

## SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING  
Seymour Middle School

November 17, 2008  
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:  
OTHERS PRESENT:

Jason Buchsbaum  
Joseph Kassay  
MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent  
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent  
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of Finance &  
Operations  
Mary Lavoie, Director of Instruction  
Bernadette Hamad, David Olechna, Kristen Bruno,  
Edward Strumello

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Bruce Baker, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:43 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

A) Recognitions:

1. Ms. Mascolo said she had the pleasure to walk Mary Deming across the stage at CCSU for the Teacher of the Year Ceremony.
2. Ms. Mascolo attended a CABA workshop and Mr. Stanek was recognized for serving 10+ years as a member of the Board of Education.

B) Board Correspondence: NONE

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of BOE Minutes - November 3, 2008
2. Special BOE meeting – October 28, 2008

B Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Erika Natzel – Assistant Coach (pending certification) Girls JV Basketball, Seymour High School

C. Finance Committee – November 17, 2008

1. Financial Management Summary Ending October 31, 2008

08-3679 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) 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:

### A) Student Representatives Report

1. Joe told Board Members the powder puff football game and bonfire would take place on November 25, 2008. Joe said for the past three years the juniors have played against seniors in the powder puff game and after the game the Great Hill Hose Co. monitors the bonfire. All of this is done to pump up the students for the big football game on Wednesday against Woodland High School.

Classes from the High School and some Veterans went French Park for a Veterans Day Ceremony. Students from one of the classes collected items for Veterans in the VA Hospital. Next year an invitation will be extended to Veterans to do a ceremony at the high school.

### B) Curriculum

Mrs. Hamad and Mr. Olechna made a presentation to Board Members on their school improvement plan. Mrs. Hamad said they are looking to improve from within and did not compare the students to other schools. One of the comparisons made was a matched cohort. Only students that matched year to year across multiple grades were included in this comparison. Another comparison Mrs. Hamad made was with students in all grades in one subject; for example writing. Mrs. Hamad said from the comparisons they are able to recognize areas of students' strengths and areas that are in need of improvement. Mrs. Hamad and Mr. Olechna shared with Board members their strategies to improve students' scores.

### C) Classroom Visitation

1. Chatfield Elementary School had 105 guests at their classroom visitation.

### D) Veterans Day Activities

A listing of Veterans Day activities from all of the schools was presented for Board Members' information. At the High School level students collected gently used professional clothing and presented over 20 boxes of clothing and toiletries to be donated to the Veterans' Hospital. Students Kate Costabile and Collin Glasow placed wreaths at the ceremony at French Park. It was suggested that Board Members be made aware of the activities before Veterans Day so they may attend.

### E) School Calendars for November 2008

The district schools submitted their November calendars for Board Members' review.

### F) Student Newsletter

1. Seymour High School's Newsletter "The Pawprint" of October 2008 was submitted for Board Members' information.

### G) Committee Reports

Athletic Committee met on November 12, 2008. Mr. Stanek reported on this meeting. Mr. Stanek said the Park Commission said they have \$200,000 available for additional lighting at the High School sports complex. They are discussing where to use the money.

The Liaison committee met on October 20, 2008 there was nothing to report on this meeting.

The Transportation Committee was to meet on November 17<sup>th</sup>. This meeting was postponed.

#### H) Chairman's Report

Mr. Baker said he is going to invite Representative Conroy to tour the schools. He said that she has also attended one of the Chatfield/LoPresti Building Committee meetings. Mr. Baker said he is hoping she can help with compressing the schedule for the construction of the new school.

Mr. Baker spoke about the incident on Friday. He said the teachers and staff did an outstanding job. Members of the high school met Monday with Mr. Kearns and Officer Ditria to debrief and take any recommendations. Ms. Mascolo said she would do the Connect-Ed message differently. Ms. Mascolo said the bus company did a great job too.

#### I) Superintendent's Report -

Ms. Mascolo handed out to Board Members a copy of the Strategic School Profile for their review.

### VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

#### A) Request to organize post prom event.

Mrs. Tari Lavorgna, on behalf of Parents Advocating Responsible Teen Years, is requesting permission to organize a post prom event on May 15-16 2009 at Seymour High School.

08-3680 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the request from Tari Lavorgna to organize an after prom event on May 15-16, 2008.

SO VOTED

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

#### B) Review and recommendation to Board to award computer laptop bid #09-01 – Rick Belden

08-3681 MOTION: (Mr. Ward, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to accept the low qualified bid of \$153,000 for one hundred twenty five (125) Hewlett Packard laptop computers as submitted by Advanced Corporate Networking, 192 Naugatuck Avenue, Milford, CT.

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Stanek

#### C) Timeline for daycare notification for Bus Transportation

TABLED

08-3682 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to add item 7D Early Retirement Incentive Plan to the agenda and discuss it in Executive Session.

SO VOTED

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

### VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### A) Discussion and possible action on personnel contracts for the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent and to discuss the Early Retirement Incentive Plan.

08-3683 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel contracts for the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent and to discuss the Early Retirement Incentive Plan. and invite the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent.

SO VOTED

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

08-3684 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the recommended early retirement incentive program for certified teaching staff.

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

DISQUALIFIED: Mr. Stanek

08-3685 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve a one year extension of the contracts for the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

IX ADJOURNMENT

08-3686 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by  
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk