

**SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Seymour Middle School

October 3, 2022

6:00 pm – New Staff Reception

7:30 pm – Regular BOE Meeting

I. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

II. RECESS NEW STAFF RECEPTION

Reception Ended 6:59 pm

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Stephan Behuniak
Kristen Bruno
Christopher Champagne
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Shannon Levey (7:37 pm)
Beth Nesteriak
Ed Strumello

Tyler Lang, Student Representative

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

James Garofolo

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools
Salvatore A. Bucci, Business Manager
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Derrick Martin, Technology
Jim Freund, Principal, SHS
Jodie Roden, Principal, SMS
Kathleen Reynolds, Assistant Principal, SMS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, BS
Lauren Reid, Assistant Principal, BS
David Olechna, Principal, CLS
Stacey Albertson, Assistant Principal, CLS
Jason Manson
Zachary Manson
Christy Chirmith
Alison Brett
Michelle Strumello
Dawn Black
Kevin Pimpinelli

III. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Champagne called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:32 p.m.

IV. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Seymour Champion Recognitions

Congratulations to our first group of “Seymour Champions”.

1. Bungay School

a. Delaney Varsanik

b. Jay’Vani Flores

2. Chatfield-LoPresti School

a. Aliyah Feng

b. Adley Overkamp

3. Seymour Middle School
 - a. Adam Simoes
 - b. Christopher Warhola
4. Seymour High School
 - a. Jonathan David
- B. Superintendent Student Recognitions
 1. Duncan Plude
Dr. Compton presented Duncan Plude with two honors. The first was the Superintendent's Recognition for the Yale Book Award Duncan received as a Junior. The second recognition was the recognition of Duncan Plude as a commended student from the National Honor Society.

V. STUDENT REPORTS

- A. BOE Student Representative
MOTION: (Ms. Bruno/sec, Ms. Harmeling) to approve the recommendation of the High School Administration and the Student Council to appoint Sophia Motyl as the Alternate BOE Student Representative

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 8-0-0

- B. HS Student Representative Report- Tyler Lang, Sophia Motyl
Student Council news:
 1. Discuss how the election was blind this year - students submitted a slide about themselves answering 4 questions
 2. Students will be at meetings starting next month with STUCo officers
 3. Google form was given out for student input
 4. Leader reports from each club moving forwards
 5. Sports are in season, final reports will be at the next BOE meeting
 6. Results of the election: President-Caden Drezek, Vice president-William McKiernan, Secretary-Jayant Kasturi, Treasurer-Kevin Dong, Board of education representatives-Tyler Lang, senior member, Sophia Motyl, junior member, Junior class representative-Nicolas Reveles, Sophomore class representative-Brayden Pesantez, Izabel Ter, Freshman class representative-Kayenat Asif, Alyssa Vergati
 7. Discuss that we will have a Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 22 - next week we will vote on the theme and spirit week days
 8. Pep rally will be held the last 2 periods of the day on Friday October, 21 - same as last year, dance team routine, shout out to seniors of fall sports teams, Tug o War amongst grades, Teachers - pie in the face
 9. Student Council plans to start repainting the rock this Friday - first, we have to apply a white base coat and then add the 23niors to it in blue and gold, and then followed up by each senior signing the rock

Student Council, HOPE Club and National Honor Society is hosting a Mr. Seymour event on Monday, November 21 - more details to follow

NHS: President - Duncan Plude, VP - Madison Jarvis, Treasurer - Charles Savary, Secretary - William Mckernian

HOPE CLUB

Bottle & Can drive Fundraiser - boost funds for HOPE Club so they can pay for shipping for Operation Gratitude & homeless shelters. Socktober - collect over 200 pairs to socks to be donated to homeless shelters.

SPANISH CLUB

In the month of October, plans to make pinatas & create an altar for the Dia de los Muertos

Zachary Manson - parking spot, public comment, good idea believed to be supported by many of the SHS students

November meeting to have student council officers at the next meeting.

Dr. Compton let Mr. Lang know that the Seymour Board of Education will be hosting a Pizza Party and Discussion on November 7, 2022 beginning at 6:00 pm. This is an old tradition that was stopped during the pandemic that we would like to resurrect.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment provides the opportunity for the public to make a comment. It is not a dialogue between the Board and the public. Based upon what is heard during Public Comment, the Board may choose to add a topic to the agenda. If questions are posed that the Chairman is able to answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairman's Comments portion of the agenda. The Board will not discuss personnel matters. Comments should be respectful and no longer than 3 minutes in length so that all who wish to comment may have the opportunity to do so. All public wanting to comment will need to state their name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board.

Zachary Manson, 5 Brookfield Road – presented his proposal to allow seniors to paint their parking spots.
Paul Roy, Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame – shared a press release regarding the next induction ceremony which will be in November. He noted that this is the 50th year of Title IX and they will be recognizing this. A dinner will be held at Villa Bianca on November 5, 2022.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2022
 - 2. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2022
- B. Financial Management Reports – October 3, 2022
- C. Staff Hiring
 - 1. Hiring, Non-Certified
 - a. Acevedo, Sarah
 - School Nurse
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Replacing Lisa Reynolds (Resignation)
 - b. Sanzo, Kristina
 - School Nurse
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Replacing Samantha Miles Rigoli (transferring to Seymour High School)
 - 2. Hiring, Appendix D
 - a. Christiansen, Kayla
 - Head Coach, Cheerleading
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Replacing Amanda Michaud

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec, Ms. Bruno) to approve the consent agenda as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 8-0-0

VIII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

IX. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. Authorization to Carry a Firearm on School Grounds

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec, Ms. Levey) to allow the Superintendent in collaboration with the Seymour Chief of Police to authorize Rich Kearns, Director of Security to carry a firearm on school grounds through the end of the 2022-2023 school year. This arrangement will be reviewed and may be reauthorized prior to the beginning of each school year

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

OPPOSED: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Harmeling,

MOTION PASSES: 6-0-0

- B. Tuition Rate for Out of District Students

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec, Ms. Nesteriak) to set the Tuition Rate for Out of District Students as \$12,758.32 for elementary students and \$14,668.12 for middle school and high school students

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 8-0-0

Ms. Nesteriak asked if this is set each year and Dr. Compton confirmed it is.

- C. Create New Position for Substitute Health Aide

Dr. Compton explained this position is to cover for a current health aide who will be taking a leave. This will allow this person to step in a cover.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec, Ms. Bruno) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to create a substitute health aide position to cover the upcoming leave of the Health Aide at Chatfield-LoPresti School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION: 8-0-0

D. Hiring, Non-Certified

a. Rodriguez, Jarely

- Substitute Health Aide
- Chatfield-LoPresti School
- Replacing Marissa D'Eramo (medical leave)

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec, Mr. Behuniak) to approve the hiring of Jarely Rodriguez as the substitute health aide for Chatfield-LoPresti School until the return of Marissa D'Eramo

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION: 8-0-0

X. REPORTS

A. All Kids Bike Program – Ms. Reid

Ms. Reid wanted to update the Board on the All Kids Bike program. This is a program that is taught during physical education to all kindergarteners and is designed to teach all kids how to bike. The program provides all the supplies and gives support to the teachers. She reported the Bungay physical education teacher is excited about the program. Dr. Compton said she likes how much emphasis is put on safety. She feels this is a good program. She said all kids learn to ride a bike and the program is a good social emotional program also. The program is funded by donor contributions and has no impact on the budget.

B. School Improvement Plans

1. Bungay Elementary School -Ms. Feige, Ms. Reid

Ms. Feige and Ms. Reid did an overview of the School Improvement Plan for Bungay School. The plan can be viewed on the Seymour Public School website by using the link:

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1665143511/seymourschoolsorg/fmjawiap8edtdoh3xbd1/SIP_BUNGAY_SCHOOL.pdf

2. Seymour Middle School – Ms. Roden, Ms. Reynolds

Ms. Roden and Ms. Reynolds presented the Seymour Middle School School improvement plan. This plan can be viewed on the Seymour Public School website by using the link:

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1665143638/seymourschoolsorg/hjjbmarmaezes6bns1rv/SIP_SEYMOUR_MIDDLE_SCHOOL.pdf

XI. INFORMATION

A. Special Education Enrollment

B. School Activities and Recognitions

1. Bungay School
2. Chatfield-LoPresti School
3. Seymour Middle School
4. Seymour High School

C. Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2022
2. Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2022

D. Staff Resignations

1. Certified Staff

a. Schofield, Samantha

- Special Education Teacher
- Chatfield-LoPresti School
- Effective September 23, 2022

b. Zargos, Amber

- Special Education Teacher
- Seymour High School
- Effective September 16, 2022

2. Non-Certified Staff
 - a. Reynolds, Lisa
 - School Nurse
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Effective September 29, 2022
- E. Staff Transfers
1. Certified Staff
 - a. Dublin, Larry
 - Literacy Numeracy Tutor
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Replacing Meghan Giannettino
 - Transferring from substitute teacher position
 - b. Liberda, Alison
 - Special Education Teacher
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Replacing Samantha Schofield
 - Transferring from kindergarten teaching position
 2. Non-Certified Staff
 - a. Morris, Laurel
 - Instructional Paraprofessional
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Replacing Linda Gutmann
 - Transferring from literacy numeracy position
 - b. Miles-Rigoli, Samantha
 - School Nurse
 - Seymour High School
 - Replacing Lindsey Grailich
 - Transferring from CLS school nurse position

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS/SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. Board of Education Comments
 1. Chairman's Comments

Mr. Champagne apologized to Stacy and asked that they come to another meeting where he will make sure they will be included in the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Champagne also acknowledged the proposal from the seniors asking for permission to paint their parking spots. He promised it would be reviewed and put on the agenda for the next meeting on November 7, 2022.
 2. Board Member Comments

None
- B. Superintendent Report

Dr. Compton said she is proud of the administrative team. She attended a meeting with the NEASC accreditation representative at Seymour High School. She had begun to have monthly administrators meeting and they are going well. She continues to attend the building committee meetings and we are getting closer to the move. We are getting ready for that. She thanked the committee for their hard work especially to Mr. Fred Stanek and Mr. Tim Connors. She was able to attend the Athletic Trainer meeting with Mr. DiStasi and Ms. Federowicz. She said most of the Board members have had a walk through but would still like to have Ms. Levey and Ms. Nesteriak come and see what has been done. She has notified CABA that we want the audit of our policies to begin. She let the Board know she owes them an update and she will soon be sending an update of everything that has happened in September.

XIII BUSINESS MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACT

- *A. Discussion and possible action concerning the employment and the review of a new contract for the Business Manager. This may be discussed in executive session.
 - * ***It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session from which the public will be excluded***
- MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Bruno) move that the Board enter executive session for discussion of the employment and contract of the Business Manager. Further move that Dr. Susan Compton and Mr. Salvatore Bucci be invited to participate in the executive session

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 8-0-0

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION: 9:50 pm

ENTER REGULAR SESSION: 10:50 pm

XIV. POSSIBLE ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Mr. Behuniak) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a new three year agreement between the Seymour Board of Education and the Business Manager, Salvatore Bucci, with a July 1, 2022 date for salary and terms pending legal review.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

OPPOSED: Mr. Hatfield

MOTION PASSES: 7-1-0

XV. ADJOURNMENT

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

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk

YouTube Link (October 3, 2022

<https://youtu.be/x4cvlCb-Pvc>