

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting

February 21, 2013

Southeast School 7:30 p.m.

Board Members: Mark LaPlaca, Chair; Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair; Martha Kelly, Secretary, April Holinko, Holly Matthews, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis

Agenda

7:30 Call to Order

7:35 Special Presentations

7:50 Hearing for Visitors

7:55 Communications (P. 1)

8:00 Additions to the Present Agenda

Reports:

8:05 Southeast PTO

8:20 Committee Reports

8:30 Report of the Superintendent

- School Building Security Update
- Technology Update (P. 3)
- Meeting with Town Council Regarding Four Schools Project (P. 7)
- 2013-2014 School Calendar (M) (P. 11)
- Charles H. Barrows STEM School Update
- Common Core Aligned Practice Assessment (P. 13)
- Enhancing Student Achievement (P. 15)
- Quarterly Financial Statements (M) (Encl.)
- 2013-2014 Proposed Budget (M) – Board Detail Review and Adoption (P. 17)

NEW BUSINESS: (If needed, items from the "Consent Agenda" may be added at this time.)

CONSENT AGENDA: (M) (P.19)

The following items for the Board of Education February 21, 2013 meeting be approved or received for the record, unless removed by a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the February 7, 2013 Board meeting.

9:45* Hearing for Visitors

9:55 Suggestions for Future Agenda

Adjournment

* Estimate

Mansfield Public Schools

Board of Education Goals – 2012-2013

- I) Help every student to be a confident and successful learner.
 - a) Engage and motivate every student.
 - b) Improve, as appropriate, the mathematics, reading, science, and writing skills of every student.
 - c) Ensure student safety, health, physical, and emotional well-being.
 - d) Preserve and support the full breadth of the District's program.
 - e) Encourage the civic engagement of students.
 - f) Maintain a systematic review of all program offerings.
 - g) Involve and engage a wide variety of parents/guardians in the education of their children.
 - h) Obtain and maintain National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation, as well as review, evaluate, and implement an expanded preschool program to address the needs of early learners.
 - i) Address the need to align our current Language Arts/ Reading and Mathematics curriculum with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
 - j) Select an anthology which addresses the CCSS and provides a strong pk-6 Language Arts/Reading foundation.
 - k) Integrate current technology in a value added way to the instructional program as well as use it to extend student learning of both subject matter and appropriate use of technology.
 - l) Explore and develop additional support services for those students in need of community and/or health services.
 - m) Review recommendations from all sources and implement best practices as appropriate.
- II) Attract, hire, support, and retain qualified and motivated professional staff.
 - a) Facilitate and encourage a positive, professional learning community.
 - b) Recognize teacher and staff effort and success regularly.
 - c) Foster a climate of respect at all levels.
 - d) Maintain quality educational programs at multiple sites while adjusting staff levels and resources despite increase and/or decrease in overall enrollment.
 - e) Address school/district leadership issues to maintain and surpass current levels of student achievement.
 - f) Integrate current technology in a value added way to the instructional program as well as use it to extend student learning of both subject matter and appropriate use of technology.
 - g) Develop with input and collaboration from certified staff, an effective evaluation program which supports the development of confident student learners and encourages the continued growth of all staff.
 - h) Refine our current professional development program to maximize the growth of certified and non-certified staff while addressing state and federal requirements for required training while maximizing student instructional time.
 - i) Review recommendations from all sources and implement best practices as appropriate.
- III) Continue to improve the effectiveness of the Board of Education.
 - a) Invest time and effort in Board members' learning and development.
 - b) Celebrate and acknowledge student achievements at Board meetings and other venues.
 - c) Foster and encourage communication between the Board and the communities it serves.
 - d) Collaborate with community members and organizations that support the District's students.
 - e) Review recommendations from all sources and implement best practices as appropriate.
 - f) Address the need to align our current Language Arts/ Reading and Mathematics curriculum with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
- IV) Monitor and regularly assess the District's status and requirements with respect to the quality of facilities, sufficiency of space, level of security, adequacy of maintenance, and reliability of student transportation.
 - a) Stay involved in all aspects of any School Building Project decisions.
 - b) Keep the public informed and involved.
 - c) Reduce energy consumption and minimize the District's environmental impact.
 - d) Pursue practices and develop policies that reduce energy consumption and district costs.
 - e) Incorporate curricula that investigate energy use and environmental issues.
 - f) Implement a long term plan endorsed by Mansfield Town Council and supported by voters to address pk-8 building needs.
- V) Employ Fiscal Planning for Long Term Sustainability
 - a) Transition from a budget which used a series of federal/state funds to support district staff to a predictable and sustainable funding source.
 - b) Advocate for continued Education Cost Sharing which supports current programming and develop a plan to address any change to current funding level.
 - c) Continue to explore potential partnerships with other groups to maximize program effectiveness while containing costs.

Robert's Rules of Order General Guidelines

As outlined in the MBOE By-Laws, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Board unless otherwise provided by the by-laws. Following are some general guidelines from Robert's Rules and the By-Laws that should be followed to ensure efficient meetings and the rights of all members, aid decision-making and allow all to be heard.

1. During any discussion, a member must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.
2. A member will not be allowed to speak a second time until all other members wishing to speak have been allowed to do so.
3. Members should refrain from speaking a second time unless they have a new point to make or need to respond to new information.
4. As a general rule during discussion, comments should be directed through the Chair to the whole Board, rather than to other or individual members. All discussion is with the Board as a whole. Questions of the Superintendent or other non-BOE members making presentations should be directed to that individual.
5. Private conversations can be distracting to those speaking and should be limited.
6. During discussion, the Chair should try to provide equal time to those in favor or against a given topic or motion.
7. A majority is more than half of the votes cast, not a majority of the Board. For example: if only 7 members choose to vote, and the result is 4-3 in favor, the motion is adopted. Members who abstain are "refraining from voting".
8. If discussion on a *motion* is lasting a long time, any member can "move the previous question" or "call the question". They must be recognized by the Chair in order to do so. This is not debatable, and a two-thirds vote is required to pass. If two-thirds vote in favor of ending debate, the Board ends all discussion on a motion and then moves to an immediate vote on that motion.
9. Committee reports that recommend action should be submitted in writing. This allows for clear understanding of recommendations.



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Mansfield Advocates for Children

Kathleen Krider
Early Childhood Services Coordinator

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE RD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3338
Fax: (860) 429-7785
Email: KriderK@mansfieldct.org

February 14, 2013

For immediate release

POC: Kathleen Krider, (860) 429-3338

Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance encourages support of HB 6359 – An Act Concerning an Early Childhood System

HB 6359 is an An Act Concerning an Early Childhood System. This proposal, with an Office of Early Childhood that reports directly to the Governor, will give early childhood services and programs the focus and attention they deserve. This creates one place for the coordination and delivery of early childhood services. By coordinating in one agency, the state will be able to identify gaps in services and make informed policy decisions.

The Governor's proposed early childhood plan is exciting and groundbreaking. However, it still must be passed by the legislature. The Office of Early Childhood (House Bill 6359) will need the strong support of advocates as it moves through the legislative process. The Alliance will be mobilizing programs and organizations, and CT Parent Power will be asking parents to take action. Your voice is crucial.

There are several things you can do to support this plan:

- Call or email your legislators in support of the creation of the Office of Early Childhood (HB 6359).
- Submit testimony (in-person or electronically) to the Education Committee Public Hearing on Feb. 15. Please come to the hearing - a packed room speaks volumes.
- Submit testimony to Appropriations Committee Public Hearing on Feb. 21 (can be the same testimony sent to Education Committee, just change the committee name)
- Attend Early Childhood Advocacy Day at the State Capitol on March 20 (9:30 arrival, 10 a.m. program). Bring other members of your collaborative and plan an in-person meeting with your legislators.

Instructions for Testimony to Education Committee (Feb. 15) and Appropriations Committee (Feb. 21)

Education Committee: Public hearing on **Friday, February 15, 2013 at 11:00 A.M.** in Room **1E** of the LOB. Please email a PDF copy of your written testimony to EDTestimony@cga.ct.gov by 12:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 14, 2013 and include the word "Testimony" in the subject line. Written testimony will be accepted in Room 3100 of the LOB until 9:30 A.M. on the date of the hearing. Please submit 30 copies.

Appropriations Committee: Public Hearing on **Thursday, February 21, 2013.** Public speaker order for the public hearings will be determined by a lottery system. Lottery numbers will be drawn from 9:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. in the First Floor Atrium of the LOB and from 10:15 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. in Room 2700 of the LOB. Speakers will be limited to three minutes of testimony. Please submit 25 copies of written testimony at the time of sign-up. The Committee will accept electronic testimony via email at appropriationtestimo@cga.ct.gov for posting on the Committee's website and inclusion in the hearing transcript.

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Mansfield Public Schools Computer Education and Media Services
Current Status as of February 15, 2013

This document itemizes the counts for technology equipment in use at each school and the age of the equipment. The enclosed tables list the number by calendar year (columns) and by school location (rows). The text after each column describes the replacement cycle strategies and needs.

Computers

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Total
Computers (Goodwin)		8	11	41	16	5	4			85
Computers (Southeast)		10	14	42	15	3	6			90
Computers (Vinton)		10	8	38	18	1	2			77
Computers (MMS)		54	51	56	51	59	39	2	1	313
Computers (Total)	0	82	84	177	100	68	51	2	1	565

Our technology plan calls for a replacement cycle of 5 years for computers, which is typical of education (the private sector is typically a 3 – 4 year replacement cycle). Given budget limitations, we have been in reality taking 6 – 7 years to replace all computers and have been repairing or shifting computers as needed. An important part of our strategy for managing the budget limits has been replacing a portion of our computers with less expensive thin clients (see the next table). Additionally, we have focused on lower pricing through group/consortium contracts, lower cost models, and delaying purchases.

Thin Clients

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Total
Thin Clients (Goodwin)		3	5	6						14
Thin Clients (Southeast)		12	6							18
Thin Clients (Vinton)		9	6	3						18
Thin Clients (MMS)		10	170	47						227
Thin Clients (Total)	0	34	187	56						277

Where possible, we have been replacing computers with less expensive thin clients, which has allowed us to considerably reduce the number of “traditional” computers in the District. A thin client is a terminal that has limited computing power and powers, but relies on shared (server) based computing power. We anticipate approximately a 6 year replacement cycle for our thin clients. Thin clients have some limitations in their capabilities, which have made them less appropriate for the elementary schools so we have not been able to use them as widely in those schools.

Laptops

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Total
Laptops (Goodwin)			1	1	3					5
Laptops (Southeast)			1	1	5					7
Laptops (Vinton)		1	1	2	3					7
Laptops (MMS)	3	3	4	4	4	5				23
Laptops (Total)	3	4	7	8	15	5				42

Laptops are more expensive than computers partly because the technology they use is more expensive, but also because they sustain more wear and tear in a school environment. A laptop typically requires a 4 - 5 year replacement cycle and sometimes expenditures for repair parts (i.e. replacement battery, missing key from a keyboard, etc.). We have reduced the number of laptops in the District as a budget strategy, as well as seeking aggressive pricing.

Tablets/eReaders

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Total
Tablets/eReaders (Goodwin)		5								5
Tablets/eReaders (Southeast)		5								5
Tablets/eReaders (Vinton)		6								6
Tablets/eReaders (MMS)	2	4	6							12
Tablets (Total)	2	20	6							28

We have been experimenting with newer forms of mobile technology such as tablets and eReaders. Budget constraints have limited the numbers, but we are confident that it is important to incorporate these new tools for learning and instruction. Because this technology is very new, it is not known yet what we would have for a replacement cycle frequency.

SMART Boards

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	Total
SMART Boards (Goodwin)		1	1	2	2	3	5	4			18
SMART Boards (Southeast)		2	4	1	1	2	5	6			21
SMART Boards (Vinton)		3	1	2	2	2	5	6			21
SMART Boards (MMS)		1	6	9	7	6	7	7	3	3	49
SMART Boards (Total)	0	7	12	14	12	13	22	23	3	3	109

During the past 9 years, we have gradually equipped our classrooms with SMART Boards (interactive white boards). We have intentionally been repairing SMART Boards when needed instead of replacing them so that we can continue to operate our existing SMART Boards without the cost of a replacement cycle (instead we are purchasing parts as needed).

Projectors (Refurbished and New)

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Total
Projectors Refurb. (Goodwin)	1	3	1							5
Projectors New (Goodwin)		7				2	3	3		15
Projectors Refurb. (Southeast)		2	1							3
Projectors New (Southeast)		7	2	1	1	4	2	2		19
Projectors Refurb. (Vinton)		3	1							4
Projectors New (Vinton)	1	8	1	1		5		4		20
Projectors Refurb. (MMS)		13	2	2						17
Projectors New (MMS)	1	4	6	8	1	9	6	6	1	42
Projectors Refurb. (Total)	1	21	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	29
Projectors New (Total)	2	26	9	10	2	20	11	15	1	96
Projectors All (Total)	3	47	14	12	2	20	11	15	1	125

Similar to the SMART Boards, we have gradually equipped our classrooms with projectors. Given budget limitations, we have worked to control costs by using refurbished projectors where possible, purchasing competitively priced models, carefully managing supplies, and shifting inventory where needed. As you can see in the chart above, the replacement cycle for a projector varies depending on how frequently it is used and the type of projector model.

Network Infrastructure (Servers, Switches, and UPS's)

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Total
Servers (Goodwin)					1					1
Servers (Southeast)					1					1
Servers (Vinton)					1					1
Servers (MMS)		1		1		2	2	1		7
Servers (Total)	0	1	0	1	3	2	2	1		10
Switches (Goodwin)			3			1				4
Switches (Southeast)			3			1	1		1	6
Switches (Vinton)			3			1	2		1	7
Switches (MMS)			5		2		1	1		9
Switches (Total)	0	0	14	0	2	3	4	1	2	26
UPS's (Goodwin)		1	2		1					4
UPS's (Southeast)		1	2		1					4
UPS's (Vinton)		1	2	1	1					5
UPS's (MMS)			5	5	1	1				12
UPS's (Total)	0	3	11	6	4	1				25

To the degree possible, we try to focus funding on “end-user” equipment (technology physically in the classroom). To accomplish this, we aggressively work to limit infrastructure costs. Our strategies have included virtualization which has greatly reduced the number of physical servers, consolidating equipment to maximize the use of each piece of equipment, delaying replacement of infrastructure, and seeking aggressive pricing. This is a budget concern for us as we need to spend more funds on infrastructure to meet increasing demands on the network for the equipment listed above and the building infrastructure itself (cabling, air flow, processing power, storage space, and connectivity).

Phone Systems

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	TOTAL
Phone Systems (GW)													1			1
Phone Systems (SE)													1			1
Phone Systems (VN)													1			1
Phone Systems (MMS)			0.25*												0.75	1
Phone Systems (Total)	0	0	0.25	0	3	0	0.75	4								

* We replaced a portion of the components in the middle school phone system in 2011 because the components were failing.

Replacing the phone systems has not been an affordable expenditure given budget limitations, but it is a priority item that we will need to address. Our phone systems should be on a 10 year replacement cycle so we will have to attend to this item.

Network Printers

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	TOTAL
Network Printers (Goodwin)		2	2	1				1	1	1				1	9
Network Printers (Southeast)	1	2	3	1					1	1				2	11
Network Printers (Vinton)		2	3	2				1	1	1				1	11
Network Printers (MMS)			12	4	9	4									29
Network Printers (Total)	1	6	20	8	9	4	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	4	60

As you can see in the chart above, the replacement cycle for a network printer varies depending on the type of model and its level of use. A network printer can last anywhere from 5 – 10 years. We have worked hard to contain printing costs by gradually consolidating printing to group based printers that cost considerably less per page than stand-alone locally attached (non-network) printers.



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, February 26, 2013
6:30 PM
Council Chambers
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

AGENDA

Call to Order

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Council

Old Business

1. Discussion with the Mansfield Board of Education regarding the Proposed School Building Project (Item #4, 02/11/13 Agenda)

Adjournment

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL



ELIZABETH C. PATERSON, Mayor

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

February 12, 2013

Mansfield Board of Education
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, Connecticut 06268

Re: Joint Meeting on Proposed School Building Project

Dear Board members:

I am writing today on behalf of the Town Council. As you know, at a special meeting held on January 23, 2013, the Council unanimously approved the following motion regarding the proposed school building project:

- 1) That the Council not send the proposal for two new schools to a referendum at the present time; and
- 2) That the issue of repairs to the three elementary schools, as well as the Mansfield Middle School, be referred to the Board of Education, which is within their expertise and jurisdiction, for their prioritization of repairs and improvements needed to maintain the schools.

Also at the January 23rd meeting, the Town Council agreed by consensus to hold a joint meeting with the Board of Education to discuss the action taken by the Council and expectations for the Board.

As a threshold matter, the Board may wish to know why the Town Council decided not to send the proposed project to referendum at this time. In recent months, the Council has noted several key reasons that led to this decision, including concerns about the cost of the project, particularly during difficult economic times, and whether the proposed project had strong support from the community at-large. Other Council members have expressed concern that two new schools may not have sufficient capacity to accommodate increased enrollment that might result from development at the University and within the community. Also, some Councilors have indicated a preference to maintain three smaller elementary schools that are geographically dispersed and to preserve existing infrastructure as opposed to constructing new facilities. In addition, some Councilors have expressed a desire to fund repairs, alterations and improvements to the existing schools on more of a cash basis as opposed to issuing bonds. Furthermore, I would add that some Council members still believe that the proposal to build two new elementary schools has merit, and should be revisited at a later point when financial conditions improve.

Turning now to the parameters of the Council's referral to the Board, I will first address the repairs at the three elementary schools. The Council would ask the Board to work with our professional staff to develop a list of critical repairs necessary to maintain the existing buildings for the next seven to 10 years. This timeframe is important as it would allow all three elementary schools to qualify for renovation status under the state's school construction program. Consequently, future Boards and Councils would be in a better position to consider renovation options in addition to new construction.

For the Mansfield Middle School, the Council would like to see a similar list of critical repairs for the next seven to ten years, as well as options to phase in the planned heavy alterations.

With respect to project financing, the professional staff should explore the merits of a performance contract for some of this work, particularly the energy improvements. Consistent with our long-time practice, less expensive repairs and equipment could be funded through the Town's capital improvement program (CIP). It would also be important to consider establishing a reserve or sinking fund in the CIP to cover unanticipated repairs at the schools. For the middle school, we would ask that the Board consult with the Town's professional staff to look at funding the heavier, more costly repairs and alterations in a phased manner, utilizing the CIP and potentially one or more bond issuances.

The Town Council welcomes the Board of Education's leadership and direction on these issues. I hope that this information is helpful to you and I look forward to our joint meeting on February 26, 2013. If you have any questions in the interim, please contact our Town Manager, Matt Hart.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Paterson
Mayor

CC: Fred Baruzzi, Superintendent of Schools
Matt Hart, Town Manager
Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance
William Hammon, Director of Facilities Management

Mansfield Public Schools

DRAFT

2013-2014

Notes

August 13 (3)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	PD	PD	28	29	30	31

September 13 (20)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	H	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 13 (21)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	H	PD	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 13 (17)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	H	PD	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	H	V	30

December 13 (15)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	V	V	H	V	V	28
29	V	V				

January 14 (21)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			H	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	H	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

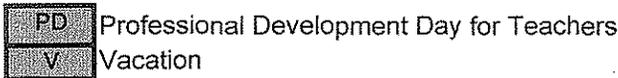
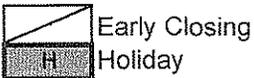
February 14 (18)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	H	V	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 14 (20)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	PD					

April 14 (17)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	V	V	V	V	H	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 14 (21)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	H	27	28	29	30	31

June 14 (15)						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	PD	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



August:
26-27: Certified/Non-Certified Staff Prof. Day
28: First Day - Students
September:
2: Labor Day Holiday
October:
14: Columbus Day: No School
15: Certified/Non-Certified Staff Prof. Day
November:
11: Veterans' Day: No School
12: Certified Staff Professional Day
25-27: Early Closing
28-29: Thanksgiving Holiday
December:
23-31: Winter Vacation
January:
1: New Year's Holiday
20: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
February:
17: Presidents' Day
18: Vacation Day
March:
31: Certified Staff Professional Day
April:
14-17: Spring Vacation
18: Good Friday Holiday
May:
26: Memorial Day Holiday
June:
20: Last Day for Students (Early Closing)*
23: Certified Staff Professional Day

*Last day for students includes 5 built-in weather related closings. If these days are not needed, the last school day will be adjusted accordingly. If the district uses all 5 built-in weather days and requires additional days, consideration will be given to Professional Development Days in March, November, and October. Total Instructional Days will not exceed 183.

Adopted by the Mansfield Board of Education on _____. Also available on line @ <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/MBOE>



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Stefan Pryor, Commissioner of Education 

DATE: February 5, 2013

SUBJECT: Common Core Aligned Practice Assessment

During 2012, the "Year of Education Reform," we accomplished much through the legislative session and have begun implementing key initiatives that resulted from the reform bill. In 2013, we will continue to supplement and refine initiatives presently underway and develop new programs that support student achievement. As we enter the implementation phase of reform, we must continue to build upon the momentum gained last year to ensure that the Governor's Six Principles of Education Reform are realized.

I have heard from many of you that, in the past, the State Department of Education has not done enough to support districts in implementing the Common Core State Standards, adopted in 2010, and in transitioning to Smarter Balanced assessments, occurring in 2015. We must live up to the promise of the Common Core if we are to ensure that all students leave our schools and districts ready for college, career, and civic engagement.

To aid in the fulfillment of this promise, we will be providing a Common Core-aligned practice assessment to help you better determine your district's readiness this spring. This practice assessment is in addition to, and will be administered subsequent to, the required Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) and Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity; however, districts may choose to opt out of the practice assessment.

Students in grades three through eight will take the practice assessment in three subjects: math, reading, and writing. The practice assessment is 60 minutes for reading and math, 90 minutes for writing, and will be taken on the computer. Students in grade eleven will take a ninety-minute practice assessment, also on the computer, in writing or math. Details regarding the practice assessment and implementation of the Common Core will be provided in the upcoming weeks from Dr. Dianna Roberge-Wentzell, the CSDE's Chief Academic Officer.

We hope this new tool is of value to you. We look forward to finding many more ways to provide you with services and resources that are of assistance as you pursue Common Core preparation and implementation.

**Mansfield Public Schools
Enhancing Student Achievement
2012-2013**

School	Gr.	Number Served	Subject	Focus	Activity Name	# of Sessions	Length of Each Session	Instructional Hours Per Student	Start/End Date	Total Cost
GW	K	8-10	Reading	Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast I	6	1 hr.	6	10/18/12-11/29/12	\$375.00
GW	K	8-10	Reading	Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast II	6	1 hr.	6	10/19/12-11/30/12	\$375.00
GW	All	15	Reading	Reading	Read All About It!	13	1 hr.	13	10/10/12-12/3/12	\$927.83
GW	All	15	Reading/ Writing/ Math	Reading/ Writing/ Math	Homework & Independent Work Club	14	1 hr.	14	10/10/12-12/3/12	\$1089.98
GW	All	12	Reading	Reading	Books, Books, Books! (Online Reading)	5	1 hr.	5	10/10/12-12/3/12	\$250.55
GW	2-4	15	Reading/ Writing/ Math	Reading/ Writing/ Math	Homework & Independent Work Club	21	1 hr.	21	2/5/13-3/22/13	\$946.75
GW	1-2	10	Logic & Reasoning	Logic & Reasoning	Puzzlers	6	1 hr.	6	2/5/13-3/21/13	\$182.25
GW	2-3	12	PE	PE/ Motivation	Dance, Dance, Dance	6	1 hr.	6	2/5/13-3/21/13	\$455.00
GW	4	10	Reading/ Writing/ Math	Reading/ Writing/ Math	Study Island	6	1 hr.	6	2/5/13-3/21/13	\$428.25
SE	3/4	All	Physical Fitness	Improving Physical Fitness	Southeast Running Club	10	1.25 hrs.	12.5	9/7/11-11/9/12	\$1,600.00
SE	3/4	All	Reading	Reading for enjoyment	Battle of the Books I	24	1.5 hrs.	36	10/10/12-1/28/13	\$366.24
SE	3/4	All	Reading	Reading for enjoyment	Battle of the Books II	24	1.5 hrs.	36	2/11/13-5/15/13	\$366.24
SE	3/4	12/14	Math/ Reading	Increased reading & math skills	Study Island	17	1 hr.	17	10/2/12-12/6/12	\$456.79
SE	K	8-10	Reading	Read Aloud	Books & Breakfast	6	1 hr.	6	10/16/12-12/4/12	\$375.00
SE	3/4	12/14	Math/ Reading	Increased reading & math skills	Study Island	17	1 hr.	17	1/8/13-3/7/13	\$456.79
SE	2	8/10	Math/ Reading	Increased reading & math skills	Study Island	17	1 hr.	17	3/19/13-5/23/13	\$456.79
VN	3/4	All	All	Scientific process, Reading,	VN Giving Garden Club	13 per grade	1.5 hrs.	19.5 per grade	2/12/13-5/22/13	\$3,306.50

School	Gr.	Number Served	Subject	Focus	Activity Name	# of Sessions	Length of Each Session	Instructional Hours Per Student	Start/End Date	Total Cost
				Math						
MMS	All	22+	All	Homework Help	Big Friends	6	1 hr.	6	10/16/12-12/4/12	\$150.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (I)	6	1.25 hrs.	7.5	9/17/12-11/2/12	\$750.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (II)	8	1.25 hrs.	10	11/5/12-1/18/13	\$1,000.00
MMS	5-8	All	All	Completion of Homework	Afterschool Homework Help (III)	10	1.25 hrs.	12.5	1/22/13-4/5/13	\$1,250.00
MMS	K-8	All	All	Access to library/ books	A Night at Your School Library	14	2.5 hrs.	35	1/16/13-4/17/13	\$875.00
MMS	All	22+	All	Homework Help	Big Friends	9	1 hr.	9	1/29/13-4/9/13	\$225.00
TOTAL										\$18,164.96
REMAINING BALANCE										\$11,835.04

**Class Size Survey
2012-2013**

District	Class Size Guidelines
Canterbury	Pre-K - 18 students Kindergarten - 20 students Grade 1 - 22 students Grades 2-4 - 24 students Grades 5-8 - 26 students
Colchester	Grades K-2 - 23 students Grades 3-5 - 26 students Grades 6-8 - 30 students
Coventry	Kindergarten and Grade 1 - 21 students Grade 2 - 22 students Grade 3-12 - 27 students
Hebron	Kindergarten-Grade 1 - 18 students Grades 2-3 - 20 students Grades 4-6 - 24 students
Putnam	No guidelines
Tolland	Kindergarten - 20 students Grade 1 and above - no guidelines
Windham	No guidelines

DRAFT

**Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
February 7, 2013
Minutes**

Attendees: Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, April Holinko, Holly Matthews, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

Absent: Shamim Patwa

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Vinton third graders demonstrated the various activities on the trestle tree.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from CREC voiding invoice for two preschool children at CREC magnet schools. Letter from Holly Matthews announcing her resignation from the Board of Education effective February 21, 2013.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

Vinton PTA: Allison Altieri and Lisa Drzewiecki, reported on activities the group participates in to support Vinton School programs. They asked for support in replacing the Vinton playscape.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Policy Committee will follow the Superintendent's Report.

Ms. Patwa arrived at 8:09pm

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy Site Visit: Mr. Baruzzi and other Board members reported on their visit to the school.
- Meeting with Town Council: Mr. Baruzzi reported a date had not been determined for the meeting requested by the Town Council.
- Southeast Principal Search Tentative Schedule: Mr. Baruzzi shared the schedule for the search.
- Enhancing Student Achievement: Four new projects were reviewed and will be implemented at the schools in support of this activity.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The principals reported no major change in class size or enrollment.
- Governor Malloy's Budget Proposal: Mr. Baruzzi and Mrs. Trahan reviewed the Governor's proposal and its potential impact on Mansfield.
- 2013-2014 Proposed Budget – District Management, Support Services, Special Education, Other: Mr. Baruzzi, Dr. Leclerc, and Mrs. Trahan reviewed the budget and answered Board members' questions.

POLICY COMMITTEE: Ms. Patwa reviewed the Policy Committee's recommendation for the 2013-2014 School Calendar. The Board will review for action at February 21, 2013 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to approve the following item for the Board of Education February 7, 2013 meeting. VOTE: Unanimous in favor with Ms. Matthews abstaining. That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the January 31, 2013 Board meeting.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Pat Suprenant, 441 Gurleyville Road expressed her concern with using reserve funds to support the budget.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: None.

Mr. Walikonis reported that the NBC Today show had a segment with Author Mike Lupica who mentioned his visit to Mansfield Middle School.

Mr. LaPlaca reported that Mansfield Middle School's Girls Basketball Team won the League Championship

MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Patwa, to adjourn at 10:10pm. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk

Information Only

Celeste N. Griffin

From: Maria E. Capriola
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2013 12:35 PM
To: Town Employees; TownHall; Mansfield Dept. Heads; MFD All Members; Town Council
Subject: Raiola Appointment Announcement

We are pleased to announce that Fran Raiola has been appointed to the position of Deputy Chief-Fire Marshal-Emergency Management Director. The appointment is effective February 11, 2013.

Fran is an accomplished professional with over three decades experience in the Fire and Emergency Services field. Most recently, Fran had been serving as the town's acting Deputy Chief-Fire Marshal-Emergency Management Director since April 2012. Fran has been with the Town of Mansfield since September 2000 and previously served in the capacity of Assistant Chief-Deputy Fire Marshal-Assistant Emergency Management Director. Fran was a member of the UConn Fire Department, ultimately rising to the position of Captain/Shift Commander/Deputy Fire Marshal. Fran holds an associate's degree from Charter Oak College and numerous certifications in the Fire and Emergency Services field.

Please join me, Matt and Chief Dagon in congratulating Fran on his promotion.

Regards,
Maria

Maria E. Capriola, M.P.A.
Assistant Town Manager

Maria.Capriola@mansfieldct.org
4 South EaglevilleRd., Mansfield, CT 06268
860-429-3339 (p)
860-429-6863 (f)



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Dear Mayors, First Selectmen, and Local Leaders:

Coming out of another historic storm, as we continue to work together to clear our roads, I'm writing in the hope that we can also work together to clear the way for sensible, smart policy changes. Changes that preserve our most fundamental responsibilities to our citizens, and that ease the burden on our middle class.

In that spirit, I'd like to clarify some of the misconceptions I've heard about my biennial budget proposal and how it might impact your local budget. Before I get into the details, let me say a couple of things up front.

My budget is focused on the following priorities: growing jobs, investing in education, and *finding ways to provide tangible relief to our middle class*, including relieving them of the most hated and unfair tax in Connecticut – the car tax – and by reinstating the sales tax exemption for some clothing.

My plan also sends at least the same amount of state dollars to cities and towns as they currently receive. It's true that aid comes in different ways, which will necessitate adjustments on your end. *But at a time when states across the country are decimating local aid, no city or town in Connecticut will receive less total funding from the state than it did last year, and many will receive more.*

To do all that without raising taxes, my plan also contains more than \$1.8 billion in savings from the state's current services. That's \$1.8 billion worth of tough decisions about how Connecticut serves its residents.

This is a tough budget, built for tough times. Connecticut is making hard decisions and setting priorities in order to live within its means. *I understand that cities and towns will need to make their own hard decisions.* We're all public servants, but we're also citizens and taxpayers; we can hopefully agree that all levels of government must change with the times, find savings, and operate efficiently.

Now, I'd like to respond specifically to some of those misconceptions I mentioned.

"Exempting car taxes is nothing but a huge cut to local revenue."

At a time when hardworking Connecticut families continue to struggle, it is incumbent upon their government – state and local – to find ways to help them. *This is tax relief for your constituents and mine – families who are middle class, working class and working poor.* I understand adjustments will need to be made locally, but I strongly believe we should stand with them and find ways to make this work.

A few additional points:

First, my car tax proposal does not take any money out of the aid that the state sends towns. It simply says that money that's already raised locally, from your constituents, has to be done in a fairer way.

Second, eliminating the tax on cars under \$20,000 in assessed value will eliminate much of the aggravation and paperwork from your local tax assessment and collections operation. The savings will vary in each community, but they are substantial, not only in dollars but in frustration by local taxpayers.

Third, despite their best efforts, most communities are fortunate if they collect 90 percent of car taxes. Factoring in the cost of collecting and the number of tax delinquents, the car tax makes up a small portion of the tax base in most communities – between 2 and 10 percent. Communities have a number of options available to them to make up for this, including spending cuts. I encourage your administrations to review your grand list, your anticipated budget requirements, and your tax system and undertake a detailed analysis of how this exemption will impact the taxpayers in your community.

Overall, Connecticut residents will benefit from this change, but local officials need to evaluate the specific impacts in their town.

“Combining the State Property PILOT into the ECS grant means that cities and towns must cut spending for municipal functions and increase spending even more for local schools.”

This is not true. The law that governs how much money local governments must spend on their school systems is called the Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR). *The MBR provision in my proposal specifically exempts the reallocated PILOT funds from the MBR.*

For example, Waterbury received approximately \$4 million in State Property PILOT in FY 2013. In FY 14, I have proposed that they receive \$128 million in ECS – an additional \$10 million – consisting of \$4 million from PILOT plus an additional \$6 million from the formula changes in the ECS grant. The MBR will require that they spend the \$6 million on schools, but not the \$4 million from the PILOT.

So why do it? *I firmly believe that our first obligation must be funding public education.* By putting PILOT into ECS, the state is sending a clear signal about our priorities, while still leaving flexibility for local leaders when it comes to the final decision on how money is spent.

“The Conditional Funding requirements for Alliance Districts means the new ECS money goes directly to school boards, so that the PILOT funds can't be used for paying police and firefighters.”

This is not true. The requirements for Alliance districts to receive their additional ECS funding ensures that towns are spending their ECS money in a way that addresses student achievement. They do *not* impact how much funding is available for schools overall. That is determined by the MBR (see above).

“Converting the Pequot grant to LoCIP means that none of those funds will be available for the local operating budget.”

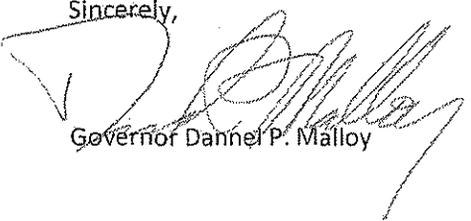
This is not true. We have made LoCIP funds more flexible, so that local governments can apply some or all of the capital equipment and technology purchases they routinely make out of their operating budgets to their LoCIP allocation. These include snow removal equipment, regional initiatives, education technology, and school safety.

Moreover, the proposal would allow municipalities to seek reimbursement in 2014 for these eligible expenses that were incurred in 2013. These are significant changes that, if applied, will grant substantial flexibility to LoCIP recipients.

In closing, let me say this – I walked in your shoes for 14 years as the Mayor of Stamford. I understand exactly what pressures you are under, and what demands you face. I understand that change is hard. But I’m asking you to partner with me to find ways to make change possible, including giving our middle class a much-deserved break.

I look forward to partnering with you in that effort.

Sincerely,



Governor Dannel P. Malloy

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL



ELIZABETH C. PATERSON, Mayor

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

February 13, 2013

Congressman Joe Courtney
55 Main Street, Suite 250
Norwich, CT 06360

Dear Congressman Courtney:

The Mansfield Town Council urges you to take legislative action to protect our citizens and our children from gun violence. Recent events have propelled this issue into the forefront, but the problems of gun violence predate Newtown and have continued to this day.

In particular, we support:

1. Limiting the availability of military-style weapons with automatic, large capacity magazines, and limiting multiple gun purchases.
2. Making guns and ammunition more difficult to acquire for people whose backgrounds indicate a propensity for committing violent acts.
3. Increased enforcement of existing gun laws.
4. Funding and training for school safety officers and other resources for children in schools.
5. Better identification of mental illness, and increased access to mental health care for adults and children.

We look forward to the results of Governor Malloy's Sandy Hook Advisory Commission and thank you for your support on this issue of grave importance to local governments throughout our state. We believe this is a public health and safety issue that deserves legislative action.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Paterson
Mayor

CC: Mansfield Town Council
Mansfield Board of Education
Matt Hart, Town Manager
James Finley, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
Mayor Scott Jackson, Chair of Sandy Hook Advisory Commission