

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
April 11, 2013
Minutes

Attendees: Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, April Holinko, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

Absent: Mark LaPlaca

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Ms. Patwa.

Ms. Patwa asked for a moment of silence in memory of Gwen Duff, retired MMS music teacher and Board of Education Member.

Mr. LaPlaca arrived at 7:32pm.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Patrice Welch, Vinton School 3rd grade teacher, with some of her students, discussed the Vinton Giving Garden Club and the plants they grow to donate to the PTA and the WAIM garden.

Mr. LaPlaca read a statement as a result of events of April 10th and the publicity that followed.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Sharry Goldman, Brown's Road, voiced her support of Mr. LaPlaca

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from Toni Moran, Secretary, Mansfield Democratic Town Committee, announcing their unanimous vote to recommend the Board appoint Susannah Everett to fill the vacancy on the Board until the next municipal election.

MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein to appoint Susannah Everett to fill the Board's vacancy until the next municipal election. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor. Mr. LaPlaca invited Ms. Everett to join the Board without voting privileges until she is sworn in by the Mansfield Town Clerk.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to add a resignation to the consent agenda. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Patwa reported the Policy Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 4:30pm.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Mansfield Advocates for Children: Ms. Kathleen Krider, Town of Mansfield Early Childhood Services Coordinator, reported on the Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis report on Mansfield Advocates for Children.
- MMS Writing Center Update: Mr. Baruzzi and Candace Morell, Mansfield Middle School Assistant Principal reported on the progress of the MMS Writing Center and answered Board Members' questions.
- Common Core State Standards Update: Mr. Baruzzi reviewed additional steps the district is taking to prepare for Common Core State Standards including professional development for district staff.
- Mansfield Public Schools Professional Learning and Evaluation Plan: Mr. Baruzzi provided an overview of the plan the district will submit to the State: Heather Tamsin provided a teacher's perspective of the plan. **MOTION** by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Ms. Patwa to approve the submission of the Mansfield Public Schools Professional Learning and Evaluation Plan. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- Emergency Procedures Update: Mr. Baruzzi reported that the meetings with staff and parent organizations were complete, with the exception of Goodwin PTO which will be held later in the week.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein left at 9:08pm.

- Enhancing Student Achievement Funds: Two new programs were highlighted in the 2012-2013 summary chart; Southeast Running Club and Expanding Horizons.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The principals noted no major changes in class size or enrollment in the past month. Mr. Baruzzi discussed the enrollment at Mansfield Middle School in relation to class size guidelines.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Mr. Walikonis, to approve the following items for the Board of Education April 11, 2013 meeting. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the March 14, 2013 Board meeting.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education accepts the resignations of John Hart, instrumental music teacher, and Phyllis Bain, 6th grade teacher at Mansfield Middle School effective the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education accepts the resignation of Roseann McManus, Goodwin School Psychologist, effective the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

Mrs. Kelly would like to discuss field trips and Internet and social media usage per Board Policy

MOTION by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Kelly to move into Executive Session to discuss non-renewal of teachers at 9:16pm. VOTE: Unanimous in favor

Mr. Baruzzi and Ms. Everett joined the Executive Session.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:28pm.

MOTION by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mrs. Holinko, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding non-renewal of teachers. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

MOTION to accept the minutes, pending editing of members present, of April 8, 2013 Special Meeting. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Mrs. Holinko, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to adjourn at 9:31pm. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk