

Board of Education Minutes
June 21, 2017

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Carlson, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. McCord, Mrs. Buzzee, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. St. Germain, and Mr. Chaney. Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Student Chris Orr led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First - None.
4. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Contract Negotiations – On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. for the Purpose of Contract Negotiations and to invite Attorney Grello into such session. Mr. Mathwich joined the meeting via telephone. Mr. Karpinski and Mr. McCord did not take part in Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:22 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to move Item 12a to Item 5.

5. New Business – a. Ratification of Tentative Bargaining Agreement Between the North Stonington Board of Education and Local 1303-134, of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO – On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted four in favor and two abstentions to ratify the tentative bargaining agreement between the North Stonington Board of Education and Local 1303-134 of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. Mr. Karpinski and Mr. McCord abstained. After the vote, Mr. Mathwich was no longer taking part in the meeting. Mr. Nero thanked the AFSCME unit and the president, Linda Beattie, and the staff representative Kelly Cashman. He said the negotiations went smoothly and the contract was settled before the expiration date of the current contract.

6. Community Relations – Mr. Nero had comment.
7. Presentations – a. Junior Class Trip – Students Chris Orr and Emma Morgan presented a proposal to the Board for their senior class trip. They explained the proposed trip to Pennsylvania. They would leave on Friday, May 18th and return on Sunday, May 20th. They reviewed the proposed itinerary. Board members asked questions. There was comment that the class is trying to include more students in the trip. On a motion by Mrs. Buzzee, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Class of 2018's proposed trip to Pennsylvania for next May.

8. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. Wilkison spoke of the end-of-year activities that included PBIS event, the concerts, field day, the Flag Day ceremony, grade 5 promotion, and DARE graduation. Trooper Morales is retiring and they wish him the best. Melissa Lincoln-Fortier was recognized as was Sharon Thompson. She elaborated. All of her staff has been hired. Mrs. St. Germain said the last two weeks were a whirlwind with underclassmen awards, grade 8 class night, the retirement celebration, and graduation. Mrs. St. Germain passed out a schedule that will be used beginning in 2018-2019. Mr. Nero commented that this fits within the contract and the NSEA and administration have met to go over everything. Mrs. St. Germain said this has been in the works for 4 years. She had further comment on the schedule. Mr. Chaney further explained the schedule. Instructional time has increased. He elaborated. Mrs. St. Germain had further comment. Mr. Nero had comment. Questions were asked and answered.

9. Administrative – a. Minutes – a. May 31, 2017 – Mr. Karpinski made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia to accept the minutes of the May 31, 2017, meeting. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero had comment. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Correspondence – None.

c. Personnel – Mr. Nero said Mrs. Costa has interviewed over the last couple of weeks. Mr. Nero had comment. Mr. Mendolia made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to allow the hiring of the special education teacher at Step 8. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed with four voting in favor and one against. Mrs. Buzzee voted against the motion.

10. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero said they have already talked about the block scheduling and the program supervisors' job descriptions are coming up in the agenda. Mr. Nero spoke of the end-of-year activities.

b. BOE Chairperson – None.

c. Committee Chairperson – None.

d. LEARN Board of Directors' Liaison – None.

e. PSPBC Liaison – None.

f. Building Committee – None.

11. Finance - a. May 2017 Financial Statements – Mr. Karpinski made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to approve the financial statements for the period ending May 31, 2017. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Transfer Requests – Mr. Karpinski made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia to approve the May 2017 transfers. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Old Business – a. Approval of Budget for Building Project(s) – Mr. Rusty Malik of Quisenberry Arcari spoke of the form that needs a signature from the superintendent and Board Chairman. He elaborated. He said we had received our building permits today and that was critical. He reviewed the specifications and explained them. He reviewed the site plans and had explanation of all the items that are included. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero asked for clarification on the vote and Mr. Malik explained. Paul Wojtowicz from the Downes Corporation passed out a summary of the budget. He spoke of the contingencies and explained. He spoke of the overall grant budget and his discussion with the Department of Administrative Services. There was comment. Questions were asked and answered. There was further comment. Mr. Carlson complemented Mr. Wojtowicz. On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to certify that these final plans and project manuals as prepared for bidding and dated June 16, 2017, and the professional cost estimate for this project dated June 16, 2017, have been reviewed and approved for this site on the dates shown above.

b. Tuition Students – Mr. Carlson said there has been discussion regarding tuition students and discipline. There was discussion about postponing this discussion to another meeting. There was further comment. This item will be postponed to the July meeting.

13. New Business – a. Program Supervisors' Job Descriptions – Mr. Nero said there are program supervisors now in the contract and he explained. The administrators and the union met regarding these. He explained these would have gone to the Student Success Committee but there was not enough time for that. On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to approve the job descriptions for the program supervisors for the high school.

14. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – July 12, 2017, is the next regular meeting.

b. Committee Action List – None.

15. Public Comment – None.

On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education