

Board of Education Minutes
June 23, 2011
Special Meeting

A special meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Thursday, June 23, 2011 at 6:15 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Music Room. Present were Dr. Robert, Mrs. Ricker, Mrs. Banker, Mr. Scarchilli, Mr. Hundt (6:45 p.m.), Mr. Testa, Mrs. Dame and Mr. McCord. Also present were Dr. Pukas, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Apicelli. Chairman Robert called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

2. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Termination of Contract of Employment of Tenured Teacher – On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Testa, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:16 p.m. for the Purpose of Termination of Contract of Employment of Tenured Teacher.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:25 p.m.

The Board took a short recess to discuss Collective Bargaining Strategy.

3. Community Relations – Dr. Pukas talked about the news articles at graduation time.

4. Presentations – None.

5. Administrators Reports – She explained the absence of Mrs. Wilkison and Mrs. Costa. Mr. Sandford spoke of the students graduating and the one student that dropped out and explained the circumstance. There was a total of 61 students graduating. Dr. Robert said the fifth grade Promotion Ceremony, grade 8 Class Night and Senior Class graduation went smoothly. He elaborated.

6. Administrative - a. Approval of Minutes- March 9, 2011 Regular Meeting – On a motion by Mrs. Banker, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted five in favor and two abstentions to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2011 regular meeting. Mr. Testa and Mrs. Dame abstained.

April 13, 2011 – On a motion by Mrs. Ricker, seconded by Mrs. Banker, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the April 13, 2011 meeting.

May 2, 2011 Special Meeting – On a motion by Mrs. Dame, seconded by Mr. Hundt, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the May 2, 2011 special meeting.

May 11, 2011 Non-Meeting – The Board gave their approval on the minutes of the May 11, 2011 Non-meeting.

June 8, 2011 Non-Meeting – The Board gave their approval on the minutes of the June 8, 2011 Non-meeting.

June 15, 2011 Special Meeting – On a motion by Mr. Hundt, seconded by Mrs. Dame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2011 special meeting.

b. Correspondence – Dr. Robert read a letter from CASBO saying that Mr. McCarthy was elected to the Board of Directors of CASBO. The Board congratulated Mr. McCarthy.

c. Personnel – Dr. Pukas recommended that the Board terminate a contract for a tenured teacher. On a motion by Mrs. Ricker, seconded by Mr. Scarchilli, the Board voted unanimously that the contract of employment of Paula Demmons be terminated effective immediately due to reduction in force and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise such person in writing. Dr. Robert thanked Mrs. Demmons for her service.

7. Reports - a. Superintendent – None.

b. BOE Chairperson – Dr. Robert wanted to invite Rob Rader from CAFE to come and present a workshop to the Board on the Superintendent search.

c. Committee Chairs – The Facilities and Finance Committee met. Action will be taken later.

d. PSPBC Liaison – None.

8. Financial – a. April 2011 Financial Statements – On a motion by Mr. Testa, seconded by Mr. Hundt, the Board voted unanimously to accept total accounts payable of \$356,425.49, payroll of \$571,932.25, for a subtotal general fund of \$928,357.74, grant expenditures of \$51,858.79 for a total of \$980,216.53 for the period ending April 30, 2011.

b. May 2011 Financial Statements - Mr. Testa made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Hundt to accept total accounts payable of \$197,357.33, payroll of \$565,820.78 for a subtotal general fund of \$763,178.11, grant expenditures of \$23,941.10 for a total of \$787,119.21 for the period ending May 31, 2011. Dr. Robert had explanation on the ending balance. The motion passed unanimously. Questions were asked and answered.

c. Transfer Request – On a motion by Mr. Testa, seconded by Mr. Hundt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer request in a memo dated May 11, 2011 from the business manager to the Board of Education

9. Old Business – None.

10. New Business – a. Summer Meeting Schedule – Dr. Pukas suggested cancelling the July 13, 2011 meeting and explained. She would like to recommend cancelling the August 10th meeting and having the meeting August 24th which is right near the beginning of school. On a motion by Mrs. Ricker, seconded by Mr. Hundt, the Board voted unanimously to change the meeting schedule to eliminate the July 13, 2011 meeting and eliminate the August 10, 2011 meeting and schedule a special meeting on August 24, 2011.

Questions were asked and answered about the staff hiring. Mrs. Ricker made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to give Dr. Pukas the authorization to hire any staff required with the recommendation that they not hire beyond masters 7th step. There was clarification of the motion. It was explained she could hire but to try not to hire above step 7. There was discussion and comment. On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted five in favor, two opposed and one abstention to move the question. Mr. Testa and Mr. Scarchilli were

opposed and Mr. Hundt abstained. The motion to authorize Dr. Pukas to hire above step seven masters did not pass with four voting in favor, three opposed, and one abstention. Mr. Testa, Mr. Scarchilli, and Mr. Hundt opposed the motion and Mrs. Dame abstained. There was discussion.

b. Professional Development Plan – Dr. Pukas explained the plan was presented at the non-meeting on June 8, 2011. She commended those that served on the committee and explained the state did not give us a template; this plan was from scratch. Dr. Pukas had further comment and said this was a year’s worth of work. On a motion by Mrs. Dame, seconded by Mrs. Banker, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Professional Development Plan.

c. Athletic Handbook Revisions – Dr. Pukas said the committee met on June 8, 2011. Mr. McCord made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Dame to accept the Athletic Handbook revisions. There were questions asked that Mr. Sandford answered. Mr. Sandford reviewed the changes. Board members had comment. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Policy 5141.21 “Administration of Medications” – Dr. Pukas gave background information on the changes from the State. On a motion by Mr. Hundt, seconded by Mrs. Ricker, the Board voted unanimously to delete policy 5141.21. On a motion by Mr. Hundt, seconded by Mrs. Banker, the Board voted unanimously to accept new policy 5141.21.

e. Salary Reopener for the North Stonington Association of Educational Secretaries – On a motion by Mrs. Banker, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to ratify and authorize the Chairman to execute the tentative agreement between the negotiation teams of the Board and the North Stonington Association of Educational Secretaries for a salary re-opener effective July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

f. Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the North Stonington Board of Education and AFSCME, Local 1303-134 of Council #4 – On a motion by Mrs. Dame, seconded by Mrs. Banker, the Board voted unanimously to ratify and authorize the chairman to sign the tentative agreement reached between the negotiating teams of the North Stonington Board of Education and Local 1303-134 of Council #4, AFSCME, for a collective bargaining agreement in effect from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014.

11. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – The July 13th and August 10th meetings have been cancelled and special meetings will be scheduled if needed. A special meeting will be held on August 24th.

b. Committee Action List – There was discussion about the Student Success Committee meeting with the Early Childhood Committee.

12. Public Comment – None.
On a motion by Mrs. Dame, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to the Board of Education