

# Seymour Board of Education



## Curriculum & Technology Committee Meeting

September 23, 2024  
Seymour BOE Central Office  
6:00 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kristen Bruno  
Jim Garofolo  
Pete Kubik

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: Kristen Harmeling

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools  
Shannon Levey, Board Clerk  
Mary Sue Feige, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

### I. CALL TO ORDER

#### A. Pledge of Allegiance

- Mr. Garofolo called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:10 PM.

### 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 can 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.

- Public Comment called three times. No public comment.

Appointment of a chair was not on this agenda, so a chair will be appointed at the next meeting.

### III. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION

#### A. New Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Plans Updates

- a. Dr. Compton stated the SPS plan was approved, it was quite the process. Everyone has had input including teachers and administrators. CT has moved in the right direction; it includes more detailed observations. Mr. Garofolo questioned if there is a protocol to follow. Ms. Feige stated yes there is a protocol. Mr. Garofolo questioned what process would be followed if a teacher or administrator disagrees with the evaluation. Dr. Compton says the procedure is spelled out in the plan. Mr. Kubik asked if the evaluations are announced or unannounced; the answer is both. Ms. Bruno explained that the state mandated everyone come up with a new plan that includes guidelines. Minimum 2 formal observations and additional walk throughs throughout the year. Written feedback is given to the teachers 48 hours after evaluation has been done. Mr. Garofolo asked how foreign language teachers are evaluated. Dr. Compton stated the principals and assistant principals, using a rubric. Ms. Bruno also added that the evaluators are looking at multiple modes to evaluate.

#### B. PDEC Committee Meetings and Agenda

- a. Ms. Feige explained PDEC. Staff in the district were polled and they wanted the focus to be on behavior, social emotional, de-escalation strategies, difficult parents and ed camp. The PDEC committee was happy with the form used for the teacher evaluation. Training for high quality instruction feedback will be presented by Mr. Nobili (grant money is being used). DESSA, third year doing it. RULER program for middle school and elementary schools (grant to be used). Behavior is a struggle and restorative practice is a way to help that. Ms. Bruno stated it's a great program for everyone in the district especially with universal language. Ms. Feige explained the agenda topics for the PDEC committee for the 2024-2025 school year. Ms. Bruno asked about a follow up for the reading program "Into Reading". Ms. Feige responded with all the literacy topics and professional development to cover literacy. Dr. Compton stated the key to reading is still leveled reading books. Ms. Feige stated they will be getting into the classroom to observe the structured literacy lessons.
- C. School Improvement Plans – Professional Development/Goal Setting
  - a. Dr. Compton explained there are ways to improve the presentation of school improvement plans. It should be 15 minutes, PowerPoint presentation, different nights. The committee suggests that both elementary schools use the same format and data points to report on.
- D. Bi-Literacy Seal
  - a. Dr. Compton wants to get this up and running. There are criteria that students must meet. This speaks to our world language program.
- E. Vision of a Graduate/Strategic Planning – next steps
  - a. We have a format. Talk about strategic planning. Ad hoc committee to work on it together in a smaller committee then bring it to the whole board.

#### IV. REPORTS

##### A. Board of Education

###### 1. Chairman Comments

###### 2. Board Member Comments

- Ms. Bruno: Keep an eye on a new reading program for higher grades.
- Mr. Garofolo & Mr. Kubik: Please define the acronyms in the future.

##### B. Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Compton: Proud of our staff, proud of our principals. Dr. Compton requested to see the staff member's schedule to ensure equitability.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** to adjourn (Mr. Kubik)

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Bruno, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Kubik

**PASSES** 3-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Prepared by: Shannon Levey,  
Board Clerk