

Board of Education Minutes
May 11, 2016

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Carlson, Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Mathwich, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. McCord, and Mr. Mendolia (7:12 p.m.) 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 7:03 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 – Mr. Nero said tomorrow is the North Stonington Education Foundation meeting.
5. Presentations – District Technology – Postponed to the next meeting.
6. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. St. Germain said they had their Perkins Grant audit this week at LEARN. She elaborated. She said we did very well. They made three recommendations that were very minor. She reviewed some of the items they were impressed with. Mr. Nero had comment. Mrs. St. Germain explained the consortium that we are a part of with the Perkins Grant. Mrs. St. Germain said two of our teachers have gone to professional development conferences as presenters. One of our students has been a presenter as well. She elaborated. She said teachers from other schools are now reaching out to us. Mr. Nero commented that the chickens are spending time outside. Mrs. St. Germain elaborated. Questions were asked and answered about the professional development. Mr. Chaney said we are two-thirds of the way through the testing at the elementary school and middle school. AP testing is finishing this week. Mr. Chaney said he and Mrs. Wilkison have been talking about summer school. Questions were asked and answered regarding AP tests. Mr. Carlson thanked the administration for attending the town meeting. Mrs. Wilkison said on April 30th, five of our students went to the state Invention Convention. Three of our students were recognized at the state level. Third, fourth and fifth graders are doing the Smarter Balanced testing and she elaborated. On Monday, a spelling bee was held. She elaborated. Michelle Macina was the winner. Tomorrow is the art show, the spring concert is May 19th and the band concert is May 24th. Mr. Nero commented on the testing. He thanked the administrators for their work with the testing. Board members had comment on the testing and commended the staff at the elementary school for looking at the testing in a positive way and passing that on to the students.
7. Administrative – a. Minutes – April 27, 2016 – On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the April 27, 2016, meeting.

- b. April 28, 2016 Tri-Board Meeting – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Karpinski to accept the minutes of the April 28, 2016, Tri-Board meeting. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Correspondence – Mr. Nero read a letter from Gary Annino of the Wheeler Library Board of Trustees regarding a potential building project and the use of the building. Mr. Nero had comment.
- c. Personnel – Mr. Nero read a letter from Jennamarie Aull resigning her position as a third grade teacher due to relocating. Mr. Nero had comment. Mr. Nero read a letter from Kellie Moore resigning her position as a paraprofessional in order to substitute for a maternity leave.
8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero had comment on recent publicity, information requests, the budget, the town meeting, and information presented. Mr. Nero commented on Mr. Urgo’s hard work and dedication to the project. Mr. Carlson had comment on the information given out by the Board of Finance at the meeting.
- b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. Carlson said he, Mr. Nero, and Mr. Murphy had a phone conference with Paul Choiniere and Nate Lynch of *The Day*. He elaborated. Board members had comment. Mr. Carlson thought they got a good sense of where we are. Mr. Nero had further comment on the interview.
- c. Committee Chairperson – None.
- d. LEARN Board of Directors’ Liaison – Mrs. Wagner said the next meeting is tomorrow but she is not able to attend.
- e. PSPBC Liaison – Nothing new to report.
- f. Ad Hoc Committee – Nothing to new to report.
9. Finance - None.
10. Old Business – a. 2016 – 2017 Proposed Education Budget – Mr. Carlson said this will be discussed at the Board of Finance meeting that will be attended after this meeting.
11. New Business – a. FOIA Requests – Mr. Carlson said we have talked about this in the past. He had further comment. Board members had comment. Mr. Nero had further comment.
12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – May 25th is the next Board of Education meeting and May 26th is the next Tri-Board meeting.
- b. Committee Action List – None.

13. Public Comment – Mrs. Pat Ostrout, teacher, commented that the middle and high school bands and choruses came home with gold medals from their adjudication. She spoke of the upcoming concerts. She also spoke as a citizen and commented on the signs posted around town. She spoke as the NSEA co-president and showed the mailing that was sent out. She said the NSEA contributed to the t-shirts, had banners made for information tables, and got a phone tree going with CEA members in town. She spoke of information on social media. Board members had comment. Mr. Nero had further comment.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – None.

On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education