

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Seymour High School

October 15, 2007
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Baker, Chairman
Rose Marie Yitts
Judith Flood
Arlene Brumer
James Garofolo
Frederick Stanek

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Criscuolo
James Ward
Rhonda Geffert

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

Allie Bachyrycz
Joe Kassay

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent
Mary Estock, Steve Murzin, Liz Tift,
Scotta Simoneau, Tom Wallace

PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY:

Bruce Baker, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:38 p.m.

RECOGNITION:

1. Ms. Mascolo recognized Krissy Connors of Seymour High School and Tim DiLeo of Seymour Middle School for being featured in the Best Buddies Connecticut brochure.
2. Mr. Kearns recognized and complimented the students and staff members from the district schools for the seriousness with which they handled the lockdown drill.

07-3406 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on October 1, 2007, with the following correction: Mr. Baker voted opposed on motion #07-3392.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Brumer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

III. CORRESPONDENCE: Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence

Mr. Stanek asked for a moment of silence for Cindy Morasko, secretary at Seymour Middle School. Mr. Stanek said Mrs. Morasko was a terrific person. All the students and staff also found Mrs. Morasko to be wonderful. Mrs. Syriac worked with Cindy and agreed with Mr. Stanek. Cindy Morasko will definitely be missed. Mr. Stanek asked that a copy of the minutes be sent to the Morasko family.

IV. COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

Mr. Murzin said he is concerned that staff is bullying students. He believes in the safety of students. Children especially need to feel safe in the learning center. He feels students are under the microscope of staff, security and the police. Mr. Murzin said he puts his children in the trust of the school and police are not needed in school. Mr. Murzin said he has respect for teachers and the element of security in school is a good thing, but students should not be arrested for breaking school policies.

Scotta Simoneau asked Board Members about the pool scoring system. She was wondering if the new system would be installed before the boys' swim team season begins. Mr. Baker said that was approved during the Finance Committee meeting earlier.

Jay Hatfield asked if there was a certain way volunteers were approved. Mr. Baker said there was no specific procedure, but they will be talking about specifics in the committee meeting.

Mrs. Estock asked if the Board kept a list of students that were arrested in school. Mr. Garofolo asked why the list was needed. To what end would this information be used. Mr. Wallace asked if the Director of Security qualifications had been verified. Mr. Baker said the Board takes safety very seriously. The Director of Security has done many good things for the system. Mr. Murzin said it is the duty of every citizen to monitor what happens in the school system. Arrest statistics are important to tax payers if the number is high you need to take control of the system if the number is low then things are going well.

V DEMONSTRATIONS AND INFORMAL DISTRIBUTIONS:

Va School Calendars/Newsletters – October 2007

The district schools submitted copies of their school calendars for Board Members' information.

REPORTS:

VIa Student Representative Report –

Allie said she was told that since the football field was in poor condition that the Woodland coach may not want to play the Thanksgiving night game at Seymour. Mr. Baker said the only solutions were to re-sod or install artificial turf and the Board of Ed does not have the money for either project. Joe told Board Members that the alumni tent was to bring students back and boost school spirit.

VIb Board Chairman's Report –

Mr. Baker said he attended an ACES meeting and found information for some of his goals. One of his goals is to make the Board of Education paperless and the other goal is to improve communications.

Mr. Garofolo suggested Ms. Mascolo add the sub-committee meeting date to the Central Office newsletter.

Mr. Stanek brought the issue of the High School Football field up and suggested an investigation should be done into the NVL deciding to move the Thanksgiving night game.

VIc Board Committee Reports –

The Policy Committee met on October 11th. Mrs. Yitts reported on the meeting. The committee talked about intra-district transfers. No action was taken and the policy will remain generic, as each transfer will be decided as they come along.

The Policy Committee will be using CABA for updating the Policy Manuals. The policies are getting beyond the committee into legal matters and mandates. CABA has attorneys that the Policy Committee can use.

The Finance Committee met on October 15, 2007 actions need to be taken on some of the items discussed.

07-3407 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Flood) to accept and approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee of the Board of Education and to waive formal bidding due to the urgent need of the score board in the High School swimming area as articulated by the swimming parents group and the swimming coaches as allowed by the Board bidding policy as an exception there to and to authorize the Superintendent to purchase the Colorado Display System 6 pool scoring system in accordance with the quote of \$20,200.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Brumer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

07-3408 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Flood) to accept and approve the recommendation of the Board of Education's Finance Committee to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a two year agreement beginning October 1, 2007 and ending September 30, 2009, with Book Ends Buying Services Inc., to obtain used replacement books and related materials as outlined in the executed agreement and as directed by the Superintendent or her designee.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mr. Brumer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

Vid Superintendent's Report –

The Facilities Committee met with the PTA from LoPresti about cleaning up the school's playground. The group has secured monies from a Matthies Grant and approval from the Selectman's office.

Ms. Mascolo thanked Mr. Garofolo for his help in proofreading "The Central Link" newsletter. The Central Link will be posted on the Web site, at the Library and Town Hall.

VII OLD BUSINESS: NONE

VIII NEW BUSINESS:

VIIIa Consolidated Grant, IDEA Grant, Perkins Grant
Board approval needed for the annual grants.

07-3409 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Brumer) to authorize the superintendent to apply for the IDEA Grant, the Perkins Grant and the Consolidated Grant.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Brumer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

07-3410 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Brumer) to adjourn the meeting

Mrs. Flood and Mrs. Brumer rescinded their motion because there was another item to be discussed.

07-3411 MOTION: to add item VIIIb participation in the 2008-09 Oil Consortium to the agenda.

VIIIb 2008-09 Oil Consortium

07-3412 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Flood) to waive formal bidding per Board policy regarding participation in consortiums and authorize the Superintendent or their designee to enter into an agreement with the #2 Oil Consortium for the delivery of 209,500 gallons of #2 oil for the 2008-09 heating season.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Brumer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

07-3413 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Flood) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Brumer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk