



*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.*

<b>Mansfield Board of Education Meeting</b> <b>October 13, 2022</b> <b>DRAFT Minutes</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	Kathy Ward, Chair, Susannah Everett, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, Edith Allison, David Litrico (electronically), April Morin, Katherine Paulhus, Jeannette Picard, Kelly Zimmermann
<b>Absent:</b>	

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Ms. Ward.

Ms. Allison read the mission statement.

Mr. Litrico arrived at 7:03pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Ms. Morin, seconded by Ms. Allison to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2022, Regular Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed.

Motion by Ms. Allison, seconded by Ms. Everett to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2022, Workshop. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed.

Ms. Picard arrived at 7:04pm.

**RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION:** Superintendent Dart commenced Recognition and Celebration with a ceremony to recognize Corinne Bergeron, Paraeducator of the Year. A second ceremony to recognize Kate Harbec, teacher of the Year, followed. Ms. Ward, Principal Rodriguez and Mrs. Paulhus spoke and honored Mrs. Bergeron and Mrs. Harbec. Both recipients were presented with plaques and flowers and addressed the Board.

Ms. Ward resumed the meeting at 7:51pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The Board received an email from Gerry Altmann regarding transportation, a thank you card from Becky Granatini and a letter of thanks from CAFE to the Board of Education for renewing its membership.

**ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA:** Mrs. Kelly requested future agenda items be added to this meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Ms. Ward shared the Finance Committee met to discuss possible actions to address the bus crisis and an MOU will be presented under New Business. Mrs. Paulhus reported the Transportation Committee recently reconvened and she provided the Board with an update from the meetings held to-date.

**INFORMATION, PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIONS:**

Superintendent Dart reported on Tuesday's Professional Learning day, recent gatherings of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Family Advisory Teams as well as the current transportation conditions.

Randy Walikonis shared a number of recent photos of the new school building and a detailed update on its progress.

Allen Corson presented an MMS roof project update including photos.

Superintendent Dart introduced Danielle Vliet, MMS Assistant Principal who is joining the district on October 31<sup>st</sup> and Ms. Vliet addressed the Board.

Superintendent Dart introduced Maraiah Popeleski-Tilley, Food Services Director. Mrs. Popeleski-Tilley addressed the Board.

Superintendent Dart reported October 1 Enrollment data and explained our district has again applied for the flexibility waiver for Teacher Evaluation Plans (STEP Goal) with the state.

Principal Barlow and team (Laura Hunter and Louis Goffinet) proposed a trip under the German Exchange Program to take place in March, 2023, for 22 students and staff chaperones.

Motion by Ms. Everett, seconded by Ms. Picard to approve the Mansfield Middle School German Exchange trip to Sarstedt, Germany, March 4 – March 25, 2023. Vote in favor with Mrs. Kelly opposed. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: Superintendent Dart reported the driver shortage continues to be a challenge for many districts across the country and, through the Finance Committee, proposed an MOU to provide incentives for transportation service providers.

Motion by Ms. Everett, seconded by Ms. Allison to promote continuity of school transportation services and as a means of addressing the impact of the national school bus driver shortage in Mansfield, the Board authorize the Superintendent to execute an amendment to the contract with the Board's student transportation provider regarding both longevity incentives and new hire incentives for school bus drivers transporting students residing in Mansfield. Vote in favor with Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Paulhus opposed. Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Ms. Morin, seconded by Ms. Zimmermann the following items be approved. Vote: Unanimous in favor and motion passed.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approve the salary increase for **Ashley Rancourt**, Teacher at Mansfield Elementary School, effective July 1, 2022, at an annual salary of \$77,961, Level 6<sup>th</sup> Year, Step 9 of the Teachers' Salary Schedule.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approve the salary increase for **Joshua Tamosaitis**, Teacher at Mansfield Elementary School, effective July 1, 2022, at an annual salary of \$74,180, Level MA, Step 9 of the Teachers' Salary Schedule.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Ms. Everett requested Kim King come to speak with the Board about her 2022 State Teacher of the Year experiences. Ms. Zimmermann requested a formal report by MMS of the number of different scholarships awarded. Mrs. Kelly asked how the opioid crisis is affecting Mansfield Public Schools and Superintendent Dart indicated there are zero reports in our district. Mrs. Paulhus asked to ensure we are offering social-emotional support for our students.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Ms. Everett, seconded by Ms. Picard to adjourn at 10:00pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jil Corso, Board Clerk