

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting

June 11, 2009

Minutes

Attendees: Mary Feathers, Chair, , Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin.

Absent: Shamim Patwa

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Ms. Feathers, Chair.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from Anna and Kevin Crammer regarding regionalization and allowing other towns' residents to attend the middle school. Letter from Covenant Soup Kitchen thanking the Board for their donation in honor of the Staff of the Mansfield Public Schools.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mrs. Kelly reported that the Teacher of the Year Committee selected Janet Pagoni, Goodwin Grade One teacher as the 2010 Teacher of the Year. She also reported that the Dorothy Goodwin Bequest Committee had a proposal. The Board will review this week and vote at the 6-18-09 meeting. Mr. Baruzzi reported that the Regionalization Committee met with Ron Harris, State Department of Education, to review and discuss regionalization options. Mr. Hamlin reported that the Policy Committee has reviewed and supports the recommended updates to the Mansfield Board of Education Policies.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- National Distinguished Principal of the Year Trip Summary: Mrs. Fisher-Doiron reported on her trip to Washington DC with the representatives from 50 states.

Ms. Patwa arrived at 8:23pm.

- Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics Update: Judy Shay, Language Arts/Reading Consultant reviewed spring district assessment scores and their implications. Karen Moylan, Mathematics Consultant, reviewed progress in the first year implementation of the *Bridges in Mathematics Program* and assessment results.
- Town of Mansfield Financial Statement March 31, 3009: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Ms. Lin to accept the Financial Statements: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor
- Year End Budget Closeout: Cherie Trahan, Comptroller and Treasurer, reported that Town revenues are lower than expected and could affect year end financials.
- Healthy Food Certification: Beth Gankofskie, Food Service Director, asked the Board to renew their support of the Healthy Food Certification. With the support, the District is eligible to be reimbursed up to \$.10 per child pending State Legislature. **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded Ms. Patwa to adopt the Connecticut Nutrition Standards Healthy Food

Certification Statement for the 2009-2010 school year and to adopt the Connecticut Nutrition Standards Exclusion for the 2009-2010 school year. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

- Mansfield Food Services Budget Outlook: Mrs. Gankofskie reported that the District will not increase school breakfast and lunch prices for the 2009-2010 school year.
- ARRA NSLP Equipment Assistant Grant Proposal: **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded Mrs. Paulhus to approve the grant proposal for school kitchen equipment: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor
- MMS Exchange Trip Update: Jeff Cryan, Principal Mansfield Middle School, reported that the German Exchange Trip will continue next year with the German students arriving in September. The Chinese exchange is also continuing with Chinese students arriving in early September.
- Pre-school Update: Rachel Leclerc, Director of Special Education and Student Support Services, reported that approximately 70 children were involved in the screening process. There will be up to 16 children in each pre-school class during the 2009-2010 school year.
- Community Conversations: Mr. Baruzzi reported that he held 2 community conversations at each school. Although not largely attended, the reception was positive and attendees were able to get questions answered.
- Mansfield Board of Education 2009-2010: The Board discussed adding strategies to each goal. Further discussion and adoption will be at the June 18th meeting.
- Policy Updates: **MOTION** by Mr. Hamlin, seconded Mr. LaPlaca to adopt the recommended updates to the Mansfield Board of Education Policies: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor
- PreK-12 Regionalization Update: This was discussed in the committee reports section.
- Tri Town Transportation Study: Mr. Baruzzi reported that a geography class at UCONN performed a study of the bus routes for Ashford, Mansfield, and Willington for Region 19.
- Open Choice Magnet Schools: Mr. Baruzzi informed the Board that there is pending legislation to charge schools districts for residents attending Hartford's magnet schools.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The administrators reported no major changes in class size or enrollment

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded Ms. Patwa that the following item for the Board of Education meeting of June 9, 2009 be approved or received for the record and noted one edit to minutes: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the May 7, 2009 Board meetings.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the Superintendent's Annual Teacher Evaluation Report.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the teachers recommended for Cooperating/Mentor Teacher Training.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education accepts the resignation of Dena Mehalakes, 6th grade teacher at Mansfield Middle School effective the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Please add notation to future agendas that times are guidelines only.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: **MOTION** by Ms. Lin, seconded Mrs. Paulhus to move into Executive Session at 10:00pm to discuss contract negotiations. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to return to open session at 11:30pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to extend the contract of Superintendent Baruzzi for one year with specific terms to be negotiated. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Ms. Patwa to adjourn at 11:31pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk