

# Seymour Board of Education



## NUTRITION, HEALTH, & SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 6, 2018  
Central Office  
6:00 p.m.

- COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Christopher Champagne  
Ed Hendricks  
Jen Magri
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Fred Stanek
- OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Wilson, Superintendent  
Rick Belden, Assistant Superintendent  
Cindy Brooks, Director of Food Services  
Rich Kearns, Director of Security  
Pat Boyle, Board Clerk

### I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Mr. Wilson called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:01 p.m.

### II. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Champagne nominated Dr. Hendricks to be the chairperson. Dr. Hendricks accepted and was appointed the Chairman.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### IV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

#### A. Nutrition Services Program Update-Cindy Brooks

Mrs. Brooks stated that the participation rates for lunch were 62-63% and 17% for the breakfast program. These rates are the same as last year. Social Services is now sending electronic files with families that qualify for Medicaid or Husky. These families no longer have to complete the Free/Reduced form and automatically qualify for free lunches. This added 342 students to the free or reduced list in March. This makes the number of free or reduced students' districtwide to 35% and Chatfield-LoPresti to 41%. This also increased the participation rates by 7%. Mrs. Brooks wanted the committee to know that she is applying for a \$10,000 equipment grant with the hopes of replacing and repairing some of the kitchen equipment at Bungay which is very old. She would like to replace the two door refrigerator as well as the double deck oven which were installed in 1996. Mrs. Brooks informed the committee that with the loss of the TEAM program at Seymour Middle School and the number of snow days; for the first time the lunch program will have a deficit. There is currently a \$142,000 fund balance which will be used to offset the deficit.

#### B. Unpaid Meal Balances-Cindy Brooks

Mrs. Brooks is seeking guidance from the committee on how to handle the unpaid meal balances without resorting to those students that owe money being required to take an alternate lunch. Mrs. Brooks currently has her staff send letters to those families owing more than \$10.00 and then calls them if no payment is sent. Mr. Wilson will talk to Mr. Freund about putting the lunch debt for the graduating class on the obligation list. This would require them to pay the unpaid balance before graduation. The committee will reconvene on August 29, 2018 and make suggestions at that time for the upcoming new school year.

- C. School Safety Forum-Develop Q&A Sheet-Dr. Hendricks  
Dr. Hendricks would like to have question and answer materials for parents so that parents know how to respond to questions their children have about their safety. He would also like parents to know what the Active Shooter Drills consist off so they can talk to their students and possible offset some of the fear and trauma about the drills. After discussion it was decided that there would be a tab placed on the website called "Security Corner" and parents can address their concerns about safety. Mr. Kearns without releasing any information that would compromise our security measures will answer those questions. It was also suggested by Mrs. Magri that an Active Shooter Drill be added to the agenda for Meet the Teacher Night so the parents can actually participate in the drill. They can then better explain the process to their children.
- D. Technology Addiction/Technology's Impact on Student Mental and Physical Health-Dr. Hendricks  
Dr. Hendricks wanted the committee to be aware that Technology Addiction is now recognized by the American Psychiatric Association in the DSM-5. He would like to see about having a Community Forum to address this. Mr. Kearns said he could look into it and partner with Oxford and the Prevention Council. They would also invite other districts to participate.
- E. Active Shooter Drills- are they effective and are they worth the potentially traumatic impact on student's mental and physical health?-Dr. Hendricks  
This was addressed as part of IV. C. above.
- F. \*Matters Concerning Security Strategy or the Deployment of Security Personnel or Devices Affecting Public Security-Mr. Stanek  
*\*It is anticipated that the asterisked items will be discussed in Executive Session from which the public will be excluded.*  
Dr. Hendricks tabled this motion as Mr. Stanek was not able to attend this meeting.

V. **REPORTS**

- A. Chairman's Report  
Dr. Hendricks commented that he appreciated getting notified when ambulances were sent to schools as often the parents' question what happened. A date of August 29, 2018 was chosen for the next meeting of this committee.
- B. Superintendent's Report  
Mr. Wilson wanted the committee to be aware that a parent had sent a letter questioning why we didn't have metal detectors in the schools. In collaboration with Mr. Kearns a letter was sent explaining the fact that with 20-25 entrances in each building and having the required amount of metal detectors and the personnel to man the detectors is not feasible.

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Champagne /sec. Dr. Hendricks to adjourn the meeting at 7:26p.m.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Champagne, Dr. Hendricks

Submitted by:  
Pat Boyle