

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Seymour Middle School
November 3, 2021
7:30 pm

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 11/18/21
TIME: 3:45pm
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kristen Bruno
Christopher Champagne
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Beth Nesteriak
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello
Tyler Lang, Student Representative
Karyna Weaver, Student Representative
James Garofolo

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools
Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent
David Fiorillo, Interim Business Manager
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Kris Boyle, Director of Special Services
Derrick Martin, Technology
Cindy Brooks, Director of Nutrition
Jim Freund, Principal, SHS
Paul Lucke, Assistant Principal, SHS
Jodie Roden, Principal, SMS
Kathleen Freimuth, Assistant Principal, SMS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, BS
Lauren Reid, Assistant Principal, BS
David Olechna, Principal, CLS

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:31 p.m.

II. STUDENT REPORTS

A. HS Student Representative Report- Karyna Weaver, Tyler Lang

Miss Karyna Weaver and Mr. Tyler Lang reported that students have begun to do the morning announcements. The school celebrated Spirit days:

Monday - America

Tuesday - Tropical

Wednesday - Dress your best day

Thursday - Throwback

Friday - Color Wars

Monday - Jersey

Last Friday 10/29 the students held an outdoor pep rally during the last period of the day

New starch based powder has been purchased and will be distributed at home football games and has been found to be a safer and healthier alternative to students bringing their own. The student council is working in collaboration with the National Honor Society to sponsor a food drive benefiting the Blessed Pantry that will take place during the first two weeks of November.

The first two weeks of December, the student council and the national honor society will sponsor a food drive benefiting the Seymour Oxford Food Bank. They also reported on sports:
 Volleyball 19-0 NVL finals game tonight against Woodland
 Girls swimming 5-2 NVL finals at Kennedy High School on Saturday
 Girls cross country 8-5 states over, PJ dolphins made state opens which will be run on Friday
 Boys cross country 9-4 season over states were last Monday
 Girls soccer - 8-7-1 onto the state tournament, this was the first season the girls soccer team finished with a winning record.
 Boys soccer 7-8-2 next is the state tournament
 Football - 6-1 beat WCA on Saturday at the 75th anniversary game. This week's home game against Derby was forfeited by Derby. The next game is 11/12 at home against Oxford.

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.

Mary Sue Feige, Principal – Bungay Elementary School – Read the following statement:

Good evening, Dr. Compton and Board of Education Members-I would like to take a moment and recognize two very important BOE members: Mr. Peter Kubik and Mr. Fred Stanek. Mr. Kubik, thank you for your many years of service to Seymour and to education. We are very proud of our schools and you have had a large part to do with that! Thank you for being on every building committee in all of our schools: Seymour High School, Seymour Middle School, Chatfield-LoPresti, and a special thank you from Bungay Elementary School., our school which was built in 1954; you were an important part of Bungay's last renovation which was completed in 1996. Thank you for taking the time to get to know the staff and the students, for visiting the classrooms, and for reading to our students. You are a very special person. Thank you for being a caring Board of Education member. I can recall on one occasion-maybe two, when you asked us to grade our schools, and of course, I gave Bungay School the highest marks—possibly A+. You deserve the highest marks for all that you have done for our schools and for the students of Seymour. Your wife, Darlene and both of your wonderful children, Tiffany and Nick, who both attended Bungay School must be so proud. Thank you for always caring about education, our schools and our students. Thank you for your service to the BOE and best wishes to you...and remember once a Wildcat—always a Wildcat!

Mr. Stanek, at many BOE meetings, I love how you have always taken a moment to recognize someone special for what they have done in Seymour—you have recognized the finest teachers, administrators, staff, students and distinguished community members. Tonight is a special night for you to be honored and recognized. Thank you for all that you have done for the town of Seymour and for all that you have accomplished. Mr. Stanek, you may be the longest BOE member (32 years), but you are by far one of the BEST BOE members! I appreciate the times you have visited our schools, spoke to our students on Career Day, and shared what it is like to be an attorney. I am confident that you have inspired many of Seymour students to choose law as a career.

You have always encouraged Seymour's administrators, teachers, staff, students and the community to be their best. You have always put children first—Through your continuous support to education, you have helped to inspire a strong positive caring climate and culture for our students, staff and the community while helping to improve student learning. Your dedication and commitment to children and to the community is an inspiration to everyone. You are an amazing person who values education! Mr. Stanek, together with your wife Karen, you both have contributed so many ways to our wonderful town of Seymour. You have raised three accomplished and amazing children, Courtenay, Patrick and David. You have always been involved in our community and in educating Seymour's children, whether it is being on the wonderful *Seymour Parade committee* or participating at the festive *Seymour's Trunk or Treat*. Mr. Stanek, you are a special person, one of a kind, who always takes special

pride in the town of Seymour, *a town that we all love, a town close to our hearts*. Best of luck in whatever wonderful things your future holds for you. You deserve it!

Jim Freund, Principal- Seymour High School – Mr. DiStasi wanted to be here to present this but he is at the Volleyball championship game. Mr. DiStasi worked with the CIAC to get Mr. Kubik and Mr. Stanek lifelong passes to all games in Seymour. Mr. Freund presented one to Mr. Kubik and to Mr. Stanek.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. Proclamations – Recognition of Outstanding Service

1. Annmarie Drugonis, First Selectwoman, Town of Seymour – Presented Mr. Kubik a proclamation for his dedication to the Board of Education and to the Town of Seymour and for serving on all of the building committees saying he was dedicated to the betterment of the Seymour Schools.
2. Annmarie Drugonis, First Selectwoman, Town of Seymour – Presented Mr. Stanek with a proclamation from the Town of Seymour.
3. Representative Nicole Klarides-Ditria recognized Mr. Kubik and Mr. Stanek
4. Mr. Strumello read the following resolution:

Mr. Peter Kubik

Seymour Public Schools

Board of Education Resolution

Recognizing the Outstanding Service of

Mr. Peter Kubik

November 3, 2021

WHEREAS: The Seymour Board of Education strives towards excellence in its educational programs; and

WHEREAS: outstanding service and dedication by Board Members, past and present, are recognized; and

whereas: one of the ambitions of the District is to identify and honor distinguished Board Members and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of building and preserving the educational integrity of the Seymour Public School District, and

WHEREAS: Peter Kubik is a particularly outstanding community member from among a history of considerable Board of Education members and esteemed company; and

WHEREAS: exceptional servicing by a Board Member is extremely important to staff, students, and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Peter Kubik has been a member of the Seymour Board of Education in 2010-2012 and again from 2015 to 2021; and

WHEREAS: Peter Kubik has served on every building committee in the Town of Seymour, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS: The Seymour Public Schools Board of Education believes that all such great people should be recognized for outstanding duties and dedication;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Seymour Board of Education and the Superintendent, does hereby extend gratitude and appreciation to Peter Kubik for his exemplary service to the Seymour Board of Education and the Town of Seymour, Connecticut which honor him and thank him as a highly distinguished representative of the Board of Education and his dedication to the education of the children of Seymour.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Seymour Board of Education wishes Peter Kubik continued success in all his endeavors and expresses our hope for his continued health, happiness and prosperity. Dated at Seymour, Connecticut and adopted by the Seymour Board of Education on this 3rd day of November 2021.

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Edward Strumello, Chairman

Jay Hatfield, Vice Chairman

Christopher Champagne, Secretary

Kristen Bruno

Dr. Susan Compton,

Superintendent of Schools

Vonda Tencza,

James Garofolo
Kristen Harmeling
Beth Nesteriak
Fred Stanek

Associate Superintendent of
Schools

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Champagne) to adopt the resolution honoring Mr. Peter Kubik as presented

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAIN: Mr. Kubik

MOTION PASSES: 8-0-1

Mr. Kubik read the following statement:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of the Town of Seymour for putting their confidence in me by electing me to the Bd. I would also like to thank my fellow and past Board members, the superintendent of schools and previous superintendents, associate superintendent, the central office staff, directors of Facilities, special education, security nutrition as well as principals, assistant principals, teachers, para's, secretaries, custodian's cafeteria staff and anyone else I may have missed. After serving on all the school building committees in town I was asked to join the board of education. I thought long and hard as I wanted to insure I would be able invest the time and energy for such a demanding board. After much thought I decided to go forward. My thought was that I wanted to make a difference and help to pave the way for a successful education for all students as this would provide the opportunity after high school to pursue their dreams whether it was college, the military the trades or any other blue-collar job. I feel in the 10 years I have been on the board of education we have made much progress in providing a quality education for our students. We have lived through some unprecedented times over the last 2 years and have been challenging I believe we are headed in the right direction and hopefully back to normal in the near future. I would also like to congratulate my fellow board member and friend Fred Stanek for his election to the Board of Selectman. Fred thank you for your wisdom and contributions to the education of our students and mentoring you have provided over the years. Thank you once again for giving me the opportunity to serve on the board.

Mr. Jay Hatfield presented Mr. Kubik a glass plaque that commemorates his service to the Seymour Board of Education.

2. Mr. Strumello read the following resolution:

Mr. Fred Stanek

Seymour Public Schools

Board of Education Resolution

Recognizing the Outstanding Service of

Mr. Frederick Stanek

November 3, 2021

WHEREAS: The Seymour Board of Education strives towards excellence in its educational programs; and

WHEREAS: outstanding service and dedication by Board Members, past and present, are recognized; and

whereas: one of the ambitions of the District is to identify and honor distinguished Board Members and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of building and preserving the educational integrity of the Seymour Public School District, and

WHEREAS: Frederick Stanek is a particularly outstanding community member from among a history of considerable Board of Education members and esteemed company; and

WHEREAS: exceptional servicing by a Board Member is extremely important to staff, students, and the community as a whole; and

whereas: Frederick Stanek has been the longest serving member in history of the Seymour Board of Education, serving as both Board Chairman, Vice Chairman and Member respectively; and WHEREAS: The Seymour Public Schools Board of Education believes that all such great people should be recognized for outstanding duties and dedication;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Seymour Board of Education and the Superintendent, does hereby extend gratitude and appreciation to Frederick Stanek for his exemplary service to the Seymour Board of Education and the Town of Seymour, Connecticut which honor him and thank him as a highly distinguished representative of the Board of Education and his dedication to the education of the children of Seymour.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Seymour Board of Education wishes Frederick Stanek continued success in all his endeavors and expresses our hope for his continued health, happiness and prosperity.

Dated at Seymour, Connecticut and adopted by the Seymour Board of Education on this 3rd day of November 2021.

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Edward Strumello, Chairman

Jay Hatfield, Vice Chairman

Christopher Champagne, Secretary

Kristen Bruno

James Garofolo

Kristen Harmeling

Peter Kubik

Beth Nesteriak

Dr. Susan Compton,

Superintendent of Schools

Vonda Tencza,

Associate Superintendent of
Schools

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Champagne) to adopt the resolution honoring Mr. Fred Stanek as presented

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAIN: Mr. Stanek

MOTION PASSES: 7-0-1

Mr. Strumello also presented Mr. Stanek with a framed certificate from CABA thanking Mr. Stanek for his 33 years of service.

Mr. Stanek read the following statement:

Thank you Dr. Compton and Chairman Strumello. I greatly appreciate your kind words. I would like to first congratulate Peter Kubik for his long service on the Board of Education, the Town School Building Committees and his dedication to the children of the Seymour Public Schools. Peter has been a great colleague on the Board of Education who always does his homework, asks probing questions and always works for the best interests of the students of the Seymour Public Schools. Peter will be missed on this Board and by the community, but I know Peter will continue to be active with regard to educational issues in the town. A close friend of mine recently told me that I am going to miss being a member of the Board of Education. I am sure I will but as a newly elected member of the Board of Selectmen, I will consider myself as the 10th member of the Board of Education always advocating for the children and students of the Seymour Public Schools. Earlier this year, I recalled the words of former Seymour High School Principal Tony LoPresti when he decided to retire from Seymour High School and many people, including my wife Karen, tried to convince him not to retire. He said, "You have to know when it is your time". I knew for many reasons when I recalled his words, that it is my time. Thirty-two years on the Board of Education is a long time during which time I had the opportunity to work with five superintendents and the honor of working with dedicated Board of Education members, administrators, teachers and all the special staff members of the Seymour Public Schools who work and have worked so hard to further the education of our children. And that is what it is all

about the students of the Seymour Public Schools. There are so many people involved in the schools who I would like to recognize and thank for your assistance and support of our school district, and for your support of me as a Member of the Board of Education over the years, but I do not have the time this evening. I would like to thank my family, especially my wife Karen, for allowing me to attend the countless meetings required of a member of the Board of Education and sharing their suggestions and their criticisms of my positions and votes over the years. I know that Karen would be pleased to be here with us this evening. I already recognized Peter Kubik who I will miss sitting on this Board with. I would also like to recognize and thank Administrative Assistant Lee-Ann Dauerty who is also the Clerk of the Board. Lee-Ann performs her job in an outstanding manner, she is quiet, competent, efficient and always there for the district. She has always been there to assist me as a Board of Education Member. Thank you, Lee-Ann.

I would also like to thank my fellow Board Members, especially current Chairman of the Board, Ed Strumello. Ed and I are good friends, but we often argue passionately about educational issues. However, we never lose our perspective of what is in the best interests of the students, and our friendship continues. One person who is no longer with us who was elected to the Board of Education with me in 1989 when I was first elected is David Brumer who served as Chairman from December 1989 until his untimely passing in April of 1998. Dave was a dedicated Member of the Board of Education who had ideas which were ahead of his time. I miss him dearly. I hope I have made a small difference as a Member of the Seymour Board of Education for the children of Seymour over the years. I know that the Seymour Board of Education, with the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Susan Compton, will continue the high-quality educational programming for our students here in Seymour. Finally, I would like to read what I posted on Facebook a few days before the opening of this school year: To our Seymour Students: On this upcoming first day of school for the 2021-2022 school year, I wish to share with you what I often recited to my children in the morning as I sent them off to school: "Be good, work hard, do your best." Never doubt where your dreams might take you with hard work. Remember: "Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat!" Have a great year!

B. National Merit Scholarship Program

Students entered the National Merit Scholarship Program, a nationwide competition for recognitions and awards conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation, by taking the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test offered in October 2020 and January 2021. 34,000 high performers are now being named Commended Students based on a national Selection Index Score of 207. Congratulations to Seymour High School students Katharine Bruno and Mikayla Zedek as Commended Students in the National Merit Scholarship Program

Mr. Freund explained the process of the National Merit Scholarship Program and explained that these two students took the assessment and scored in the top 50,000. Dr. Compton said this is a very distinguished award and it should go on their resume and should help them with other scholarships. She said she was very proud of them and presented Katharine Bruno and Mikayla Zedek with a certificate from the Board of Education. Mr. Strumello also expressed his congratulations to these two students for their very great accomplishment.

C. The emergency preparedness art contest was hosted by NVHD to promote National Preparedness Month throughout the month of September and encourage students within the valley to learn more about what to do during an emergency or disaster and how to prepare themselves and their loved ones. NVHD, as they reflected on the last year and a half, realized that introducing children and teens to emergency preparedness themes (besides the drills they participate in at school) will likely have a positive impact on their mental health status during a real-world event, such as a storm, extended power outage, pandemic, etc. The hope was this art contest was a fun way for students to showcase what preparing for an emergency means to them. Congratulations to the K-5 winners of the NVHD Art Contest:

1st Place – Simao Parada, Bungay School

2nd Place – Eli Stein, Bungay School

3rd Place – Ariyanna Johnson, Bungay School

And congratulations to Emily Zhu (Grade 12) – 1st Place Winner in the High School Division

Mr. Strumello and Mrs. Feige described the NVHD Emergency Preparedness Art contest and presented each of our winners with a certificate from the Board of Education. Emily Zhu (High School Division) was unable to attend tonight's meeting so she will be honored at our next meeting.

- D. Mrs. Feige informed the Board of Education the very exciting news that our Mrs. Lauren Reid has been named a finalist in the national Assistant Principal of the Year program and will be hosting a committee on a November 19 site visit. They will meet with parents, students, teachers and staff. We wish Mrs. Reid the best of luck!

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes
1. Special BOE Meeting Minutes – September 30, 2021
 2. Regular BOE Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2021
- B. Nutrition Services Financial Report – Jul-Sep 2021
- C. Financial Management Summary – November 3, 2021
- D. Staff Hiring –Non -Certified
1. Kubik, Nicholas
 - Custodian, Night
 - Seymour High School
 - Replacing James Davis
 2. Oakley, Patricia
 - Secretary
 - Central Office
 - Replacing Alyse Royal
- E. Staff Hiring –Certified
1. Lebetkin, Amy
 - School Counselor
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Replacing Olethea Ouellette
 2. Roshkind, Julia
 - Teacher, Special Education
 - Chatfield-LoPresti School
 - Replacing Allison Brett (transfer

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

SO VOTED

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

ABSTAIN: Mr. Kubik

MOTION PASSES: 7-0-1

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

V. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. ProActive Sports Medicine, LLC
- There was a brief discussion about the dates of the agreement and it was agreed by all that there is not a need for services in July.
- MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to approve the Athletic Training Service Agreement from ProActive Sports Medicine, LLC for the service period of August 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

B. New Advisor Positions – Appendix E

1. Art Club

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Ms. Bruno) to approve the request of Administration at Seymour High School to fund an advisor position for the Art Club by using unused funds from the Web Page Advisor position

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

2. Science/Environmental Club

MOTION: (Ms. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Stanek) to approve the request of Administration at Seymour High School to fund an advisor position for the Science/Environmental Club by using unused funds from the Visions Advisor position

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

C. Business Manager

Ms. Harmeling said it was a pleasure to meet Mr. Bucci and said she is looking forward to working with him. She congratulated him and wished him the best of luck. Mr. Bucci thanked the Board for an enjoyable hiring process. He is looking forward to making a contribution to the education of the children of Seymour.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Stanek) to accept the recommendation of the Seymour Personnel Search Committee to hire Salvatore A. Bucci as the Business Manager and to offer a one year Employment Agreement

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

D. BOE Meetings 2022-2023

Mr. Hatfield asked what the difference was between Proposal #1 and Proposal #2. Ms. Harmeling explained the difference was the start time of the meetings. She asked if it was necessary for this to be approved this month saying our new members may want a say. Mr. Stanek explained that if the schedule is not approved is not approved at this meeting, the first meeting of January would not be a regular meeting; it would have to be a special meeting.

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Mr. Hatfield) to table the approval of the of the 2022-2023 schedule of Board of Education meetings to the December 6 meeting

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

E. Early Retirement Incentive Program

Dr. Compton explained that this is something that must be offered every three years as it is part of the Teachers Contract. It is not in the new contract so this will be the last one. Mr. Hatfield asked if this is the same as the ERIP offered in 2018. Dr. Compton confirmed it was. Ms. Harmeling asked if this was in line with what has been done in the past and Dr. Compton said it was and it is fair.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Champagne) to authorize an Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP) per the collective bargaining agreement for eligible Teachers and Administrators as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

VI. REPORTS

A. Committee Meeting Reports

1. Finance Committee – November 3, 2021

Mr. Harmeling thanked Mr. Fiorillo for his contribution as interim business manager. She thanked him for his work on the reports and getting the encumbrances done and for his transparency and clarity.

B. Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Finance Committee – October 4, 2021

2. Curriculum and Technology Committee – October 4, 2021

C. Special Education Enrollment Report - Dr. Kris Boyle

Dr. Boyle reported a significant increase in interventions due to the increase in the number of tutors which gets the kids more services. He feels we have a long way to go to recoup what was lost due to the pandemic. Ms. Harmeling questioned the differences between Chatfield-LoPresti and Bungay Schools. Dr. Boyle said each school is structured differently and CLS has many more students. He said the elementary principals are in constant contact and are always communicating with each other. Dr. Compton said she would request a more detailed analysis as to why they are different and it will be presented in December. Ms. Feige said the math tutors collaborate with the teachers and follow their recommendations. Mr. Olechna pointed out that there are more students than Bungay. They have hired tutors. He said we do not have larger groups, there are 5-6 students in each group. Dr. Boyle said decisions are made case by case. Classroom teachers work closely with the interventionists. Right now we are only able to address extremely low students who are in need of intervention.

