Seymour Board of Education
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
August 20, 2020
Zoom
7:00 pm

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Kristen Bruno
Christopher Champagne
James Garofolo (7:19 pm)
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Beth Nesteriak

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
Sherry Holmes, Business Manager
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Rob Dyer, System Technology Coordinator
Rebecca Bennett

I. CALL TO ORDER
A. Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:03 p.m.

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION
A. New Positions
   1. Permanent Building Substitutes
      Job Description, Salary Information, Comparisons
      Ms. Harmeling stated that she would vote yes because she believes in the position but
      feels we should not be using CARES money to fund the position. She also does not agree
      with the salary and feels it is too low to attract candidates. Mr. Champagne asked what a
      regular long-term substitute would make and Mr. Wilson explained a long-term sub would
      go on Step 1 of the teachers’ contract after 40 days. Ms. Bruno pointed out that the
      permanent building substitutes would receive benefits. Ms. Holmes said the permanent
      building substitutes’ salary and benefits rate would be in accordance with the teachers’
      contract.
      MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to approve the recommendation of the
      Superintendent to add the position of Permanent Building Substitute, one for each school,
      for Bungay School, Chatfield-LoPresti School, Seymour Middle School and Seymour High
      School
      SO VOTED
      AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr.
      Stanek, Mr. Strumello
      MOTION PASSES: 7-0
2. **Health Aides**

   **Job Description, Salary Information**

Ms. Bruno asked if health aides have been in the budget in the past. Ms. Holmes said they have not. Ms. Harmeling said she remembers that the nurses had a clerical paraprofessional in the office in the past but they did not have health experience. This job requires more experience in the health field. Mr. Stanek said he would like to hear from Ms. Bennett. Ms. Bennett said she was thankful for these positions. They will help triage the students who visit the nurse’s office. Teachers will call before sending any student to the nurse’s office. Each nurses’ office will be equipped with an isolation unit and this unite must be separate from the nurses office. Trailers have been ordered. She explained the health aides must have medical experience and be able to recognize respiratory distress. They will be with any student who is suspected of having COVID-19 until their parents can come and pick them up. They will have all the necessary PPE to keep them safe. Ms. Harmeling asked if we have the PPE and about the trailer. She said the trailers would be ordered in the next couple of days. Health aides will triage, answer phones, treat routine injuries and administer medication. They will be busy; Ms. Bennett said she was seeing 60-80 students a day before the pandemic. Mr. Garofolo asked if $20/hour is an appropriate salary for a position like this. Ms. Bennett has done her research and has found this is an adequate salary for someone with good experience. She feels we can get good help at this rate. Ms. Holmes agreed.

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Stanek) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to add the position of health aide for Bungay School, Chatfield-LoPresti School, Seymour Middle School, and Seymour High School

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

**ABSTAIN:** Mr. Garofolo

**MOTION PASSES:** 7-0-1

### III. ADJOURNMENT

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

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

**MOTION PASSES:** 8-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauery
Board Clerk

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Youtube Link:
https://youtu.be/_Fz53BH642g