

## SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING  
Seymour Middle School

February 4, 2008  
7:30 P.M.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:**

Joe Kassay

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent  
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent  
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent  
Patty Kassay, Liz Tift

**PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY:**

Bruce Baker, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:35 p.m.

**RECOGNITION:**

1. Ms. Mascolo recognized Heather Brown for her proposal of a half-year course on the Vietnam War.
2. Ms. Mascolo congratulated the Seymour High School Cheerleaders for their first place win in their division at a recent competition. The Cheerleaders also took home the grand champion award for the highest overall score.
3. Ms. Mascolo recognized the following students as Scholar Athletes: Peter Tomlinson, Geoff Sardo, Joe Kassay, Adam Blake, Brittany Cammisa, Tiffany Kubik, Colleen Garman, Samantha Wilson, Holly Mirabella, and Rachel Putorti.
4. Ms. Mascolo attended the 2007 Annual Banquet for the Seymour Wildcat's Football. The banquet was very nice and well attended.
5. Mrs. Geffert commended Ms. King, Bungay School Music Teacher, for the Band and Choral concert recently held at Bungay School. Mrs. Geffert recommended a different location to accommodate the parents of the 150 students involved in band and chorus.

08-3499 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Education held on January 10, 2008 as presented.

SO VOTED

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

08-3500 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Loda) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held on January 14, 2008 as presented.

SO VOTED

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

08-3501 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Education held on January 24, 2008 as presented.

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mr. Ward, Mrs. Loda

III. CORRESPONDENCE: Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence.

IV. COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS: NONE

V DEMONSTRATIONS AND INFORMAL DISTRIBUTIONS:

1. Ed-Line - Mrs. Syriac, Associate Superintendent, gave Board Members an overview of the new Ed-line implementation plan. Ed-line will replace the Final Site web page for teachers and is being piloted spring 2008 with one teacher from each building. Mrs. Syriac will survey the participants of the program for feedback in June 2008. The plan is to implement Ed-line during the 2008-2009 school year. Teachers will receive training at the beginning of the school year. An informational presentation will be given to parents at the "Meet the Teacher Night" held in the beginning of the school year.
2. Industrial Health & Safety Consultants - Mr. Belden, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations, gave Board Members a quick review from the Industrial Health & Safety Consultants regarding the radon testing done last year. All the school passed the testing. It was recommended that the test be done again in the Middle School gym. The air was not being recycled properly in the gym and the system was readjusted.
3. Nutrition Services – Ms. Brooks submitted her Financial Report for December 2008, for Board Members information.
4. Valley Regional Adult Education – The Seymour statistics for High School Equivalence tests (GED) and Adult Education programs were provided for Board Members' information.

REPORTS:

VIa Student Representative Report –

Mr. Kassay told Board Members that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mr. Seymour Contest would be held on March 14, 2008. It is a 3-part competition and the top three winners would go to the Mr. Valley Contest.

Mr. Kassay told Board Members that the student body would be submitting their course selection for the 2008-09 school year on February 5, 2008. Board Members asked Joe about the school song. He said there has not been much response from the students. Mr. Baker told Joe about the two previous songs.

VIb Board Chairman's Report –

Mr. Baker and Ms. Mascolo attended a forum on Connecticut High School Reform. Mr. Baker passed information out to Board Members for their review. Mr. Baker said one of the things discussed was Exit Tests for students leaving high school. Ms. Mascolo said there are a lot of different opinions to this idea. Mr. Baker feels there are already enough tests.

Mr. Baker addressed Mr. Garofolo request regarding Policy #9132 - Assignment of Committees. Mr. Baker said the committees will stand and he will not accept Mr. Stanek's resignation from the Curriculum committee.

VIc Board Committee Reports – NONE

VId Superintendent's Report –

Ms. Mascolo asked Board Members if they were enjoying their subscription to American Board magazine. All members said yes so she will renew the membership.

Meetings:

3/3 and 3/5 CABE Workshops

2/12 Awards Advisory Committee will meet at Chatfield

2/28 Athletic Sub-Committee will meet in the Drummer Room to discuss maintenance and use of fields

Ms. Mascolo will have an orientation meeting with Mrs. Loda and Mr. Buchsbaum

VII OLD BUSINESS: – NONE

VIII NEW BUSINESS:

VIIIa Staff Appointment

1. Kimberly Thompson – Special Education Teacher (Step 1 Bachelors) – Seymour High School (replacement for Laura Harrison)

08-3502 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to accept the appointment as submitted by the Superintendent of Kimberly Thompson as Special Education Teacher (1<sup>st</sup> Step Bachelors) pending certification at the High School.

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAINED: Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek

VIIIb Staff Hiring

1. Jennifer Choti Canell – Instructional Paraprofessional – Chatfield School (Replacement for Denise Rider)

08-3503 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mrs. Loda) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Jennifer Choti Canell as Instructional Paraprofessional at Chatfield School.

SO VOTED

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

2. Allison Cunningham – Softball pitching Coach – Seymour High School (Volunteer)

08-3504 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Loda) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of the Allison Cunningham as Volunteer Softball Pitching Coach at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

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

3. Joseph Perrucci – Head Wrestling Coach (Appendix E position) – Seymour High School (replacement for Michael Campanelli)

08-3506 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mr. Ward) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Joseph Perrucci as Head Wrestling Coach (Appendix E position) at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

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

4. Brian Sutcliffe – Head Golf Coach (Appendix E Position) – Seymour High School (replacement for Al Skiparis)

08-3507 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mr. Buchsbaum) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Brian Sutcliffe as Head Golf Coach (Appendix E Position)

SO VOTED

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

5. Jill Kakushewich – Softball Assistant Coach (Appendix E Position) – Seymour High School

08-3508 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mr. Ward) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Jill Yakushewich as Softball Assistant coach (Appendix E Position) at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

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

6. Mallory Zenkus – Volunteer Softball Coach – Seymour High School

08-3509 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Mallory Zenkus as Volunteer Softball Coach at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

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

#### VIIIc Staff Resignations

1. Alice Kroll – Family & Consumer Science Teacher – Seymour High School

08-3510 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to ratify the Superintendents acceptance of the resignation of Alice Kroll as Family & Consumer Science Teacher at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

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

2. Denise Rider – Instructional Paraprofessional – Chatfield School

08-3511 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Loda) to ratify the Superintendent's acceptance of the resignation of Denise Rider as Instructional Paraprofessional at Chatfield School.

SO VOTED

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

3. Frank Warecke – Machine Shop Instructor – Seymour High School

08-3512 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mr. Stanek) to ratify the Superintendent's acceptance of the resignation of Frank Warecke as Machine Shop Instructor at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

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

4. Karen Baker – Title 1 Facilitator and Tutor – Seymour Middle School

08-3513 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to ratify, with regret, the Superintendent's acceptance of the resignation of Karen Baker as Title 1 Facilitator and Tutor at Seymour Middle School.

SO VOTED

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

08-3514 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Loda) to go into executive session and invite the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent to discuss a contractual issue.

SO VOTED

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

Board Members and those invited entered into executive session at 8:47 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding a contractual issue.

08-3515 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to come out of Executive Session.

SO VOTED

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

08-3516 MOTION: (Mr. Ward, 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 9:23 p.m.

Submitted by  
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk