

**Mansfield Board of Education**  
**January 23, 2014**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Randy Walikonis, Vice-Chair; Susannah Everett, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl,  
**Absent:** Martha Kelly, Carrie Silver-Bernstein

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

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** The Mansfield Middle School Related Arts team provided a PowerPoint on their programs while the Chamber Chorus sang.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein arrived at 7:35pm.  
Mrs. Kelly arrived at 7:44pm.

**HEARING FOR VISITORS:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Policy Committee:** Mr. Rueckl reported the Policy Committee met twice and has requested the Superintendent and Board Attorney draft a revised policy to be considered.

**Personnel Committee:** Mr. Walikonis reported that negotiations will commence with the Instructional Assistant and Secretaries.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

- Connecticut State Department of Education Technology Investments to Implement Common Core State Standards and Administer Common Core aligned Assessments, Specifically Smarter Balanced Assessments: Jaime Russell, Director of Information Technology reviewed aspects of the grant the district received in the amount of \$165,304.
- Connecticut Coalition for Justice in Education Funding (CCJEF): Mr. Baruzzi reviewed CCJEF school finance lawsuit.
- 2014-2015 School Calendar: Mr. Baruzzi reviewed the proposed 2014-2015 school calendar in conjunction with EASTCONN's regional calendar. The Board will continue review at January 30, 2014 meeting.
- Barrows STEM Academy: Mr. Baruzzi reviewed number of Mansfield students at the STEM Academy and current registration brochure.
- CABA/CAPSS Legislative Agendas: Mr. Baruzzi provided CABA and CAPSS agendas for the current legislative session.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The Principals reported no significant change in class size or enrollment.
- 2014-2015 Proposed Budget – Introduction and Overview: Mr. Baruzzi presented his proposed budget of \$21,036,040 representing an increase of 1.68% from the 2013-2014 budget of \$20,688,160.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Everett, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2013 Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mr. Fratiello, to approve the following items for the Board of Education January 23, 2014 meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Judy Shay, Reading Language Arts Consultant, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Karen Norton, Physical Education teacher at Mansfield Middle School, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the resignation of Elizabeth Schwartz, Spanish/ELL teacher at Goodwin School and Mansfield Middle School, effective February 7, 2014.

That the Mansfield Public Schools approves the request for maternity and unpaid childrearing leave effective the end of April, 2014 through the end of the 2013-2014 Jessica Mongeau, Mansfield Middle School math teacher.

That the Mansfield Public Schools approves the request for maternity and unpaid childrearing leave effective May 4, 2014 through the 2014-2015 school year by Kate Harbec, Vinton School Grade 2 teacher.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Mr. Jim Palmer, Principal Annie Vinton School, expressed regrets on behalf of the administrators for the retirement of Judy Shay and appreciation for all her hard work.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Mr. LaPlaca reported an update on the Religious Pluralism Policy will be on the 1.30.14 agenda. Mrs. Kelly asked for information on the rumor a school building committee had been formed. Mr. Baruzzi reported a school building committee has not been formed.

Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Everett, to adjourn at 10:03pm. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk