

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
May 6, 2010
Minutes

Attendees: Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Min Lin, Holly Matthews, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi
Absent: Shamim Patwa, Katherine Paulhus, Martha Kelly

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Policy Committee: **MOTION** by Ms. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Walikonis to adopt the proposed Open and Transparent Government Policy. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
Mrs. Kelly arrived at 7:48pm.

SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT:

- Parent Organizations: Sheryl Lambert, President MMSA, Julie Brown, President Southeast PTO, Diane Briody, President and Laura Scruggs, Vice President, Goodwin PTO, and Lisa Drzewiecki and Sarah Dahlia, Co-Presidents Vinton PTA discussed feedback from parents regarding the school building options.
- Greg Padick, Town of Mansfield Director of Planning, discussed development in town and potential school building locations.
- Bill Hammon, Director of Facilities Management, reported on predicted and potential school building repairs/replacements through 2013-2014.
- Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance, reported on debt services schedule for Options C, D, and E, as well as options regarding referendum ballot questions.
- Mr. Baruzzi provided information regarding free and reduced lunch counts at each of the three elementary schools.
- The Board discussed a vote on the school building project at the May 13, 2010 meeting.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Annual Staff Retirement Celebration: **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Ms. Matthews to transfer money from BOE Retreat and authorize the Superintendent to transfer up to an additional \$1000 to fund the district staff retirement celebration. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- Town of Mansfield New Website: Mr. Baruzzi reported on the new website and new instructions for accessing BOE email.
- Phase II: Race to the Top: Mr. Baruzzi and Mr. LaPlaca discussed Connecticut's application for Phase II of the Race to the Top (RTTT) grant, a competitive education reform program enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). If awarded, the district would receive \$196,164 over a four year period. The Board will be asked to approve a Memorandum of Understanding in support of the State's application.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: May 6, 2010 be approved or received for the record: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor with Ms. Lin and Ms. Matthews abstaining.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the April 27, 2010 Board meeting.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education accepts the retirement of Nancy Cantara, grade four teacher at Goodwin School, Linda Duckstein, special education teacher at Vinton School, Anne Grosjean, grade one teacher at Goodwin School, and Marcia Heneson, literacy coach/remedial reading teacher at Vinton School.

HEARING FOR VISITORS:

Sheryl Lambert expressed her support to the Board regarding a decision regarding the school building project.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Mrs. Kelly requested discussion regarding coalition for community schools and other organization that link communities, families and schools. She requested inviting Representative Denise Merrill to discuss state reimbursement rates. Mr. LaPlaca would like discussion around process of design of a school.

MOTION by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Ms. Matthews to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and contract negotiations at 10:45pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Returned to Open Session at 11:35pm.

MOTION by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein accept the wage agreement between the UPSEU and Mansfield Board of Education through June 30, 2012. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Ms. Matthews to adjourn at 11:36pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk