

## SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING  
Anna LoPresti School

November 3, 2008  
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Baker, Chairman  
Frederick Stanek  
Jason Buchsbaum  
Judith Flood  
Jeanne Loda  
Rhonda Geffert  
Rose Marie Yitts  
James Garofolo  
James Ward (7:35)

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

Joseph Kassay  
Allie Bachyrycz

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

Mary Lavoie, Director of Instruction

Kristen Bruno, Darlene O'Callaghan, Harry Gagliardi, Edward Strumello, Mary Sue Feige

### 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 recognized Stephen Miller for being named as a Commended Student in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program.
2. Breast Cancer Walk – Congratulations to Caroline Sweeney, the HOPE Club and the 33 walkers who raised \$2,442 for the American Cancer Society
3. Congratulation to the High School Boys Soccer Team for a perfect season of 16-0.
4. Congratulation to the High School Girls Volleyball Team on their successful season of 17-1.
5. Mr. Baker recognized the Seymour High School Boys Soccer team for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the NVL, the Seymour High School Swim team for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the NVL Championship and recognizing the Girls Soccer Team they will be playing the in NVL championships.

#### B) Board Correspondence:

Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Strumello asked about the LoPresti/Chatfield School project getting stalled. Mr. Strumello stated that with the upcoming elections there could be many State Representatives legislating for Seymour. The Board may want to take steps to make sure that the LoPresti/Chatfield School project goes forward. Mr. Baker said the Building Committee will be meeting with Mr. Koskolowski to review four different schedules. There might be a slight delay in the project. Mr. Strumello said this is a perfect opportunity to go across the isle and work together for the best of the kids. Mr. Baker said the next building committee meeting will be Monday, November 10, 2008.

### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

#### A. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of BOE Minutes of October 20, 2008 – Moved to item Va

B Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Michael Oberdick – Boys Basketball Coach at Seymour Middle School (Pending Certification) – Moved to item Vb

Mr. Stanek requested that items A & B removed from the consent agenda.

C. Request a Team of One

1. Mr. DeAngelis, Athletic Director at Emmett O'Brien High School requests a team of one for Adam Wakelee for the 2008-09 school year.

D. Nutrition Services

1. Financial Report – July – September, 2008

08-3668 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the consent agenda as presented.

SO VOTED

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

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

A) BOE Meeting – October 20, 2008

Mrs. Flood said she did not see anything in the minutes from the Liaison Meeting about the grievance. Mr. Baker said it was tabled until this week and would be discussed later in the meeting.

08-3669 (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the minutes of the Board of Education of October 20, 2008 with the following correction: Mr. Garofolo was not present.

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mr. Garofolo

B) Staffing Hiring – Appendix E position

08-3670 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to hire Michael Oberdick as Boys Basketball Coach at Seymour Middle School (Pending Certification).

SO VOTED

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

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS:

A) Student Representatives Report

1. Allie told Board Members that the High School Junior Ring Dance would be on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The Powder Puff Football game between the junior girls and the senior girls is scheduled for November 25, 2008. They seem to be having a hard time getting the senior girls to participate.

Joe told Board Members of the results of the straw poll done during social studies classes. Obama received 411 votes, McCain received 196 votes and Nader received 31 votes. The Hope Club had a Penny War with each grade level having a jar to fill with pennies. The students raised \$1,000 for the World Hungry Organization.

B) Curriculum

Mr. Gagliardi and Mrs. O'Callaghan reviewed the LoPresti School Improvement Plan with Board Members. Mr. Gagliardi explained the make up of the demographics at LoPresti School and how that correlates to the standardized testing. Mrs. O'Callaghan explained to Board Members how her reading program works. She puts together a packet with a calendar of activities geared toward the school-wide read. The read starts with students trying to figure out the story and end with a culminating event. Mr. Gagliardi said they are working towards 70% of the students meeting goal on the CMT's. Mr. Gagliardi said the strengths of the school are the students wanting to learn and the staff provides a safe environment for the students.

C) Classroom Visitation

1. Bungay School and LoPresti School reported that classroom visitation went well. Bungay School had 206 parents and LoPresti School had 125 parents/grandparents or guardians visit the schools.

D) Ansonia Public School Request

Ms. Merlone, Superintendent of Ansonia Schools, asked if the Seymour Public Schools would like to enter into an agreement to accept students on a tuition basis. Ms. Mascolo response on October 30<sup>th</sup> said that the most immediate reason to deny the request is space issues.

D) Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee meeting – October 20, 2008. Mr. Ward asked Mr. Belden if there were any updates. Mr. Belden said consortium is waiting for the per barrel price for oil to go down before they lock in. They have agreed on a lock in price of \$2.70 per barrel.
2. Liaison Committee Meeting – November 3, 2008 – Mrs. Loda reviewed this meeting with Board Members.

08-3671 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to add the decision of the grievance as item VIIc to the agenda.

SO VOTED

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

E) Newspaper articles

1. Several newspaper articles were submitted for Board Members' information.

F) Chairman's Report

Mr. Garofolo suggested that correspondence received at Central Office addressed to individual Board Members not be opened. He suggested those members be notified by e-mail or a phone call that mail has arrived for them. He asked that his mail not be opened. Mr. Baker said he was fine with his mail being opened, but other members might like to let Ms. Mascolo know if they would like notification of the mail or have it opened.

G) Superintendent's Report - NONE

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A) Review and approve Computer Laptop Bid #09-01 – Rick Belden

08-3672 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to table Laptop Bid #09-01 until the next meeting

This motion was rescinded by Mrs. Loda and Mrs. Geffert.

08-3673 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to reject all bids for Laptop Bid #09-01.

SO VOTED

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

B) Request for Out of State Field Trip

Mrs. Deming and Mrs. Sweeney are requesting permission for Seymour High School Honor Biology & Anatomy and AP/UNCONN Biology students in Grades 10 & 12 to attend a trip to Bodies: The Exhibition in New York City, NY on November 20, 2008.

08-3674 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the request for Seymour High School Honor Biology & Anatomy and AP/UNCONN Biology students, grades 10 & 12 to attend a trip to Bodies: The Exhibition in New York City, NY on November 20, 2008.

SO VOTED

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

C) CEA Grievance

Mrs. Loda said Ms. Mascolo check with Attorney Dorsey and there were a few corrections that were put into the decision of the Board. Mrs. Loda reviewed the corrections with Board Members.

08-3675 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Buchsbaum) the Board denies the grievance presented by the CEA with language as revised by the Liaison Committee on November 3, 2008.

SO VOTED

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

RECUSED: Mr. Stanek

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

A) Discussion and possible action on personnel contracts

08-3676 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel contracts of the Director of Facilities, the Director of Nutrition Services, Supervisor of Accounting Services and Technology Supervisor and invite the Superintendent, the Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent.

SO VOTED

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

08-3677 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts sec., Mrs. Geffert) To accept the recommendation of the Liaison committee to grant a 3% increase for each year of a three year service agreement for the Director of Facilities, Director of Nutrition Services, Supervisor of Accounting, and Technology Director.

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

IX ADJOURNMENT

08-3678 MOTION: (Mr. Ward, sec., Mrs. Loda) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:35p.m.

Submitted by  
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk