Seymour Board of Education

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2026
Seymour Middle School
6:30 pm

Committee Members Present:	Kristen Harmeling, Committee Chair Kristen Bruno Lori Nespoli
Others in Attendance:	Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent Salvatore Bucci, Business Manager Jim Garofolo Shannon Levey

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance – Ms. Harmeling called the meeting to order at 6:35 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 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 3 times, no comment.

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Financial Statement

Ms. Harmeling thanked Mr. Bucci for providing the additional information regarding facilities.

Mr. Garofolo questioned the grounds maintenance expenses, Dr. Compton explained that grounds work was deferred at the end of June in an effort to reduce costs. She noted that approximately $5,000 was spent to clean the inner courtyard, approximately $5,000 for hedge maintenance, and approximately $14,000 for additional landscaping work, including shrub maintenance and mulching at the Board of Education offices and Seymour High School. She noted that Public Works currently provides grass-cutting services and has also assisted with some weeding near the fields.

Mr. Bucci explained that some of the facilities expenditures are associated with preparing the schools and grounds for graduation and other year-end activities for this upcoming school year. He added that the grounds maintenance work performed by Rooster's also included work at Chatfield-LoPresti School and Bungay School.

Ms. Harmeling noted that the shared services agreement will be coming up for review in January and suggested establishing a clearer delineation of responsibilities between the Town and Board of Education, including grounds maintenance and snow removal. Dr. Compton agreed that it would be helpful to review the history of the agreement and clarify the services and responsibilities of each party.

The Committee also discussed snow removal expenses and opportunities to manage overtime costs when school is not scheduled for the following day. Dr. Compton stated that she would follow up with the appropriate Town representatives to obtain additional information regarding previous shared services agreements and responsibilities.

Ms. Bruno noted the importance of considering the financial impact of services and responsibilities assigned to the district. Mr. Bucci stated that snow removal continues to be an area that would benefit from further clarification.

Ms. Harmeling requested a summary of the district's financials from the time Mr. Bucci began with the district through the present. Mr. Bucci stated that he has already compiled a schedule containing the relevant financial data and will prepare a spreadsheet summarizing the information requested by Ms. Harmeling.

IV. REPORTS

A. Board of Education

1. Chairman Comments
2. Board Member Comments

B. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Compton stated that she felt it was important for the Committee to review the financial information and associated figures. She suggested providing a more detailed report on Chatfield-LoPresti School, including information from Mr. Connors and a breakdown of related expenses.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 7:00 PM

Prepared by: Shannon Levey, Board Clerk