

Mansfield Board of Education
January 22, 2014
Minutes

Attendees:	Randy Walikonis, Chair, Jay Rueckl, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, Susannah Everett, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Kathy Ward
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The meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by Mr. Walikonis. Mr. Walikonis read a statement regarding the resignation of the Superintendent.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein attended via conference phone.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Ric Hossack regarding cost of audit process and superintendent process. Toni Moran (Town Council) regarding the superintendent issue. David Freudmann regarding superintendent issue. Arthur Smith regarding superintendent issue. Betsy Paterson (Mayor) regarding superintendent process. Virginia Raymond (Town Council) regarding forensic report.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from Mansfield Education Association regarding district professional days.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Lacombe to add to the agenda a discussion of the actions the Board should take in light of the investigation of the superintendent's travel practices and mileage reimbursement and his resignation. Vote: Unanimous in favor

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Committee: Mrs. Lacombe reported there will be an Executive Session following the meeting.

Policy Committee: Mr. Rueckl reported the Town Personnel Committee met regarding the Ethics Code and Gift Giving. Next step is for Policy Committee to review recommendations regarding gifts and invite the administrators and teachers to provide input.

REPORT OF THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT: Dr. Leclerc thanked all Mansfield Board of Education staff for their support during this time.

- 2015-2016 School Calendar: Dr. Leclerc distributed the draft calendar and asked the Board to review. Calendar will be approved at the February 12th meeting.
- Enhancing Student Achievement: Dr. Leclerc reported three new activities supported by the fund.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The administrators reported no significant change in class size or enrollment.
- 2015-2016 Proposed Budget – Introduction and Overview: Dr. Leclerc and Mrs. Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance, reviewed sections one and two of the proposed budget. The proposed budget is \$21,996,750 representing a 3.79% increase from the adopted 2014-2015 budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Everett, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2014 Meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor with Mrs. Lacombe in abstention.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion of the actions the Board should take in light of the investigation of the superintendent's travel practices and mileage reimbursement and his resignation.

Motion by Ms. Lacombe, seconded by Mr. Fratiello, that the Personnel Committee begins the process of finding an interim superintendent. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Mr. Walikonis will contact CABA regarding a meeting on how to have oversight of a superintendent and how to conduct a superintendent search.

Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Ms. Ward, that the Finance Committee draft a summary of proceedings of the superintendent agenda. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Everett that the following item for the Board of Education January 22, 2015 meeting be approved or received for the record with reluctance to accept the retirements of staff members. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Terri Beck, Mansfield Middle School Support Services teacher effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Gayle Hightower, Mansfield Middle School Latin teacher, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Barbara Hunter, Mansfield Middle School seventh grade science teacher effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Dona Stratton, Mansfield Middle School eighth grade social studies teacher, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools accepts the retirement of Deborah Csere, Vinton School third grade teacher effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools approves the request for maternity leave effective March 1, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 by Sara Sroka, Goodwin School grade 2 teacher.

That the Mansfield Public Schools approves the request for maternity and unpaid childrearing leave effective February 4, 2015 through May 8, 2015 school year by Jessica Hodge, Goodwin School grade 4 teacher.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Arthur Smith regarding interim superintendent and special education budget. David Freudmann regarding budget.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Mrs. Kelly requested report on Mansfield Tomorrow and NAEP testing. Ms. Ward requested discussion on professional development.

Motion by Mrs. Lacombe, seconded by Mrs. Everett, to move into Executive Session for the purpose of strategy with respect to collective bargaining. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein joined by phone.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:41pm

Motion by Mrs. Lacombe on behalf of the Personnel Committee to ratify the agreement of the Mansfield Board of Education with CSEA/SEIU, Local 2001, CTW on Behalf of the Mansfield Paraeducators, July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Motion by Ms. Everett, seconded by Mr. Fratiello to adjourn at 9:45pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk