

Mansfield Board of Education
February 25, 2014
Minutes

Attendees: Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Randy Walikonis, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, Susannah Everett, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Jay Rueckl

Excused: Carrie Silver-Bernstein

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Ruth Sangree, fourth grade teacher at Southeast School, shared a video on a shared inquiry class and fourth grade students answered questions regarding the class.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein arrived at 7:36pm.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Doug Casa, Tutita Casa, Chris Weinland, and Scott Dupuis spoke regarding the .5 Physical Education position in the proposed 2014-2015 budget.

COMMUNICATIONS: Email communications regarding proposed .5 Physical Education position by John Granniss and the elementary physical education teachers

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Committee: Mr. Walikonis reported negotiations are beginning with the Secretaries Association and Instructional Assistants Union.

Policy Committee: Mr. Rueckl reported the committee will meet on March 4th at 4:30pm to continue their review of the Residents Students Not Attending Public School Policy.

EASTCONN Board: Mrs. Paulhus reported she attended the latest meeting in which they discussed Head Start, voting in schools, and statewide school calendars.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- **Safe Routes to School:** Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development, reported the state Department of Transportation recently notified her that due to additional funding becoming available, the grant application from 2001 is next in line. The application was a Safe Routes to School project to construct a walkway from the intersection of Routes 195 and 89 to the Southeast School. Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Mr. Rueckl, to support the Safe Routes to School project. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- **Mansfield Tomorrow:** Ms. Painter reported on the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan.
- **2013-2014 School Calendar:** Mr. Baruzzi reported there have been five school closings due to weather. If there are more closings, determination will have to be made as to dates to make up additional days.
- **Connecticut's Educator Evaluation and Support System 2013-2014 Flexibility Request Submission Form:** Mr. Baruzzi reviewed the submission form. Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein to approve the Mansfield Public Schools 2013-2014 Flexibility Request Submission Form. Vote: Unanimous in favor
- **Capital Improvement Funds Update:** Mr. William Hammon, Director of Facilities Management, and Mr. Jaime Russell, Director of Information Technology, reviewed expenditures (completed and projected) for capital improvements in the four school buildings.
- **Voting at Vinton School:** Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance, reported on the decision to use Vinton as a voting place. The Board, by consensus, directed Mr. Baruzzi to ask the Registrar to look for another suitable site.
- **Quarterly Financials (M):** Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance, reported the second quarter expenditures and revenues were as expected. Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Everett, to accept the Town of Mansfield/Mansfield Board of Education Quarterly Financial Statements for the Quarter ending December 31, 2013. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- **2014-2015 Proposed Budget – Board Detail Review and Adoption:** Mr. Baruzzi provided answers to questions submitted by individual Board members between meetings. Mrs. Trahan and Mr. Baruzzi answered additional questions by Board members. The Board did not take action on the Budget but plans to do so at the March 13th meeting.

Mrs. Paulhus left at 10:18pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion by Mr. Fratiello, seconded by Mr. Rueckl, to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2014 Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor with Ms. Everett in abstention.

NEW BUSINESS: None

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Adam Ramsdell, Physical Education Teacher at Mansfield Middle School, spoke regarding the .5 Physical Education position in the proposed 2014-2015 budget.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Presentation by Steve May on the Affordable Care Act, Follow-up on Mansfield Tomorrow with Ms. Painter.

Motion by Mr. Walikonis, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, to adjourn at 10:29pm. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk