I. CALL TO ORDER
A. Pledge of Allegiance
   Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:34 pm
II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS
   A. Recognitions
      1. Congratulations to the staff and students who participated in the Pumpkin Festival and the Seymour Pink Walk/Run. We are proud of the ongoing efforts of our staff and student to find ways to give back to the community
   B. Correspondence
      1. Letter dated September 9, 2015 to David Willadsen, HS Student Council Advisor from Christine Syriac on behalf of the Board of Education inviting the Student Council to a Special Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, November 4, 2015
      2. Letter dated September 10, 2015 to Seymour Board of Selectman from Christine Syriac on behalf of the Board of Education asking for the appropriate legislative body of the Town of Seymour to review the Voluntary Corrective Action Report from the Office of Civil Rights
      3. Email dated September 16, 2015 to Mr. James Freund, Mrs. Christine Syriac, and Mr. Joshua Swetts from Ms. Colleen Maguire thanking them for the opportunity for her son, Gavin to participate in the performing arts program at Seymour High School

III. PUBLIC COMMENT
   Ms. Elaine Bonaventura, 17 Rolling Hills Drive, Oxford – thanked the Facilities Committee for recommending the naming of the middle school auditorium in honor of Paul C. Porter. She also thanked the Board of Education for all that they do.
   Ms. Sabina DiCostanzo, 83 Brookfield Road, Seymour – attending tonight to get a decision on the moving of a bus stop near her house.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Approval of Minutes
      1. Regular BOE Minutes – September 8, 2015
   B. Finance Committee Meeting – October 5, 2015
         To approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to accept the September 30, 2015 Financial Management Summary as presented
   C. District School Physician
      To approve the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to appoint Dr. Douglas Curtiss and his designated associates as the school physician(s) for the Seymour Public Schools for the three year period beginning with 2015-16 at an annual rate of $12,000 per year
   D. Staff Hiring – Non Certified
      1. Angelucci, Stephen
         • Part time Custodian
         • Seymour High School
         • Replacing Michael Musial
      2. Botelho, Laura
         • Monitor Paraprofessional
         • Chatfield-LoPresti School
         • Replacing Nicole Kapryzski
      3. Dilisio, Kimberly
         • Monitor Paraprofessional
         • Chatfield-LoPresti School
         • Replacing Nicole Kapryzski
E. Staff Appointment - Volunteers
   1. Sherman, Jonathan
      • Volunteer Technician
      • IT Department
      • Central Office
   2. Pisano, James
      • Volunteer Assistant Coach
      • Boys Soccer
      • Seymour Middle School

F. To accept the donation from the Seymour Lions Club to the Seymour Schools of playground equipment (sidewalk chalk, hula hoops, baseball bat/ball, jump ropes, hopper, tennis rackets/balls, footballs, volleyballs, basketballs, soccer balls, and kick balls)

G. Acknowledge the receipt of homeschooling notifications and render no opinion as to the appropriateness of the planned program
   1. Samantha Kowal
      Ms. Christine Kowal has informed the Board of education of her intent to home school her child, Samantha Kowal, for the 2015-2016 school year
   2. Mei-Li Phung and Jen-Ji Phung
      Ms. Jeanne Phung has informed the Board of education of her intent to home school her children, Mei-Li Phung and Jen-Ji Phung, for the 2015-2016 school year

H. Appoint Cassandra Quintiliano as the alternate Board of Education Student Representative for the 2015-16 school year
   Mr. Fred Stanek asked to remove item IV H – Appointment of Cassandra Quintiliano
   Mr. Ed Strumello asked to remove item IV A – September 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting minutes
   Mr. Hatfield asked if the Board needed to designate a school for the donation. Mr. Putorti said the Superintendent makes that determination.
   MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Stanek) move to approve the consent agenda with items IV H and IV A removed

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
   A. IV H Appointment of Cassandra Quintiliano as Student Representative
      Mr. Stanek said he would like to hear a little from Cassandra Quintiliano regarding her interest in being the Board of Education Student Representative. Miss Quintiliano explained how she expressed interest in being the student representative and told the Board why she felt she was a good choice and let them know all the activities and clubs she is currently involved in. Members of the Board welcomed Cassie.
      MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Ms. Magri) to appoint Cassandra Quintiliano as the alternate Board of Education Student Representative for the 2015-16 school year

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

B. IV A September 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting minutes – Mr. Strumello asked that the September 8, 2015 minutes be changed; noting on page 6 the NEASC reception should be in 2016, not 2015.
      MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting with the correction as noted

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

VI. REPORTS
   A. Chairman’s Report
      a. Chairman’s Report
         None
b. Board Member Comments

Mr. Hatfield reported he got a brochure from CABE regarding the Delegate Assembly and said he would like to have someone attend since we always want to have our voices heard. He also asked if we could hear about the new mandates regarding concussions. He would like to know how it affects us. He also wondered if we are putting our athletes at a disadvantage by not allowing play on holidays. He requested an update on our enrollment numbers. He asked if anyone was interested in attending the CABE Law Summary.

B. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Syriac reported that Mr. Kearns has found ten students who were attending Seymour Schools but were not residents of Seymour. Mr. DiStasi was also very helpful in this. Mrs. Syriac reported that 2265 students including outplaced students are currently enrolled. 2203 students are in district. The current enrollment for kindergarten is the smallest that can be recalled with a total of 113 students enrolled in kindergarten. Grade 2 is currently the largest elementary class. Mrs. Syriac said she will be paying close attention to enrollment during the budget process. She feels a projection study needs to be done. She is investigating New England School Development Council as a possible solution to getting an enrollment projection study done. If she joins their organization, a projection study will be done for free but she wants to make sure they are a good choice for this. She will get back to the Board on this. Mrs. Syriac said she is seeing an increased push from magnet schools, charter schools, VoAg schools and VoTech schools to come into the middle school and talk about their schools. This could be a presentation or a mailing to all students. By state statute we must provide access. She is working with Mrs. Hamad on this. She reported that First Selectman Miller has requested a zero percent increase from all town departments for the upcoming budget. With the retirement of Dennis Rozem; he is also exploring a joint facilities model with the Board of Education. Mr. Strumello said he was glad they were investigating New England School Development Council as his past experience in Ansonia was not good. Ms. Magri suggested we reach out to the Valley Foundation saying they have done a good job and may be helpful. Mr. Stanek asked if the joint facilities model was facilities management and buildings or other areas as well. Mrs. Syriac said it was for facilities management.

C. Student Representatives Report – Daniel Robinson, Cassandra Quintilian

Mr. Robinson reported on how the varsity sports are doing. He said there would be a field ceremony at the Soccer game on October 13 and a Grand Turf Opening at the Football game on October 16. He reported many students are in the process of applying for college and they had picture day. He reported on the plans for Homecoming Week. He reported about the many students who participated in the blood drive, the Pumpkin Festival, and the Seymour Pink Walk/Run. He reported that the Debate team is doing very well. Mr. Stanek also asked about the starting time for the field ceremony at the soccer game. Ms. Yusko said the game starts at 6:00 and the ceremony would be at half time, around 6:45.

D. Turf Committee Report – Jay Hatfield

Mr. Hatfield reported that the Turf Committee met last Wednesday. The turf is installed. He said the visitors’ bleachers needed fencing and the Board of Education should pay for it. He also talked about additional handicapped parking. Mr. Natzel will get pricing on the fencing. The discus was moved to Gesek field and the Board of Education should absorb the cost of the post and netting. Mr. Putorti asked if the project was on schedule. Mr. Hatfield said as far as we know. Mr. Putorti questioned why the Board of Education has to pay for the fencing. Mr. Hatfield said it was a permanent structure. Mr. Putorti said this was not our project. The Board will have to vote on this. We do not have the money for this. Ms. Magri asked why the fencing is a problem now. The visitor bleachers were there before this project was started. Mrs. Syriac said that they needed to get an occupancy permit before the field can be used. Ms. Magri also asked about the painting of the handicapped parking and Mr. Hatfield said it was to make sure we had enough spots. Ms. Magri said this was based on square footage. Mr. Belden said they were looking into this since it is also part of the VCAP. Ms. Magri asked if we replaced the fencing that was removed and why would the committee now want all new fencing. Mr. Hatfield said he really did not know but they were getting prices. Mr. Stanek asked if the turf committee has any contingency fund. Mr. Hatfield said he was
unsure of the amount but they would need to wait for the end of the project. Mr. Stanek asked if an accounting would be forthcoming. He also asked who paid for the temporary bleachers for graduation. Mr. Belden confirmed that the Board of Education paid for them. Mrs. Syriac said we did invoice the Town but have not heard from them. Mr. Stanek pointed out that if the bleachers were left in tack for graduation we could have saved $6000. Mr. Belden said moving the discus was not in the original plan. Mr. Hatfield said he believed it could not have stayed where it was due to space. He asked Mr. Belden if he knew the cost of the netting and Mr. Belden said he did not. Ms. Magri said it was moved because the coach wanted it moved. Mr. Freund asked if we had to buy the goal post pads for the game. The cost is $6000. He said the Turf Committee informed them that they needed to be purchased. Mr. Putorti asked if the track had been installed and Mr. Hatfield responded yes. Mr. Strumello reminded the Board that the dollars were allocated for the football and soccer fields. We should not be throwing arrows; we have to be careful. This project is for the Town of Seymour and arguing amongst us is not the solution. He explained how the committee saved money by putting an "S" on the field instead of a pawprint which was more expensive, and how they went with a black track when they really wanted a blue track. These are examples of where we had to compromise. Mr. Hatfield said the committee did not take any decisions lightly and said this will benefit all the citizens of Seymour. He said he felt it was important that Central Office be represented on these projects. Mrs. Syriac said they had representation on the turf committee but Central Office is unable to vote. A board member would be able to vote.

E. Committee Reports

1. Facilities Committee Meeting – September 21, 2015
a. Naming of Seymour Middle School Auditorium
Mr. Putorti said that he was generally not in favor of naming structures but after hearing the presentation at a previous BOE meeting and reading what was submitted for Mr. Porter, he changed his mind.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the recommendation of the Facilities Committee to name the auditorium at Seymour Middle School in honor of former principal, Paul C. Porter.

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to amend the motion

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve the recommendation of the Facilities Committee to name the auditorium at Seymour Middle School in honor of former principal, Paul C. Porter who attained prominence locally in the field of education and made outstanding contributions to the educational well-being of students

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

There was a discussion with regard to the plaque wording and Mr. Stanek suggested a ceremony similar to the Kenneth Ewaskie and Vincentena Kobasa ceremony at CLS should be planned.

2. Transportation Committee Meeting – September 21, 2015
a. Possible Additional Bus Stop – Brookfield Subdivision
Mr. Belden explained the Transportation Committee met on September 21. A parent had requested a bus stop change. The request was denied by Central Office and the parents were now appealing to the Board of Education. Ms. Harmeling came to Central Office to review the information on the bus stop. Since she was unable to attend this meeting; Mr. Putorti read a letter from Ms. Harmeling with her opinion. She felt moving the bus stop for the parent was not necessary but felt an additional stop should be added in the development. Mr. Putorti asked the parents to explain their concerns to the Board which they did. There was ongoing discussion among the Board members.
Ms. Magri suggested the Board act on the parent’s request and the additional stop can be decided by Mr. Belden. Mr. Putorti asked for a motion to change the bus stop per the parents' request. He asked again, hearing no motion Mr. Putorti said the bus stop will stay as it is. The parents asked what other options they had and Mr. Belden said they could petition the State Board of Education.

**b 2015-16 Contractual Requirements, All Star Transportation**

Mr. Belden explained that we have been given information on insurance, drivers, and buses. We need to accept their data as part of our contract. Mr. Strumello said that he felt we were in good shape with our buses. He asked about the external cameras on the buses. Mr. Belden said there was only one bus that qualified to have an external camera on it. The company installs the cameras for free and they make their money from the infractions. The company decided not to move forward. The town attorney reviewed the camera contract.

**MOTION:** (Ms. Gesek/sec., Ms. Magri) to accept the recommendation of the Transportation Committee to approve the 2015-16 contractual requirements from All Star Transportation as presented.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

### VII. INFORMATION

**A. School Activities and Recognitions**

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

**B. Staff Resignations – Appendix E**

1. **Swetts, Joshua**
   - Drama Club Advisor
   - Seymour High School

**C. Staff Appointments – Appendix E**

1. **McCasland, John**
   - Link Crew Advisor (Split Position)
   - Seymour High School

2. **Scozzafava, Erin**
   - Link Crew Advisor (Split Position)
   - Seymour High School

3. **Swetts, Joshua**
   - Performing Arts Advisor
   - Seymour High School

### VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

**A. Voluntary Corrective Action Plan – Rick Belden**

1. Update in regard to the Office of Civil Rights 2011 Review of Seymour High School

Mr. Putorti said giving this to the town Permanent Building Committee is a win-win situation. They are happy that we gave this to them and they are all over it. Many of the committee members were on the original building committee. The state may be able to reimburse us for the problems. Mr. Belden said Mrs. Syriac and he met with Dr. Adrian Wood and he was very helpful guiding us through the document. He suggested we be more descriptive when a problem has been resolved. Many items have been referred to the Permanent Building Committee and they are very well versed. Dr. Wood extended the deadline and it is now October 16. The Permanent Building Committee has scheduled their next meeting at the high school on October 15.
B. Seymour High School Student Graduating in Three Years – Class Rank Concern

Mrs. Syriac explained that we have a student who has made the request to graduate in three years, he is qualified and will graduate with the Class of 2016. The current procedure for ranking students is the student must have at least six semesters in Seymour High School. The rank is based off of six semesters. He is now a senior and he is graduating this year but he has not met the six semester requirement. Mr. Stanek said he should be ranked. Mr. Strumello said it used to be a student had to be in high school for four years but things are changing. Ms. Magri said she felt the high school should amend their procedure to rank this child and any other child in the future who may graduate early. Mr. Freund said the issue is the students who are already ranked who may be bumped. Mrs. Syriac explained the initial ranking is for college applications. The second ranking will include current coursework. Mr. Freund said he knows some schools will award two students the same ranking. Dan Robinson shared that he felt the data points are not the same as many current seniors have 21 credits and this student would currently have around 16. He also stated that some students have already shared their rank on college applications and would they now need to amend that application?

MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Putorti) to direct the Superintendent to have the high school rank the student with the senior class.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

Ms. Magri said when the graduation requirements change again; maybe we should take a second look at this.

C. Awards – Jay Hatfield

1. Board member Jay Hatfield would like to discuss adding additional awards from the Board of Education

Mr. Hatfield said he would like to go through the Awards Committee to add an additional award for paraprofessionals. He said it would be nice to honor a para educator. Mr. Stanek explained the Awards Advisory Committee is an advisory committee comprised of citizens. Discussion of additional awards should go to a Board of Education Committee for discussion. Mr. Hatfield said he thought we should establish the award with the possibility of going to the state level. Mrs. Syriac explained that the administrators review state award criteria and determine if someone should be nominated from our district.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to table this item until the December 7 meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

D. BOE Retreat

Mr. Putorti said he has only received two emails regarding the BOE retreat and reminded others to email their suggestions regarding the retreat to him

IX. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Out of State Field Trips

1. Seymour Middle School, Grade 8 – Washington, DC

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the request of Mr. Harvey Catlin to attend an out of state field trip with the 8th grade class to Washington, DC on May 4 through May 6, 2016

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

2. Seymour Middle School Choir – New York City, NY

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the request of Mr. Dobas to attend an out of state field trip with the Seymour Middle School choir to Radio City Music Hall in New York City on December 5, 2015
Mrs. Syriac said the motion needed to be changed to Glee Club.

**MOTION:** (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Stanek) to amend the motion

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the request of Mr. Dobas to attend an out of state field trip with the Seymour Middle School Glee Club to Radio City Music Hall in New York City on December 5, 2015

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

**B. Addition of one Instructional Paraprofessional**

Mrs. Syriac requested permission from the Board to hire an additional instructional paraprofessional at Chatfield-LoPresti School. This is an IEP requirement. This position will be funded by using some of the funds set aside for a secretary in Central Office.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Magri) to approve the request of the Superintendent of Schools to add an additional instructional paraprofessional at Chatfield-LoPresti School

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

**C. High School Athletic Handbook Revisions**

Mr. Strumello was confused by the Friday requirements. Ms. Yusko explained this was done out of concern for the safety of our athletes. Mrs. Syriac said this has been a long standing procedure Mr. Hatfield did not understand why coaches would accept this. Mr. Freund said no student is allowed to do a weekend activity if they are absent on Friday. Ms. Yusko said this was the first time all the coaches were together. They were cohesive and agreed with this. This is the first two handbook amendments that we have presented to the board. Coaches wanted students in school on Friday.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the revisions to the 2015-16 Athletic Handbook as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Gesek, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

**OPPOSED:** Mr. Hatfield

**D. Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Stanek/sec., Ms. Gesek) to approve a resolution stating:

**SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE CLASS OF 2015 INDUCTEES AND AWARD FOR SPECIAL RECOGNITION RECIPIENT OF THE SEYMOUR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

WHEREAS, The Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame has been established to recognize outstanding athletes and coaches who have graduated from Seymour High School or coached Seymour High School athletes; and

WHEREAS, The Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame is inducting its Class of 2015 members and bestowing an Award for Special Recognition on November 14, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Seymour Board of Education is proud to recognize the athletic accomplishments of the Class of 2015 inductees to The Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame and the recipient of the Award for Special Recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Members of the Seymour Board of Education wish to join in recognizing and honoring the Class of 2015 inductees to The Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame and the recipient of the Award for Special Recognition.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Members of the Seymour Board of Education hereby offer our sincerest congratulations and extend our very best wishes on this memorable occasion to the Class of 2015 inductees of The Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame, to wit:

Bill Davis Retired 2002 Softball Coach
John Kitik 1954 Football
Ron Lineweber 1956 Baseball
Marty Blanko 1957 Football, Basketball & Baseball
Tina Draglin 1980 Basketball & Softball
Shelby Slie 2004 Softball

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Members of the Seymour Board of Education hereby further offer our sincerest congratulations and extend our very best wishes on this memorable occasion to John Commune, recipient of the Seymour High School Sports Hall of Fame Award for Special Recognition.

Dated at Seymour, Connecticut and adopted by the Seymour Board of Education on this 5th day of October, 2015.

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION
Yashu Putorti, Chairman
Frederick D. Stanek, Vice-Chairman
Jay Hatfield, Secretary
Saundra Gesek
Kristen Harmeling
Theodora Klarides
Jennifer Magri
Allison Sobieski
Edward Strumello

SO VOTED
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

Mr. Stanek said he has presented this resolution for the last two years and asked if anyone else would like to attend the banquet and present the resolution this year.

E. Early Retirement Incentive – Certified Staff
MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Stanek) to table this item to the November 4, 2015 Board of Education meeting

SO VOTED
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

X. PUBLIC COMMENT
None

XI. ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: (Ms. Magri/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED
AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Klarides, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk