

Board of Education Minutes
January 10, 2018

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Mathwich, Ms. Welborn, Mr. McCord, Dr. Robert, Dr. Potemri, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. St. Germain (8:05 p.m.), and Mr. Chaney. Chairman Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – Selectman Robert Carlson said the Board of Selectmen wants to try to bring the budget to a vote in May this year and he elaborated. They are trying to streamline it and have the Board present the budget to the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen at the same time. He had further comment. He also said that Charlie Smith from the fair committee wanted to be present but he couldn't attend. They are looking for a freshman or sophomore to do the fair booklet and he explained. Mr. Nero had comment.
4. Community Relations – Mr. Nero said the North Stonington Education Foundation has a meeting tomorrow. They met last month at the Westerly Education Center and he elaborated. The trivia contest is on February 2nd and the snow date has been changed to Saturday, February 10th. He had further comment on the contest.
5. Presentations – a. Class of 2018 Giveback Club Texas Trip – Mrs. Rebecca Schilke introduced herself and thanked the Board for their support. She said she received a lot of praise for our students. The students taking part on the trip were Chris Orr, Anna Hundt, Kelsey MarcAurele, Kevin Velez, and Matthew Mendolia. The students reviewed the slideshow they prepared and spoke of their experiences. Mrs. Schilke spoke of how thankful everyone was for the students' help and also their respect. She had further comment. She said it was a life-changing experience for her and the students.
6. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. Wilkison said this week is technology week with parents and grandparents coming in and she elaborated. Fifth grade student council members will be attending the leadership council at CAS. Drama club is doing Disney's Little Mermaid Junior on March 23rd in the evening and March 24th in the afternoon. She commended her staff for their flexibility this year with the building situation. Mr. Nero had comment and referenced the fire drill. Mr. Chaney said they are bringing 10 students to the Westerly Education Center on Friday. They are looking to open this up to juniors and seniors. They will be building an application and screening process. Mr. Chaney had further comment. Mid-terms are January 23rd-26th. He spoke of mental health

strategies in the advisory groups. He elaborated. The second quarter is almost over and he had further comment. Mr. Chaney will bring a sample copy of the academic expectation report to the next meeting. Board members had questions and comment.

7. Administrative – a. Minutes – December 11, 2017 Special Meeting – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Dr. Potemri, the Board voted seven in favor and one abstention to accept the minutes of the December 11, 2017, special meeting. Mr. Karpinski abstained.

December 13, 2017 – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Dr. Potemri to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2017, meeting. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed with seven voting in favor and one abstention to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2017, meeting. Mr. Karpinski abstained.

b. Correspondence – Mr. Nero told the Board he sent a letter via email that was addressed to the Board of Education.

c. Personnel – None.

8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero said there was a meeting held regarding the finances of the building project. Mr. Nero said they also met about the project phasing and had further comment. A phone conference was held with Michelle Dixon of the Department of Administrative Services. A meeting was held with Mr. Boucher, Mr. Pont, Mr. Nero and members of the committee and Mr. Nero explained. Mr. Nero and the team from Downes Construction met with the administrators to go over the phasing. He said everything is tentative until we get firm dates. The North Stonington Quarterly has come out and he has started to go over some of that. In the next week or two we will have some firm dates for the project. Questions were asked and answered. The environmental concerns letter went out to DEEP before vacation. The environmental team was in during break doing swipe tests, etc. The PTO meeting this past month was cancelled. He, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Mackela, Sandy Welwood, and Dan Spring met and went over things. He had further comment. Mr. Nero said he, Mrs. Martin and Mr. Pont met with the town government twice on a program and had further comment. Further questions were asked and answered.

b. BOE Chairperson – Mrs. Wagner said there was an all-board meeting on Monday and she explained. There was comment. The Board of Selectmen meeting is next Tuesday and they are asking all Board members to attend.

c. School Modernization Building Committee – Dr. Potemri said it was very important for everyone to attend the selectmen meeting. They are waiting on the last two bids to come in. They will come to a GMP tomorrow and she explained. Downes Construction came in with four different options and she explained. She had further comment. After the meeting on Tuesday, they will get the forms to the USDA. She had further comment. Board members had comment.

- d. Committee Chairperson – The Student Success Committee met and elected Jen Welborn as chairperson. Action will be taken later in the agenda. The Community Involvement Committee will meet at a later date.
- e. LEARN Board of Directors’ Liaison – None.
- f. PSPBC Liaison – None.
- 9. Finance - None.
- 10. Old Business – a. Environmental Concerns – Covered above in Superintendent’s Report.
- b. Policy Review – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Dr. Potemri to accept the revisions and changes as listed in policy and regulation 5125, policy and regulation 5131, policy 5141.3, and to rescind policy 5144. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously. (Regulation 5141.3 was not approved at this time.)
- c. Board Members Concerns/Topics of Discussion – None.
- 11. New Business – None.
- 12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – February 20th is the FOI presentation. January 16th is the Selectmen’s meeting, January 29th is a Tri-Board meeting, and January 24th is the next regular meeting.
- b. Committee Action List – None.
- 13. Public Comment – None.
- 14. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Personnel Matter – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 8:44 p.m. for the Purpose of Personnel Matter.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

- 15. Salaries/Benefits of Non-Bargaining Unit Staff – No action taken.

On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Ms. Welborn, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to the Board of Education