

Mansfield Board of Education

May 8, 2014

Minutes

Attendees: Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Randy Walikonis, Vice-Chair, Susannah Everett, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl

Excused: Martha Kelly, Carrie Silver-Bernstein

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Jenn McMunn, Enrichment teacher at Mansfield Middle School, and Zoe Chafouleas and Vani Sharma, 6th grade students reviewed History Day and their entries that qualified for the National History Day Competition.

Mrs. Kelly arrived at 7:37pm.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: The following residents spoke regarding mid-day bus runs: Mike Doyle, Mary Hodgins, Rieima Saria, Robert Passmore, and Dorinda Miller. The following residents spoke regarding mileage: Art Kirschenbaum, Betty Wassmundt (Town Councilor), David Garvey, and Ric Hossack. Rachel Leclerc and Jaime Russell, MBOE Employees, read letters regarding the superintendent submitted by town resident, Pat Michalak (Town of Mansfield employee) and Gordon Schimmel. Jim Griffith, MBOE Employee, and Janette Picard, resident, spoke regarding the superintendent.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein arrived at 7:55pm.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letters from Pat Michalak and Gordon Schimmel.

Mr. Walikonis commended the MMS Band for an extremely well done concert on Wednesday night.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: Mr. Baruzzi requested a request for leave be added to the consent agenda. Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to add the request for leave to consent agenda. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Affordable Care Act Update: Mr. Steve May, Milliman Senior Health Benefits Consultant, presented a PPACA/National Health Reform Employer Considerations High-Level Summary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Mr. LaPlaca reported the committee met on April 30, 2014. The next meeting will be on May 14, 2014.

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

Staff Appreciation Discussion: Mrs. Everett suggested signed thank you notes from the Board in addition to the Staff Appreciation breakfast at the end of the year and the donation to WAIM in honor of all staff.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Grants and Library Program Updates: Linda Robinson, Library Media Coordinator, reviewed four grants the district submitted:
 - Elementary & Secondary Counselor Grant (ESSC) - \$851,593.00
 - Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS) Grant - \$10,252.00
 - Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Flanagan Grant - \$2,000.00 (When Reading Gets Ruff!)
 - Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Flanagan Grant - \$2,000.00 (Books on Buses: Out at Night"

Dr. Robinson also provided a school library update.

- Capital Improvement Funds Update: Allen Corson, Deputy Director of Facilities Management, and Jaime Russell, Director of Information Technology, reviewed expenditures (completed and projected) for capital improvements in the four school buildings.
- Quarterly Financials: Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance, reviewed the new format for Board Quarterly Reports and reported the second quarter expenditures and revenues were as expected. Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Everett, to accept the Town of Mansfield/Mansfield Board of Education Quarterly Financial Statements for the Quarter ending March 31, 2014. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- 2014-2015 Budget: The Board authorized the Superintendent to initiate contact with the Town Manager to request the Town Council consider restoring the funds reduced in the adopted budget.

- PA 13-60 Correspondence from Town Council: The Board agreed to the Town Council recommendations to research options to realize financial efficiencies.
- National History Day Field Trip: Thanh Nguyen, Mansfield Middle School Principal, reviewed the School Trip Request Form. Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mrs. Lacombe, to approve the Field Trip to National History Day in College Park, Maryland. Vote Unanimous in favor with Ms. Everett in abstention.
- May 22 Board Retreat with Administrators: Board members are to send discussion requests to the Superintendent prior to May 15, 2014.
- Enhancing Student Achievement: One new project 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 Mrs. Lacombe, seconded by Ms. Everett, to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2014 Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2014 Special Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

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 approve the request for maternity leave by Kelly Haggerty, Goodwin School teacher, effective October 1, 2014 through January 5, 2015.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the request of leave from Carol Moran, Middle School teacher, for the 2014-2015 school year.

NEW BUSINESS: None

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Mr. Rueckl would like to review preschool busing. Mr. LaPlaca would like a report on the Food Service Director position.

Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Mrs. Lacombe, to move into Executive Session to discuss Superintendent's evaluation and non-union wages and salaries at 10:42pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Mr. Baruzzi joined the Executive Session.

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

Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to adjourn at 11:40pm. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk