

# Mansfield Board of Education Meeting

May 8, 2014

Council Chambers 7:30 p.m.

**Board Members:** Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Randy Walikonis, Vice-Chair; Martha Kelly, Secretary, Susannah Everett, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl, Carrie Silver-Bernstein

## Agenda

- 7:30 Call to Order  
7:35 Special Presentation  
7:50 Hearing for Visitors  
8:00 Communications  
8:05 Additions to the Present Agenda

### Reports:

- 8:10 Affordable Care Act Update
- 8:40 Committee Reports:  
Finance Committee  
Personnel Committee
- 9:00 Staff Appreciation Discussion (P. 1)
- 9:10 Report of the Superintendent
- Grants and Library Program Updates
  - Capital Improvement Funds Update
  - Quarterly Financials (M)
  - 2014-2015 Budget (P. 3)
  - PA 13-60 Correspondence from Town Council (M) (P. 7)
  - National History Day Field Trip (M) (P. 9)
  - May 22 Board Retreat with Administrators
  - Enhancing Student Achievement (P. 11)
  - Class Size/Enrollment

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (M)

- April 10, 2014 Meeting (P. 13)  
April 30, 2014 Special Meeting

CONSENT AGENDA: (M) The following items for the Board of Education April 10, 2014 meeting be approved or received for the record, unless removed by a Board member of the Superintendent of Schools. (P. 37)

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. (P. 15)

### NEW BUSINESS:

- 10:00\* Hearing for Visitors  
10:10 Suggestions for Future Agenda

Executive Session (M) to discuss Superintendent's evaluation and non-union wages and salaries.

### Adjournment

\* Estimate

## Mansfield Public Schools: Board of Education Goals – 2013-2014

- I) Help each student to be a confident and successful learner through differentiated instruction and support. Monitor student progress to ensure growth.
  - a. Engage and motivate each student.
  - b. Improve the mathematics, reading, science, and writing skills of each student to support college and career readiness.
  - c. Promote the cognitive, social, and emotional development of each student.
  - d. Support the full breadth of the district's programs, systematically review program offerings, and explore expanding programs.
  - e. Provide positive school climate through positive behavior support systems and encouraging character development to ensure student safety, health, physical, and emotional well-being.
  - f. Increase engagement and participation of parents/guardians in the education of their children.
  - g. Encourage the civic engagement of students.
  - h. Align our current Language Arts/ Reading, Science and Mathematics curriculum with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
  - i. Integrate current technology into the instructional program to extend student learning of subject matter and appropriate use of technology.
  - j. Explore additional support services for students in need of community and/or health services.
  - k. Ensure all student transitions within and between environments are supported and successful.
  - l. Incorporate curricula that investigate energy use and environmental issues.
  
- II) Attract, support, and retain qualified, motivated, and diverse professional staff.
  - a. Facilitate and encourage a positive, professional learning community.
  - b. Recognize teacher and staff effort and success regularly.
  - c. Foster a climate of mutual respect at all levels.
  - d. Maintain quality educational programs at multiple sites while adjusting staff levels and resources despite any changes in overall enrollment.
  - e. Support current and future school/district leadership to maintain and surpass current levels of student achievement.
  - f. Implement, with input and collaboration from certified staff, an effective professional development and evaluation program that supports the development of confident student learners and encourages the continued growth of all staff.
  - g. Provide regular opportunities for all staff to share feedback about the effectiveness of the district's programming.
  
- III) Monitor the District's quality and efficiency of facilities, sufficiency of space, level of security, adequacy of maintenance, and efficiency of student transportation.
  - a. Communicate quarterly with Town Council about ongoing needs for infrastructure, security, and technology.
  - b. In collaboration with the Town Council, develop and implement a long-term plan, supported by voters, to address prek-8 building needs.
  - c. Implement the improved school security and technology recommendations as approved by the Board.
  
- IV) Increase the effectiveness of the Board of Education.
  - a. Invest time and effort in Board members' learning and development.
  - b. Celebrate and acknowledge student achievements at Board meetings and other venues.
  - c. Foster and encourage communication between the Board and the communities it serves.
  - d. Collaborate with community members and organizations that support the District's students; including Mansfield Youth Services Bureau and Mansfield Advocates for Children.
  - e. Examine evidence regarding school readiness and review prekindergarten educational opportunities for Mansfield children.
  - f. Meet regularly with our state legislators.
  
