

Mansfield Board of Education
April 10, 2014
Minutes

Attendees: Randy Walikonis, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl

Excused: Mark LaPlaca, Susannah Everett, Carrie Silver-Bernstein

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm by Mr. Walikonis.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Marcy Rudge, kindergarten teacher at Vinton School, introduced Abby York, intern from E.O. Smith Mansfield Depot Campus with kindergarten students who were helping each other with Chinese and English words.

Ms. Everett arrived at 7:34pm.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Arthur Smith spoke regarding superintendent's mileage costs. Tina and Carmello Pena spoke regarding revision of resident students not attending the public schools policy.

COMMUNICATIONS: Thank you note from Deb Adamczyk.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: Mr. Baruzzi requested a request for leave be added to the consent agenda and budget update be added to the agenda. Mrs. Kelly requested discussion to seek independent forensic accountant to audit Board mileage budget. Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to add all requests for leave to consent agenda and budget update and discussion regarding independent forensic accountant to agenda. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy Committee: Motion by Mr. Rueckl from the Policy Committee to approve the revision to the Resident Students Not Attending Public Schools Policy. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Personnel Committee: Mr. Walikonis reported there will be an Executive Session following the meeting.

Budget Update: Mr. Baruzzi and Mrs. Trahan reviewed options for calling a special meeting if the Town Council adopts a budget reduction.

Mileage Account Audit: Motion by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Fratiello, to secure the services of an independent forensic accountant to audit the Board of Education's mileage accounts. Discussion followed. Vote: Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Fratiello, and Mrs. Paulhus in favor. Ms. Everett, Mrs. Lacombe, Mr. Rueckl, and Mr. Walikonis opposed. Motion failed.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- **March 31st Professional Development Day:** Judy Shay, Reading Language Arts Consultant reviewed the Language Arts professional development provided for certified staff on March 31, 2014. Mr. Baruzzi thanked Mrs. Shay for her dedication to the staff and students of Mansfield.
- **MMS Technology Staffing Restructure:** Jaime Russell, Director of IT, Thanh Nguyen, Principal, and Candace Morell, Assistant Principal of Mansfield Middle School discussed the 2014-2015 restructure of the Middle School Technology Coordinator position.
- **Mansfield Public Schools Homework Guidelines:** Mr. Baruzzi and the building principals reviewed homework guidelines and grade level team planning timelines for assignments.
- **Voting at Vinton School Update:** Mr. Baruzzi informed the Board the Registrars were unable to find another suitable building to be used for voting in District 4.
- **Smarter Balanced Assessment Field Test Update:** Mr. Baruzzi reported the SBAC field test has been completed at Goodwin School and is in the process at the middle school. Southeast will begin after vacation and Vinton will follow.
- **School Climate Survey Spring Parent Letter:** Mr. Baruzzi reported the spring school climate surveys will be conducted from April 21-May 12, 2014.
- **Connecticut's Educator Evaluation and Support System 2013-2014 Flexibility Request:** Mr. Baruzzi reported the CSDE has approved the district's flexibility request. The Professional Development and Evaluation Committee will develop a revised plan to submit to the CSDE and Board for approval.
- **Appointment of Mansfield Middle School Principal:** Mr. Baruzzi presented Mrs. Candace Morell for appointment as Mansfield Middle School Principal. Motion by Mrs. Lacombe, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to appoint Candace Morell as the Principal of Mansfield Middle School effective July 1, 2014. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- **Timeline for Administrative Vacancies:** Mr. Baruzzi presented proposed calendars for the search committees for Goodwin Elementary Principal and Mansfield Middle School Assistant Principal.

- Enhancing Student Achievement: Three new projects will be implemented at the schools in support of this activity.
- Class Size/Enrollment: No significant change in class size or enrollment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion by Ms. Everett, seconded by Mr. Rueckl, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2014 Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor with Mrs. Lacombe and Mrs. Kelly in abstention.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Fratiello, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to approve the following items for the Board of Education April 10, 2014 meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the resignation of James Griffith, Technology Coordinator, Mansfield Middle School, effective July 1, 2014.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Debra Adamczyk, Principal, Goodwin Elementary School, effective July 1, 2014.

That the Mansfield Public Schools approves the request of Angela Jankowski for maternity and unpaid childrearing leave through November 26, 2014 effective in June 2014.

NEW BUSINESS: None

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Councilor Virginia Raymond, Arthur Smith, Rick Hossack, and Brian Coleman spoke regarding superintendent's mileage costs.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Mr. Rueckl and Mrs. Kelly requested further report on details of mileage account. Mrs. Everett requested to discuss staff appreciation.

Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Mr. Rueckl, to move into Executive Session to discuss non-renewal of teachers, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, and superintendent's evaluation at 10:25. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Mr. Baruzzi joined the Executive Session.

The Board returned to regular session at 10:42pm.

Motion by Mrs. Lacombe, seconded by Mr. Rueckl, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding non-renewal of teachers. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion by Mr. Fratiello, seconded by Ms. Everett to ratify the Agreement Between the Mansfield Board of Education and The Mansfield Public Schools Secretaries' Association, July 1, 2014-June 30, 2018. Vote Unanimous in favor

Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to adjourn at 10:45pm. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk