

Board of Education Minutes  
April 22, 2009

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Music Room. Present were Dr. Robert, Mr. McCord, Mr. Testa, Mr. Briscoe, Mrs. Ricker, and Mrs. Banker. Mrs. Dame was absent and Mr. Secchiaroli was attending the Board of Finance meeting. Also present were Dr. Pukas, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. Costa, Mr. Susi, and Mr. Sandford. Chairman Robert called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

Dr. Robert told those present that the meeting was being recorded and read a statement regarding the equipment.

2. Public Comment/Request to Comment on Agenda Item – None.
3. Community Relations – Dr. Pukas told the Board there were articles at their places and she passed around other newspaper articles.
4. Presentations – a. Scenes from “A Dramey of East Lincoln High” – Postponed.  
b. National Merit Scholars – Postponed. Mr. Susi told the Board that Glenn Sidle and Ghalib Shaik made it through the entire process. He had further explanation.
5. Administrators Reports – Mrs. Wilkison said kindergarten registration was held and so far 56 children had registered. She spoke of happenings at the elementary school including Earth Day activities and the drama club presentation. Mr. Susi said their Earth Day presentations are tomorrow and he elaborated. He spoke of other activities happening at the middle/high school including the Holocaust survivors’ event, year-end activities, schedules for next year, the Distinguished Alumni Award, Senior Night, and Report Card Night. There were questions asked and answered about the Senior Project. There was comment.
6. Administrative - a. Approval of Minutes – April 8, 2009 – On a motion by Mr. Briscoe, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2009, meeting.  
b. Correspondence – Dr. Pukas reviewed the items of correspondence at their places. She read items from the letter from the State regarding the audit action plan. There was comment and discussion. A copy will go to Mr. Mullane.  
c. Personnel – None.
7. Reports - a. Superintendent – Dr. Pukas reiterated that the elementary school talent show was great. She mentioned to the Board that it was Administrative Professionals’ Day and thanked Mrs. McCarthy for her hard work.

b. BOE Chairperson – Dr. Robert said he had received an email from Mr. Donahue that he did not answer asking what the estimated amount of money would be to go back to the Town. He elaborated.

c. Committee Chairs – Mr. Briscoe said he had received correspondence from the PSPBC. He had further comment. Dr. Robert had comment. Mr. Briscoe said there is an outstanding item and that is the policy for the activity account. He explained. Dr. Pukas told the Board there were revised policies at their places and elaborated.

d. PSPBC Liaison – Dr. Robert asked about an update on the cost for the heating system study. Mr. Testa said he had tried to get an update today and was not able. There was discussion of the high school doors. Mr. Testa talked about the flashing project; an engineer came out and they should be getting a cost shortly. Dr. Robert said Mr. McCarthy has been working with Northeast Utilities. Mr. McCarthy explained the incentive programs. He elaborated. There was discussion. Mr. Testa said the tunnel was done. He said the committee had to pay up front because the contractor wanted that. Mr. Testa said the PSPBC felt it was a Board of Education cost and wanted the Board of Education to reimburse the committee. There was discussion of the \$70,000 line item for maintenance. There was further discussion. Dr. Robert said the liaison has asked us to reimburse the PSPBC the \$2,800. There was discussion. A joint meeting will be set up with the Board of Education and the PSPBC. There was further discussion.

e. Committee Action List – None.

8. Financial – a. Financial Statements for March 2009 – Mr. Briscoe made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to accept expenditures of \$982,965.89, grant expenditures of \$17,640.40 for a total of \$1,000,606.29 for the month of March 2009. There were questions asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Transfer Request – On a motion by Mr. Briscoe, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer request by the Business Manager in a memo dated April 22, 2009.

9. Old Business – a. 2009-2010 Proposed Education Budget – On a motion by Mr. Briscoe, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously to table this until Mr. Secchiaroli returns.

10. New Business – a. Healthy Food Certification Statement – Mr. McCarthy explained. On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously that for the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, 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.

11. Calendar – Dr. Pukas requested a special meeting on Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. The topic will be the 2009-2010 proposed Education Budget. Dr. Robert had comment. Mr. Briscoe wanted to schedule a Policy/Finance Committee meeting. It will be May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 p.m. The Curriculum Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Robert said he would talk to Mr. Mullane about a joint meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

12. Public Comment – None.

Dr. Pukas told the Board that the personnel matter will not be discussed. Mr. McCord said he went to a meeting at CREC and they had discussed the stimulus money. He elaborated. Dr. Pukas had comment and there was discussion.

13. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Collective Bargaining and b. Personnel – On a motion by Mr. Briscoe, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:53 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

14. Possible Action Concerning Collective Bargaining – No Action.

15. Possible Action Concerning Personnel Matter – No Action.

On a motion by Mr. Briscoe, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to  
The Board of Education