

## SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING  
Seymour High School

June 1, 2009  
7:00 P.M.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bruce Baker, Chairman  
Frederick Stanek  
Judith Flood  
Jeanne Loda  
Rose Marie Yitts  
Rhonda Geffert  
James Ward 7:20  
Jason Buchsbaum

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**  
**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:**

James Garofolo  
Joseph Kassay  
Allie Bachyrycz

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent  
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of Finance &  
Operations

Mary Lavoie, Curriculum Director  
James Freund, Paul Lucke, Cathy Goodrich

Jon, Cindy & Ray Rivnyak, Don Smith, Karen Packtor, Paul Lucke, Karen Studley, Jennifer Magri, Rich Kerns, Kevin & Tina Curtis, Lois & Richard Peck, William Pidlipchak, Carmela Burns, William Blyth, Karen Stanek, Caroline & Robert Sweeney, Kristen Bruno, Robin Johnson, Allison Acquavella, Patti, Kristiann & John Kassay, Clare & Candice Kostka, Brittany & Kathie Cammisa, AK Kau, Shadaab Kagi, Julie, Debbie & Brian Pattysen, Nick Aprea, Susanne & Christine O'Hara, Karen Searles, Mary Deming, peg Mazuik, Jayne & Don Bachyrycz, Colleen, Alison, Jason, Jim & Suzanne Garman, Sam & Lori Tilton, Mary Sue Feige, Diane Reilly, Melissa Anelli, Arthur & Regina Fischer, Taylor & Rob Searles, Marilyn & Debora Foehrenbach, Sean Quinn, Antonia Ciccone, Holly, Ann & Larry Sullo, Debra & Keith Syrett, Laura Stec, Paula Burton, Scotta Simoneau, Edward L. Strumello

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Bruce Baker, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:05 p.m. The choral group from Seymour High School led by Mr. Kencht, the Choral Director, performed a couple of songs for the group.

**II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:**

**A) Awards Recognitions:**

1. Mrs. Syriac introduced and awarded Carmella Burns with the CAS Distinguished Friend of Education Award.
2. Mrs. Goodrich gave out her Principal's Awards to the following people:
  - a. Nicholas Aprea – Teacher
  - b. Antonio Ciccone – Teacher
  - c. Richard Kearns – Director of Security
  - d. Lucille Robillard – Secretary
  - e. Karen Studley – Social Worker
  - f. Caroline Sweeney – Teacher
  - g. Joshua Swetts – Teacher
  - h. Shadaab Kazi – Student
  - i. Jonathan Rivnyak – Student
  - j. Holly Sullo – Student
3. Mrs. Goodrich announced Barbara Sypniewski Bregman as the Distinguished Alumnus of Seymour High. Barbara is a graduate of the class of 1967.
4. Mrs. Syriac recognized the following retiring staff members:
  - a. Jay Brennan – Principal Chatfield School
  - b. Pam Finkle – Teacher, Seymour Middle School

- c. Regina Fischer – Teacher, Seymour Middle School
- d. Harry Gagliardi – Principal, LoPresti School
- e. Lois Peck - Reading Consultant, Chatfield School
5. Mrs. Syriac recognized the following staff members for 25 years of service to the Seymour School system:
  - a. Paula Burton – Teacher, Seymour High School
  - b. Robert Kelo – Teacher, Seymour High School
  - c. Judith Laudati – Teacher, Seymour Middle School
6. Mr. Stanek introduced and awarded the following: James Garman received the John J. Gallagher Memorial Athletic Award, Jennifer Magri and Joseph Teodosio received the David A. Brumer Excellence in Education Award and Mary Deming received the Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award.
7. Mrs. Syriac announced Susan Dowdell as the 2009-2010 Teacher-of-the-Year.
8. Mrs. Syriac recognized the 83 students on the National Honor Society 25 of the students were new members inducted on May 13, 2009. Mrs. Syriac said on April 29, 2009, 137 students were recognized at the High School Honor Roll Breakfast. Mrs. Syriac also said at the Middle School's Evening of Honors on May 19, 2009 253 students were recognized.
9. Mrs. Syriac and Mrs. Goodrich awarded the following:
  - a. CABA Student Leadership Award to Brittany Cammisa and Shadaab Kazi
  - b. Harvard Book Award to Mary Bylo
  - c. Yale Book Award to Rebecca Curtis
  - d. St. Michael's Book Award to Keith Syrett and Samantha Tilton
  - e. Wellesley Book Award to Christina O'Hara
  - f. Michael's Jewelers Watches Award to Kristiann Kassay and Taylor Searles
  - g. Mt. Holyoke Book Award to Julie Pattyson
  - h. Governor's Scholar Semi-Finalist to Julie Pattyson

There was a 15 minute break

B) Recognitions:

