

Seymour Board of Education



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2017
Seymour Middle School
7:30 pm

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 7/18/17
TIME: 9:25 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Yashu Putorti, Chairman
James Garofolo
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Jennifer Magri
Allison Sobieski
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kristen Harmeling
Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent
Rick Belden, Assistant Superintendent - Finance & Operations
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Rob Dyer, System Technology Coordinator
Kris Boyle, Director of Special Services
Jim Freund, Principal, SHS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance (led by Superintendent Mike Wilson) at 7:30 p.m.
The Board welcomed Mr. Wilson.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Correspondence

1. Letter dated May 30, 2017 from Dr. Dianna Wentzell, Commissioner of Education confirming the appointment of Michael Wilson as the Seymour Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2017
2. Letter dated July 3, 2017 from Mr. Michael Wilson, Seymour Superintendent of Schools to the Seymour Schools Community

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2017
2. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2017

B. Removed

C. Nutrition Services Financial Report – End of Year 2016-2017

D. Staff Hiring – Non Certified

1. Comerford, Kathryn
 - Nutrition Services
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Replacing Amanda Carlson
2. Moktan, David
 - Districtwide Computer Technician
 - Central Office
 - Replacing Eric Laurentus

E. Acknowledge the receipt of homeschooling notification and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program

1. Dominic Sielicki and Clare Sielicki
Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Sielicki has informed the Board of Education of their intent to home school their children, Dominic Sielicki and Clare Sielicki, for the 2017-2018 school year

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Ms. Magri) move to approve the consent agenda as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

- B. Financial Management Summary** – Ending June 30, 2017 was removed because the Yearend Financial Management Summary is not yet finalized and will be submitted to the Board on August 21, 2017.

VI. INFORMATION

A. Seymour High School Spring Season Sports Report

B. Staff Resignations–Certified

1. Melaragno, Roxanne
 - Assistant Principal
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Effective: June 30, 2017

Ms. Magri asked about the process for replacing Ms. Melaragno and Mr. Wilson said the posting went out on Friday, July 7 and will close on July 20. He is putting together an interviewing committee and set up interviews. Mr. Strumello will be on the committee.

2. Woods, Kristen
 - School Counselor
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Effective: July 3, 2017

C. Staff Retirement-Non Certified

1. Eighmie, Barbara
 - Nurse
 - Seymour High School
 - Effective: August 18, 2017

Mr. Hatfield expressed some concern on filling this position since his experience in his district is they are hard to find. Mr. Wilson assured the Board that he will alert them should any problems arise. Mr. Hatfield was concerned about physicals of high school athletes and Mrs. Tencza confirmed that the nurse from the middle school has been working at the high school to clear physicals in a timely fashion.

D. Staff Resignation–Appendix E

1. Prasauckas, Craig
 - Advisor –Student Council
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Effective: June 30, 2017

E. Staff Resignation–Non Certified

1. DiStasi, Ernie Jr.
 - Custodian, Part Time
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Effective: June 20, 2017
2. Machado, Krystal
 - Instructional Paraprofessional
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Effective: June 14, 2017

F. Staff Hiring–Appendix E

1. Dest, Kerry
 - Advisor – Drama Club
 - Seymour Middle School
 - New Position

VII. REPORTS

A. Committee Meetings

1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2017

B. Board of Education Report

1. Chairman's Comments

Mr. Putorti again welcomed Mr. Wilson as our new Superintendent. He thanked Mr. Freund on the graduation saying the ceremony was excellent. He said the Board members who were in attendance looked fine in their regalia. Mr. Putorti said because the State budget has not yet been passed, there is still the possibility that three million dollars could be cut from the Seymour budget. He has asked all departments to hold any discretionary spending.

2. Board Member Comments

Mr. Strumello commended those employees who resigned and wrote an appropriate letter of resignation. He felt Mrs. Melaragno's letter was superb. Mr. Hatfield voiced some concern with the postings for part time custodian and paraprofessional and wondered if we should put them on hold since we have been asked to freeze spending. Mr. Belden said the freeze was discretionary spending only and salaries were ok to proceed. Mr. Hatfield apologized for not being able to attend the Seymour High graduation which conflicted with his school's graduation. He said Mr. Wilson's letter to the community was phenomenal. He mentioned the website needs to be updated to reflect Mr. Wilson's presence in the district. Mr. Stanek said it was another fine graduation but continues to question why some staff prefer to sit in the stands rather than participate in the processional.

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to add to the agenda a discussion on the high school graduation

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

Mr. Freund said he was happy to see Ms. Stefanie Slie attend graduation. She was there to recognize her first class who was graduating. Mr. Putorti asked Mr. Freund if all staff knew they could participate and walk in the graduation. Mr. Freund said he can certainly invite them. Mr. Hatfield said he thought an invitation would be a nice gesture.

C. Superintendent's Report

1. RFP for Propane Gas – Rick Belden

Mr. Belden reported that an RFP has been put out for propane for our new buses. Mr. Belden said the new buses are very nice and he, along with several town officials, had the opportunity to sit in one. Mr. Hatfield asked if the Board members would be able to check them out. Mr. Belden said there would be a photo op in the near future and thought it would be a good time for Board members to check out the new buses. Mr. Strumello asked if anyone on the Board received a robo call from All Star Transportation. No one else received a call.

VIII. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Out of State Field Trip

Mr. Strumello asked if there were any in state cheerleading camps and Ms. Magri said she was not sure but in years past, there were not. She reminded the Board that the cheerleaders fundraise to attend this camp and it does not cost the Board.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the request of Coach Jessica Young and Assistant Coach Chrissy Manion to take the Seymour High School cheerleading team on a field trip to cheerleading camp at Westfield State University, Westfield, MA on August 7, 2017 through August 10, 2017

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

B. Bid Waiver

MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Garofolo) per Board policy #3320, the Board of Education waives formal bidding for the following goods or services in excess of \$25,000 for the 2017-18 fiscal year per the reasons provided in the policy:

- Third party proprietary HVAC maintenance and support services (Siemens 12PSX0055, Johnson Controls 12PSX0153, Andover Systems, Environmental Services Corporation 12PSX0153, A&B Mechanical)
- Heating oil and diesel fuel utilizing Ct. Fuel Consortium and DAS (East River Energy 15PSX0035, Santa Fuel 15PSX0035)
- Custodial and maintenance supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (Grainger 10PSX0204, Dumouchel, and Benham)
- Instructional and office supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (School Specialty 12PSX0108AF, W.B. Mason 12PSX0108, Staples 12PSX0108AG, Kurtz Bros. Inc. 12PSX0108, Houghton Mifflin)
- Computer supplies utilizing PEPPM consortium, CREC Consortium and DAS (CDWG 12PSX0308, Connecticut Business Systems 10PSX0104AF, Dell Computer 99ITZ0022MA)
- Professional Services (W.J. Electric, J.P. Maguire Disaster Recovery, ACES- preferred vendors providing ongoing maintenance and professional services)

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

C. Intra District Waiver Requests – Students Currently Attending Waiver School

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Stanek) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2017-2018 intra district transfer requests for students Julia Frouge (grade 5) and Payton Motyl (grade 3) who are moving out of their school district and wish to continue in their current school for the 2017-2018 school year

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

C1. MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Stanek) to add to the agenda the donation from Nextlink

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello
Mr. Dyer explained that he has been working with a company named Nextlink Wireless LLC which provides point to point microwave links between fixed locations. This company has reached out to us to provide this service free to the Seymour Public Schools. The plan would be to install this service at the high school press box which would allow for internet connectivity at this location. Mr. Putorti asked if this was completely free and Mr. Dyer said it was free and if Nextlink did not utilize the licenses they would lose them. Donating them would allow them to establish a presence. The agreement is for three years with two options to renew. He said it is competitive since other towns have also received this offer and the first one to get Board approval would receive it. Mr. Garofolo asked if installation was free and who would be responsible if damage were to occur. Mr. Belden said it would be covered by insurance. Mr. Hatfield wondered if it would reach the softball field; Mr. Dyer said no because it was directional. Mr. Hatfield voiced some concern about the second one being utilized by the Town at the river walk when there might be another spot within the school. Mr. Putorti said it was best if this was shared by the schools and the Town.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Ms. Magri) to authorize the Superintendent of schools to enter into a three (3) year no cost agreement with Nextlink Wireless LLC., 13865 Sunrise Valley Drive, Herndon, VA 20171 for the provision of a point to point microwave link between the high school press box and the Seymour High School building

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

D. Liaison Committee

Mr. Putorti explained that he wished to be removed from the Liaison Committee because a very good friend is on the Paraprofessionals bargaining committee and he did not want to have to sit across the table from her. He said the negotiations are going well and felt they would be settled soon. This is temporary as the Liaison Committee as well as all the committees would be reconfigured in December anyway.

MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to reconfigure the Liaison Committee to remove Mr. Yashu Putorti and add Mr. Peter Kubik

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Sobieski) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk