

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
November 16, 2006
Minutes

Attendees: William Simpson, Chair, Mary Feathers, Vice Chair, Gary Bent, Martha Kelly, Min Lin, Shamim Patwa, Superintendent Gordon Schimmel, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

Absent: Dudley Hamlin, Chris Kueffner, John Thacher

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Mr. Simpson, Chair.

II. Approval of Minutes - **MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded Dr. Bent to approve the minutes of the 10/25/06 meeting with a correction to note that Mrs. Kelly was not present. **VOTE:**Unanimous in favor.

III. Hearing for Visitors – None.

IV. Communications – None.

V. Additions to Present Agenda - Dr. Schimmel requested to add discussion and a motion regarding E.O. Smith start/dismissal time.

VI. Committee Reports

VII. Report of the Superintendent

- A. **2005-2006 Strategic School Profile** - Dr. Schimmel and Mr. Baruzzi discussed the relevant sections of the SSP.
- B. **Building Project Update** - Dr. Schimmel reported that the Town of Mansfield referendum to appropriate \$3,800,000 for replacement of the electrical heating system passed. He also reported that the wells have been dug and the well houses are being built, which will bring the district to State code.
- C. **Security** - Dr. Schimmel reported that Sergeant Sean Cox and other Mansfield Police will conduct security audits in each of our schools. A report of their recommendations will be presented at a future meeting.
- D. **Class Size/Enrollment** - The October 1, 2006 total enrollment is 1,332, which is 27 more students than October 1, 2005. The principals reported no major change in enrollment in the past month.
- E. **Personnel - MOTION** by Ms Feathers, seconded by Dr. Bent to accept the request for childrearing leave from December 22, 2006 through the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year, from Alisa Ruggiero, Speech Pathologist at Southeast School. **VOTE:**Unanimous in favor. **MOTION** by Ms Feathers, seconded by Dr. Patwa to accept the resignation of Elisabeth Stake, Grades 7-8 Guidance Counselor at Mansfield Middle School. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- F. **E.O. Smith Start/Dismissal Times: MOTION** by Dr. Bent, seconded by Ms Feathers to endorse Mr. Simpson's letter to the Region 19 Board of Education in support of Mr. Silva's request for a 5 minute earlier start time, leading to an earlier dismissal. After discussion, the motion was amended to state the Board also supports further investigation of beginning E.O. Smith classes at a later time.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

- VIII.** Hearing for Visitors
- IX.** Suggestions for Future Agenda - Dr. Bent asked that using bio-diesel fuel in school buses be explored.
- X.** Executive Session - Negotiations
- XI.** **MOTION** by
Dr. Bent, seconded by Ms Feathers to go into executive session at 8:25 p.m. **VOTE:**
Unanimous in favor.
MOTION by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Dr. Bent to return to open session at 9:30 p.m.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor
- XII.** Adjournment - **MOTION** by Dr. Bent, seconded by Dr. Patwa to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk