



## **SPECIAL BOE MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

September 1, 2010  
Central Office  
7:30 P.M.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Bruce Baker, Mrs. Judy Flood, Mr. James Garofolo, Mr. Peter Kubik, Mrs. Jeanne Loda, Mr. Yashu Putorti, Mr. Ed Strumello, Ms. MaryAnne Mascolo, Mrs. Christine Syriac, Mr. Rick Belden, Ms. Kristen Harmeling, Mr. Mark Thompson, Ms. Ingrid Conlon, Mr. Paul Roy

The meeting was called to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Ed Strumello opened the meeting by introducing the people who were in attendance and asked the public to make comments at the beginning of the meeting. There were no comments during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Ms. Mascolo asked Mr. Belden to go over the requirements of the Education Jobs Fund Program. He handed out an overview of the program from the Connecticut Department of Education. The program is a federal program that provides ten billion dollars in assistance to states to save or create jobs in the field of education. The money provided can be used over two budget years. Seymour will be receiving \$575,147.00. This has not been finalized. The funds will be allocated directly to the Board of Education and managed through the Grants Funds program. The funds can be used to retain, rehire, or create jobs. It was reiterated that this money would only be available for two budget years only. The jobs must be at the school level directly related to students. There was some discussion on what jobs/functions would qualify under this program. MaryAnne stated that the jobs affected by the money have to be located in the schools. Judy Flood asked if we can put the money into the general budget without using it to create or hire for jobs. Ed Strumello said he felt that it could not be used in the general budget but could be retained in the second year's budget but only for use in creating, retaining, or rehiring only. There were some concerns about what would happen to the people that are employed through this program at the end of the two years when the funds are no longer available.

Ed read directly from the handout that lists the types of jobs that can be supported with these funds. MaryAnne Mascolo then presented which jobs she felt should be reinstated with these funds; this included a tutor at Chatfield, a tutor at Bungay, the Athletic Director at the high school which she said would free up administrators to work with students. At LoPresti, which has been identified as a low achieving school, she recommended two additional kindergarten positions which will help the children now. She also recommended an Instructional Paraprofessional at Seymour Middle School.

MaryAnne described what tutors we had previously at the schools through grants and what we had after the budget adjustments. Chatfield and LoPresti had previously had full time kindergarten but we offer no full time kindergarten this year. To reinstate the full time kindergarten program at LoPresti we would need to add two full time teachers.

After much consideration and discussion by the board it was decided to reinstate the positions that were lost and save the remainder of the funds for the next budget year.

MOTION: (Mr. Yashu Putorti; sec. Mrs. Jeanne Loda) to use the Education Job Funds received to replace a tutor at Chatfield School, a tutor at Bungay School and the Athletic Director position at the high school for the 2010-11 and the 2011-12 school year and to hold the remaining funds to be used during the 2011-2012 school year.

AMENDED MOTION: (Mr. Yashu Putorti; sec. Mrs. Jeanne Loda) to use the Education Job Funds received to replace a tutor at Chatfield School, a tutor at Bungay School and the Athletic Director position at the high school for the 2010-11 school year for a total of \$61,650 and to hold the remaining funds to be used during the 2011-2012 school year.

Additional discussion took place regarding the impact to the children of not offering a full time kindergarten. It appeared that the kindergarten students who attended full day kindergarten did do better on assessments however; we cannot say their attendance in the program was the only factor for their success.

AMENDED MOTION: (Mr. James Garofolo) to use the Education Job Funds received to replace a tutor at Chatfield School, a tutor at Bungay School and the Athletic Director position at the high school and to add two full time kindergarten teachers as presented by the Superintendent for the 2010-11 school year for a total of \$111,750 and to hold the remaining funds to be used during the 2011-2012 school year.

The amended motion was not seconded; therefore the Motion was not amended.

AMENDED MOTION: (Mr. Yashu Putorti; sec. Mrs. Jeanne Loda) to use the Education Job Funds received to replace a tutor at Chatfield School, a tutor at Bungay School and the Athletic Director position at the high school for the 2010-11 school year for a total of \$61,650 and to hold the remaining funds to be used during the 2011-2012 school year.

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Judy Flood, Mr. Peter Kubik, Mrs. Jeanne Loda, Mr. Yashu Putorti, Mr. Ed Strumello  
SO VOTED

OPPOSED: Mr. Bruce Baker, Mr. Jim Garofolo

Mr. Strumello advised Mr. Kubik that he had been named the liaison for CAFE and asked that he review the information and should call him if he chooses not to serve in this capacity.

MOTION: (Mrs. Jeanne Loda; sec. Mrs. Judy Flood) to adjourn the meeting  
SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Bruce Baker, Mrs. Judy Flood, Mr. James Garofolo, Mr. Peter Kubik,  
Mrs. Jeanne Loda, Mr. Yashu Putorti, Mr. Ed Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Ms. MaryAnne Mascolo