

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Seymour Middle School

September 8, 2009
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:**

Rhonda Geffert
Stephanie Walsh
MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations
Mary Lavoie, Curriculum Director

Kara, Jeff, John and Amanda Stockla, Marcia & Nick Viggian, Peter Kubik, Cathy Goodrich, Mary Sue Feige, Caitlyn Murphy, Sandy Labacz, Amber Stevens, Rory O'Connor, Ruzdija Basulgevic, Peter Cunniff, Melissa Anelli, Christine Kaszeta, Harvey Catlin, Edward Strumello, Kristen Bruno

I. CALL TO ORDER:

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

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Recognitions

1. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Jessica Alves and Amanda Stockla who were named winners of the Seymour Memorial Day Parade Essay Contest. Both students received plaques.
2. Ms. Mascolo thanked Glen Frosceno, custodian at LoPresti School, for getting everyone out of the building and whose fast actions mitigated the damage that could have been caused by the fire.
3. Congratulations to Nancy Staab, who served as the Connecticut School Counselor Association Elementary VP-Elect during the past school year and who will serve as the Elementary VP this year.
4. Congratulations to the entire custodial staff for their hard work during the summer to make our schools look beautiful for the first day of school.

B. Board Correspondence: Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Strumello asked for an update on the Chatfield/LoPresti School project. He had heard rumors that the funding would be stopped. Mr. Baker said he is trying to find out if this is fact. Mr. Baker also said the basic design is done and has been priced by the Construction Manager.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes – BOE meeting – August 17, 2009

B. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Allison Acquavella – Student Council Advisor at Seymour Middle School
2. Ernest DiStasi – Gr. 6 Team Leader at Seymour Middle School
4. Steven Tilki – Gr. 6 Team Leader at Seymour Middle School

C. Staff Resignation – Non Certified

1. Susanne Andrews – Clerical Paraprofessional at Bungay School
2. Jane Frosceno – Clerical Paraprofessional at LoPresti School
3. Susan Tucciarone – Clerical Paraprofessional at Seymour High School

09-3816 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the consent agenda with Item IIIB 3 removed to VA 1 as presented.

SO VOTED

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

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

A. Staff Hiring – Appendix E

1. Christine Kaszeta – Gr. 8 Team Leader at Seymour Middle School

09-3817 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Loda) to approve Christine Kaszeta as Gr. 8 Team Leader at Seymour Middle School

SO VOTED

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

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

INFORMTION

A. Student Representatives:

Stephanie told Board Members the Meet the Teachers night held on September 2nd at Seymour High School went very well. They had nice refreshments. She also said that Mrs. Deming sold 35 t-shirts for the Seymour Pink Day.

The first football game of the season is scheduled for Thursday, September 17th and the following Friday, September 18th is Senior Day.

B. Link Crew – Sandy Labacz

Ms. Labacz along with 5 Link Crew Leaders came to tell Board Members about the Freshman Orientation using the new Link Crew system. The students explained to Board Members what they went through to get ready for orientation and what they did with the students during orientation. The students, along with members of the public and Board Members played one of the get to know you activities that they had played with the freshman. The students felt this new system worked very well and that the freshman felt very comfortable with the first days of school.

C. AP Score Report – Melissa Anelli

Ms. Anelli, Director of Guidance at Seymour High School, explained to Board Members about the AP Courses. She told Board Members how teachers and students are chosen for the different classes. She also told Board Members that the AP test is a standardized test that cost \$85.00 for students to take. The students can choose to send the results to the college. The college decides what scores they will accept. The more competitive the college the higher the scores they want from the students. Mrs. Syriac said these are a higher rigor classes and students are expect to perform at a certain level.

D. Vertical Scales Scores for Connecticut Mastery Tests – Mary Lavoie

Ms. Lavoie explained to Board Members the new Vertical Scales Scores for the Connecticut Mastery Test. The vertical scales scores are able to track a particular student and follow that student from grade to grade. This will enable teachers to see the growth of different students.

E. District Strategic Plan – MaryAnne Mascolo

Ms. Mascolo said the first meeting of the District Strategic Planning Committee will be Wednesday, September 16th at 3:30 p.m. Ms. Mascolo said she has almost the whole committee all she needs is two Board Members to volunteer to be on the committee.

F. Athletic Department Spring Report – The Athletic Department submitted their Spring Report for Board Members' information.

G. School Calendars and Student Newsletters – The district school submitted their monthly calendars for Board Members’ information.

REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

1. Facilities Committee met on September 1st Mr. Buchsbaum reviewed the meeting with the full Board. Mr. Natzel will post a sign stating when the lights on the field will be shut off. It is thought that the lights will be turned off around 9:00 p.m. or 9:30 p.m.

2. Finance Committee met on August 17th. This report was covered during the August 17th meeting.

3. Policy Committee met on September 8th. Mrs. Loda review changes to Policy 1330b and regulations #1330(a-d) Community Relations/Use of School Facilities with the full Board.

09-3818 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mr. Ward) to move item VIIE up on the agenda to VIA 4

SO VOTED

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

09-3819 MOTION: (Mrs. Flood, sec., Mrs. Loda) to approve Policy 1330 and Regulations #1330(a-d) as discussed and revised.

SO VOTED

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

B. Chairman’s Report

Mr. Stanek asked that Board Members consider creating an award in memory and honor of Tom Petruny. The award would go to a continuing Eighth Grade student and would deal with the student’s interest in the environment and the outdoors. Mr. Baker suggested that Mr. Stanek put together a proposal for a future meeting.

C. Superintendent’s Report

Ms. Mascolo told Board Members that she is going to start compiling a brief report for Board Members outlining what has been going on in between meetings and listing upcoming dates.

The Transportation committee will meet October 6th at Central Office
October 21, 2009 is Seymour Pink Day

Ms. Mascolo told Board Members that she will start going out to the schools to do a coffee meet and greet with parents. Ms. Mascolo said she will also be attending PTA meetings.

Ms. Mascolo told Board Members that LoPresti School was able to have two all-day Kindergarten classes.

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Ms. Marianne Barker has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school her children, Josiah and Michael Barker for the 2009-10 school year.

09-3820 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to acknowledge the receipt of this form and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program.

SO VOTED

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

B. Ms. Kelli Huwer has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school her child, Aidan Loyd, for the 2009-10 school year.

09-3821 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to acknowledge the receipt of this form and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program.

SO VOTED

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

C. Mrs. Steven Muzyka has informed the Board of Education of her intent to home school her child, Jessica Muzyka, for the 2009-10 school year.

09-3822 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to acknowledge the receipt of this form and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program.

SO VOTED

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

D. Request for an out of state field trip – Mr. Fleming and Ms. Cunningham are requesting approval for Grade 5 students at Chatfield School to attend a field trip to the Big E in West Springfield, MA on Monday, September 21, 2009.

09-3823 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to approve the request for Chatfield School Grade 5 students to attend a field trip to the Big E in West Springfield, MA on September 21, 2009.

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Stanek

09-3824 MOTION (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Yitts) to adjourn

SO VOTED

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk