

Mansfield Board of Education
March 10, 2016
Minutes

Attendees: Randy Walikonis, Chair, Jay Rueckl, Vice Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, John Fratiello, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Kathy Ward

Excused: Susannah Everett, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm by Mr. Walikonis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Fratiello, seconded by Mr. Rueckl, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2016 meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Veronica Barcelona de Mendoza regarding well-being of children at the middle school.

COMMUNICATIONS: Email received from Jason Courtmanche.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mr. Fratiello, to add retirement request after Executive Session. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Mrs. Paulhus arrived at 7:43pm.

BOARD REPORTS:

Personnel Committee: Mr. Walikonis reported the Personnel Committee will begin negotiations with UPSEU (custodians, food service, and maintainers) shortly.

INFORMATION, PRESENTATIONS, AND ACTIONS:

- April 14, 2016 Meeting: Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mr. Fratiello, to move the April 14th meeting to April 28th. Vote Unanimous in favor.
- Board Goals: Mrs. Lyman updated the Board on the status of Board Goals and next steps. She will be scheduling focus groups with teachers and parents/community members in the near future. Mr. Walikonis stated the need to form a subcommittee to continue work on the goals. Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein to request the Board Chair to appoint a subcommittee to work on Board Goals. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- March 24, 2016 Professional Development Day: Mrs. Lyman reviewed the plans for the upcoming professional development day.
- Liberty Bank Early Literacy Grant: Mrs. Lyman reported the district applied for an early literacy grant from Liberty Bank which would offer summer school for kindergarten and first grade students who have not met end of year expectations in literacy.
- Region 19 High School Plans: The Board discussed Region 19 reported plans for a new school. Board members discussed the possibility of the Town buying the high school for the district. Mrs. Lyman was asked to contact the Region 19 Superintendent to discuss.
- Connecticut State Department of Education Next Generation Accountability System: Mrs. Lyman reviewed the Accountability Report and the changes made this year. Vinton School was recognized for performance of all students. Southeast School was recognized for performance of all students and performance of high needs subgroup.

NEW BUSINESS: None

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Mr. Fratiello would like a discussion on recess. Ms. Ward would like a discussion on the Wellness Policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to move to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter related to possible administrator retirement and related contractual provision at 8:50pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Mrs. Lyman joined the Board at the Executive Session.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:13pm.

Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to approve waiver of notice of provision of retirement benefit for Dr. James Palmer. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to accept the retirement of Dr. James Palmer, Principal, Vinton Elementary School.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, to adjourn at 9:15pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk