



# Seymour Board of Education

## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2019  
Seymour Middle School  
6:00 pm

- BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Jim Garofolo  
Kristen Harmeling  
Ed Hendricks  
Peter Kubik  
Jennifer Magri  
Ed Strumello
- BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Christopher Champagne  
Jay Hatfield  
Fred Stanek
- OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools  
Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent  
Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent, Finance & Ops  
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk  
David Olechna  
Jean Sosnovich

### I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Magri called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:17 pm.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. Updated Budget Presentation - Mr. Michael Wilson

Ms. Magri asked each Board member if they had any additional questions and none did. Ms. Magri noted that with the changes that were requested the budget went from 1.67% to 1.95%. She discussed appendix e positions, noted that the secretary bargaining unit would be entering negotiations soon and she understood there is a settlement reserve for this. Rick noted that this is on the worksheet but not in the budget. Ms. Magri asked for more information on grant salaries saying she feels the Board needs to gain a better understanding of grants and they should know the numbers coming in and going out. She said given everything in the press today she feels this would be good for the Board to know. Ms. Magri asked if the interim Business Manager would be up to date for the budget meeting with the Town Board of Finance and Mr. Wilson said he has not gotten a confirmed date for this yet. Ms. Harmeling talked about having more detail regarding curricular costs line 611 and 641 saying she would like to see a summary of what we are buying. She feels the public wants to know what we are buying. Mr. Belden said this is not currently possible with the way our system is set up and this is something the new Business Manager would have to put in place. Ms. Harmeling felt that this could be an issue in a tough budget year.

Ms. Magri noted that the enrollment projections have been updated but we still need the projected enrollment for the middle school and the high school. Ms. Magri asked about the need for a memorandum of understanding from the Administrators Union. She noted that Dr. Boyle's base salary was incorrect and a stipend was not shown originally but has now been corrected. Mr. Wilson said the Town had been informed of the situation with Johnson Controls. Ms. Magri said the full time music teacher could be changed back to part time if a full time position is not supported by enrollment. Ms. Harmeling asked if the Board had a position on where we want to be on SRO's? What is it that the Board would like to see? Ms. Magri said she felt that it should be on the Police Department budget. Ms. Harmeling said they are fulfilling the role of a police officer. The Board currently contributes \$50,000 for the SRO. Mr. Strumello asked if this is the right time to talk about the field. Mr. Wilson said the Town is supposed to be putting money aside for field maintenance and it is not on our budget. He said he felt we should formally remind the Town and he would be willing to draft a letter to the Town on behalf of the Board of Education. Mr. Strumello and Ms. Magri liked the idea of an official reminder. Ms. Magri said she would also speak to Town officials and remind them of the original agreement. Mr. Garofolo asked if we knew of any towns who partnered with enterprise so they would get naming rights and in exchange would take over the maintenance of the field. Mr. Wilson said Ansonia did banners but he thought it would be difficult to find someone to take on the whole expense of field maintenance. He noted that both the Town and the School Board would have to agree since the fields are owned by the Town. Mr. Garofolo said you cannot find if you do not seek and suggested that we ask the Town to look into this. Why not explore other options?

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Dr. Hendricks) to approve the Superintendent's recommended 2019-20 education budget of \$34,175,838 which represents an increase of \$653,561 (1.95%) as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Strumello

**MOTION PASSES:** 6-0

**MOTION:** (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Dr. Hendricks) to adjourn

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Kubik, Ms. Magri, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 6: 57 pm.

Submitted by:  
Lee-Ann Dauerty  
Board Clerk