D. Griffin Hospital/Allied Health Partnership Update-Mr. Fred Stanek, Mr. Paul Lucke

Mr. Lucke thanked Mr. Stanek for his service on the Board for all of these years. He said Mr. Stanek is on the Board of Griffin Hospital and was the person to introduce us to the Primary Care Medical Technician program. Ansonia implemented the program this year. The program happens during the last two semesters of the senior year. We will implement the program next year. There will be a spot for four students at \$4500 per student per year. Griffin will come to SHS to introduce the program. In order to qualify for the program the students must have all credits by the end of the second marking period. He said we have to be careful of credits and it is why we are not doing this program quickly. He confirmed that we have one student very interested in getting this certification. Mr. Lucke thanked Mr. Kubik and Mr. Stanek for their purposeful and thought provoking questions. Mr. Stanek said this is a wonderful program and will enable student to graduate with an excellent well-paying job right out of high school. Dr. Compton said Griffin is having a meeting on November 16 which she hope to attend with three or four others from Seymour. The Griffin Coordinator of this program is a graduate of Seymour High School.

E. Solar Project Update – Mr. Tim Connors (Postponed until 12/6 Meeting)

F. Nutrition Services Product Shortages – Ms. Cindy Brooks

Ms. Brooks thanked Mr. Kubik and Mr. Stanek for their years of service. Mr. Stanek is responsible for changing the name “Lunch Program” to “Nutrition Services”. Ms. Brooks said we have all seen the news about product shortages. She said her storage room and refrigerators are not full. She is very worried about food. She said it is a nightmare. She said she has been shorted every single week, chicken, milk, paper products, water, chips and the list goes on. She said she was dangerously low on disposable trays and she was able to secure cases of 500 each at \$95 each. She ordered 100 cases which totaled \$9500. She hopes this will get her through the remainder of the year. She said her staff is doing an excellent job saying they have served 38,000 meals. The staff is doing amazing even though we are shorthanded. We have to deal with menu changes on a daily basis. There is a lack of drivers and no packaging for food products. She said her department is doing the best that we can. She said the custodial staff has also been amazing stepping in to help many times. Ms. Brooks and her administrative assistant also cover when

needed. Dr. Compton said she wanted to say a special thank you to nutrition services who have done a phenomenal job serving breakfast and lunch. Ms. Brooks said they have never served so many meal.

G. School Improvement Plans

1. Chatfield Elementary School –Mr. David Olechna
2. Bungay Elementary School – Ms. Mary Sue Feige
3. Seymour Middle School – Ms. Jodie Roden
4. Seymour High School – Mr. Jim Freund

Dr. Compton explained that the plan is to come back in January with mid-year reviews. They will look at things deeply. The goal is to improve student achievement and rigor. We will concentrate on the data. Ms. Tencza said the reports are condensed and there is no growth data because of the pandemic. She said the charts are muddy. She said we will not give up on academic goals. In January there will be a complete data analysis. She emphasized that all hands are on deck for student success. We are closing the gap. Ms. Harmeling asked if we can see where we were pre-COVID. She would like to see a five year span. Ms. Nesteriak said she was surprised how low some schools are. She said thank you for sharing the data and said she would like to see a five year trend and National data also.

H. Superintendent Goals – Dr. Susan Compton

Dr. Compton shared the state forms for goal setting. She shared her goals and her 100 day entry plan. She knows it is very demanding but it correlates with her goals. She also shared Ms. Tencza's goals which they worked hard to be sure their goals coordinated with each other. She hopes to start work on the Strategic Plan. She also wants to share the Superintendent Evaluation process and will share details in January. There will also be goals for the district, schools, Board of Education (which will be worked on at the retreat).

I. Board of Education Report

1. Chairman's Comments

Mr. Strumello shared the election results saying Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, and he were reelected. Ms. Levey and Mr. Benhuniak were elected to the Board. The swearing in will occur on December 6 and the Board's organizational meeting will also be held on December 6.

