

Seymour Board of Education



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES REVISED

April 6, 2026
Seymour Middle School
7:00 pm

Board Members Present: Kristen Bruno, Board Chairperson
Kristen Harmeling, Board Secretary
Pete Kubik
James Garofolo
Lori Nespoli
Ed Strumello

Members Absent: Chris Champagne, Board Vice-Chairperson
Jay Hatfield
Stephan Behuniak

Others Present: Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent
Shannon Levey, Board Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance – Ms. Bruno called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.
- B. Introductions

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Bungay Building Committee Update – The committee is scheduled to meet this Thursday. At this time, there are no additional updates beyond the issuance of the RFQ for architectural and owner's representative services. The Bungay Project will not result in any cost to the Town or the Board of Education budget.
- B. Seymour Champion Recognitions – "Optimistic"
 - 1. Bungay School
 - a. Lea Almazan
 - b. Vienna Zanfardino
 - 2. Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - a. Emma Serrano
 - b. Artem Yasel
 - 3. Seymour Middle School
 - a. Alexander King
 - b. Kasey Sadick
 - 4. Seymour High School
 - a. Brooke Bacha
- C. Superintendent Recognitions
 - 1. Seymour High School's Girls Basketball Team – CT Girls' Basketball State Tournament Championship
 - 2. Dan Marra, Elite Limousine – Donation of Fan Bus and Team Bus for CT Girls' Basketball State Tournament
- D. Student Reports
 - 1. SHS Student Representative Report – Jeremy Tomasheski and Daphne Shea
 - a. Student representatives highlighted several recent and upcoming activities, including the National Honor Society blood drive, Student Council Powder Puff game, and participation in the Memorial Day Parade. The Hope Club is sponsoring "Hats for Hope" and maintaining a spring garden, while KinderCATS students are engaged in planting flower seeds.

- b. Spring athletics are underway, with 166 students participating across softball, baseball, golf, track, and tennis. Students also remain actively involved in a wide range of co-curricular and extracurricular programs, including Yearbook, Art Club, Chess Club, Performing Arts, Honors Ensembles, Environmental Club, Electrathon Car Club, Robotics Team, FBLA, and Bible Club.

III. **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 Chairperson is able to answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairperson'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 the 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 comment.

IV. **REPORTS**

A. Enrollment Report – enrollment report will be provided next month

B. Special Education Report – Dr. Boyle

C. Financial Report – Salvatore Bucci

D. NRES Buy-All Solar Project with Johnson Controls (Car Port Project)

1. Mr. Miller noted ongoing challenges in maintaining district facilities and emphasized the need to identify sustainable funding strategies to support long-term building investments. In partnership with Johnson Controls, a proposal was presented outlining a solar energy opportunity for the Town of Seymour and Seymour Public Schools, including potential carport solar installations.
2. Dr. Compton confirmed with Mr. Miller that the Board of Education would not be responsible for any financial costs of the solar project. Mr. Miller confirmed the board would not incur or be responsible for any financial costs of the project.
3. A representative from Johnson Controls provided an overview of the project, highlighting its potential benefits and funding opportunities. The purpose of the request was to approve the educational specifications in order to move forward with grant application eligibility.
4. **MOTION:** (Kristen Harmeling / Pete Kubik) to approve the educational specifications for solar panel installation for Bungay Elementary School, Chatfield-LoPresti School, Seymour Middle School and Seymour High School with the change to point 2 removing the phrase “reducing purchased electricity, improving predictability of energy costs, and”

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Nespoli

OPPOSED: Mr. Strumello, Mr. Garofolo

PASSES: 4-2-0

V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting – March 2, 2026
2. Special BOE Meeting – March 30, 2026
3. Special Budget Q&A Meeting – March 30, 2026
4. Facilities & Transportation Committee Meeting – March 10, 2026
5. Awards Committee Meeting – March 10, 2026
6. Athletic and Health Committee Meeting – March 30, 2026

B. Intra-District Transfer Requests for the 2026-2027 school year

C. Hiring – Non-Certified

1. Salvatore Giannotti
 - a. Director of Food Services
 - b. District-wide
 - c. Replacing Cindy Brooks

MOTION: (Kristen Harmeling / Pete Kubik) move to approve the consent agenda as presented

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Nespolo, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Strumello
PASSES: 6-0-0

VI. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

VII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A.** Set Graduation date for Class of 2026
Approval to set the date of graduation for the Class of 2026 to be June 16, 2026 with a rain date of June 17, 2026
MOTION: (Kristen Harmeling / Jim Garofolo) to set the date of graduation for the Class of 2026 to be June 16, 2026 with a rain date of June 17, 2026
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Nespolo, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Strumello
PASSES: 6-0-0
- B.** Set Last day of School
MOTION: (Kristen Harmeling / Ed Strumello) Approval to set the last day of school for the 2025-2026 school year as June 17, 2026
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Nespolo, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Strumello
PASSES: 6-0-0
- C.** School Codes and Independent Codes (CATS and 18-23 year olds programs)
Mr. Lucke, Dr. Boyle and Dr. Compton: Administrators reported ongoing work toward establishing the school as a CATS school. Next steps include reviewing and addressing applicable regulations, including hours. It was noted that several schools in the valley have already separated similar programs.
- D.** FBLA Nationals Trip
Ms. Jepson presented a proposal for an FBLA Nationals trip, sharing her personal experience in business and her current role as advisor. This year's national conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas, from June 28 through July 3, with additional details available at fblanational.com
She noted that approximately five students have expressed interest in attending and discussed potential fundraising efforts to help reduce overall costs for participants. If approved by the Board, the next steps would include distributing permission forms and proceeding with travel arrangements and bookings.
MOTION: (Jim Garofolo / Lori Nespoli) to allow FBLA students to attend the National Conference from June 28 through July 3 in San Antonio, Texas.
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Nespolo, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Strumello
PASSES: 6-0-0
- E.** Educational Specifications for Solar Panel Installation at Bungay Elementary School, Chatfield-LoPresti School, Seymour Middle School, and Seymour High School

VIII. INFORMATION

- A.** Hiring – Appendix D
1. Jennifer Widlar
 - a. Head Girls Outdoor Track Coach
 - b. Seymour Middle School
 2. Christopher Recklet
 - a. Head Boys Outdoor Track Coach
 - b. Seymour Middle School
 3. Melissa Medeiros
 - a. Head Outdoor Track Coach
 - b. Seymour Middle School
- B.** Hiring – Non-Certified
1. Kaleen Barbieri
 - a. Long-Term Classroom Substitute Teacher - 1st grade
 - b. Bungay Elementary School
 - c. Substituting for Jennifer Florin
 2. Linda Criscio
 - a. Administrative Assistant

- b. Central Office
 - c. Replacing Alana Zhingri
 - 3. Demi Sheahan
 - a. Substitute Custodian
 - b. Chatfield-LoPresti School
- C. Retirements
 - 1. Sandy Hokunson
 - a. Food Services Cafe Manager
 - b. Seymour Middle School
 - c. Effective end of 25-26 school year
- D. Seymour Land Conservation Trust Thank You letter
- E. Valley Regional Adult Education Budget Update
- F. School Events
 - 1. Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - 2. Bungay Elementary School
 - 3. Seymour Middle School
 - 4. Seymour High School

IX. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS & SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. Board of Education Comments
 - 1. Chairman's Comments - Go Huskies!
 - 2. Board Member Comments
- B. Superintendent Report - Go Huskies, Sandy, Food Service Manager, in recognition of her outstanding service and dedication over many years.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 8:38 PM

YouTube Link (4/6/2026): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhTIOicntZ4>

Note: The next Regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Seymour Middle School.

KBB
Kristen Bruno, Board Chair

Dr. Susan Compton, Supt.

Prepared by Shannon Levey, Board Clerk