

## **Seymour Board of Education**

### **ATHLETIC AND HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES**

August 17, 2022

Seymour Middle School

7:30 pm

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jay Hatfield

Ed Strumello

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Stephan Behuniak

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Amber Burton

Ernie DiStasi

Cathy Federowicz

Mike Kearns

Jim Freund

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order at 7:43 pm.

#### **II. 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.

Mike Kearns, Football Coach – Presented his proposal for the renovation of the weight room at Seymour High School. He talked about the condition of the equipment in the current weight room. After some time, Mr. Strumello stopped Mr. Kearns and said this should be discussed under Discussion and Possible Action not Public Comment. He also indicated that he was sure this was not under the scope of the Athletic and Health Committee; that these decisions should be made by the Administration and the Superintendent. Public comment was closed at 7:58 pm.

#### **III. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION**

A. Fundraising – SHS Football

Ms. Burton, President of the Wildcat Kickoff Club indicated that they have money for a donation toward this project but do not have enough to cover the entire project. She indicated there is confusion on how to get this rolling as they have money to spend. Dr. Compton said the effort and vision are outstanding and she likes that they have included all sports. It was an excellent presentation and evident that a lot of time has been spent on the proposal. She understands the weight room needs work. Ms. Burton's asked if the Board can contribute toward the project. Dr. Compton reminded them that we are on a very tight budget, and it would be best if they can raise the additional funds through fundraising. Dr. Compton suggested the full Board be shown the proposal so they can understand what the vision is. Regarding the money that the Kickoff Club wants to donate; Mr. Freund said they may want to look into the Valley Community Foundation where the money can grow until it is spent. Mr. Freund encouraged them to reach out to the other sports clubs to try and obtain additional funding for the project. Ms. Federowicz said she felt this was a good proposal but felt it was just another Band-Aid and there needs to be a plan for the high school. She envisions a secure facility for the weight room in another location.

Ms. Burton asked about the procedure to donate money and Mr. Strumello explained that a donation would be approved by the full Board and direct the Superintendent to determine the placement of the donation. This wording is dictated by the policy. Mr. Hatfield said he felt this is a bigger project than what is described, and other committees would need to be involved such as the Finance Committee, the Facilities Committee and possibly the Town Wide building committee. Ms. Burton wanted to take a minute to compliment the work that Coach Kearns has done and how much time is spent with the team members.

#### **IV. REPORTS**

A. Chairman's Report  
None

B. Superintendent's Report  
Dr. Compton thanked Ms. Burton and Coach Kearns for coming to the Athletic Committee and said their proposal was outstanding. She encouraged them to look at the first phase. Coach Kearns thanked the committee for having them. Mr. Strumello also said this was a job well done.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to adjourn

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Strumello

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Submitted by:  
Lee-Ann Dauerty  
Board Clerk