2. Board Member Comments

Ms. Harmeling told Katharine Bruno and Mikayla Zedek to shout it loud and often that they are commended students. It is a great accomplishment, less than 1% of students are commended students. This is amazing and put it on your resume and keep it there until someone says you are too old for this. She congratulated them on this amazing accomplishment. Ms. Bruno said she was glad to see the Preschool Program being advertised. Dr. Boyle said Dr. Pogonelski gets full credit for this. Ms. Bruno said she also plans to send a gratitude card to Oxford High School. The last soccer game there was their senior night and they presented our students with flowers also. Mr. Stanek echoed Ms. Harmeling's thoughts on the commended students. He also said he felt it would be very appropriate to name a field in memory of Bob Lange. Mr. Hatfield thought this was a great idea. Mr. Hatfield thanked Mr. Kubik and Mr. Stanek for their service and noted that he has served with them for several years and they have seen him grow. He said he enjoyed working with them. He said Mrs. Stanek was his teacher and she inspired him to get involved. He said 32 years of service is amazing and it was his honor to serve alongside him. He thanked him for everything he has done.

J. Superintendent Report

Ms. Tencza said the professional development was a success and the teachers did a great job. Everyone worked very hard. They worked on things they wanted to work on. Explored new resources in groups. She said the entire place was buzzing. She thanked Ms. Brooks for the food.

Dr. Compton thanked the administrators saying it takes a team. She gave a special thank you to the Central Office team who are truly a team. Everyone works together. Ms. Boyle has been working hard on the bus shortage and we hope to get some new drivers next week. She shared with the Board that she attended the Board of Selectman meeting. She also shared that she was a judge at the Trunk or Treat. She

was at the football game for the 75th Anniversary of Wildcat Football and was so impressed with the decades. She said it was a great day and several BOE members attended. She is working to have Board members walkthrough the high school and take a look at where Central Office may move. She will present a plan to the Board to show which plan will be the best for Central Office. We will work together to make this work out.

K. Additions to the Agenda

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to add to the agenda

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to approve the hiring of teacher Nicholas Frosolone as the assistant coach for Seymour High School girls basketball

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Champagne) to add to the agenda the hiring of Jeannine Weaver and Cristina Tacinelli as co-assistant coaches in a split position for the Seymour High School Freshman girls basketball team

AMENDED MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Champagne) to add to the agenda the hiring of Jeannine Weaver as a co-assistant coach in a split position for the Seymour High School Freshman girls basketball team

SO VOTED

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

MOTION: 8-0

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Champagne) to add to the agenda the hiring of Cristina Tacinelli as a co-assistant coach in a split position for the Seymour High School Freshman girls basketball team

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES/FAILS: 8-0

VII. INFORMATION

A. School Activities and Recognitions

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

B. Staff Hiring – Appendix E (Teachers)

1. Goldstein, Zachary
 - Head Coach, Boys Soccer
 - Seymour Middle School
 - From Split position to Full Position
 - Replacing Nick Frosolone
2. Generali, Alyssa
 - Head Coach, Volleyball
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Replacing Dan Sorge

C. Resignations – Non Certified

1. Blum, Lisa
 - Instructional Paraprofessional
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Effective October 1, 2021
2. Bruce, Margaret
 - Long Term Substitute Teacher
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Effective October 1, 2021
3. Chirgwin, Lauren
 - Nutrition Services
 - Seymour Middle School
 - Effective October 18, 2021
4. Frosceno, Jane
 - Instructional Paraprofessional
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Effective October 18, 2021
5. LaForme, Daniel
 - Retirement
 - Custodian
 - Bungay Elementary School
 - Effective December 31, 2021
6. Olah, Elaine
 - Nutrition Services
 - Seymour High School
 - Effective October 26, 2021

VIII. 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.

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Kubik) to adjourn

SO VOTED

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

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm.

NOTE: The next scheduled Regular Board of Education meeting is on Monday, December 6,, 2021 at 7:30 pm at Seymour Middle School.

YouTube Link

<https://youtu.be/wtMGSxqqA6U>

Submitted by:

Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk