

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Seymour Middle School

August 17, 2009
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Baker, Chairman
Frederick Stanek
Judith Flood
Jeanne Loda
Rose Marie Yitts
James Garofolo
James Ward
Jason Buchsbaum
Rhonda Geffert
MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations
Mary Lavoie, Curriculum Director

Pamela Finkle, Bill Paecht, Mary Sue Feige, Joe Kassay, Edward L. Strumello, Monica Briggs

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Bruce Baker, Chairman called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:32 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Recognitions

1. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Mrs. Pamela Finkle on her retirement from Seymour Middle School. Mrs. Finkle received her award.
2. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Mr. Belden for being elected to the CASBO (CT Association of School Business Officials) Board of Directors.
3. Ms. Mascolo recognized Jacob Drozd, Tony Pastore and Josh Roman for being named 2009 New Haven Register All-Area Boys' Track Team.
4. Ms. Mascolo said Mr. Kearn's "Take A Stand" program has been honored for the 3rd year in a row by the National Organization for Youth Safety and Allstate Insurance Company. The program was recognized for its creativity to develop and implant a youth program addressing the responsibilities of safe driving.
5. The Griffin Hospital Valley Parish Nurses and the Valley Safe Kids Chapter has donated \$2,800.00 to the new Seymour "Think Again! Pedal Kart Experience!" program.
6. Ms. Mascolo said the Administrators' retreat was held on August 13th and 14th. Mrs. Syriac coordinated the professional development and was the presenter on the second day. Ms. Mascolo said it was one of the finest professional developments she has attended.

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

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes – BOE meeting – July 6, 2009

C. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Brian Cleveland – Head Coach Girls Soccer Seymour Middle School (replacing Meagan Krushinski)
2. Nicholas Teodosio – Assistant Coach Football Seymour High School – pending certification (replacing Tom Lennon)

D. Staff Resignation – Appendix E

1. Thomas Lennon – Head Coach Indoor Track Seymour High School

09-3800 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the consent agenda with Item B removed to VA 1 & 2 as presented.

SO VOTED

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

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

A. Ratify Staff Hiring – Certified

1. Kathleen Rosewall – Language Arts Consultant – Chatfield School (replacing Lois Peck)

09-3801 MOTION: (Mr. Ward, sec. Mrs. Geffert) to ratify the hiring of Kathleen Rosewall as Language Arts Consultant at Chatfield School Top Step (replacing Lois Peck).

SO VOTED

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

2. Victoria Williams – Special Education Teacher – Seymour High School (replacing Maria Nisbet)

09-3802 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to ratify the hiring of Victoria Williams as Special Education Teacher at Seymour High School Step 1 (replacing Maria Nisbet).

SO VOTED

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

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

INFORMTION

A. District Summary of Health Room Services –

Mrs. Rinkewith, Head Nurse, submitted the Health Room Services report for Board Members' information.

B. Ecosystem Exchange Project Final Report 2008-09 –

Mrs. Brennan submitted her report from the Ecosystem Exchange Project with West Haven schools for Board Members' review.

C. Initial Information CAPT Scores – Christine Syriac

Mrs. Syriac reviewed with Board Members the scores of the CAPT tests. The scores have decreased and the High School administration will be checking the data to see why this happened. The High School administration will be reviewing other tests and looking to see what direction they will need to go with the students.

D. CMT Scores – May Lavoie

Mrs. Lavoie charted the Elementary Schools' CMT results. The chart showed areas of growth in all subjects but not at all schools. One school may have done well in math and the others show growth over the years in reading or writing. Mrs. Lavoie said with the addition of the new Language Arts Consultants in Bungay School and Chatfield School you should start to see a consistency across the schools in Language Arts as well as the other subjects.

E. Update on 2009-10 Bus Routes and Procedures – Rick Belden

Mr. Belden said they are a little behind schedule with the Kindergarten mid-day runs. They should have the schedules posted to the web site by Tuesday night.

F. Review of the Board of Education decision to limit to use of school facilities on weekends, holidays, school closures, and school breaks.

The Facilities Committee will meet to discuss the use of school facilities on weekends and report back to the full Board Membership.

G. School Calendars and Student Newsletters –
The High School Student Newsletter of August 2009 was submitted for Board Members' information.

REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee agenda – August 17, 2009

09-3803 MOTION: (Mr. Ward, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the financial summary of 6-30-09 as presented.

SO VOTED

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

09-3804 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mr. Ward) to approve from the August 17, 2009 Finance Committee meeting transferring from various accounts \$583,838.00 to other various accounts to balance them out to the same amount \$583,838.00.

SO VOTED

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

B. Chairman's Report

Mr. Baker reported that the Chatfield/LoPresti School Committee has approved the layout of the building. Mr. Baker also commented on how nice the landscaping at Seymour High and Middle School has been looking lately.

C. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo said opening day for teachers will be August 25th at Seymour Middle School. Board Members are invited. There will be coffee and from 7:30-8:00. The presentation will begin at 8:00. Mr. Jonathan Costa will speak about the Strategic Plan for the next five year.

Ms. Mascolo said she met with the Valley Superintendents and the Naugatuck Valley Health District to talk about the H1N1 Virus. Ms. Mascolo said she would be sending home to parents a letter concerning the procedures they will be using at this time and that they will be subject to change as she gets more information from Valley Health and the State.

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Ms. Gardecki has informed Board Members of her intent to home school her child, Rachel Gardecki, for the 2009-10 school year.

09-3805 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to acknowledge the receipt of this form and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program.

SO VOTED

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

B. Review and possible action on intra-district transfer requests for the 2009-10 school year that were denied at the June 1, 2009 Board meeting due to availability of final enrollment data.

09-3806 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Loda) to rescind the decision of the June 1, 2009 meeting regarding the intra-district transfers.

SO VOTED

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

DISQUALIFY: Mrs. Yitts

09-3807 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Loda) to approve the intra-district transfers of Tyler Gonce, Autumn Raffone and Michaela Roach from LoPresti School to Bungay School.

SO VOTED

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

DISQUALIFY: Mrs. Yitts

OPPOSED: Mrs. Geffert

C. Review and possible action on Ms. Buzik's request for an intra-district transfer for her children, John and Timothy, for the 2009-10 school year.

09-3808 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Garofolo) to consider the Superintendents recommendation for approval of the intra-district transfer request of Ms. Donna Buzik for the 2009-10 school year.

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mrs. Geffert

D. Review and possible action on the generous donation of two field dugouts at Seymour High School as a gift to the Seymour Lady Cats softball team from Fusco Corporation.

09-3809 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Stanek) to consider the Superintendent's recommendation for approval of the donation of two field dugouts at Seymour High School as a gift to the Seymour Lady Cats softball team from Fusco Corporation.

SO VOTED

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

09-3810 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to add item VIII resignation of Cheryl Barrett, Paraprofessional.

E. Review and possible action on the resignation of Cheryl Barrett, Paraprofessional at Chatfield School.

09-3811 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the resignation of Cheryl Barrett, Paraprofessional at Chatfield School on August 25, 2009.

SO VOTED

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

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

09-3812 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Ward) to go into Executive Session and invite the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent to review and possible action on the Director of Security's contract, to review and possible action on the District-wide Computer Technician Contract and review and discuss pending litigation.

SO VOTED

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

Board Members and those invited entered into executive session at 10:00 p.m.

The group came out of executive session at 10:45 p.m.

09-3813 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the contract of Richard Kearns, Director of Security

SO VOTED

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

09-3814 MOTION (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the contract of Eric Laurentus, District Wide Computer Technician

SO VOTED

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

09-3815 MOTION (Mr. Garofolo sec., Mrs. Loda) to adjourn

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk