



It is the mission of the Mansfield Public Schools, in partnership with the Mansfield community, to ensure that each and every child develops the knowledge, skills, and dispositions essential for civic engagement and personal excellence in learning, life, and work within our local and global community.

**Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
June 15, 2023
DRAFT Minutes**

Attendees: Kathy Ward, Chair, Susannah Everett, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary (electronically), Edith Allison, David Litrico (electronically), Katherine Paulhus, Jeannette Picard

The public may view the meeting live at <https://mansfieldct.gov/video>.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm by Ms. Ward.

Ms. Allison read the mission statement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: There were no corrections and no objections to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023, Regular Meeting.

Ms. Ward noted a correction to the minutes of the June 1, 2023, Regular Meeting; Katherine Paulhus arrived at 7:37pm. There were no objections to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2023, Regular Meeting, with this correction.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Board received a letter of resignation from Kelly Zimmermann and a letter to request the appointment of Gregory Cecil. In addition, a proclamation was received today from Tania Ochoteco, outgoing MES PTO President. Ms. Ward thanked Ms. Zimmermann for her service to the Board of Education, our students and community.

Gregory Cecil addressed the Board. Ms. Chaine, Town Clerk, took Mr. Cecil's oath.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Ward and Mr. Barlow presented the annual Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Leadership Award to the following Middle School eighth grade students:

Margaret Owen
Theodore Cormier

The following retirees were recognized by Administrators:

Nora Dickinson	Teacher, Mansfield Middle School
Ruth Sangree	Teacher, Mansfield Elementary School
Sandy Hastillo	Paraeducator, Mansfield Elementary School
Marcy Rudge	Teacher, Mansfield Elementary School
John Burnham	Teacher, Mansfield Middle School
Chuck Warinsky	Teacher, Mansfield Elementary School
Elyse Poller	Teacher, Mansfield Middle School
Sondra Boyer	Suzuki/Strings, Mansfield Public Schools
Patrice Welch	Teacher, Mansfield Middle School
Patricia Miela	Paraeducator, Mansfield Middle School
Deborah Soucy	Food Service, Mansfield Elementary School

The Board recessed for a brief reception and returned to the meeting at 7:48pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tania Ochoteco, resident and parent – read a proclamation which was presented to MES Principal Lauren Rodriguez on June 14th.

Rachel Macht, resident and parent – recognized and thanked Principal Rodriguez for her service to the Mansfield Elementary School community.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Ward provided a summary of the Finance Committee's discussion at the May meeting. Ms. Allison indicated the items discussed by the Personnel Committee in May 24th will be addressed further during tonight's Executive Session. Ms. Everett provided the Board with an update from the recent Policy/Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Allison shared the details from the latest Transportation Committee meeting.

INFORMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIONS:

Superintendent Dart provided his Superintendent Report which included recognition of the students and faculty celebrated this evening, progress with Teacher and Paraeducator evaluations, and the many extra-curricular activities and musical events taking place at our schools including a ribbon cutting ceremony at Mansfield Elementary School.

Superintendent Dart congratulated Mansfield Middle School Principal *Larry Barlow*, who received the Connecticut Association of School's (CAS) 2023 Outstanding First-Year Principal Award. Mr. Barlow addressed the Board.

Superintendent Dart also honored Principal Lauren Rodriguez and spoke about the legacy she leaves behind for Mansfield Public Schools. Ms. Rodriguez addressed the Board.

NEW BUSINESS (if needed): None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Rochelle Marcus and Jen Zugarazo, Mansfield Education Association (MEA) co-presidents, expressed gratitude to Principal Rodriguez, Superintendent Dart and the Board for their support.

Superintendent Dart thanked the IT team for their spectacular job supporting the technology needs at these meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Ms. Picard, seconded by Ms. Everett the following items be approved.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education accepts the March 31, 2023, Quarterly Financials. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Mrs. Kelly reported the Witness Stone Project plaque commemorating Titus is damaged. Mrs. Paulhus requested the Board revisit the list of suggestions for future agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Ms. Allison, seconded by Ms. Picard to go into Executive Session and invite Superintendent Peter Dart for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's contract, non-union (Singletons) wages and benefits and collective bargaining. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed. The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:48pm and returned to regular session at 9:01pm.

Motion by Ms. Allison, seconded by Ms. Everett to approve the Personnel Committee's recommendations regarding Singleton wages and benefits. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed.

Motion by Ms. Picard, seconded by Ms. Everett to extend Superintendent Dart's contract for one year from its current terms. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Ms. Allison, seconded by Ms. Everett to adjourn at 9:04pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Jil Corso, Board Clerk