

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Bungay Elementary School

September 21, 2009
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Baker, Chairman
Frederick Stanek
Judith Flood
Jeanne Loda
Rose Marie Yitts
James Garofolo
James Ward
Rhonda Geffert

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Jason Buchsbaum
Kristianne Kassay
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, Kelley Garofalo, Mary Deming, Paul Roy, Sue Dowdell, Lisa Heneghan, Maria, Paul & Ashley Blackwell, Gina & Mike Affinito, Rory Garhart, Peter Sampiere, Rep. Theresa Conroy

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 Rich Kearns for securing a \$2,000 grant from the Katherine Matthies Foundation to support of the "Take a Stand 2010!" program.
2. Congratulation to Mary Deming on her work organizing the Seymour Pink Project. Mrs. Deming told Board Members that October is National Breast Cancer Awareness month. Mrs. Deming said to date they have sold 18 banners and 240 shirts. Ms. Mascolo told Board Members she would send the web site information to them.

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

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Roy asked how many parking spaces had been sold at the High School. He was told so far 63 spaces have been sold. Mr. Roy then asked if this was enough money for the programs and if there is not enough money raised from the sale of parking spaces, will the programs go away? Will there be an adjustment made to the dollar amount of the parking spaces? Mr. Baker said they can't make those determinations until they see how many parking spaces get filled.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes – BOE meeting – September 8, 2009

B. Staff Hiring – Non Certified

1. Elicia Sullivan – Clerical Paraprofessional at Seymour High School

C. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Patrick DiCaprio – Seymour High School – Head Coach Boys Swimming

D. Staff Hiring – Volunteers

1. Patrick DiCaprio – Assistant Coach – Girls Swimming at Seymour High School
2. Carmine Rinaldi – Assistant Coach – Varsity/JV Football at Seymour High School
3. Vincent Renaldi – Assistant Coach – Boys Soccer at Seymour High School

E. Finance Committee – September 21, 2009

1. Recommendation to approve the acceptance of the Financial Management Summary ending August 31, 2009 as presented.

09-3825 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the consent agenda as presented

SO VOTED

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

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA - NONE

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

INFORMATION

A. Student Representatives:

Kristianne told Board Members that the Senior Day was a very successful. The students went on to the field for a class picture and then did some team building activities.

Sports – The Seymour High School football team lost its first game to Naugatuck. The girls' soccer team won their game against Derby and the boys' soccer team lost their game against Torrington.

B. Benefits of Recycling – Mary Deming's high school students and Kelley Garofalo's fifth grade students are working together to learn the benefits of recycling. Rory Garhardt and Peter Samperi of Bungay School and Ashley Blackwell and Michael Affinito from Seymour High School told Board Members that their classes will be getting together several times during the school year. The students will be discussing way to get people more aware of recycling. The students will also learn to reuse, reduce and recycle and why it is important for our future.

C. Teacher of the Year – Sue Dowdell

Mrs. Dowdell the Library-Media Specialist from Bungay School was selected as Teacher of the Year for the 2009-2010 school year. Mrs. Dowdell gave the speech she made to faculty on the first day of school to Board Members.

D. School Improvement Plan – Mary Sue Feige

Mrs. Feige, Principal of Bungay School, explained her school improvement plan to Board Members through the use of a PowerPoint presentation. Mrs. Feige also said through the use of the data received from the CMT test and the DRA2 tests the teachers will know what skills they need to focus on with their students. One area that Bungay School will be focusing on is increased time spent reading. Students will increase the time spent reading to 170 minutes. Through the use of SRBI (Scientifically Research Based Interventions) the reading teachers as well as the classroom teachers will be working to meet the individual needs of students.

E. Professional Development Update – Christine Syriac

Mrs. Syriac updated Board Members on the ongoing Professional Development for the teaching staff. She outlined what professional development the staff had received during the past five years. She then showed Board Members what professional development teachers would be doing during the 2009-10 and how it is a continuation from the previous years.

F. Resolution of School Board Committee to Student Achievement – February, 2009, was provided for Board Members' information.

G. School Calendars and Student Newsletters –

Seymour High School newsletter was provided for Board Members' review.

REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

1. Policy Committee minutes – September 8, 2009

2. Finance Committee Agenda – September 21, 2009

3. Liaison Committee Agenda – September 21, 2009

All the reports listed above were provided for Board Members' information – no action was necessary.

Mrs. Loda said the Liaison Committee meeting will be postponed. They will be going into binding arbitration with the teachers' union and mediation will be on 10/8.

B. Chairman's Report

Mr. Baker said the Strategic Planning meeting went well. He suggested that Board Members read the book Hot, Flat and Crowded.

Mr. Baker said the review for Ms Mascolo will be Monday at Central Office at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Baker also said at the next football game they would be acknowledging Coach Sponhiemer.

Mrs. Geffert said her prospective as a parent on all the professional development is that she has seen a positive difference in the way teachers teach.

C. Superintendent's Report

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

In her report were the following upcoming dates

Transportation Sub-Committee meeting 10/21 at Central Office at 12:30 p.m.

Policy Sub-Committee meeting 9/24 at Central Office

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. The parents of the wrestling athletes wish to present a gift donation in the amount of \$8,125.00 to be used to fully fund the Seymour High School Wrestling program for the 2009-10 school year. The Board of Education monies will not be used to fund this program in future years.

09-3826 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to accept a gift in the amount of \$8,125.00 from parents to fully fund the Seymour High School Wrestling program for the 2009-10 school year. Board of Education monies will not be used to fund this program in future years.

SO VOTED

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

09-2867 MOTION (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Loda) to adjourn

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk