

Board of Education Minutes
March 13, 2013

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. McCord, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Hundt, Dr. Robert (8:06 p.m.), Mr. Mathwich, and Mrs. Dame. Also present was Mr. Nero, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Wilkison, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Apicelli. Vice Chairman McCord called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items – None.
4. Community Relations – Mr. Nero said the Community Conversations Grant Committee met as well as the ICONS and he elaborated.
5. Presentations – a. Class of 2014 Travel Club – Jess Morgan, President of the Class of 2014 and Vice President Billy Grigg were present to request permission to start planning a trip to Florida during April of 2014. Jess Morgan relayed the details to the Board. On a motion by Mr. Hundt, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to approve the planning of the travel club trip for April of 2014.
6. Administrators' Reports - Mr. Sandford handed out a report on the media center. He spoke of a grant that Mrs. Starr applied for and received. He spoke of other grants that have been applied for. Tara Howell and Cody Johnson of the middle school student council spoke of happenings at the middle/high school including the statewide art show winners, technology classes printing brochures, the middle ground book club, the statewide singing courses completion, Eastern Region Music Festival, Mrs. Bennett will be presenting a workshop in April, the Duck Race sale, students singing at the candlelight vigil, the chorus singing at a Providence Bruins game, testing was completed in a week except for make-ups, students will be represented on the National Mall with the Bones Program, art students have been doodling for Google, and the debate team is going to New Britain. Mrs. Wilkison spoke of the reading challenge and she explained the Half Million Minutes program. The PTO has supported this program. She spoke of the parent education classes, the semester ended, and Regina Birdsall will be visiting the school on March 27th at 9:30 a.m. to present the school with their award.
7. Administrative – a. Approval of Minutes – February 27, 2013 – On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the February 27, 2013 meeting.
 - b. Correspondence – None.
 - c. Personnel – None.

8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero congratulated the students that won the art awards. He said the Teacher Evaluation Committee met and they will be presenting their choice to the Board at the next meeting. It has to be into the State by April 15th and he elaborated. He explained they will be choosing option number 3 and he explained how it would work. He elaborated and said training is already planned. He had further comment.

b. BOE Chairperson – None.

c. Committee Chairperson – Mrs. Dame said the Student Success Committee met with four of the teachers involved with the Envisions math program and she explained. There were questions asked and answered. Mr. McCord said the Facilities and Finance Committee met and will report later.

d. PSPBC Liaison – Mr. Aiello of the PSPBC was present and told the Board there is no liaison at this time. He reviewed projects the committee is undertaking including the remainder of the sealing of the gym and replacing a set of doors at the high school. He explained they want to do more projects but are hesitant to do that because of the potential building project. Mr. Mathwich had comment. Mr. Nero commented on the educational specifications and his review of them. He elaborated. Mr. Aiello had comment on the senior hall wall and the outside wall and explained they would like to tackle that but were hesitant to do so because of the potential project. There was further comment and discussion. A meeting will be set up between the committees. Mr. Mullane had comment on a building project. He elaborated and spoke of the operating budget versus capital project. He had further comment. Board members had comment. There was further comment.

9. Finance – a. February 2013 Financial Statements – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted four in favor and one abstention to accept the February 2013 Financial Statements. Mr. Hundt abstained.

b. Transfer Requests – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted four in favor and one abstention to accept the transfers as written in the memo of February 27, 2013 from the business manager. Mr. Hundt abstained.

10. Old Business – a. 2013-2014 Proposed Education Budget - Mr. Nero suggested moving forward with the budget. He said he spoke at the Tripartite meeting that he wanted to move this forward. He elaborated. He had further comment about the budget. There was discussion. Mr. Hundt made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Karpinski to approve the 2013-2014 proposed education budget of \$12,740,151 for an increase of 5.33%. There was discussion. Mr. Nero had comment. Dr. Robert had comment and suggestions. There was further comment and discussion. The motion and second were rescinded. The budget will be discussed at a special meeting next Wednesday.

b. Discussion of Policy 3240 – Tuition Fees – Mr. Sandford commented on the policy and the background of it. He explained. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Hundt to revise policy 3240 as presented. There was comment. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion of Facilities Plan Progress – Covered above.

11. New Business – a. Reinstatement of Lacrosse Teams – Mr. Nero had comment and recommended reinstating the teams. On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to reinstate the lacrosse teams.

b. Senior Project Presentations – Calendar Change – Mr. Sandford explained this is done every year and he elaborated. He said it is a shortened day for middle school students only. He explained that all staff grades the projects. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Hundt, the Board voted unanimously to accept the calendar change and to make June 7, 2013 a shortened day for middle school students only. June 7th is the Senior Project presentation day.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – March 20th is a special meeting to discuss the budget and March 27th is a regular meeting. April 3 is the tentative date for the Board of Education’s budget presentation to the Board of Finance.

b. Committee Action List – A meeting will be setup with the PSPBC and the Ad Hoc Committee.

13. Public Comment - None.

Recess – The Board of Education took a recess at 8:43 p.m. to interview boiler company finalists.

The Board returned to the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Discussion of Middle School Boiler RFP’s – On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:51 p.m. for the Purpose of Discussion of Middle School Boiler RFP’s.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:41 p.m.

15. Possible Action Concerning Middle School Boiler RFP’s – There was discussion. This item was tabled to a later date.

On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 p.m.

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