

Board of Education Minutes
June 8, 2011
Non-Meeting

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Music Room. Present were Mrs. Ricker, Mrs. Banker, Mrs. Dame, and Mr. McCord (arrived at 7:03 p.m.). Also present were Dr. Pukas, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Apicelli. Since there was not a quorum, Vice Chairman Ricker called the non-meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Community Relations – None.

3. Presentations - a. Elementary School Award Winners – Mrs. Wilkison said this year they have had many students recognized for their writing. Mr. Brownell’s class was involved in a competition titled, “Letters about Literature.” She elaborated. Mrs. Wilkison introduced Zachary Spears and he read his letter to author Caroline Castle. Mrs. Wilkison told those present that these are nationally judged. Mrs. Wilkison introduced Seth Kosztala. He read his letter to author Mary Thompson. Mrs. Wilkison thanked the boys for coming and said she was very proud of them. The Board members commended the students on their work.

b. Middle School Student Council Presentation – Mrs. Pat Ostrout spoke of the items accomplished by the middle school Student Council this year. These included fundraisers, donations, and community service.

c. SMART Projector Presentation – Mr. Sandford gave background information on the SMART projector and said there are three of these in the buildings. Mr. Mike Hassell, band director, gave a presentation on some of the programs that he uses to incorporate SMART technology into his classroom. Mr. Sandford commended Mr. Hassell on his efforts. Mr. Hassell thanked those present. The Board thanked Mr. Hassell.

4. Administrators Reports – Mrs. Wilkison spoke of happenings at the elementary school including the field trips of various classes, the band concert, the fifth grade chorus concert, the DARE graduation, field day being postponed to Friday because of the weather, the Flag Day Ceremony on June 14th at 9:00 a.m., and on Wednesday, the 15th is the Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony at 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Costa told the Board the last parent information session was held and yesterday the pre-school lottery was held and she elaborated. They will be enrolling 25 new students. Mr. Apicelli spoke of happenings at the middle/high school including the Senior Project presentations, two Renaissance events were held with 125-130 students participating at the middle school, about 100 students participating at the high school, the band and chorus concerts were held along with a slideshow art show and he commented on the talent of the students. He said next week underclassmen exams start and senior activities begin. He elaborated. Thursday is grade 8 Class Night and Friday is graduation.

5. Administrative - a. Approval of Minutes- Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2011 Regular Meeting, April 13, 2011, May 2, 2011 Special Meeting, May 11, 2011 – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

b. Correspondence – In addition to items mentioned in her notes, Dr. Pukas wrote letters of thanks to the music and art teachers for their outstanding work.

c. Personnel – Dr. Pukas said this is informational only since they cannot take a vote. She said the Board doesn't have to vote on it but is done as an informational item. She read a letter from Mrs. Linda Shafer retiring from her position as grade 2 teacher at North Stonington Elementary School. She said she had accepted her resignation with thanks and appreciation. She spoke of Mrs. Shafer's accomplishments and she elaborated. The Board thanked her and sent their best wishes.

6. Reports - a. Superintendent – Nothing other than what was in her notes.

b. BOE Chairperson – None.

c. Committee Chairs – None.

d. PSPBC Liaison – Mr. McCarthy said they received the proposals from the phone system and he, Mr. Pont, and Mr. Boucher have been meeting to review the proposals. He elaborated. He said he spoke to Mr. Aiello of the PSPBC. Mrs. Ricker had comment. Mr. McCarthy spoke of the flashing project.

7. Financial - a. April 2011 Financial Statements – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

b. May 2011 Financial Statements – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

c. Transfer Request – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

8. Old Business – Mrs. Banker had some questions on the feasibility study. Dr. Pukas had comment and explanation.

Dr. Pukas had comment. She said there are things on this agenda that need to have action. She elaborated on the items that need Board action and without a quorum that is not possible. She said she feels comfortable and confident in the things they have done and with the items the committee members have met on. She said she needs five people here. There were questions asked and answered. Dr. Pukas explained what a "seriatim meeting" is which is an electronic meeting. She will check with the attorney. Mrs. Ricker said we will try to get everyone here on June 23rd. There was discussion about the items that were necessary for action. There was a consensus to submit the policy to CAGE to be updated.

9. New Business - a. Summer Meeting Schedule – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

b. Professional Development Plan – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

c. Athletic Handbook Revisions – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

- d. Policy 5141.21 “Administration of Medications” – Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

- 10. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – A special meeting will be held on June 23rd. She was hoping to meet at 6:00 p.m. with an Executive Session.

- b. Committee Action List – Mrs. Dame had comment and Mrs. Costa had response.

- 11. Public Comment – Mrs. Pat Ostrout handed out invitations to the grade seven breakfast.

- 12. Proposed for Executive Session - a. Discussion of Collective Bargaining/Negotiation Strategies - Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

- 13. Salary Reopener for the North Stonington Association of Educational Secretaries - Tabled due to lack of a quorum.

Dr. Pukas reminded everyone to come to the town meeting on Monday night, June 13th.

The non-meeting ended at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education