

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING
CENTRAL OFFICE

January 24, 2008
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

James Ward
Jeanne Loda

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent

PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY:

Chairman, Bruce Baker, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the pledge to the flag.

08-3496 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to take from the table the Breathalyzer Policy.

SO VOTED

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

Ms. Mascolo began the meeting by introducing the Breathalyzer Policy and how it is needed in our school system.

Mrs. Geffert asked if this policy was going to be implemented to all grade levels K-12. Ms. Mascolo said yes but was more geared towards middle and high school levels.

Mr. Garofolo asked how the parents and students were going to be notified of this policy.

Ms. Mascolo clarified that it can be put in the student handbooks, disclaimer on event tickets, letters to parents/students, etc.

Mr. Garofolo suggested the posting of signs in school buildings as a way of announcing the Breathalyzer Policy to the community.

Ms. Mascolo stated that she would check into these suggestions.

Mr. Garofolo talked about Stamford's Breathalyzer Policy and how if a student was driving with a carload of people and the one student was suspected of being under the influence, all were guilty and they would also be tested.

Mr. Buchsbaum would like to address all concerns in the policy either by written notifications verses in class conversation or assemblies on the topic. He also noted that "in the manner outlined below" should be inserted in the regulation – paragraph four, at the end of the first sentence, "Breathalyzers may be used during school time or at any school function, on or off school grounds, as requested or determined by the Principal/Assistant Principal".

Mr. Garofolo suggested that during homeroom we should distribute the regulations and policy to all students and have a sign-off sheet and have the teachers collect them.

Mrs. Geffert had concerns on changes to the policy after students have signed-off that they have received the policy. Should they be notified of the changes?

Mr. Baker suggested Connect-ED as a way of announcing the policy.

Mr. Stanek suggested the Seymour High School Newsletter was another way of communicating the preventives against alcohol.

Ms. Mascolo stated that mailing of the policy we will send to all students who are attending the Senior Semi and the Junior Prom.

Mr. Garofolo said that on the Regulation – paragraph #2, the last sentence was troublesome because of the guilty by association.

Mrs. Yitts said that there are possibilities of friends trying to help someone that may be guilty by association.

Mr. Baker stated to take out the last sentence of paragraph #2 from the regulation under “Breathalyzer Testing”.

08-3497 MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo, sec., Mr. Stanek) to accept policy 5145.124 with the following amendments to Regulation #5145.124(a) under “Breathalyzer Testing” paragraph #2, last sentence “Any student who chooses to remain in the presence of someone engaging in any prohibited activities may also be subject to disciplinary action”. This sentence is to be deleted. In addition the phrase “in the manner outlined below” will be inserted in to paragraph # 3 at the end of the first sentence.

SO VOTED

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

08-3498 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mr. Buchsbaum) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by,
Millie Gonzalez, Acting Clerk