

Seymour Board of Education SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2020

Zoom

7:00 pm

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 9/3/20
TIME: 10:05 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kristen Bruno
Christopher Champagne
James Garofolo (7:19 pm)
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Peter Kubik
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Beth Nesteriak
Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
Sherry Holmes, Business Manager
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Rob Dyer, System Technology Coordinator
Rebecca Bennett

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:03 p.m.

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION

A. New Positions

1. Permanent Building Substitutes

Job Description, Salary Information, Comparisons

Ms. Harmeling stated that she would vote yes because she believes in the position but feels we should not be using CARES money to fund the position. She also does not agree with the salary and feels it is too low to attract candidates. Mr. Champagne asked what a regular long-term substitute would make and Mr. Wilson explained a long-term sub would go on Step 1 of the teachers' contract after 40 days. Ms. Bruno pointed out that the permanent building substitutes would receive benefits. Ms. Holmes said the permanent building substitutes' salary and benefits rate would be in accordance with the teachers' contract.

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Mr. Kubik) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to add the position of Permanent Building Substitute, one for each school, for Bungay School, Chatfield-LoPresti School, Seymour Middle School and Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

2. Health Aides

Job Description, Salary Information

Ms. Bruno asked if health aides have been in the budget in the past. Ms. Holmes said they have not. Ms. Harmeling said she remembers that the nurses had a clerical paraprofessional in the office in the past but they did not have health experience. This job requires more experience in the health field. Mr. Stanek said he would like to hear from Ms. Bennett. Ms. Bennett said she was thankful for these positions. They will help triage the students who visit the nurse's office. Teachers will call before sending any student to the nurse's office. Each nurses' office will be equipped with an isolation unit and this unit must be separate from the nurses office. Trailers have been ordered. She explained the health aides must have medical experience and be able to recognize respiratory distress. They will be with any student who is suspected of having COVID-19 until their parents can come and pick them up. They will have all the necessary PPE to keep them safe. Ms. Harmeling asked if we have the PPE and about the trailer. She said the trailers would be ordered in the next couple of days. Health aides will triage, answer phones, treat routine injuries and administer medication. They will be busy; Ms. Bennett said she was seeing 60-80 students a day before the pandemic. Mr. Garofolo asked if \$20/hour is an appropriate salary for a position like this. Ms. Bennett has done her research and has found this is an adequate salary for someone with good experience. She feels we can get good help at this rate. Ms. Holmes agreed.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Stanek) to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to add the position of health aide for Bungay School, Chatfield-LoPresti School, Seymour Middle School, and Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

ABSTAIN: Mr. Garofolo

MOTION PASSES: 7-0-1

III. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Hatfield/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Bruno, Mr. Champagne, Mr. Garofolo, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Kubik, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

MOTION PASSES: 8-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk

Youtube Link:

<https://youtu.be/Fz53BH642g>