



**MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**  
**Wednesday, October 7, 2015**  
**Council Chambers, Town Hall**  
**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Lisa Dahn, Sarah Delia (staff), Maggie Ferron (staff), Jordana Frost, Jane Goldman, Cindy Guerreri, Sabrina Hosmer, Rachel Leclerc, Jennifer Scanlon, Pat Schneider (staff), Judy Stoughton, Kathy Ward, Ben Wiles, Ana Zeller and Kelly Zimmerman.

**Regrets:** Susan Daley, Lisa Young

**Guests:** Kelly Lyman, Miguel Colon

<i><b>WHAT</b></i>	<i><b>DISCUSSION</b></i>	<i><b>OUTCOME</b></i>
CALL TO ORDER	Maggie Ferron called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.	
CONSENT AGENDA	Approval of the Minutes of September 2, 2015.	<i>The September 2, 2015 meeting minutes were approved.</i>
GUEST SPEAKER	<p><b>Kelly Lyman</b>, Superintendent of Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kelly talked about her background as a Special Ed teacher, a principal for a Pre-K – 2 school and a Grade 1-3 school.</li> <li>• Other topics of discussion include:</li> <li>• Possibility of a full day preschool.</li> <li>• Before and after care for Preschool students.</li> <li>• Universal Pre-K education (currently CT Statutes require school attendance at 7 years).</li> <li>• The school's role in children's health.</li> <li>• Locally grown food, Farm to School program.</li> <li>• Physical education 3 x week.</li> <li>• Food waste, recycling and composting programs in the schools.</li> <li>• Ropes course.</li> <li>• Mileage Club at all 3 elementary schools.</li> <li>• Mental health of students, especially those in younger grades.</li> <li>• Interested in creating a Parent Advisory Committee to assist in two way communication, new initiatives, budget and achievements of schools. She is interested in communication <u>from</u> parents as well. Possibility of designing a whole district activity. Days and times will alternate so most parents will have opportunity to attend at some point.</li> <li>• Mansfield Plan for Young Children – Some data points can be established as a baseline; number of children who attend Pre-K; number</li> </ul>	<i>There should be a representative from MAC on this committee.</i>

	<p>of children from non-English households; absence/attendance/chronically absent data; Performance data – K assessments (5-6 years old); stratify socio-economic status; and non-English speaking households.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent education – parents learning from parents; lead through religious groups, cover cultural differences.</li> <li>• Facilities may be holding us back – schools.</li> <li>• Long range thinking – Goals of BOE; Year 1: Establish clear direction and vision; Year 2: Where do we go and what do we need to do?</li> <li>• On the issue of flipping start times for the schools, Kelly is looking into issue, this is not something the BOE can do by themselves as bus transportation serves many schools and towns.</li> </ul>	
STAFF REPORT	<p><b>Staff Report:</b> Maggie Ferron</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Readiness Slot Allotment Policy: Maggie handed out a flow chart/quiz regarding slot allocation and asked members to fill it out and return to her. There was a question of non-profit vs profit childcare centers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair and Membership Recruitment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Materials, timeline, retirees, bring a friend meeting, elevator speech.</li> </ul> <p><b>Playground Update:</b> Maggie Ferron</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Playground Build is happening this weekend.</li> <li>• DPW did more site work than anticipated.</li> <li>• Now have 130 volunteers, there should be good weather and food donated by businesses for volunteers.</li> <li>• The poured in place surface will be installed slightly later.</li> <li>• The Committee is planning a Ribbon Cutting/Opening Ceremony on October 31 at 10:00am.</li> <li>• The Honors Freshman English class has created a history of the Playground Project. They will interview people involved in the project and committee members as well as graduate students.</li> </ul> <p><b>Website: Communications Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blog posts: New ones always needed.</li> <li>• There is a plan to record the Playground Build through photos, video recording and interviews.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Maggie will check with OEC re: non-profit vs for profit childcare centers.</i></p> <p><i>Maggie will send elevator speech to members.</i></p>

	<p><b>Future Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November Meeting: Ellen Grant of WRTD and Alex Marcellino, WRTD Board Member will join us to discuss Transportation.</li> <li>• December Meeting: OES Strategic Forum – may need to move to another night to accommodate OEC scheduling.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kindergarten Transition Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn into a conversation with parents talking to parents.</li> <li>• Create a document for parents – What do I need to know? What do I wish I had known?</li> <li>• Start earlier than summer before kindergarten.</li> <li>• Possible video clips of Kindergarten children?</li> <li>• Put on agenda for November?</li> </ul>	
<p>ADJOURN</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.</p> <p>Next Executive Council Meeting, <b>Thursday, October 15, 2015, 10:00am – 11:30am, Conference Room C.</b></p> <p>Next Regular MAC Meeting, <b>Wednesday, November 4, 2015, 5:30pm – 7:30pm, Council Chambers</b></p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Sarah Delia, Assistant to the Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	

All Mansfield Children ages birth through 8 years old are healthy, successful learners, and their families are connected to the community.