policy Committee of Policy 5145.122(a) Use of Trained Sniffer Dogs to Detect Odor of Illegal Drugs and Other Illegal Substances on School Property as presented.

09-2874 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mr. Garofolo) to table the motion for further review by the Board Attorney.

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

OPPOSED: Mr. Baker, Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Geffert, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood

MOTION 09-2874 failed

Mr. Baker asked for the approval of Motion 09-2873 as presented

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Baker, Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Geffert, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood

OPPOSED: Mr. Garofolo

ABSTAINED: Mr. Stanek

D. School Calendars and Student Newsletters –

The Elementary and Middle schools submitted their monthly calendars and newsletters for Board Members information.

REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

1. Policy Committee minutes – September 24, 2009
2. Finance Committee Agenda – September 21, 2009
3. Liaison Committee Agenda – September 21, 2009

Mr. Baker said the Liaison Committee went into binding arbitration beginning October 5th and would be done by October 30th.

B. Chairman's Report

Mr. Baker said at the Chatfield-LoPresti building committee meeting Geo-thermal heating was discussed. There will be 155 wells at 400' deep dug into the baseball field and then covered with a new baseball field. The 1.3 million is built into the budget and will create a savings of about 30% in heating and cooling costs.

C. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo submitted her Superintendent's Report for Board Members information.

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. The Policy Committee recommends approval of Policy 5145.122(a) use of Trained Sniffer Dogs to Detect Odor of Illegal Drugs and Other Illegal Substances on School Property as presented.

This item was voted on earlier in the meeting.

B. The Policy committee recommends approval of Policy 0521(a) Mission-Goals-Objects/Nondiscrimination as presented.

09-2875 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Flood) to approve the recommendation of the Policy Committee for Policy 0521(a) Mission-Goals-Objectives/Nondiscrimination as presented.

09-2876 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mr. Garofolo) to table until the language is revised.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

C. The Policy Committee recommends approval of Policy 0521.2 Mission-Goals-Objectives/Nondiscrimination Commitment to Religious Neutrality (Prayer in Schools) as presented.

09-2877 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve as amended the recommendation of the Policy Committee for Policy 0521.2 Mission-goals Objectives/Nondiscrimination Commitment to Religious Neutrality (Prayer in Schools) with the correction in the wording.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

09-2878 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to go into Executive Session and invite the Superintendent to discuss her annual performance goals.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

Board Members and Ms. Mascolo went into Executive session at 9:15 p.m.

09-2879 MOTION (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk