

Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education Update

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Superintendent of Schools

Issue #3

September 2008

Information regarding the current status of the Mansfield Public Schools: items, issues, challenges, and opportunities district staff addressed during the month, as well as upcoming district and school events.

Enrollment

Grade	GW	SE	VN	Grade	MMS	District
PreK	20	21	21	5	140	
K	40	42	36	6	143	
1	35	44	50	7	137	
2	32	52	49	8	161	
3	36	51	49			
4	38	37	46			
Total	201	247	250		581	1279

- One family notified the district of their intent to home school 3 children. Year to date total: 5 families with 10 students.
- Received an inquiry from the Hampton Public Schools regarding the possibility of sending approximately twenty 7th and 8th graders to MMS next year.

Connecticut Mastery Test – Fourth Generation Results

#/% of students at/above goal

Grade	Math	Writing	Reading	Science
3 – 122	96/78.7%	95/77.9%	83/68%	-----
4 – 132	92/69.7%	95/73.1%	89/68.5%	-----
5 – 141	115/81.6%	116/84.1%	109/77.3%	121/85.8%
6 – 136	103/75.7%	92/67.6%	106/78.5%	-----
7 – 159	126/79.7%	125/78.6%	135/86%	-----
8 – 150	150/74.5%	119/78.5%	125/83.9%	127/84.7%

- Received 2006-2007 District Annual Performance Reports & Determination regarding Special Education Services
- Reviewed final No Child Left Behind (NCLB) reports that indicated all individual schools received Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) but the district as a whole did not reach AYP for two sub-groups.
 - Special Education – Reading & Mathematics
 - Free/Reduced Lunch – Reading
- Students not reaching goal in one or more areas: (current grade)

Gr. 4 – 51/41%	Gr. 7 – 59/43.4%
Gr. 5 – 64/48.5%	Gr. 8 – 49/30.6%
Gr. 6 – 49/34.8%	Gr. 9 – 37/30%

Budget

- Implemented budget reductions adopted by the MBOE at its September 11, 2008 meeting.
- Discussed with MBOE members and district administrators budget realities, assumptions, and priorities for the 08-09 and 09-10 school years.
- Food Service Comparison:

Aug./Sept. 2007-2008		Aug./Sept. 2008-2009	
Paid Meals	Total Meals	Paid Meals	Total Meals
11,108	15,510	12,363	17,872

Personnel

	Certified	Non-Certified
Retirements	0	0
Resignations	0	1
Requests for Leave	0	1
New Hires	0	5

- Reached agreement with Mansfield Administrators Association 2009-2012 contract
- Reached agreement during mediation session with Instructional Assistants (SEIU) 2008-2011.
- Conducted training for 12 new substitute teachers on September 9, 2008 bringing total number of substitutes to 39.

District: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Including Instructional Technology Applications

- Initiated building Level Tier I, II, III meetings
- Implemented with all K-5 Mathematics teachers a year one plan for *Bridges in Mathematics*.
- Implemented with all appropriate staff the plan for Houghton Mifflin: *Legacy of Literacy*.
- Disseminated summer curriculum work completed by teachers.
- Met with district & Region 19 English staff to discuss with Dr. Monti his Language Arts report.
- Conducted fall assessments in Language Arts/Reading.
- Conducted initial meeting of Response to Intervention/Scientific Research-Based Interventions (RTI/SRBI) district committee.
- Deployed 17 document cameras at 4 school buildings to support mathematics program.
- Initiated curriculum evaluations in Math, PE, Music, FCS, and IT with Ashford, Willington, & Region 19.

Policies

- Completed review of MBOE policies with the policy committee (September 3rd) and presented policies to MBOE (September 11th) for adoption to include new common format with Region 19 at its next regular meeting.

Building and Grounds

- Distributed Mansfield Middle School fuel conversion plans to bidders.
- Received 6 bids regarding fuel conversion at MMS.
- Completed repairs to music room at Mansfield Middle School damaged by resident as the result of a driving lesson.
- Awaiting resolution regarding rain leaking on occasion into Mansfield Middle School library.
- Began relocation of Southeast refuse containers.
- Conducted water testing that indicated no current problems at any school.
- Implemented composting at all 4 schools.
- Disseminated Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) to all schools and reviewed procedures with principals.
- Conducted through the building committee, a public hearing on the Four Schools Renovation Project.

