

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
April 14, 2011
Minutes

Attendees: Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, Min Lin, Ed Neumann, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein (by phone), Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

Absent: Holly Matthews

The meeting was called to order at 7:41pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Students from all three elementary schools presented songs and poems they performed at the COLT Rhyme Festival. The elementary Spanish teachers, Diane Hutton, Beth Schwartz, and Jennifer Zugarazo and the students described activities at the festival which was held in Washington, CT. The Baker family, Steve, Jeanne, Jordan, and Tommy from Vinton School shared their blog (<http://riverhomestead.blogspot.com>) about life on the Willimantic River.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Personnel Committee: Ms. Patwa reported there will be an Executive Session regarding negotiations following the meeting.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- COLT Rhyme Festival: See Hearing for Visitors
- Mansfield Be Well Program: Ande Bloom, Eastern Highlands Health District, discussed the program provided to Town of Mansfield, Region 19, and MBOE employees. The goal of the Be Well Program is to improve the overall health and wellness of employees through wellness initiatives that target risk factors and wellness issues that influence health.
- All Hazards MOU: Robert Miller, Director, Eastern Highlands Health District, reported on the planning and preparation for many types of public health emergencies and asked that Mansfield Public Schools be formally identified as "Points of Dispensing (POD) in local mass dispensing plans. MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Ms. Lin, to authorize the Superintendent to sign the All Hazards Memorandum of Understanding between the Mansfield Board of Education and the Eastern Highlands Health District. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.
- CCJEF: Mr. Baruzzi updated the Board on the roundtables meeting and litigation update.
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP): Mr. Baruzzi reported on the AYP suggest annual targets for the 2011 spring CMT testing.
- Summer Program Survey: Mr. Baruzzi shared the results of a survey to parents of children participating in the summer online enrichment program. He reported that the administrators have reviewed options of expanding summer school offerings.
- K-4 Progress Report: Mr. Baruzzi reported on changes to the K-4 Progress Reports for the 2011-2012 school year
- Strategic School Profile: Mr. Baruzzi reported on the Strategic School Profile 2009-10 recently received from the State Department of Education.
- Annual Retirement Party: After discussion, the Board endorsed the annual staff retirement party at UCONN's Rome Ballroom.
- Staff Recognition: The Board discussed staff recognition options.
- Enhancing Student Achievement: Mr. Baruzzi reviewed seven additional proposals which will be implemented at the schools in support of this activity.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The principals reported no significant changes in enrollment this month.

FOUR SCHOOLS BUILDING PROJECT: The Board discussed the school building project decision by the Town Council and the need for the Council to determine next steps.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. Walikonis that the following items for the Board of Education meeting of April 14, 2011 be approved or received for the record with a revision on the March 24, 2011 minutes: VOTE: Unanimous in favor with Ms. Lin abstaining.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the March 10, 2011 Board meeting.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the March 24, 2011 Special Meeting.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education accepts the retirement of two Mansfield Middle School teachers, Ann Levesque, French and Norma Posocco, 8th grade language arts and social studies, effective the end of the 2010-2011 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the request of Jennifer McMunn, 7th grade Reading/Language Arts teacher, for maternity leave and unpaid childrearing leave through December 2011.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: None

MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mr. Walikonis to move into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations, Superintendent's evaluation, and non-union wages and salaries. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

The Board moved into Executive Session with Mr. Baruzzi in attendance at 10:21pm.

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:54pm. MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. Walikonis to ratify the CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 (Mansfield Instructional Assistants) contract effective 7/1/11 – 6/30/14 and the Mansfield Secretaries Association contract effective 7/1/11 – 6/30/14. VOTE: Unanimous in favor

MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded Ms. Lin, to adjourn at 10:56pm. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk