

Board of Education Minutes
Tri-Board Meeting
April 23, 2015

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A joint meeting of the Boards of Selectmen, Finance and Education was held on Thursday, April 23, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the North Stonington Elementary School Multipurpose Room. Present for the Board of Selectmen were Mr. Donahue and Mr. Testa; present for the Board of Finance were Mr. Spring, Mr. Pavlovics, Mr. Woodward, and Mr. Main; and present for the Board of Education were Mr. Carlson, Mr. Karpinski, and Mr. Mathwich. Also present was Mr. Nero and Mr. Caruso. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Mr. Donahue.

2. Recap of Last Session/Next Step – D. Spring (BOF) – Mr. Spring reviewed the previous meeting.
3. Inspection of Facility Issues – P. Nero – Mr. Nero led a tour of the elementary school.
4. Outline of Communication Plan – M. Donahue (BOS) – Mr. Donahue reviewed the Communication Plan.
5. Discussion – Boards – Mr. Caruso facilitated the discussion on the Communication Plan. Discussion included a realtor for prospective residents, communication is key, all Boards must be in agreement, and the message must be consistent. There was discussion on tailoring presentations for specific audiences but it was decided that would not be a good idea; everyone needs to receive the same message. Mr. Karpinski reiterated that all three Boards must be in agreement. Mr. Carlson said we need to start soon. Mr. Spring commented that it's not selling – it's education. Mr. Carlson said the focus is education, security and code updates. There was further discussion. There was discussion on using social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Mr. Carlson suggested that groups such as the North Stonington Education Foundation and Chikumbuso have a presence at town events with information on their group.
6. Session Summary – N. Caruso – Mr. Caruso summarized the meeting.
7. Assignments – N. Caruso – Mr. Caruso said the working committee would get together and put a communications committee together. The Ad Hoc Committee will try to set up a meeting.
8. Next Meeting – R. Carlson (BOE) – There was discussion on the date for the next meeting. The working group will meet on May 14th and the next Tri-Board meeting will be on May 28th at 7:00 p.m. at the high school media center.
9. Public Comment – R. Carlson (BOE) – Mr. Carlson asked for public comment. A member of the audience suggested having public comment earlier in the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter L. Nero, Secretary Pro-tem