

Board of Education Minutes
April 10, 2013

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on April 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Testa, Mr. McCord, Mr. Mendolia, Mr. Karpinski, Dr. Robert, and Mr. Mathwich. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Apicelli. Chairman Testa called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Mendolia led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.
4. Community Relations – None.
5. Presentations – a. Teacher Evaluation Plan – Mr. Nero thanked Mrs. Dionne and Mrs. Biekert, members of the Teacher Evaluation Committee, for coming this evening. Mr. Nero gave the background information on teacher evaluation. He explained that he had written a letter to the president of CAPSS with his suggestions and elaborated. He had further comment. The State gave three different options to roll-out the plan. One of the options was to use the new plan to evaluate 1/3 of your staff members for year one. He explained the items that each teacher would be doing. He elaborated. Mr. Nero had comment on various items of the plan. He recommended that the Board adopt the modified plan that he explained. Questions were asked and answered.
6. Action on Teacher Evaluation Plan – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to approve Option 3 of the Teacher Evaluation Plan. Questions were asked and answered. There was discussion and further questions were asked. Mr. Nero had further comment and discussion on the plan. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Administrators' Reports – Mr. Sandford and Mr. Apicelli handed out items to the Board. Mr. Sandford's item was the draft application for admission to the high school. Mr. Apicelli had comment on items happening at the middle and high school. Mrs. Wilkison commented on items happening at the elementary school including over 70 students participating in the marathon club. She thanked the teachers involved. Carol Glynn, the artist in residence, has begun her programs with thanks to grants and the PTO, common core teaching is taking place now that the CMT's are over, the teachers are beginning to use the EnVision math program, the grade K-2 concert was last night and author Christina Cody will be visiting the school.
8. Administrative – a. Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2013 – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the January 23, 2013 meeting.

March 6, 2013 – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the March 6, 2013 meeting.

March 27, 2013 – On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the March 27, 2013 meeting.

b. Correspondence – Mr. Nero had comment. He read a thank you note from Kidds and Company thanking staff members for their help during a very difficult time. He read a letter from the state department of education thanking Rebekah West for her efforts during CMT testing.

c. Personnel – None.

9. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero thanked the principals and the special education director for their budget presentations to the Board of Finance. He had further comment. Board members had comment.

b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. Testa said he had a conversation with Chairman Spring regarding last week's budget presentation. Mr. Spring is still interested in the RISSA account and he elaborated. He had further comment. He commented on the boilers. He had comment. Questions were asked and answered. There was further comment.

c. Committee Chairperson – The Student Success Committee and the Facilities and Finance Committee will report later in the agenda.

d. PSPBC Liaison – None.

10. Finance – a. March 2013 Financial Statements – Mr. McCord made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mathwich to accept the period ending March 31, 2013 financial statement as presented. There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Old Business – a. School Building Project – Mr. Nero said the Ad Hoc Committee, the PSPBC, and the Board were going to meet and he elaborated. He said these committees need to get together. There were questions asked and answered. There was discussion. Further questions were asked and answered. The first May meeting will be used to review the educational specifications again. Mr. Nero had further comment. Board members had further comment. Discussion ensued. Mr. Nero had further comment.

12. New Business – a. Graduation Date – Mr. Nero had comment. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to have graduation and the last day of school on June 19th.

b. Healthy Foods Certification – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord that for the period July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014, the North Stonington Board of Education approves participation in the

Healthy Foods Certification under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes; that the Board of Education excludes from certification items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that (1) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store; and, that the Superintendent is authorized to sign all forms necessary to comply with this approval. Mr. McCarthy explained the program. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Economics Textbook Adoption – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia to accept the Economics Textbook as presented by Mr. Sandford. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Elementary Social Studies Textbook Adoption – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mathwich to accept the social studies textbook for the elementary school. Board members had comment. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – April 24th is a regular meeting, April 27th is the Community Conversation, and May 8th is a regular meeting.

b. Committee Action List – None.

14. Public Comment – Mrs. McCarthy clarified the graduation date conversation held with staff members. Dr. Robert commented that Montville is using our lacrosse field for their games. There was comment.

On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to add Personnel under Executive Session.

15. Proposed for Executive Session – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. for the Purpose of Personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:01 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education