Programs

- Provided training & certification to Physical Education teachers regarding indoor & outdoor elements at the three elementary schools & middle school.
- Initiated monthly meetings between school psychologists & Mansfield Youth Services Bureau to address individual/group needs within our school programs.
- Initiated beginning band for grade four students at MMS.
- Developed schedule for Mobile Dentist fall visit.

Communication

- Held initial meeting with Tri-Town Superintendents.
- Held meetings with bargaining unit leaders.
- Advertised Building Committee Public Workshop through "kid mail", postcard mailed to all Town Residents, web site posting, and META mail.
- Disseminated Administrative Council minutes to all staff.
- Conducted first Technology Committee 08-09 meeting via video conferencing from all 4 school locations.
- Attended initial meeting of PTO/PTA/MMSA organizations.
- Conducted an Open House at each school.
- Conducted two *Bridges in Mathematics* parent meetings.

Security

- Implemented buzzers and cameras at designated doors at each school.
- Implemented the use of proximity cards by all staff.
- Resolved minor malfunctions as they occurred.
- Prepared and submitted application for year two security grant.

Professional Development

- Held second meeting of professional learning communities for 141 certified staff in 13 course offerings.
- Conducted K-4 meetings with grade level teachers and district math and language arts consultants to review grade level issues.
- Conducted holistic scoring of grade 2-8 writing prompts.
- Initiated training regarding scoring of *Bridges in Mathematics* pre/post assessments.
- Scheduled initial district professional development

Technology

Administrative Applications

- Continued work on creating a district curriculum web page.
- Continued set-up & training of automated system for recording substitutes.
- Implemented spread sheet submission of fall language arts assessments.
- Initiated review of library system software.

Energy

- Provided building level data regarding energy usage.
- Implemented school building energy committees.
- Implemented new guidelines for after school building use in an effort to reduce energy consumption.

Other

- Attended Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents New Superintendent Orientation.
- Participated in September meeting of Blueprint for Mansfield's Children Leadership Work Group and participated in the Results Based Accountability (RBA) Institute with selected members from the Leadership Work Group.
- Attended Neag School's Assessment Colloquium.
- Initiated diesel bus grant random survey to 300 parents in all four schools.

Additional information will be provided upon request by calling 429.3350 or by emailing mboesupt@mansfieldct.org.

Upcoming Events in October:

Please join us at any/all of these events

GW	SE	VN
Safety and Fire Prevention Day 10/8/08	Dr. Jane Bluestein District Presentation 10/2/08 4:00pm	Assembly , CT Opera Express 10/1/08 10:15am
<i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> Parent Meeting 10/9/08 6:30pm	Character Education Assembly 9/3/08 3:00pm	Safety and Fire Prevention Day 10/6/08
Hiking F. T. Gr. 3 10/10/08	PTO Carnival 10/4/08 10:00am – 3:00pm	Assembly, Celebrate Vinton 10/16/08 1:15pm
PTO Meeting 10/15/08 6:30pm	Parents' Hour/PTO Meeting 10/6/08 6:00pm	PTA Dance Night 10/17/08 6:00pm
Town Meeting 10/21/08 1:15pm	Safety and Fire Prevention Day 10/9/08	
	Buell's Orchard F.T. Gr. 1 10/9/08	<i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> Parent Meeting 10/20/08 7:00pm
	Sturbridge Village F.T. Gr. 2 10/17/08	Hurst Farm F.T. Kindergarten 10/20/08
	Buchanan Library F.T. Gr. 3 10/24/08	Baker Woods F.T. P.M.PreK 10/21/08
	Mashantucket Pequot Museum F.T. Gr. 4 10/31/08	
MMS		
Boston F.T. Gr. 8 10/17/08	Halloween Window Painting Storrs Commons 10/18/08	Middle School Education Week/Book Fair 10/20-24/08
Fall Country Dance 10/21/08 7:00pm	Smokehouse, Fire Safety Gr. 5 10/22/08	Science Center F.T. Gr. 5 10/24/08
District		
Building Committee TBD 5:00pm	BOE 10/16/08 7:30pm	Mobile Dentist at MMS October 21, 2008

School Newsletters:

Attached are the most recent school newsletters from Mansfield Middle, Goodwin, and Southeast Schools.