I. CALL TO ORDER
A. Pledge of Allegiance
   Mr. Champagne called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:39 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS
A. Recognitions
   1. Moment of Silence – Former BOE Member Theodora Klarides
      A moment of silence was observed for Mrs. Klarides and Mr. Hatfield spoke very fondly of her and her time spent on the Board of Education.

III. 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.
Armen Deljanin, 85 Grand Street – Was there to speak about academic eligibility in honor of his brother who is not academically inclined. He said sports help to motivate his brother. He said taking sports away hurts him. He said he understands his brother needs to be a great athlete and a great student. He spoke of COVID and how it was tough, and grades suffered. We need to allow students to be better by using sports as a motivator.
Fred Stanek, 22 N. Benham Road – Mr. Stanek spoke about Mrs. Klarides who he said was a very generous person. She and her husband are responsible for the two banners that hang in the high school gym for mock trial. He also voiced his support for the hiring of Harvey Catlin as the SMS Debate Team advisor. He was a co-founder of the program, has been involved for many years and finds great joy in doing it. He deserves to continue.

Paul Sponheimer, 65 Falcon Drive – Asked the Board if the standards are the same for non-athletic extra-curricular activities. The Board confirmed this was the case.

IV. REPORTS
A. Committee Meeting Minutes
   1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2022
      Ms. Harmeling encouraged the Board to review the paperwork from the meeting as it contains information regarding policies and procedures. She also said she would be adding to the agenda a motion regarding a transfer.
   2. Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2022
      Ms. Nesteriak said the committee reviewed the RFP and did an overview of the five-year capital budget that is being worked on with Tim Connors.

V. CONSENT AGENDA
A. Approval of Minutes
   1. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2022
B. Financial Management Reports – August 1, 2022
C. Intra District Transfers Request 2022-23 School Year
   MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to approve the consent agenda of August 1, 2022 as presented.
   Mr. Strumello asked that item C be removed from the consent agenda
   Ms. Harmeling and Ms. Nesteriak rescinded their motion
   MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to approve the consent agenda of August 1, 2022 with item C 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

VI. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
C. Intra District Transfers Request 2022-23 School Year
   Mr. Strumello expressed a concern that one of the requests and the reason for the transfer did not fit with the policy. He was worried that we would be going down a slippery slope. The Board looked at previous requests and it looked like the same type of request has been approved in the past. Dr. Compton explained that most of these requests are for reasons related to real estate or daycare issues. We occasionally get ones for other reasons. We must be cognizant of the fact that CLS is filling up quickly and we always research class size before recommending approval of an intra district transfer to the Board.
   MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to deny the request of parent #1
   SO VOTED
   AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak, Mr. Strumello
   OPPOSED: Mr. Behuniak, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Levey
   MOTION FAILS: 3-6
MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to recess for a five-minute break

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
RECESS BEGINS: 8:07 pm
RECESS ENDS: 8:11

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Behuniak) to approve the intra district transfer request of parent #2

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

MOTION: (Mr. Behuniak/sec., Ms. Bruno) to approve the intra district transfer request of parent #1

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

VII. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION
A. Position Change for 2022-2023 School Year Only
Reduce a full time Seymour High School social worker to a .6 social worker for the 2022-2023 school year only.
    a. Corbett, Emily

Mr. Freund said this has been discussed for several months and it is due to a family consideration. He said this is for three days a week and the time would be covered by the team. He would recommend approval. The Board voiced their concern with the caseloads and recommended replacing with a .4 social worker. Dr. Compton said this may be difficult to fill but we can always contract out. Ms. Bruno was concerned that this is not a year to cut.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Behuniak) to approve the request of Ms. Emily Corbett to reduce the Seymour High School social worker position to a .6 social worker position for the 2022-2023 school year only as presented by the principal and the Superintendent

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES 8-0

B. New Position for 2022-2023 School Year Only
To create a part time secretarial position at Seymour High School for the 2022-2023 school year only

Ms. Harmeling said she feels for the need but can’t support as we approved a budget that did not include this position. Mr. Freund pointed out that he lost a full-time secretary and is asking to replace with a part time secretary. Ms. Harmeling said she would rather see us hold onto the extra money. Dr. Compton said she has met with Mr. Bucci and this position can be covered financially.
MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to approve the request of Mr. Freund to create a part time secretarial position at Seymour High School for the 2022-2023 school year only

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Ms. Harmeling

MOTION PASSES: 8-1

C. Athletic Training, 2022-2023

ProActive Sports Medicine, Seymour High School, 2022-2023 school year only

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to approve the hiring of ProActive Sports Medicine as our athletic training provider for Seymour High School for 2022-2023

AMENDED MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Strumello) to approve the hiring of ProActive Sports Medicine as our athletic training provider for Seymour High School for 2022-2023 at no more than $60 per hour

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

D. Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities

Mr. Strumello asked the principal and the assistant athletic director to speak to their proposal. Mr. Freund and Ms. Federowicz recommend that we not lower the standard but instead give students the opportunity to participate in tutoring to bring up their grade. They would participate on the team and in practice but would not participate in contests until their grades have been raised. Mr. Champagne asked who would monitor the academic probation. Mr. Freund said they would have to work with tutors who would report to the coaches. Students would need to be in school, be on time, and be in attendance with the tutor. Attendance in practice would be required. Ms. Bruno asked if meeting with a counselor can be done in place of attendance with the tutor as needed. Dr. Compton said they should be involved with both the tutor and the counselor. Ms. Harmeling said she was excited about this probationary status.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Bruno) to direct the high school administration to continue down the path of establishing a probationary period for academic eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities.

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Champagne

ABSTAIN Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Nesteriak

MOTION PASSES: 6-1-2

The Board asked for a status of how this is going in the future.

E. Memorandum of Understanding – School Resource Officer

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Behuniak) to table this item and invite the chief of police to the next meeting

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Behuniak, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Strumello

OPPOSED: Ms. Bruno, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Levey, Ms. Nesteriak

RECUSE: Ms. Levey, Mr. Garofolo

MOTION FAILS: 3-4-2
Dr. Compton explained this agreement was to make sure we had representation in the hiring process of the school resource officer. There were issues due to their union. The interview has taken place and we had our administration involved. There was some confusion on the attached agreement which was one page and the agreement that was shared with the Board through email which was two pages. Dr. Compton apologized for the mistake noting the agreement they received on July 15 is the correct one.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to approve the proposed Memorandum of Understanding for the School Resource Officer at Seymour High School as sent by email on July 15

SO VOTED

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

OPPOSED: Mr. Behuniak, Mr. Hatfield

RECUSE: Ms. Levey

MOTION PASSES: 6-2-1

F. Shared Services Agreement

Dr. Compton said they can table this motion if they want to. This is the shared services agreement for all three shared employees, Rob Dyer, Tim Connors, and Chris Pelosi. This will be the official agreement and from a legal standpoint is the best. Mr. Connors’ share stays the same, Mr. Dyer’s share goes down 30%, and Mr. Pelosi will be 50%. All three will now be 50% Town and 50% Board of Education. In the end the savings will be $300 to the Board. Dr. Compton said all three of these employees do a tremendous job. Mr. Behuniak worried that the Board of Education will be deprioritized. Mr. Champagne reminded the Board that anyone can make a change prior to 1/31. Dr. Compton said this is a good team for the Board of Education.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Behuniak) to accept the proposed Shared Services Agreement for Mr. Tim Connors, Mr. Rob Dyer, and Mr. Chris Pelosi as presented

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

G. Debate Club Coach – Seymour Middle School

Dr. Compton assured the Board that the union contract was followed, and the posting was proper. Dr. Compton has done her due diligence. Mr. Catlin applied, and no other applicants applied. Mr. Catlin is retired but is a certified teacher. After some discussion the Board asked that this item be moved to Information on this agenda.

VIII. INFORMATION

A. Staff Hiring

1. Hiring, Certified
   a. Zargos, Amber
      • Special Education Teacher
      • Seymour High School
      • Replacing Joanna Leonhardt
   b. Recklet, Christopher
      • Social Studies Teacher
      • Seymour Middle School
      • Replacing Mike Oberdick
2. Hiring, Non-Certified
   a. LaLLave, Dawn
      • Instructional Paraeducator
      • Seymour Middle School
      • Replacing Shasalee Sanfleur

3. Hiring, Appendix D
   a. Catlin, Harvey (retired)
      • Debate Club Coach
      • Seymour Middle School
      • Continuing after retirement

4. Staff Transfers, Certified
   a. Lebetkin, Amy
      • School Counselor
      • Seymour High School
      • Replacing Bianca Huckabey
   b. Oberdick, Michael
      • Technology Integration Instructor
      • Seymour Middle School
      • Replacing Brian Cleveland
   c. Sponheimer, Deirdre
      • Language Arts Teacher
      • Seymour High School
      • Replacing Kathleen Papa-Zinko

5. Staff Transfers, Non-Certified
   a. Oddo, Lindsay
      • Instructional Paraeducator
      • Bungay School
      • Replacing Lindsay Oddo (previous position not filled)
   b. Vescovi, Gayle
      • Instructional Paraeducator
      • Seymour Middle School
      • Replacing Diana Diaz-Ballaro

B. Resignations
1. Certified Staff
   a. Kochan, Ashley
      • Elementary Teacher
      • Bungay School
      • Effective July 13, 2022

2. Non-Certified Staff
   a. Stugard, Jillian
      • Literacy Numeracy Tutor
      • Chatfield-LoPresti School
      • Effective July 13, 2022

3. Appendix D
   a. Blade, Nick
      • Head Coach, Boys/Girls Swimming
      • Seymour High School
      • Effective July 20, 2022
IX. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS/SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

A. Board of Education Comments
1. Chairman’s Comments
   Mr. Champagne reminded the Board of the CABE Leadership Institute on August 18. Mr. Champagne and Mr. Strumello are currently enrolled to attend. If anyone would like to attend, please contact Lee-Ann Dauerty to register. This leadership institute will be held at Water’s Edge. Mr. Champagne also reminded the Board members that the CABE conference will be held in November 2022.
2. Board Member Comments
   Mr. Behuniak asked why there is no second public comment on the Board of Education agendas. Mr. Champagne said this was done some time ago, he said we can add it if the Board wishes. Mr. Strumello said he was at the high school and noticed there doesn’t seem to be a lot of action on the BOE wing and he is hoping they will have a lot done before the students return. Mr. Stanek said it is delayed because we are having a lot of difficulty finding people who want to work. Mr. Connors is seeking out people to do the job. Mr. Stanek confirmed the work will not be done by the start of school. Ms. Harmeling said she feels there is not enough information on the agenda. She said she forgot to add to the agenda and asked if she could do it now. Mr. Champagne agreed.
   **MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to add to the agenda
   **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
   **MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to approve a transfer request from the town fund balance to the Board of Education in the amount of $629,000, negating the previous transfer request approved by this Board in June.
   **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

B. Superintendent Report
   Dr. Compton said there are two more weeks for ESY. Allison Brett has done a good job, the literacy/math programs have gone well. The administrative retreat will be on August 16 and the location has not yet been nailed down. The new teachers’ orientation will be on August 25 and 26. We will be scheduling a policy committee. Convocation will be on August 29 and opening day for students is August 31, 2022.

X. Executive Session
   *A. Superintendent’s Performance Evaluation
   *It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session from which the public will be excluded
MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) move that the Board enter executive Session for discussion of the employment, performance and evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools. Further move that Dr. Susan Compton be invited to participate in the executive session

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

Into Executive Session: 9:44 pm
Into Regular Session: 10:40 pm

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

Meeting Adjourned: 10:41 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerky
Board Clerk

YouTube Link:
https://youtu.be/K4cxtqJlwGE