

Board of Education Minutes  
October 26, 2016

**DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, October 26, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Carlson, Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Mathwich, Mr. Karpinski, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero and Mrs. Allen. Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.
4. Community Relations – None.
5. Presentations – None.
6. Administrators’ Reports – None.
7. Administrative – a. Minutes – October 12 2016 – On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2016, meeting.
- b. Correspondence – None.
- c. Personnel – None.
8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero deferred to Mr. Carlson for the Board Chairperson’s report.
- b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. Carlson said the planning committee of the Tri-Board met and the meetings will be cut back. He explained. The first meeting is scheduled for January and will be tied in to the financial meeting of the Tri-Board. He said with three months in between meetings they should be able to get agenda items.
- c. Committee Chairperson – The Facilities and Finance Committee met and action will be taken later in the agenda.
- d. LEARN Board of Directors’ Liaison – Nothing to report.
- e. PSPBC Liaison – Nothing to report.
- f. Building Committee – Mr. Mathwich said the environmental services bids were reviewed. Eagle Environmental was the contractor of choice and the Selectmen approved that. Within the month, they will finalize the arrangement and once they agree on that, the detailed drawings will be done. He explained what was adjusted

in the plans and it was mainly for practicality purposes. There was comment. Mr. Nero said Mr. Malik and Mr. Urgo will be speaking to the administrators. Mr. Nero had comment.

9. Finance - a. – September 2016 Financial Statements – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mrs. Wagner to approve the financial statements dated September 30, 2016.

10. Old Business – a. Educational Specifications – Mrs. Wagner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia to approve the revised educational specifications for the roof project. There was comment. Mr. Nero explained that one department at the State wanted the ed. specs. adjusted in this way. It doesn't change anything in the project. There was further comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the revision.

11. New Business – a. Transportation on Private Roads – Mr. Carlson had comment. Mr. Mathwich said the issue is one particular road. Mrs. Wagner explained the bus picks them up at the end of the road in the morning. Mr. Mathwich had comment about the road and whether the town chooses not to plow it. Mr. Mathwich read from the state statute. Mr. Nero had comment on the bus drivers and how they had been going down the road when they were not supposed to. He elaborated and had further comment. There was discussion as to whether the road was up to municipal standards. There was further comment. Mr. Murphy, First Selectman, had comment. He said the town has been plowing the road because the bus went down. The town had been checking periodically and found out that students had been picked up on that road. He said Cedars Road is not on the list as an exception for plowing. Mr. Murphy said they are not going to continue to maintain it. Mr. Nero commented on the bus going down the road. He said the drivers had been going down the road unbeknown to us. He elaborated. Mr. Murphy had comment on the liability portion of this. The owner is liable for any damage or injury that occurs. In the shape it is in, he will not give his authorization for town vehicles to go down that road. There was discussion. Mr. Murphy said you have to try to avoid turning busses around and had further comment. Mr. Nero said the issue is that we have to stop transporting the kids and notice the families. He doesn't think we have a choice. He suggested giving them to November 15<sup>th</sup>. He said there was no motion that needs to be made on this. There was further discussion. Mr. Murphy said they have drafted two ordinances that parallel state statute and he elaborated. He explained some of the statutes. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Murphy said the other ordinance was that they would be doing away with maintenance on some roads. It states those particular roads and what level of maintenance they will be doing. Mr. Murphy had further comment. Mr. Nero had comment and said transportation would stop after the Thanksgiving break.

b. Tuition for Out-of-Town Students – Mr. Nero said a family that lives in Preston contacted Mrs. Allen. They would like to come to North Stonington. They have two children and were wondering if there would be a tuition break. Mr. Nero said it makes sense to offer some type of break. There was discussion. Mr. Carlson had comment and questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero had comment about a breakdown on tuition and suggested 100% for the first, 70% for the second, and 30% for the third child. Mrs. Wagner suggested adding this to our policy meeting coming up. There was further comment.

- c. Superintendent's Conferences – Mr. Nero said he would like to attend the FETC conference and elaborated.
- 12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – There is no Tri-Board meeting tomorrow. November 16<sup>th</sup> is the next regular meeting and November 19<sup>th</sup> is the policy meeting.
- b. Committee Action List – None.
- 13. Public Comment – Mr. Murphy had questions on the tuition. Mr. Nero had comment. Mr. Murphy asked about checking into whether other towns had a discount for multiple family members.
- 14. Proposed for Executive Session – On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:31 p.m. for the Purpose of Collective Bargaining.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to  
The Board of Education