



## ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 18, 2019  
Seymour High School  
7:00 p.m.

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 6/19/19  
TIME: 11:30 AM  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Kristen Harmeling  
Pete Kubik  
Ed Strumello  
Jen Magri

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mike Wilson, Superintendent  
Jim Freund, SHS Principal  
Cathy Federowicz, Interim Athletic Director  
Cheryl Michaud  
Amanda Michaud  
Paul Sponheimer  
Pat Boyle, Board Clerk

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

A. Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:14 p.m.

II. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

III. **DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION**

A. Unified Cheer Team

Mr. Strumello asked Cheryl Michaud to explain to the committee her request. Cheryl Michaud stated that she had been involved in cheerleading for over 22 years and had started a Challenger Cheer Team two years ago in conjunction with Pop Warner to allow students with disabilities to be able to participate in a cheer program that otherwise they would be unable to do. She is seeking board approval for them to sponsor her program so that these students could participate as a team for longer than the 6 week Pop Warner schedule. This would be a Unified Team with surrounding towns participating. They would be separate from the middle and high school squads but could possibly be included in a routine or two. They could also compete in exhibitions. The board asked if she had approached Special Olympics. Mrs. Michaud said she had and at this time Special Olympics doesn't include cheerleading in their program. The board has asked Mr. Freund and Ms. Federowicz to look into all of the specifics of adding a Unified Cheer Team so as not to break any CIAC rules. The committee was happy to sponsor this worthwhile program.

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/Sec. Mr. Kubik) move to the full board the creation of a Unified Cheer Team for the Seymour Public Schools.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Strumello

B. Supervision of Athletes-Cathy Federowicz

Ms. Federowicz has concerns over the supervision of sports teams from the end of the school day until the coaches arrive. The football team's coaches are not going to be at the school until 3:45-4:00 p.m. This may affect other teams as well. Girls Soccer is still seeking a head coach and could also fall into this category. There was a lengthy discussion on the best way to handle this. Thoughts were to keep the monitor paraprofessional until the coach arrives for a mandatory study hall or possibly having the athletic trainer come in earlier to get the team ready to go for the coach. Mr. Freund said the football team currently has 51 participants which is too many for one person to watch. Mr. Sponheimer stated that having a 2 hour void in a student's time could limit participation. After discussion the committee asked Mr. Freund and Ms. Federowicz to meet to discuss possible solutions.

C. Use of State Temporary One Year Coaching Permit-Cathy Federowicz  
Ms. Federowicz stated that we currently don't allow 1 year temporary permits. She asks the committee to reconsider this as it is a good way for a coach to get a feel for the job. Currently we are limiting ourselves to coaches with the 5 year permit. Mr. Wilson said we did this to keep people from getting a 1 year permit and then getting a 1 year permit the next year. The committee had no problem with the 1 year permit as long as it is used properly.

D. Grade for Participation of Athletics-Cathy Federowicz

Ms. Federowicz said currently athletes only needed to pass 4 classes with a 60 or higher. She felt that athletes should be held to a higher standard as it is a privilege to participate in sports. She would like to see the requirement by increased to 5 classes with a 65 or better. Mr. Freund was representing clubs and said he was in agreement with it being for all extracurricular activities. Ms. Harmeling thought we should raise it even higher than this. Mr. Freund said he didn't want to do that at this time as we may lose some students who struggle academically.

**MOTION:** (Ms. Harmeling/Sec. Mr. Kubik) move to the full board the motion that participation in sports and clubs will require students to pass 5 classes with a 65 or better.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Strumello

E. Weekend use of Building for Practice-Cathy Federowicz

Ms. Federowicz wanted to bring to the committee's attention that we are paying a custodian for an extended amount of time on weekends when no one is in the building. Example, Baseball comes at 8:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m. on a game day, goes to the game and comes back 4 or 5 hours later. She stated that the fob system allows the administration to know who opened the door and who was in the building and if there is an issue with a coach not re-activating the alarm it should be addressed with the coach. Mr. Wilson said that the custodians are not idle during this time. Mr. Connors gives them a job list that they need to work on while they are in the building. The committee felt this was a topic that could be revisited at a later time.

F. Use of Athletic Trainer (Monday to Friday 2:30-3:15)-Cathy Federowicz

Ms. Federowicz felt we needed to adjust the times of the athletic trainer. The trainer sometimes arrives after a team has left for their event. She also mentioned we have an athletic trainer on staff and could possibly use her until the contracted trainer arrives. Mr. Wilson said we have the right to adjust the trainers schedule and should go to the contracted trainers and see if we can't handle the issue with them first.

**IV. REPORTS**

A. Chairman's Report

None

B. Superintendent's Report

None

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Kubik/sec. Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Strumello

Submitted by:  
Pat Boyle