1. Mrs. Syriac recognized the following Top Ten High School Students: Shadaab Kazi, Andrea Melms, Sean Simoneau, Christine Gallo, Colleen Garman, Alexandra Bachyrycz, Abigail Minor, Rachel Putorti, Joseph Kassay and Jennifer Conroy.
2. Mrs. Syriac congratulated Marilyn Foehrenbach, Joseph Kassay, Rachel Putorti and Kellie Robinson who have been named recipients of the Diploma of Distinction.
3. Congratulations to Kristiann Kassay and Stephanie Walsh on their election as the High School student representatives to the Board of Education for the 2009-2010 school year.
4. Congratulations to the Seymour High School Baseball team for winning the Brass Division title.
5. Congratulations to Meryl Ragaini, Seymour High School Softball, as the Republican American Athlete of the Week.
6. Congratulations to Julia Maturo and Kathryn Petroski, Seymour Middle School students, who were named finalists in the 2009 eesmart's Essay Contest from the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund.
7. Congratulations to Jennifer Peterson advised and the following students Amanda Frankel, Aleesha Johnson, Kayla Gomez, Aidan Lynch, Lauren McLean, Krista Pereira, Courtney Cass and Kevin Saksa from the Middle School in the eCYBERMISSION Competition.
8. Congratulations to Jennifer Batterton and the Middle School MathCounts Team on their participation in the MathCounts Competition on February 14, 2009. The team members are Lauren McLean, Krista Pereira, Aubrey Tan and Andrew Zaprzalka.
9. Congratulations to Kim Bogen, Seymour High School Softball, as the Connecticut Post Athlete of the Week in the May 28<sup>th</sup> edition.
10. Congratulations to the Seymour High School Baseball and Softball teams who won the NVL championship.

Board Correspondence: Mr. Baker reviewed the correspondence.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Diane Reilly asked Board Members to consider her request to keep her daughter as a intra-district transfer student for the 2009-10 school. She also thanked Board Members for allowing her daughter to attend Chatfield School during the past school year.

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

##### A. Approval of minutes

2. Special BOE meeting – May 18, 2009
3. Special BOE Meeting May 19, 2009

##### B. Nutrition Services

1. Financial Report – April 2009

09-3771 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the Consent Agenda with item A1 BOE Meeting of May 18, 2009 removed as presented.

SO VOTED

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

#### V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

##### A. 1. BOE Meeting May 18, 2009

09-3772 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the BOE Meeting of May 18, 2009, with the following corrections: Motion number 09-3767 the Awards Committee recipients' names were not mentioned. The John J. Gallagher Memorial Athletic Award was awarded to James Garman, the David A. Brumer Excellence in Education Award was awarded to Jennifer Magri and Joseph Teodosio and the Vincentena Kobasa Excellence in Teaching Award was awarded to Mary Deming. The second correction Board Members returned to regular session before any motions were made.

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Yitts

#### VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS:

##### A. Student Representative Report

Allie told Board Members that the Senior Banquet will be held at the Aqua Turf on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Graduation will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 on the football field. In case of inclement weather the graduation will be held at Seymour Middle School. Allie said there will be shuttle service from the high school to the middle school. If there is a threat of rain, Ms. Mascolo will make a decision by 3:00 p.m. the day of graduation.

Joe told Board Members that new student representatives to the Board of Education had been elected by the Student Council. The students are Kristiann Kassay and Stephanie Walsh. Joe also said the Student Council will be selling balloons as a fundraiser. People will be able to buy balloons for graduates for \$5.00 each.

##### B. ARRA NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant Proposal

Ms. Brooks submitted the ARRA NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant Proposal for Board Members information.

##### C. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee minutes – March 16, 2009 – no action was taken.
2. Finance Committee minutes – May 18, 2009 – no action was taken

##### D. Chairman's Report –

Mr. Baker said that he along with Mrs. Syriac, Mr. Belden, Mr. Skott, Mr. Laurentis and Mrs. Hamad went on a field trip to see the Microsoft school of the future Philadelphia. The school of the future is a high school made up

of 75% local students and 25% of the students are chosen by a lottery. It is a school with a very high level of computer systems. Mrs. Syriac said it was a wonderful experience.

Mr. Stanek said Board Members should appointment the new students members.

E Superintendent's Report – NONE

## VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A) Review and possible action on parent requests for intra district transfers (tabled from April 6, 2009)

09-3773 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Buchsbaum) to approve the prior year's out of district student approvals.  
SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Yitts

09-3774 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Stanek) to approve the new waivers – M. Gayle from LoPresti to Bungay and B. Reilly from LoPresti to Chatfield.

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Yitts

09-3775 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to deny the request of three incoming Kindergarten students T. Gonce from LoPresti to Bungay, A. Raffone from LoPresti to Bungay and M. Roach from LoPresti to Bungay. The requests will be brought up for reconsideration after all the Kindergarten numbers have been finalized.

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Yitts

09-3776 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Flood) to add the appointment of the student members for 2009-2010 school year to the agenda.

SO VOTED

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

09-3777 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Loda) to appoint Kristiann Kassay as the regular student member for the 2009-2010 school year and Stephanie Walsh as the alternate student member for the 2009-2010 school year.

SO VOTED

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

## IX ADJOURNMENT

09-3778 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Submitted by  
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk