

Seymour Board of Education



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2018
Chatfield-LoPresti School
7:30 pm

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 8/24/18
TIME: 10:15am
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Edward Hendricks
Peter Kubik
Jennifer Magri
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Christopher Champagne
James Garofolo

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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
Joseph Falzone, Director of Operations
Jim Freund, Principal, SHS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, BS
Lauren Reid, Assistant Principal, BS
David Olechna, Principal, CLS
Kathleen Freimuth, Assistant Principal, CLS
Paul Sponheimer
Meagan Krushinski
Jean Sosnovich

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Magri called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:37 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Correspondence

1. Letter dated August 6, 2018 from Superintendent Michael Wilson to all staff welcoming them back to school and inviting them to the professional development on August 23, 2018 (convocation) and August 24, 2018
2. Letter dated August 14, 2018 from Superintendent Michael Wilson to parents welcoming them back to school on August 27, 2018

B. Media Coverage

1. None

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Meagan Krushinski, 3 Hockanum Glen Drive, Beacon Falls – As SEA president, Ms. Krushinski read from a prepared statement regarding the administration threatening to unilaterally stop the deduction of association dues from teachers who are current members of the teachers' union.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

1. ~~Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2018~~ removed by Mr. Ed Strumello
2. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – July 18, 2018

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

1. Kostick, John

Ms. Cynthia Kostick has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school her child, John Kostick, for the 2018-2019 school year

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) move to approve the consent agenda with Item A1 removed

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Item A1 Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2018 - Mr. Strumello asked that section 6C Staff Resignation - Brandt Schneider, Cross Country Coach, Seymour Middle School be corrected to Seymour High School.

VI. INFORMATION

- A. Special Education Monthly Enrollment Update – Kris Boyle

Ms. Magri asked if the date on the report was incorrect as it showed as October. Dr. Boyle said it was an error and he would correct this. Dr. Boyle said the numbers are on trend for the start of school. Ms. Magri asked about the new special education classroom and Dr. Boyle said it is in place with some minor touchups still to be done. It will be ready for the first day of school and there are five students to start.

- B. Staff Retirement – Non Certified

1. Efthymiou, Renee

- Instructional Paraprofessional
- Chatfield-LoPresti School
- Effective June 20, 2018

- C. Staff Resignation – Non Certified

1. Falbo, Paige

- Instructional Paraprofessional
- Bungay School
- Effective August 27, 2018

- D. Staff Resignation – Appendix E

1. Gilbert, Jeffrey

- Assistant Coach, Football
- Seymour High School
- Effective August 2, 2018

2. Johnson, John

- Assistant Coach, Football
- Seymour High School
- Effective August 2, 2018

3. Keeffe, Darlene

- Drama Club Assistant Advisor
- Seymour High School
- Effective June 13, 2018

4. Schneider, Brandt

- Drama Club Advisor
- Seymour High School
- Effective June 30, 2018

5. Shelinsky, Stephanie

- Drama Club Assistant Advisor
- Seymour High School
- Effective June 2, 2018

VII. REPORTS and DISCUSSION

- A. Update on Summer Facilities Projects – Joe Falzone

Mr. Joe Falzone reported that it was a hectic summer and they got a late start due to the last day of school being pushed back due to bad weather. He explained that summer project work is separate from the normal everyday projects.

He reported that at the high school they have repaired known roof leaks, screened and applied polyurethane to the basketball court, are working to replace four older water fountains, repaired and replaced floor tiles, restriped the parking lots, inspected and repaired student lockers, are working to repair the kiln for the art room, are installing speakers in guidance area, and are cleaning all exterior windows. At the middle school, repairs were made to the roof, they restriped the parking lot, painted interior window frames, doors, and stairway railings, repaired flooring, painted the main office and resource officer office, inspected and repaired student lockers, are currently working on screening and applying polyurethane to basketball court and cleaning the exterior windows. At Bungay School they inspected and repaired the roof, did floor tile repairs, inspected and tested and pumped out excess sediment and water from the Underground Oil Storage Tank, They renovated classroom #4 for Special Education program, replaced boiler section for #1 boiler, are currently working to repair and paint exterior building trim, and began plans to build a new playscape to replace existing structure. At Chatfield-LoPresti they screened and applied polyurethane to the basketball court and painted new outlines and gaming on the side asphalt areas to extend recess. Mr. Kubik said we need to continue to look at the Bungay School major repairs as soon we will need to make a decision about a major renovation project. Mr. Belden agreed that we are rapidly approaching the time where a decision will need to be made. Ms. Harmeling said Election Day is quickly approaching and is this something we can put on the ballot. Mr. Belden said the first step is an architect should do a do an infrastructure study; he said the capital projects budget would pay for the study. Ms. Harmeling said she felt the high school tennis courts needed some attention and Mr. Strumello said Ms. Yusko asked for some trees to be removed so the court can dry quicker. Mr. Belden said he would look into this. Ms. Harmeling also asked about the Bungay School basketball hoops and Mr. Falzone said they had been repaired but are broken again. Mr. Belden said this was due to Town/Public use. Mr. Strumello voiced a concern that the schools were always in use and there was no down time to get work done. He volunteered to talk to the Recreation Department about this. Ms. Magri said she felt it would be appropriate for the Facilities Committee to discuss summer camp usage and it would be a good idea to invite Mary McNelis.

B. Board of Education Report

1. Chairman's Comments

Ms. Magri talked about the possibility of launching "The More you Know Monday's" on our Facebook page. She encouraged Board members to submit their ideas to her. She felt this would be a good way to educate the community about happenings in the district. She said she was also interested in doing something that is being done in Shelton which is "Word of the Day". This is a very successful program in Shelton and the community is very much involved. You will see the Word of the Day all over town at local businesses, the kids really like seeing it. We hope to be able to "borrow" this idea from Shelton and use it here in Seymour.

2. Board Member Comments

Dr. Hendricks welcomed Lee-Ann Dauerty back and said the Board was very happy to have her return. Mr. Hatfield asked if any additional cost would be incurred if we use the trainers for weightlifting. Mr. Strumello voiced a concern about the mentoring program since Mr. DiStasi has moved to the high school. He wants everyone to know he does not want this program to go away. Ms. Magri agreed saying it is a phenomenal program. Ms. Stanek said he previously asked that the bus company ask their drivers to report on the condition of the roads and wanted to follow up on this request.

C. Superintendent Report

Mr. Wilson reported that on August 16 and 17, Vonda, Rick, and he hosted the Administrators for their annual retreat. Data was reviewed with our team in order to make informed decisions as well as to begin their School Improvement Plans. Over the summer, approximately five teachers were hired as the result of retirements and resignations and we are all set to start the school year in terms of teacher staffing. Mr. Wilson said we currently have some open positions which include coaching and a Drama Club coordinator. He feels confident that candidates will apply and is hopeful that we will have soon have candidates to recommend to the BOE. Our custodial staff has worked very hard in order to get the buildings ready for the start of school and they look great, so thank you to them. As you are aware, our annual convocation is set for this Thursday at 8:00 am at SMS, all Board members are invited to attend. Mr. Wilson is very happy to report that as of this afternoon, we have just over 1100 followers on our new Facebook page.

VIII. **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

* A. Security and Employment

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Dr. Hendricks) move that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss school security and the employment of the Director of Security. Only those invited by the Board can enter executive session; the Board invites Mr. Michael Wilson and Mr. Rich Kearns into the Executive Session

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

Entered Executive Session: 8:43 pm

Out of Executive Session: 9:08 pm

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Dr. Hendricks) that the Board of Education allow the Superintendent in collaboration with the Seymour Chief of Police to authorize Rick Kearns, Director of Security to carry a firearm on school grounds through the end of the 2018-2019 school year. This arrangement will be reviewed and may be reauthorized prior to the beginning of each school year.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

- * B. Employment of a Long Term Substitute
MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Kubik) move that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss the employment of a Long Term Substitute. Only those invited by the Board can enter executive session; the Board invites Mr. Michael Wilson into the Executive Session

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

Entered Executive Session: 9:11 pm

Out of Executive Session: 9:16 pm

- * C. Facilities Manager and Superintendent of Schools Year-End Review

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Dr. Hendricks) move that the board enter Executive Session for a discussion of the performance and evaluation of the Facilities Manager and Superintendent of Schools.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

Entered Executive Session: 9:17 pm

Out of Executive Session: 9:55 pm

MOTION: (Dr. Hendricks/sec., Mr. Kubik) the Board of Education authorizes an increase of 2.35% for the Facilities Manager and an increase of 2.5% for the Superintendent of Schools for the 2018-19 school year

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Dr. Hendricks) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Hatfield, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk