I. CALL TO ORDER
   A. Salute to the Flag
      Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS
   A. Recognitions
      1. NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY – June 2, 2015
         New Members Inducted: 41
         Two Year Certificates: 27
         Three Year Pins: 18
         Total: 86
      2. TRI-M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY – June 2, 2015
         New Members Inducted: 6
         Two Year Certificates: 5
         Three Year Pins: 1
         Total: 12
3. HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL BREAKFAST- June 2, 2015
   Grade 9:  52 students
   Grade 10: 36 students
   Grade 11: 23 students
   Grade 12: 18 students

4. Congratulations to Joshua Park, Seymour Middle School on winning the Father’s Day Card Contest in the K-6 category. This contest was sponsored by Griffin Hospital.

5. Mr. Stanek recognized the High School administration for executing graduation so nicely. He said it was a hard year for students and they did a fine job of making the graduation so nice.

B. Correspondence
   2. Letter dated June 2, 2015 to Senator Christopher Murphy from Christine Syriac thanking him for meeting with our 8th grade class in Washington DC
   3. Letter dated June 2, 2015 to Senator Richard Blumenthal from Christine Syriac thanking him for meeting with our 8th grade class in Washington DC

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT
   None

V. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Approval of Minutes
      1. Regular BOE Minutes – June 1, 2015
      2. Special BOE Minutes – June 22, 2015
   C. Staff Hiring
      1. Certified
         a. Fintz, Joshua
            • Math Teacher
            • Seymour High School
            • Replacing Monica Fasciano
         b. Novi, Kayleigh
            • School Psychologist
            • Bungay School
            • Replacing Jennifer Straniti-Schmoltz
      2. Non Certified
         a. Ciserio, Lisa
            • Cafeteria Manager
            • Seymour High School
            • Replacing Lisa Slotter
         b. Hannon, Theresa
            • Secretary
            • Seymour High School
            • Replacing Mary Bialek
         c. Weymer, Alyssa
            • Monitor Paraprofessional, Part Time
            • Bungay School
            • Replacing Cristina Vetro
3. Appendix E
   a. Walsh, Stephanie
      • Head Coach, Dance Team
      • Seymour High School
      • Replacing Teressa Diaz-Hennessy

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) move to approve the consent agenda as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

VI. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
   None

VII. REPORTS
   A. Kindergarten Family Literacy Night – Alison Brett, Darlene O'Callaghan
      Mrs. Syriac introduced Ms. Alison Brett and Ms. Darlene O'Callaghan along with Ms. Theresa Dunlop who enthusiastically presented the Board with an overview of their Family Literacy Nights at Chatfield-LoPresti School. This program is part of Mrs. Syriac's initiative to involve parents more in the learning process. Ms. O'Callaghan and Ms. Brett said this program was a big success and they had great participation of students and parents. The program involved a Family Literacy Night once a month for five months from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. It was designed to have the students connect with their parents. The program was developed with input from many teachers. They said the number one rule was to “have fun” and they ended each session with a treat that was made by the student during the session. To illustrate how the program worked, Ms. O'Callaghan read the book “Knuffle Bunny” to the Board. They then talked about the stations each child worked at during the session. Each child was also able to take the book home with them at the end of the session. Leftover books were donated to the CLS library. Ms. Harmeling thanked them for the presentation and for doing the Family Literacy Night. She asked if this was open to all students or only students targeted for extra help. Ms. O'Callaghan said it was open to all students in grade 1. They were pleased with 46-47% participation. Mr. Putorti commended them on their presentation and remarked there was a great deal of preparation that went into it. He said it was a good job. Ms. Gesek asked if the students who needed help attended and they confirmed that many attended the program. Ms. Harmeling said it was a good idea to train parents on specific strategies and wondered if it tied into the required reading. She said it was wonderful that this program taught parents how to extend the time beyond just reading the book. Mr. Putorti said it not only trained students but trained parents as well. Excellent job!

   B. Chairman's Report
      a. Chairman’s Report
         Mr. Putorti welcomed Ms. Vonda Tencza, our new Associate Superintendent and acknowledged her attendance at the meeting. Ms. Tencza responded that she was happy to be in the district and would happily be coming back tomorrow. Mr. Putorti thanked Mr. Fred Stanek for all of his hard work to get the field for graduation. He said he felt like it would not have happened without his hard work. Mr. Putorti also talked about the email from Rory Burke, Administrative Assistant to First Selectman Kurt Miller indicating to the Board of Education that a second Public Comment should be added to the end of the agenda. Ms. Magri said she could speak to this issue.
         MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Stanek) to add to the agenda the discussion of adding a second Public Comment to the Board of Education agenda.
         SO VOTED
         AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek
         Ms. Magri explained that the adding of a second Public Comment section to the agenda came out of the Strategic Planning Committee. Some Boards already do this and they wanted to make it more consistent. She acknowledged that it could have been communicated better but feels it is a simple thing to add. Mr. Stanek said it is not a bad idea and he has seen this in other towns.
He said it could have been presented to us in a more diplomatic manner. Ms. Harmeling said she thought we should not say no one attends and maybe a second public comment might encourage more attendance at Board of Education meetings. Mr. Strumello said we should consider limiting the time that one person can talk since some of our meetings run quite late. Mr. Putorti said it was not a problem to add a second public comment to our agenda and would do it with our next meeting.

b. Board Member Comments

Ms. Harmeling informed the Board that she has stepped down from serving on the Town Strategic Planning Committee. She said the town has expressed interest in developing a town wide communications committee similar to our Community Committee. This would change the mission of our committee and she will be in contact with the First Selectman regarding the makeup of the committee. Mr. Strumello said he would like to thank Mrs. Snopkowski for her contribution to the Seymour Public Schools and asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to her. Mr. Putorti said he would take care of this.

C. Superintendent’s Report

Mrs. Syriac said she was thrilled to have Ms. Vonda Tencza join us as our Associate Superintendent. She reported that she has spent hours with her already sharing things about the district. She said they both had the opportunity to visit the summer programs and are happy to report they are up and running. Our extended school year programs, ELL (English Language Learners), K-1 Literacy, middle school summer school and the high school Credit Recovery Program will involve intensive instruction. She reported that Chatfield-LoPresti was very active with students and parents on day one. Mr. Strumello asked who the director of the summer programs was and Mrs. Syriac indicated it was Ms. Lisa Cheney.

VIII. INFORMATION

A. Committee Reports

1. Athletic Committee – May 27, 2015
2. Finance Committee – June 1, 2015
3. Policy Committee – June 18, 2015

B. Policy #5141.22 Communicable/Infectious Diseases - Appendix A Revisions

C. Staff Resignations

1. Non Certified
   a. Bellavance, Gabrielle
      • Instructional Paraprofessional
      • Chatfield-LoPresti School
      • Effective June 17, 2015
   b. Harwood, Danielle
      • Instructional Paraprofessional
      • Bungay School
      • Effective June 17, 2015
   c. Petronchak, Dominic
      • Custodian, Part Time
      • Chatfield-LoPresti School
      • Effective May 21, 2015
   d. Scharn, Milton
      • Custodian, Part Time
      • Seymour Middle School
      • Effective May 21, 2015
D. Board of Education Retreat

Mr. Putorti said that this Board has expressed some interest in having a retreat. He said he was looking for ideas on how to have the retreat and what it should involve. Ms. Harmeling and Mr. Strumello said they thought this was a good idea. Ms. Magri said as long as it was a facilitated discussion she would be interested. Mr. Putorti said they would need to find a good date for all, suggesting maybe a Saturday would be best since most Board members work. Mr. Stanek said he would not be able to participate on a Saturday. Mr. Putorti asked about doing a retreat on an evening and Ms. Harmeling said the purpose of the retreat is to take them away and she felt it should be on a Saturday or Sunday. She said typically retreats involve longer sessions. Mr. Strumello said maybe baby steps should be taken first, perhaps having a smaller session first. Mr. Putorti said he would like to see the full Board participate. Mr. Stanek said it is hard to get the full Board together. Mr. Strumello suggested maybe we should choose a topic. Ms. Harmeling said she felt a good topic would be how to be an effective Board. Ms. Magri said the retreat should have a clear goal and objective. It should be clear as to what we want to get out of this. Mr. Putorti suggested Board members send their ideas to him by email. He said his idea of a retreat should involve camaraderie and be more fun. He said he could contact CABE for ideas. Ms. Magri said how we as a Board can impact legislation might be a good topic. Mr. Strumello said he felt we should revisit this at our next meeting to see where we are with it. Mr. Stanek said he felt a topic might be why Boards of Education responsibilities are being eroded and how we might address this.

IX. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Out of State Field Trip

Mr. Brandt Schneider will do a brief presentation of this proposed trip, Festivals of Music-Williamsburg, VA and Virginia Beach, VA.

Mr. Schneider explained that he would like to take the high school band and choir to Virginia to participate in a music festival. He said this one was one for high school students to attend on the East coast. The cost would be $355.00 per student before fundraising. After fundraising he hoped it would be around $250.00 per student. Mr. Stanek asked about the statement on the form that read "Travelling is a skill that should be taught". Mr. Schneider said he has met many students who have never been out of the valley and he feels traveling is a social skill; they will learn to budget, pack a suitcase and meet many different people.

Ms. Harmeling asked about the date since it buts up to spring break and how that might affect participation. Mr. Schneider said there are very few dates that can work and these dates work. Ms. Harmeling asked if it would be open to all of the band and choir students and Mr. Schneider said it would be open to all band/choir students in grades 9-12. Mr. Stanek asked how much interaction our students would have with other students. Mr. Schneider said they would watch each other’s performances, attend awards ceremonies, see them on the beach, at Busch Gardens; they will have lots of time to meet with other students however there is no formal meet and greet.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the request of Mr. Brandt Schneider to take members of the grade 9-12 Band and Choir on an out of state field trip to Williamsburg, VA and Virginia Beach, VA on April 14-17, 2016

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek


Mrs. Syriac said no changes were made to the document other than cleaning up and formatting. Mr. Putorti asked if approving this was a requirement of the state and Mrs. Syriac confirmed it was. Mr. Strumello asked if Mrs. Syriac was surprised by the state’s reaction to us not having any changes. She said if we had made many changes it would have gotten more reaction and attention from the State.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the 2015-16 Educator Evaluation and Support Plan that was approved by the State of Connecticut, Department of Education on June 1, 2015

SO VOTED
C. Policy Revisions

1. 5141.7 School Wellness

**MOTION:** (Ms. Magri/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the revisions to Policy #5141.7 School Wellness

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.

2. 5141 Student Health Services

**MOTION:** (Ms. Magri/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the revisions to Policy #5141 Student Health Services

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.

3. 5114.12 Student Handbooks

**MOTION:** (Ms. Magri/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to approve the revisions to Policy #5114.12 Student Handbooks

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.

D. Seymour Middle School Curriculum

1. STEM Curriculum – Grade 7 and Grade 8

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the Seymour Middle School STEM Curriculum – Grade 7 and Grade 8

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.

E. Seymour High School Curriculum

1. Journalism Curriculum – Grade 11 and 12

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Strumello) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the Seymour High School Journalism Curriculum – Grade 11 and 12

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.

2. Film Narrative and Technique Curriculum – Grade 11 and 12

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the Seymour High School Film Narrative and Technique Curriculum – Grade 11 and 12

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.

F. Seymour High School Textbook Selection

1. Textbook Selection - *Journalism Matters*

**MOTION:** (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the Journalism Textbook entitled *Journalism Matters*

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek.
2. Textbook Selection - *Understanding Movies*

**MOTION:** (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the Film Narrative and Technique Textbook entitled *Understanding Movies*

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek


Mr. Strumello said the committee was concerned about the cost of this book but since it was tied to AP and college courses felt it must move forward. It is important that the public knows we look at costs.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the AP Biology Textbook entitled *AP Edition Campbell Biology 10th Edition*

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

4. Textbook Selection - *Emergency Care & Transport of the Sick and Injured*

Mr. Strumello said it was important that parents know that this book can be used when the students go for certification. Students will keep this book at the end of the course. This course may not be offered every year. The book includes online references; it is expensive but well worth it, said Mr. Freund.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to accept the recommendation of the Curriculum & Technology Committee to approve the EMT Basic textbook entitled *Emergency Care & Transport of the Sick and Injured*

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

G. Intra District Transfers

1. Intra District Waiver Requests – students currently attending waiver school

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2015-2016 intra district transfer requests for students Emma Cushing, Grace Donovan, Jack Halligan, Gianna Revere, Juliana Rodriguez, and Eduardo Rodriguez who currently attend school under an intra district waiver and therefore, have no impact to class size.

**AMENDED MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2015-2016 intra district transfer requests for students Emma Cushing, Grace Donovan, Jack Halligan, Gianna Revere, Juliana Rodriguez, Eduardo Rodriguez and Daniel Villanueva who currently attend school under an intra district waiver and therefore, have no impact to class size.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

2. New Intra District Waiver Request

Mr. Strumello asked if this had any impact to class size and Mrs. Syriac confirmed that it did not.

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew) to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the intra district transfer request for students Eric DiStasi, Peyton Gallagher and Damian Villanueva to school under an Intra District Waiver for the 2015-16 School year

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek
H. Bid Waiver

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Magri) Per Board policy #3320, the Board of Education waives formal bidding for the following goods or services in excess of $25,000 for the 2015-16 fiscal year per the reasons provided in the policy:

- Third party proprietary HVAC maintenance and support services (Siemens 12PSX0055, Johnson Controls 12PSX0153, Andover Systems, Environmental Services Corporation 12PSX0153, A&B Mechanical);
- Heating oil and diesel fuel utilizing Ct. Fuel Consortium and DAS (East River Energy 12PSX0028);
- Custodial and maintenance supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (Grainger 10PSX0204, Dumouchel, and Benham);
- Instructional and office supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (School Specialty 12PSX0108AF, W.B. Mason 12PSX0108, Staples 12PSX0108AG, Kurtz Bros. Inc. 12PSX0108);
- Computer supplies utilizing PEPPM consortium, CREC Consortium and DAS (CDWG 12PSX0308, RnB Enterprises 10PSX0104AJ, Connecticut Business Systems 10PSX0104AF, Dell Computer 99ITZ0022MA)."
- Professional Services (W.J. Electric, J.P. Maguire Disaster Recovery Industrial Health and Safety / Industrial Consulting, - preferred vendors providing ongoing maintenance and professional services).

Mr. Stanek asked which of the five reasons given in the policy applied to item 1. Mr. Belden said the DAS numbers were included. Mr. Stanek said he was being cautious. He suggested in the future, each item should be a separate motion and the reason for the motion is articulated.

**AMENDED MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Magri) Per Board policy #3320, the Board of Education waives formal bidding for the following goods or services in excess of $25,000 for the 2015-16 fiscal year per the reasons provided in the policy:

- Third party proprietary HVAC maintenance and support services utilizing DAS (Siemens 12PSX0055, Johnson Controls 12PSX0153, Andover Systems, Environmental Services Corporation 12PSX0153, A&B Mechanical);
- Heating oil and diesel fuel utilizing Ct. Fuel Consortium and DAS (East River Energy 12PSX0028);
- Custodial and maintenance supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (Grainger 10PSX0204, Dumouchel, and Benham);
- Instructional and office supplies utilizing CREC consortium and DAS (School Specialty 12PSX0108AF, W.B. Mason 12PSX0108, Staples 12PSX0108AG, Kurtz Bros. Inc. 12PSX0108);
- Computer supplies utilizing PEPPM consortium, CREC Consortium and DAS (CDWG 12PSX0308, RnB Enterprises 10PSX0104AJ, Connecticut Business Systems 10PSX0104AF, Dell Computer 99ITZ0022MA)."
- Professional Services (W.J. Electric, J.P. Maguire Disaster Recovery Industrial Health and Safety / Industrial Consulting, - preferred vendors providing ongoing maintenance and professional services).

SO VOTED

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

*I. Teacher Employment Matter

**MOTION:** (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Magri) move that the board enter Executive Session to discuss a teacher employment matter. Only those invited by the Board may be present in the Executive Session. The Board invites Christine Syriac into the Executive Session:

SO VOTED
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

*J. Salary Re-Opener for the 2015-2016 School Year

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Magri) move that the board enter Executive Session to discuss and take action on the salary of the Board Certified Behavior Analyst for the 2015-16 contract year. Only those invited by the Board may be present in the Executive Session. The Board invites the following individuals into the Executive Session: Mrs. Christine Syriac

*It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session from which the public will be excluded

Into Executive Session: 8:53 pm
Out of Executive Session: 9:35 pm

MOTION: (Mr. Putorti/sec., Mr. Stanek) to provide the Board Certified Behavior Analyst with a 2.5% increase for the 2015-16 school year and a 2.5% increase for the 2016-17 school year

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

OPPOSED: Ms. Harmeling

Ms. Harmeling asked that it be put on record that she is in support of a 2.99% increase for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Ms. Sobieski-McAndrew, Mr. Strumello, Mr. Stanek

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk