

Board of Education Minutes
February 28, 2018

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, February 28, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler High School Shaw Media Center. Present were Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Karpinski, Ms. Welborn, Mr. McCord, Dr. Robert (7:10 p.m.), Dr. Potemri, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. St. Germain, Mr. Chaney, Mr. Pont, and Mr. Boucher. Chairperson Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.

On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to move item 7 to item 5 and to add Revisit of 2017-2018 School Calendar to the addenda.

4. Community Relations – Mr. Nero spoke of the education foundation and their upcoming meeting and the road race.
5. Administrative – a. Minutes – February 14, 2018 – On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Ms. Welborn, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2018, meeting.
 - b. Correspondence – None.
 - c. Personnel – Mr. Nero said a paraprofessional was hired for the remainder of the year for the high school. Questions were answered.

On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to move item 8 to item 6.

6. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero commented on the building project. He said central administration will be out of the current office on Friday, March 2nd. He thanked the administration at the middle/high school for finding space for the office. He thanked Mr. Pont and Mr. Boucher. He said everything from our building has to be removed and he elaborated. He had further comment. He thanked Mrs. McCarthy, Mrs. Mackela, and Mrs. Martin. Porta Potties will be delivered for spring sports. He had further comment on how moving preparations are coming along. (Will be continued after the presentation.)
7. Presentations – a. School Project Phasing – Steve Smith of Downes introduced himself. He introduced the project superintendent Giovanni Bernardinelli. He had further comment. Mr. Smith explained phase 1 of the project. Questions were asked and answered. He reviewed phase 2 which will happen during the summer. He explained the timing of the phases. He said it begins this March and ends in March of next year. At that point, the elementary project will begin. Questions were asked and answered. He explained that at bus time, nobody leaves

the construction area. He said they are very in tune to the school operations. Phase 3 is the elementary school and he reviewed that. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero had explanation. In March of 2020 the elementary school will be finished. He explained the warranty on the buildings. He said they continue to provide support. Further questions were asked and answered.

Reports continued - Superintendent's Report continued – Mr. Nero said they met with all parties involved in the building project. Yesterday meeting was about processing paperwork for reimbursement and he elaborated. He met with Downes to review the phasing presentation that they saw tonight. He said we need to be patient and flexible. Mr. Nero said all the testing we did in December, including our remediation plans, are all online. The testing results were very good. He has been in touch with Eagle Environmental and DEP in Boston. He had further comment on the testing. Our last testing will be next December because the kids will be out of the elementary school. Everything looks pretty good. The PTO meeting has been moved to Wednesday, March 7th. On Monday is National Honor Society Induction. Tomorrow they are meeting regarding an alternative location for graduation. Foxwoods has offered the Fox Theatre. He elaborated. He spoke of the Freedom of Information workshop given by Tom Hennick. He had comment on the workshop and what was reviewed. A question was asked about the graduation party.

b. BOE Chairperson – Mrs. Wagner said she and Ms. Welborn attended a school start time workshop. She said it was very interesting and had further comment. She said they got a lot of good information. The Board is having a workshop on March 17th and a committee will be formed to look into this further. Mr. Nero had comment. Questions were asked and answered. Mrs. Wagner asked Mr. Chaney to speak about the school safety committee. He said they met today and he explained what they spoke about at the meeting. Questions were asked and answered.

c. Committee Chairperson – Nothing to report.

d. LEARN Board of Directors' Liaison – Dr. Potemri said a meeting is coming up.

e. PSPBC Liaison – None.

f. Building Committee – Mrs. Wagner said she and Dr. Potemri have been in constant contact. Dr. Potemri and Mr. Nero met with two people from a subsidiary of The Day. There will be weekly updates, etc. on the building project. He said they do this all the time and should be done soon. Dr. Potemri had comment. Mr. Nero said Jay Peterson and a committee will be taking pictures during the entire building process.

8. Administrators' Reports –None.

9. Finance - a. January 2018 Financial Statements – There was not a committee meeting. Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Karpinski to accept the Financial Statements for the period ending January 31, 2018. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Old Business – a. Environmental Concerns – Covered above.

b. Policy Review – Policy 6111 – On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to approve policy 6111.

6146.2 – On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to approve policy 6146.2.

6172.1 – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to approve policy 6172.1.

c. 2017-2018 School Calendar – Ms. Welborn made a motion that was seconded by Dr. Potemri to accept the proposed changes to the 2017-2018 school calendar. Mrs. Wagner had explanation of the proposed changes to the high/middle school and elementary school calendars. The motion passed unanimously.

d. 2018-2019 School Calendar – Mrs. Wagner explained the conversations held that led to this calendar. She reviewed the individual calendars. On a motion by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Dr. Potemri, the Board voted unanimously to approve the calendars for the 2018-2019 school year.

e. 2018-2019 Proposed Education Budget – Mr. Nero had comment. A workshop will be held on March 7th at 5:30 p.m. for the budget. Questions were asked and answered on the proposed budget. Mr. Nero had comment. Mr. Nero gave the history of the budget percentage increases. He had comment on various items in the budget. Questions were asked and answered by administrators. Selectman Carlson had comment. Mrs. Wagner had comment.

e. Bus Scheduling Discussion – This will be discussed at a future meeting.

f. Board Member Concerns/Topics of Discussion – None.

11. New Business – None.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – March 7th will be a budget workshop and the next regular meeting is March 14th.

b. Committee Action List – None.

13. Public Comment – None.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. for the Purpose of Superintendent’s Goals and School Security.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:55 p.m.

On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education