

Seymour Board of Education
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 11, 2023
Seymour Middle School
7:00 pm

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Champagne
Kristen Harmeling
Beth Nesteriak

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools
Salvatore Bucci, Business Manager
Alana Zhingri, Interim Board Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Harmeling called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. 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.

None.

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Financial Management Summary – August 7, 2023

Mr. Bucci explained the EFS filing and how it works, which questions it asks, and that we certified at the end of August, before the September 1st deadline. In October/November, it opens again for any adjustments. There is a very large reconciliation process. Once allocation of budget is approved, that data is also loaded into the system in early June.

Ms. Harmeling asked where the MERF was reflected. Mr Bucci clarified it was reflected in the budget spoken about at the August 7th meeting.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the August 7, 2023

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak

MOTION PASSES 3-0-0

IV. REPORTS

A. Grants Review – Paul Lucke

Dr. Compton stated she was very proud of how hard Mr. Lucke has been working. Mr. Lucke reported he has applied for many grants since the inception of the position in April:

-He has applied for and won around \$81,000 worth of grants. One being from ION bank, another regarding dual credits for our high school students, working with local colleges to apply dual credits.

-Another supplemental grant is to buy a machine shop for the future at the high school. Another grant was around \$9,900 from the Connecticut Valley Community Foundation for a recording studio at the high school.

-Grants we did not get were from Toshiba for robotics and Dollar General. Right now there is a grant from the state of Connecticut he has applied for regarding tutoring in mathematics for 6th-9th graders. Mr. Lucke is hopeful to acquire at least a portion of it.

Ms. Harmeling suggested that there should be a way people in the community who see or hear about grants could contact Mr. Lucke. He stated anyone can contact him via his school email address. Ms. Nesteriak asked if any of the companies offering grants offer feedback as in what to improve, and Mr. Lucke stated that sometimes with smaller local companies offering grants you can talk to people on the phone versus the bigger name companies it is all based on what is online. Dr. Compton stated she hopes we get this grant to help with the need of improving mathematics at the middle school.

B. Chairman's Report

None

C. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Compton had no report but acknowledged everyone's time, dedication, and the importance of the aforementioned report difficulty and deadline.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak

MOTION PASSES: 3-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

YouTube Link: (09/11/23)

<https://youtube.com/live/ROMstOk1NGA?feature=share>

Submitted by:
Alana Zhingri
Interim Board Clerk