- V) Plan for long-term fiscal sustainability.
  - a. Advocate for continued Education Cost Sharing which supports current programming and develop a plan to address any change to current funding level.
  - b. Continue to explore partnerships with other groups to maximize program effectiveness while containing costs.
  - c. Investigate alternative revenue, including public and private funding sources and grant opportunities.
  - d. Continue to educate ourselves and the public at large on long-term financial ramifications of balancing board goals and priorities.

### Robert's Rules of Order General Guidelines

As outlined in the MBOE By-Laws, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Board unless otherwise provided by the by-laws. Following are some general guidelines from Robert's Rules and the By-Laws that should be followed to ensure efficient meetings and the rights of all members, aid decision-making and allow all to be heard.

1. During any discussion, a member must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.
2. A member will not be allowed to speak a second time until all other members wishing to speak have been allowed to do so.
3. Members should refrain from speaking a second time unless they have a new point to make or need to respond to new information.
4. As a general rule during discussion, comments should be directed through the Chair to the whole Board, rather than to other or individual members. All discussion is with the Board as a whole. Questions of the Superintendent or other non-BOE members making presentations should be directed to that individual.
5. Private conversations can be distracting to those speaking and should be limited.
6. During discussion, the Chair should try to provide equal time to those in favor or against a given topic or motion.
7. A majority is more than half of the votes cast, not a majority of the Board. For example: if only 7 members choose to vote, and the result is 4-3 in favor, the motion is adopted. Members who abstain are "refraining from voting".
8. If discussion on a *motion* is lasting a long time, any member can "move the previous question" or "call the question". They must be recognized by the Chair in order to do so. This is not debatable, and a two-thirds vote is required to pass. If two-thirds vote in favor of ending debate, the Board ends all discussion on a motion and then moves to an immediate vote on that motion.
9. Committee reports that recommend action should be submitted in writing. This allows for clear understanding of recommendations.



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

FREDERICK A. BARUZZI, SUPERINTENDENT

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING  
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD  
MANSFIELD, CT 06268  
(860) 429-3350  
Fax: (860) 429-3379

May 6, 2014

Dear Staff,

For many years, the Mansfield Board of Education has expressed our thanks for your service during "Teacher Appreciation Week". Because so many of you liked our recent practice of assisting in a local charity, we will once again make a donation to the Covenant Soup Kitchen on your behalf.

In addition and as a result of a variety of school celebrations for staff during the week of May 5-10, we will honor all staff at an Appreciation Breakfast on the last day of school for students, Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:00am at the Middle School and 8:00 – 9:00am at each elementary school.

We honor and appreciate the work you do for the children of Mansfield. This year's donation and breakfast are testimony to our thanks for your continued work and dedication.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Baruzzi



# MEMORANDUM

Town of Mansfield  
Town Manager's Office  
4 So. Eagleville Rd., Mansfield, CT 06268  
860-429-3336  
Hartmw@mansfieldct.org



To: Fred Baruzzi, Superintendent of the Mansfield Public Schools  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*  
CC: Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance; Town Council  
Date: April 29, 2014  
Re: Reduction to the Mansfield Board of Education Budget

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I write to inform you that at its special meeting last evening, the Town Council adopted a General Fund budget for FY 2014/15 that includes a reduction of \$126,430 to the budget adopted by the Mansfield Board of Education. This amount constitutes the school district's share (57.5%) of the \$220,000 reduction that Town Council has made to my Proposed FY 2014/15 General Fund Budget.

I understand that you will share this information with the Board of Education so that it can make the necessary adjustments to its adopted budget. Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you for your assistance with this matter.

**Mansfield Board of Education  
2014-2015 Budget**

History:

2013-2014 Budget: \$20,688,160

2014-2015 Superintendent Proposed Budget: \$21,036,040 (1.68%)

2014-2015 Board approved Proposed Budget: \$21,175,314 (2.35%)

2014-2015 Town Council adopted Budget: \$21,048,884 (1.74%)

Board Adopted Reductions at April 30, 2014 Special Meeting:

Language Arts Consultant Salary and Benefits	\$104,021
Employee Benefits: Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 17,000
Board of Education Contingency-Teacher Instruction K-8	<u>\$ 5,409</u>
Total	\$126,430

Other suggested items:

Board Member Education Week Subscription

@\$800

Board Travel/Conference Fees

Budgeted \$1,500

**Mansfield Board of Education  
Budget in Brief**

The proposed budget for the Mansfield Board of Education for FY 2014-15 is \$21,048,884. It represents a 1.74 percent increase over the current year. Of the total, salaries and benefits increased by \$570,344. Salaries and benefits account for approximately 85 percent of the total budget. All other expenditures decreased by \$209,620 or 6.36 percent. A comparison of the FY 2013-14 to 2014-15 budget follows:

	FY 12/13 Actual	FY 13/14 Amended	FY 14/15 Proposed	Increase/ (Decrease)	Percent Change
<b>Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>					
Certified Salaries	\$ 10,632,217	\$ 11,036,300	\$ 10,994,349	\$ (41,951)	(0.38%)
Non-Cert. Salaries	3,394,475	3,263,750	3,193,330	(70,420)	(2.16%)
<b>Sub-total Salaries</b>	14,026,692	14,300,050	14,187,679	(112,371)	(0.79%)
Benefits	3,102,320	3,094,460	3,777,175	682,715	22.06%
<b>Sub-total Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	17,129,012	17,394,510	17,964,854	570,344	3.28%
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Prof & Tech Services	515,629	535,370	464,550	(70,820)	(13.23%)
Purchased Property Services	82,370	66,000	61,000	(5,000)	(7.58%)
Repairs	115,189	125,660	106,070	(19,590)	(15.59%)
Rentals	195	460	460	-	
Tuition	164,651	80,000	120,000	40,000	50.00%
Insurance	66,266	64,000	72,290	8,290	12.95%
Other Purchased Services	991,223	925,660	913,450	(12,210)	(1.32%)
Instructional Supplies	253,798	279,105	281,300	2,195	0.79%
School & Library Books	105,895	97,015	99,800	2,785	2.87%
Supplies	36,347	49,050	48,050	(1,000)	(2.04%)
Energy	705,110	693,110	615,760	(77,350)	(11.16%)
Building Supplies	61,820	80,190	57,190	(23,000)	(28.68%)
Other Supplies	39,336	56,850	52,390	(4,460)	(7.85%)
Equipment	245,890	167,210	117,750	(49,460)	(29.58%)
Miscellaneous Exp & Fees	24,432	27,120	27,120	-	
Transfers Out to Other Funds	46,850	46,850	46,850	-	
<b>Sub-total Operating Expenses</b>	3,455,001	3,293,650	3,084,030	(209,620)	(6.36%)
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$ 20,584,013	\$ 20,688,160	\$ 21,048,884	\$ 360,724	1.74%





**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

ELIZABETH C. PATERSON, Mayor

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING  
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD  
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599  
(860) 429-3336  
Fax: (860) 429-6863

Date: April 15, 2014

To: Mansfield Board of Education

2014 APR 16 PM 3:03

Subject: PA 13-60, Act Concerning the Consolidation of Non-educational Services

PA 13-60, effective October 1, 2013, is a State initiative to encourage towns and cities to seek greater intra-municipal cooperation and efficiencies related to non-educational spending. PA 13-60 requires that the local spending authority make spending recommendations and suggestions to the local board of education regarding how they may consolidate non-educational services to realize financial efficiencies. The board of education may accept or reject these suggestions; however, it must submit a written explanation of the reason for any rejection.

Pursuant to this act, the Town Council's Finance Committee has been reviewing this subject in great detail since November, 2013. As part of this review the Committee acknowledged all the ways the Town and the Board of Education currently share services. These include financial management, information technology services, facilities management, cooperative purchasing, and shared risk management. The citizens of Mansfield have benefited from these many initiatives over the past twenty years. It is in this spirit that we make the following recommendations:

1. The Town and Board of Education human resource departments look to enhance our current programs by:
  - a. Researching shared software opportunities, particularly in the area of performance reviews and recruitment
  - b. Consolidating employee training opportunities
2. The Town Manager's office and the Superintendent's office research consolidation of labor counsel

As we have over the past twenty years or more, we look forward to working cooperatively with the Board of Education for the benefit of all Mansfield citizens.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Paterson

Mayor



## Mansfield Public Schools School Trip Request Form

Type of Trip:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Field Trip	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Extracurricular/Club Trip	<input type="checkbox"/>	Day Trip
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enrichment Trip	<input type="checkbox"/>	International Trip	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Overnight Trip

Class, Club, or Organization: History Day

Requested by: Jennifer McMunn Date Requested: 4/30/14

Destination (Be Specific): The National History Day competition takes place at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. We will attend the opening ceremonies and first day of judging and activities at UMD, and then travel to Washington, D.C. to visit historical museums and sites.

*List academic, social, and/or civic expectations from the Mission Statement that will be met by taking this trip:*

This trip will be a reflection of the MMS mission statement in multiple ways. The project itself has challenged students to develop and utilize critical thinking and analysis skills. Due to the flexibility and open-ended nature of our beliefs, this travel experience will provide five students with new experiences and resources to evaluate and develop their understanding of Social Studies concepts more deeply. Students will practice and model responsible behaviors as we explore the downtown area of D.C. and also when we are interacting with other groups at the contest. Communication will be fostered through many events at the contest in which students will have the opportunity to meet and discuss their interest in history with other students from around the country and beyond. The sustained effort these students have put into this seven-month project has been clearly congratulated by their success in the competition; all invited students placed either first or second in their respective categories in the state-level History Day competition.

Date(s) of Trip: 6/15/14- 6/18/14 Number of School Days to be Missed: 3

Time of Departure: 6:00 a.m. Time Returning: 6:00 p.m.

Number Attending:

Students  Faculty  Staff  Parents  Others

*If the date(s) requested impact(s) instructional time, please give valid rationale why the trip cannot be taken during a non-instructional period:*

The trip will be during instructional time because the National History Day Competition takes place from June 15-19. We will not be staying for the full duration of the contest so that students can return in time to wrap up their academic years at MMS. Additionally, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are eager to attend promotional events. With this itinerary, participants will be back for two days of school that week to review and complete any missed assignments or instruction.

*If substitute coverage will be provided, please describe how classroom instruction is likely to be affected:*

A substitute will be necessary for one staff member. Summative assessments will be planned accordingly. Instruction will proceed as planned. Teacher is returning with two class days remaining to wrap up the year's instruction.

School Trip Request: Cost Detail

Expense Detail	District Share (total)	Student Share (per)	Chaperone Share (per)
Substitutes	\$210.00		
Admission Fees	\$565.00		
Transportation	\$475		
Lodging	\$607.17		
Meals	\$100		
Other	\$30.00		
TOTAL	\$1,987.17		

Other Trip/Cost Related Notes:

**Admissions fees** reflect the National History Day charge of \$105 per student entrant and \$40 per teacher entrant. The district will cover student & teacher registration costs using the enrichment budget.

**Transportation costs** entail mileage reimbursement for the chaperone automobile (686 mile-trip, \$67 in tolls according to last year's chaperone) plus teacher metro travel within DC with students/families.

**Lodging and Meals costs** include the teacher's hotel stay (to be covered by the enrichment budget) and four days' worth of teacher food.

All five students have chosen to travel and lodge with their parents, so student transportation and lodging costs are not applicable.

"**Other**" covers the estimated cost of historical museums for the chaperone- to be explored with students and their parents- within Washington, D.C.

*How have students/parents been informed that financial assistance is available for students in need?*

Students have been advised that in years past, a precedent was set that registration fees would be covered by the district if the funds were available in the enrichment budget, which they currently are. Additional financial assistance funds will not be needed.

Are funds available to support students in need?

Yes

**Section Below Completed By Administrator Only:**

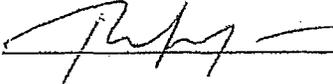
Is the itinerary required to be sent home to parents?  Yes  No

Number of chaperones required: Staff Members 1 Outside Personnel \_\_\_\_\_

This will be forwarded to the Mansfield Board of Education for approval.

Approved  Denied

Trip Itinerary required and attached

Administrators Signature:  Print Name: Thanh Nguyen

Date of Board Approval if Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mansfield Public Schools  
Enhancing Student Achievement  
2013-2014**

School	Gr.	Number Served	Subject	Focus	Activity Name	# of Sessions	Length of Each Session	Instructional Hours Per Student	Start/End Date	Total Cost
GW	2-4	15	Reading	Reading, Writing, Math	Homework & Independent Work Club	12	1 hr.	12	10/8/13-11/20/13	\$1,073.64
GW	3-4	12	Reading	Support Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	Super Sleuth Mystery Club	6	1 hr.	6	10/9/13-11/20/13	\$436.80
GW	2-3	12	Reading	North American Landmarks & symbols of US	Traveling Tourists	6	1 hr.	6	10/9/13-11/20/13	\$363.96
GW	K	All	Reading	Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast I	6	1 hr.	6	10/16/13-11/20/13	\$378.60
GW	2-4	15	Reading	Reading, Writing, Math	Homework & Independent Work Club	10	1 hr.	10	3/12/14-4/10-14	\$1,677.90
GW	2	Selected	Reading	STEM Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast STEM	4	1 hr.	4	4/2/14-4/30/14	\$330.00
SE	3/4	All	Physical Fitness	Improving Physical Fitness	Southeast Running Club	10	1.25 hrs.	12.5	9/13/13-11/15/13	\$1,515.00
SE	3/4	All	Reading	Reading for enjoyment	Battle of the Books	24	1.5 hrs.	36	10/02/13-1/22/14	\$554.40
SE	3/4	All	Reading	Reading for enjoyment	Battle of the Books II	24	1.5 hrs.	36	10/02/13-1/22/14	\$554.40
SE	K	All	Reading	Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast I	6	1 hr.	6	10/22/13-12/10/13	\$378.60
SE	3/4	All	Physical Fitness	Improving Physical Fitness	Southeast Running Club	10	1.25 hrs.	12.5	4/1/14-5/9/14	\$1,475.00
SE	2	Selected	Reading	STEM Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast STEM	4	1 hr.	4	4/1/14-4/29/14	\$330.00
VN	K	All	Reading	Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast I	6	1 hr.	6	10/16/13-11/20/13	\$378.60

School	Gr.	Number Served	Subject	Focus	Activity Name	# of Sessions	Length of Each Session	Instructional Hours Per Student	Start/End Date	Total Cost
VN	3/4	All	All	Scientific process, Reading, Math	VN Giving Garden Club	14 per grade	1.5 hrs.	21 per grade	2/24/14-6/10/14	\$3,575.30
VN	2	Selected	Reading	STEM Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast STEM	4	1 hr.	4	4/23/14-5/14/14	\$330.00
MMS	7	All	Writing	Learn & apply writing strategies	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writer's Club	10	1.2 hrs.	12	9/23/13-12/17/13	\$420.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (I)	6	1.25 hrs.	7.5	9/16/13-10/31/13	\$750.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (II)	8	1.25 hrs.	10	11/4/13-1/16/14	\$1,000.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (III)	11	1.25 hrs.	13.75	1/21/14-4/3/14	\$1,375.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (IV)	9	1.25 hrs.	11.25	4/7/14-6/12/14	\$1,125.00
MMS	5-6	Selected	Math/ Science	Completion of projects, structure activities	MinecraftEDU: a pilot program	16	1.65	26.4	4/29/14 - 6/12/14	\$720.00
<b>TOTAL</b>										<b>\$18,742.20</b>
<b>REMAINING BALANCE</b>										<b>\$11,257.80</b>

**DRAFT**

**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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 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

2014 APR 23 PM 2:00

April 21, 2014

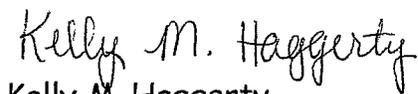
Office of the Superintendent  
4 South Eagleville Road  
Storrs, CT 06268

Dear Mr. Baruzzi,

I am writing to inform you that my husband and I are expecting a child on October 1, 2014. Based upon the advice of my physician, I intend to use the maternity leave as outlined in Article 11, E 2 of the Mea/Board of Education contract, beginning October 1, 2014 and extending through January 5, 2015.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

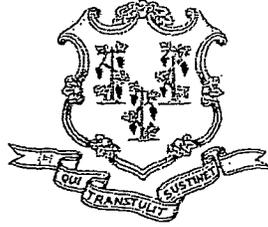
  
Kelly M. Haggerty

Cc: Debra Adamczyk  
Personnel Assistant



**For  
Information  
Only**





## Connecticut General Assembly

DEMOCRATS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 9, 2014

### LEGISLATIVE LEADERS UNVEIL UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN PLAN

*Connecticut Smart Start: 10-year investment will exponentially increase enrollment in preschool programs in Connecticut's public schools*

HARTFORD, CT – Standing with teachers, superintendents of schools and early education experts, state legislative leaders today announced Connecticut Smart Start, an historic 10-year, \$200 million plan to provide 50,000 children with a high-quality early education experience and set Connecticut on a path toward universal pre-kindergarten.

“This is the opportunity breakthrough Connecticut’s children need,” said **Senate President Donald E. Williams, Jr. (D-Brooklyn)**. “Children who experience high quality pre-K arrive at school ready to learn, are less likely to need remedial or special education services and have higher rates of high school graduation. Connecticut Smart Start will help level the playing field for tens of thousands of children—it’s the best educational investment we can make.”

“Everyone agrees Pre-K helps prepare children for grade school, academically and socially, so why wouldn’t we want to make this investment?” said **Speaker of the House Brendan Sharkey (D-Hamden)**. “Pre-K not only increases the chances of future success in and out of the classroom, but helps meet the ongoing challenge of providing equal educational opportunity to every child.”

