

Mansfield Board of Education
October 10, 2013
Minutes

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

Absent: Susannah Everett, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Nancy Titchen, Enrichment Teacher at Goodwin School, and E.O. Smith volunteer, Max Briere, discussed the Goodwin Afterschool Robotics Program and the students involved in the program demonstrated the robots.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

GOODWIN PTO: The President of the PTO was unable to attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Policy Committee: Motion by Mr. Rueckl on behalf of the Policy Committee to approve the Mansfield Board of Education Policy Updates as proposed. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

REGIONAL DISCUSSION ON ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS: Mr. LaPlaca reported he attended a meeting of Region 19 and sending schools' Board Chair and Superintendent to discuss declining enrollment. The group will meet again once the Superintendents' have compiled information requested.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- 2014 – 2015 Budget Calendar: Mr. Baruzzi presented a draft schedule for Board Budget Meetings.
- Draft 2014 Board of Education Meetings: Mr. Baruzzi presented a draft schedule of meetings to be held in 2014. Board will review and adopt on October 24, 2013.
- Board of Education 2013-2014 Goals: Revised Strategies and Evidence: Mr. Baruzzi shared the revised strategies and evidence discussed at the Board Retreat on September 26, 2013.
- 2012-2013 Group Testing Report: Mr. Baruzzi reviewed the 2013 Connecticut Mastery Results and district plans to help children attain the confidence needed to reach mastery.
- Professional Improvement: Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mrs. Holinko to approve the increase in salary, retroactive to the start of the school year as outlined in the current contract between the Mansfield Board of Education and the Mansfield Education Association for Melissa Batulevitz, Michael DiCicco, and Kelly Haggerty. Vote: Unanimous in favor
- Enhancing Student Achievement: Nine new projects will be implemented at the schools in support of this activity.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The principals reported no significant change in class size or enrollment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2013 Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mr. Walikonis, to approve the following items for the Board of Education October 10, 2013 meeting. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the employment of Kimberly Shepherd, Special Education Teacher at Mansfield Middle School effective September 25, 2013.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approved the request for maternity/unpaid childrearing leave effective February 10, 2014 through the end of the 2013-2014 school year by Danielle Heersink, Speech and Hearing Therapist, Vinton School.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: None

MOTION by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mrs. Holinko to move into Executive Session for discussion of strategy with respect to collective bargaining at 9:20pm. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Mr. Baruzzi joined the Board in executive session.

The Board returned to open session at 9:41pm. Motion by Mr. Walikonis to ratify contract with the Mansfield Education Association (MEA) for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018. VOTE Unanimous in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Holinko, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, to adjourn at 9:42pm. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk