

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
June 9, 2011
Minutes

Attendees: Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Shamim Patwa, Vice Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, Holly Matthews, Ed Neumann, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

Absent: Min Lin

The meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Students from the Southeast School Mileage Club and KiDSMARATHON discussed their accomplishments with sponsoring teachers, Betsy Parker and Diane Hutton, introducing the program and parent/staff volunteers.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Mr. LaPlaca presented the CABE Leadership Award for distinguished leadership in school activities and daily life to Middle School students Lisa Wilson and Liam Kissane. Mr. Cryan, Principal of Mansfield Middle School, described specific attributes of each student, as well as their contributions to Mansfield Middle School.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) announcing a freeze of member district dues for the 2011-2012 school year. The Board received a thank you note from the family of Timothy Quinn for the memorial donation in his honor.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Dorothy Goodwin Bequest Committee: Mrs. Kelly reported the committee will continue the process of students applying for funding for proposals, but add an 8th grade field trip to the Legislative Office Building next year. Teacher of Year Committee: Mrs. Kelly reported that Lisa Corriveau, Music Teacher, at Goodwin School has been selected the 2012 Mansfield Teacher of the Year. She will be honored at a Board Meeting in the fall.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Algebra Textbook Adoption: Mark Jones, Convener Mathematics Curriculum Council, discussed the proposed adoption and purchase of *Algebra Connections*, published by College Preparatory Mathematics for algebra mathematics classes. MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mr. Walikonis, to adopt and purchase the *Algebra Connections* textbook. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.
- Field Trip – MMS: MOTION by Ms. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Walikonis, to approve the German Exchange Field Trip to Cape Cod September 30 – October 1, 2011. VOTE: Unanimous in favor with Mrs. Kelly abstaining.
- Books on Bus: Linda Robinson, Library Media Coordinator, discussed the plans for the third year of the Books on Bus summer program
- Library Media Services Update: Mrs. Robinson discussed the many programs of the Library Services program, ie. Books and Breakfast, Library Skills Curriculum, Follett Destiny Card Catalog, Summer Reading Program. She also discussed the upcoming Birthday Book Buddies program.
- UCONN Neag School Collaborative Partnership Agreement: MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to authorize the Superintendent to sign the agreement with the Neag School. VOTE Unanimous in favor.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The principals reported no significant changes in enrollment this month.

FOUR SCHOOLS BUILDING PROJECT: Mr. LaPlaca reported the Town Council plans to hold workshops this summer.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus that the following items for the Board of Education meeting of June 9, 2011 be approved or received for the record. VOTE: Unanimous in favor with Ms. Patwa abstaining.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the May 12, 2011 Board meeting.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Mrs. Kelly would like a discussion to include cost of substitute teachers in the cost of a field trip.

MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Matthews to move into Executive Session to discuss the 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 9:30pm. Mr. Baruzzi left the Executive Session at 10:05 pm.

The Board returned to regular session at 11:32pm.

MOTION by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Patwa to increase the salaries of Deputy Director Maintenance & Custodial, Director of Food Services, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, and Personnel Assistants by 1.7% GWI plus step for those it applies, to change the percentage of insurance premium paid for Deputy Director Maintenance & Custodial and Director of Food Services to 14%, for Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent to 14.5%.

VOTE: In favor – Mr. Walikonis, Ms. Patwa, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mrs. Paulhus, Mr. LaPlaca
Opposed – Mr. Neumann, Mrs. Kelly

Motion passed

MOTION by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Matthews to offer the Superintendent a new 3 year contract, beginning July 1, 2011 with slight language modifications as previously discussed, increase his percentage of insurance premiums paid to 17.5% and increase his salary by 1.9%

Mrs. Paulhus offered an amendment to split the motion and consider the wage increase of the superintendent separately from the other contract changes. Seconded by Ms. Patwa

VOTE: In favor - Mrs. Paulhus, Mrs. Kelly, and Ms. Silver-Bernstein

Opposed - Mr. Walikonis, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Patwa, Mr. Neumann, and Mr. LaPlaca

The amendment failed

VOTE on the previous motion by Ms. Silver-Bernstein on the superintendent's contract.

In favor – Mr. Walikonis, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Ms. Patwa, Mr. Neumann, Mr. LaPlaca,

Opposed – Mrs. Kelly

Abstentions – Mrs. Paulhus

Motion passed

MOTION by Ms. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Neumann to increase the percentage of insurance premium paid of the IT Director to 17.5%.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor

MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Patwa to give the IT Director a step increase and 0% GWI

VOTE: In favor – Ms. Paulhus, Ms. Patwa, Ms. Matthews

Opposed – Mr. Neumann, Mr. Walikonis, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. LaPlaca

Motion failed

MOTION by Mr. Neumann, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to give IT Director .89% GWI and no step increase
VOTE: In favor – Mr. Neumann
Opposed – Mr. Walikonis, Ms. Patwa, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mrs. Paulhus, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. LaPlaca
Motion failed

MOTION by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, to give IT Director .85% GWI plus Step
VOTE: In favor – Mr. Walikonis, Mr. LaPlaca
Opposed – Ms. Patwa, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mrs. Paulhus, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Neumann
Motion failed

MOTION by Ms. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Neumann, to give IT Director 1.7% plus no step
VOTE: In favor – Ms. Matthews, Mr. Neumann
Opposed – Ms. Patwa, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mr. Walikonis, Mrs. Paulhus, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. LaPlaca
Motion failed

MOTION by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein to give IT Director .84% GWI plus step
VOTE: In favor – Mr. Walikonis and Mr. LaPlaca
Opposed - Ms. Patwa, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mrs. Paulhus, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Neumann
Motion failed

MOTION by Mr. Neumann - .50% GWI for IT Director plus step movement on Jan 1, 2012
Motion died for lack of a second.

MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mr. Walikonis to give IT Director .5% GWI plus step movement
VOTE: In favor – Mr. Walikonis, Ms. Patwa, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, Mrs. Paulhus, Mr. LaPlaca
Opposed – Mr. Neumann, Mrs. Kelly
Motion passed.

MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Matthews, to adjourn at 12:05am. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk