

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Seymour Middle School  
January 9, 2023  
7:30 pm

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Stephan Behuniak  
Kristen Bruno  
Christopher Champagne  
James Garofolo  
Kristen Harmeling  
Jay Hatfield (7:31 pm)  
Shannon Levey  
Beth Nesteriak  
Ed Strumello  
Tyler Lang, Student Representative  
Sophia Motyl, Student Representative  
Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools  
Salvatore A. Bucci, Business Manager  
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk  
Derrick Martin, Technology  
Jim Freund, Principal, SHS  
Kathleen Reynolds, Assistant Principal, SMS  
Lauren Reid, Assistant Principal, BS  
David Olechna, Principal, CLS  
Stacey Albertson, Assistant Principal, CLS  
Annmarie Drugonis, First Selectwoman  
Ronald Barnard  
Alison Brett

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions  
Mr. Champagne called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Seymour Champion Recognitions
1. Bungay School
    - a. Nalani Desther
    - b. Sara Nesteriak
  2. Chatfield-LoPresti School
    - a. Frank Adams
    - b. Adysen Champagne
    - c. Gledis Faskaj
  3. Seymour Middle School
    - a. Lily Fappiano
    - b. Juan Fraticelli Rodriguez
  4. Seymour High School
    - a. Emily Masotta
- B. Superintendent Student Recognitions
1. Caden Drezek

III. STUDENT REPORTS

- A. HS Student Representative Report- Tyler Lang, Sophia Motyl

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment provides the opportunity for the public to make a comment. It is not a dialogue between the Board and the public. Based upon what is heard during Public Comment, the Board may choose to add a topic to the agenda. If questions are posed that the Chairman is able to answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairman's Comments portion of the agenda. The Board will not discuss personnel matters.

Comments should be respectful and no longer than 3 minutes in length so that all who wish to comment may have the opportunity to do so. All public wanting to comment will need to state their name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board.

No Public Comment

Closed at 8:02 pm

V. REPORTS

- A. Special Education Enrollment Report

No Special Education Enrollment report was submitted this month.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2022
2. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – December 20, 2022

- B. Financial Management Reports – January 9, 2022

- C. Nutrition Services Financial Report – January 9, 2022

- D. Staff Hiring

1. Hiring, Certified

- a. Martin, Michelle

- Music Teacher (Job 1713)
- Chatfield-LoPresti School
- Replacing Lisa Goldberg

2. Hiring, Non-Certified

- a. Faria, Staci

- Nutrition Services Team (Job 1559)
- Chatfield-LoPresti School
- Replacing Michele Hyder

- b. Miceli, Kristen

- Nutrition Services Team (Job 1559)
- Seymour Middle School
- Replacing Angela Berthold

3. Hiring, Appendix D

- a. Condo, Megan

- Assistant Coach, Freshmen Girls Basketball (Job 1719)
- Seymour High School
- Replacing Cristina Tacinelli

- ~~E. Donation from Tim Sadick~~

~~Mr. Tim Sadick would like to donate approximately 700 new tennis balls.~~

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Bruno) to approve the consent agenda with item VI E removed

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 9-0-0

VII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the donation of approximately 700 new tennis balls from Mr. Tim Sadick and direct that the Superintendent determine the placement of this donation

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 9-0-0

VIII. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Guided Student Support

Ms. Jodie Roden and Ms. Kathleen Reynolds would like approval to offer Guided Student Support at Seymour Middle School and incorporate a peer tutoring component. This would require two faculty advisors.

Dr. Compton explained that this has been done in the past and they would like to do it again. The program would run on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from February 27 through June 1 and will end at 3:45 pm. No transportation will be provided for this program and parents are encouraged to make arrangements for their children. Mr. Hatfield suggested making the program to run for two days but be a longer period of time which may help parents with pickup transportation. Dr. Compton said she would look into this. Ms. Nesteriak agreed this would be a good idea.

MOTION: (Ms. Nesteriak/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to approve the creation of a Guided Student Support program with two faculty advisors at Seymour Middle School for the 2022-2023 school year

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 9-0-0

B. Administrative Position at Central Office – Dr. Susan Compton

Dr. Compton shared the draft job description for Director of Curriculum and Instruction which will be the position that will replace the vacancy left by Ms. Tencza. She has shared this with the administrators and with the Administrators union. She has learned that this position has to be in the administrator's union. She has done research on similar positions across the State. She wants this position to focus on student achievement. She asked that no action be taken tonight because she wants to do a little more work on this and then have a special called meeting to act on this item. She reminded the Board that this is a new position and only they have to ability to create a new position.

C. Student Proposal – Painting of Student Parking Spots

The Facilities and Transportation Committee met tonight to discuss the student's proposal for permission to paint student parking spaces at Seymour High School. After a great deal of research and discussion, the Facilities and Transportation Committee made the recommendation to the Board to deny this request. The Board agreed. The Board recommended trying to find another way to give the students a way to express their creativity.

IX. INFORMATION

A. School Calendar 2023-2024 (BOE Approved 12/20/2022)

B Unified Cheer Team Uniforms

C School Activities and Recognitions

1. Bungay School
2. Chatfield-LoPresti School
3. Seymour Middle School
4. Seymour High School

- D. Committee Meeting Minutes
  - 1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2022
- E. Staff Hiring – Appendix D
  - 1. Krushinski, Meagan
    - Advisor, National Junior Honor Society (Job 1703)
    - Seymour Middle School
    - New Position
- F. Staff Transfers
  - 1. Certified Staff
    - a. Fenton, Samantha
      - Long Term Substitute (Job 1711)
      - Bungay School
      - Coverage for Grade 3 Teacher
- G. Staff Resignations
  - 1. Non-Certified Staff
    - a. Berthold, Angela
      - Nutrition Services
      - Seymour Middle School
      - Effective December 8, 2022
- X. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS/SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
  - A. Board of Education Comments
    - 1. Chairman's Comments
 

Mr. Champagne has no chairman's comments tonight but wanted to thank everyone in advance for all of the meetings that will be occurring in the month of January.
    - 2. Board Member Comments
 

None
  - B. Superintendent Report
 

Dr. Compton reminded the Board that negotiation meetings will be happening next Wednesday January 18 at 5:30 pm in Central Office. She thanked the Liaison Committee for all of their work on the contracts. She reported that Cindy Brooks has enough money for free lunch from January 16 – January 31. Dr. Compton said we need parents to sign up for free and reduced lunch and have a plan in place to assist parents in completing the application process. Mr. Strumello asked that an Athletic Committee be scheduled during the month of January. Dr. Compton said she would be attending the meeting with the cheerleading coach regarding the misunderstanding that was discussed on Facebook. Dr. Compton reminded the Board that there will be a banquet for the Football team coming up. Mr. Hatfield questioned the program used for payment of lunch and how it charges a \$2.50 transaction fee and a \$5.00 reminder fee. Ms. Harmeling said the program is difficult to navigate. Mr. Hatfield also questioned the price of school lunch. Dr. Compton said she will work with Ms. Brooks to research possible solutions. Dr. Compton thanked the Town of Seymour for supporting the move of Central Office saying it has worked out well. Mr. Strumello talked about a book vending machine he had seen on the news and thought it was a great idea. Mr. Hatfield asked that we honor the late Artie Rinkewith with a moment of silence at our next Board of Education meeting. Dr. Compton let the Board know that the student council will be joining us at a special meeting on February 6, 2023. She hopes to have the meeting start at 5:30 and is looking forward to a big turnout of students. She will be having a communication meeting sometime toward the end of the month of January. She also reported that she will be attending the Town of Seymour Budget Summit tomorrow.

XI. ADJOURNMENT  
MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to adjourn  
Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey,  
Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 9-0-0

Submitted by  
Lee-Ann Dauerty  
Board Clerk

YouTube Link (January 9, 2023)

[https://youtu.be/\\_92QMKR4uTA](https://youtu.be/_92QMKR4uTA)