“Nothing will yield the state higher returns than investing in our children,” said **Senate Majority Leader Martin M. Looney**. “Multiple studies have shown that early childhood is a time when a caring teacher’s attention can have a positive and lasting effect on a child. Pre-K programs work and will prepare our children for lifelong learning success.”

“Providing kids with high-quality early education is crucial to ensuring their future success,” said **House Majority Leader Joe Aresimowicz (D-30)**. “Every child deserves the opportunity to enroll in a preschool program, no matter what their family’s income is or where they live.”

“I am encouraged to see the commitment by state leaders for early childhood education,” said **Ken DiPietro, Superintendent of Plainfield Public Schools**. “Given stresses on families, the

changing economy and the expectations of student achievement, we need to provide schools with the means to give all children the tools they need to succeed in school.”

“This initiative gives teachers a much better chance of reaching those young minds and opening them up to a myriad of possibilities, so that they can make their own lives better,” said **Blaise Messinger, 2013 Connecticut Teacher of the Year**. “That’s why we teach. To make lives better. Yes, as the research shows, it will help to close the achievement gap, but it’s about more than just academics and test scores. It’s about kids getting a real opportunity to become good citizens and make a better state, a better nation, and a better world.”

“Any efforts, especially one such as this, that help expand pre-K in our public schools for our students is greatly appreciated, said **Dr. Karen List, Superintendent of West Hartford Public Schools**. “The West Hartford Board of Education is committed to the concept that ‘earlier is better for children’ and we appreciate this effort to help fund pre-K programs. One of the reasons I strongly support pre-K programs in public schools is that we connect earlier with families and build on the early learning throughout the elementary school years.”

“We have empty space in many of our schools, we have public school districts that are committed to providing high-quality preschool, and we have a history of state and local educational partnerships that get things done,” said state **Senator Beth Bye (D-West Hartford)**, who is a longtime advocate of early childhood education. “This investment is going to make a huge difference down the road.”

“The evidence is in on pre-K programming, and the lifelong benefits of early childhood learning are undeniable,” said **Senator Andrea Stillman (D-Waterford)**, Chair of the General Assembly’s Education Committee. “Incentivizing local investment in building these programs will make them a vital part of our communities, and help us achieve universal pre-K in Connecticut.”

Said **Representative Andy Fleischmann**, “This critical investment will help ensure that all Connecticut children get the educational and job opportunities they deserve in the years to come.”

**CEA President Sheila Cohen** said, “This pre-K initiative is a tremendous step forward for Connecticut. Teachers’ rooms today are ringing with applause as educators celebrate this new recognition of the importance of high-quality, universal pre-K. The leadership shown by Senator Williams and his colleagues in spearheading this program will help thousands of children succeed in school and in life.”

**Program Structure:**

- Oversight: grant program administered by Office of Early Childhood (OEC).
- High Quality: teachers must be certified; programs must obtain National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation within 3 years of receiving funding; classroom size cannot exceed 16 children with child-teacher ratio not greater than ten to one.

- New Capacity: funding is directed toward traditional public schools and cannot supplant existing program funding; towns must create or expand current programs.
- Creating Efficiencies: programs will be funded on a programmatic basis rather than a “per-slot” basis of the current system.
- Allowable Expenses: capital costs such as renovation of classroom space, and operating expenses such as hiring of certified teachers, and purchasing materials and supplies.

**Who can Apply?**

- Any city or town that can demonstrate an unmet need for pre-school.
- Programs must prioritize space for students eligible Free and Reduced Price Lunch.
- Programs in traditional public schools are eligible for funds.
- Includes but is not limited to Priority School Districts, Competitive School Districts and Alliance Districts.

**Cooperative Efficiencies:**

- Program offers the potential for regional cooperation – multiple towns could join together to create a regional program and submit a joint proposal.
- Professional development offered by school districts for their teachers must be made available at no expense to community child care providers – currently some professional development offered regionally – private providers could take advantage of greater opportunities for professional development.

**How is it funded?**

- \$10 million each year over 10 years in bonding for capital expenses; \$10 million each year over 10 years appropriated from Tobacco Trust Fund for operating expenses.
- Initial funding grant to town is for 5 years; possible renewal for another 5 years assuming quality and outcomes; annual reporting to OEC.
- Any funding allocated for this purpose will be excluded from the Minimum Budgetary Requirement (MBR).

**Media contact:**

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House Democrats  
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