

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Seymour Middle School

September 2, 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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

Joe Kassay
Allie Bachyrycz

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of Finance &
Operations
Mary Lavoie, Director of Instruction
Edward L. Strumello

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 thanked 42 students for their help with the Freshmen Orientation.
2. Seymour Schools received an award for \$1,000 for Mr. Kearns' program "Making the Right Choices". The money will be used to further youth traffic safety efforts.
3. Mrs. Geffert recognized Mrs. Feige, Principal at Bungay School, for the new recess program she developed. It is a new fresh idea and parents and students love it.

B) Board Correspondence:

Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of BOE Minutes of August 18, 2008 with corrections – Mr. Ward was present and Mrs. Loda was absent.
2. Finance Committee meeting of August 18, 2008

B Staff Appointments – Certified – Noelle Milano

C. Staff Resignations – Non-Certified

Jennifer Choti-Cannell; Christina Crescimanno and Karen Murphy

08-3646 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mrs. Loda) 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. INFORMATION AND REPORTS:

A) Student Representative Report

Joe Kassay told Board Members about the student run recycling program. The Student Council and the HOPE Club are working to help make the school green. Students will be picking up the recycling boxes on Wednesday to get them ready for pick up on Thursday.

Allie told Board Members about Freshman elections. Class Officers and Student Council members were elected.

B) Committee Reports

Transportation Committee met on August 14, 2008, Mrs. Geffert reported on this meeting. Mrs. Geffert told Board Members of the status of the Transfinder software. There will be Transportation Committee meeting prior to the October 6th regular Board meeting to give Board Members an overview of the program.

C) Chairman's Report

Mr. Baker said the Opening Day for school went very well. All the schools he visited were very organized. Mr. Baker reminded Board Members of the Chatfield Building Committee informational meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 at Seymour Middle School at 7:30. Mrs. Geffert said she has talked to several people who seemed excited about the plan. Mr. Stanek said he has heard mixed reviews about the Chatfield/LoPresti School plan. Mr. Baker said they will be letting people know the price to rebuild LoPresti School. The Committee will also be available at the Back to School nights to answer questions parents may have. Mr. Baker also said there will be an information meeting with the Democrats and the Republicans on October 8, 2008 at the Community Center.

Mr. Baker told Board Members that he would like to make one meeting a month a curriculum meeting. He feels that all members of the Board should be involved with Curriculum as well as Professional Development not only with staff members, but as Board Members. Mr. Stanek felt there would be more discussions if they were to meet with administrators in small groups. Mr. Baker said with the consent agenda the meeting will be more streamlined and these types of discussions would be more meaningful.

D) Superintendent's Report

Ms. Mascolo said the Opening day for faculty and staff was wonderful. Mrs. Deming, Teacher of the Year, made a wonderful speech. Teachers had an all day Professional Development on August 26th and with half the day of Professional Development on August 27th Teachers could either attend the Ed-line training or work on their Web pages if they had attended voluntary training after school ended in June.

Mrs. Syriac told Board Members that the Schools' main Websites would be up and running by September 5th and the Teachers' sites would be ready by September 29th.

VI RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- A) Mrs. Catlin is requesting two students from the American Institute for Foreign Study be allowed to enroll in Seymour High School for the 2008-09 school year. One student from China will reside with the Hull family and the other student from Germany will temporarily reside with the Catlin family. Board Policy limits the enrollment of foreign exchange students to two per year and there is already one student from Germany enrolled at Seymour High School already. The Board is asked to waive the student limit of policy 5111.1.

08-3647 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to waive Board Policy 5111.1 and accept two foreign exchange students for the 2008-2009 school year.

SO VOTED

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

VII EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE

08-3648 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk