

Board of Education Minutes
Special Meeting
March 20, 2013

A special meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Testa, Mr. McCord, Mr. Mendolia (7:15 p.m.), Mr. Karpinski, Dr. Robert (7:15 p.m.), Mr. Mathwich, and Mrs. Dame. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Apicelli. Chairman Testa called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.
4. 2013 – 2014 Proposed Education Budget – Mr. Nero had an opening statement and comment. He spoke of the years of zero increase budgets. He spoke of the \$380,000 that was cut when he first arrived. The administrators had talked with him about the budget and he elaborated. Board members had questions on the budget including magnet school transportation. Mr. McCarthy answered those questions. There were further questions asked and answered regarding the magnet school transportation. Questions were asked about the food service management cost which Mr. McCarthy answered. There was discussion. Mr. Nero had comment about balancing a budget. Questions were asked and answered about advisors' salaries. Further questions were asked about repair costs. There was comment and discussion on other items in the budget. Mr. Nero had comment. Board members had comment. Questions were asked and answered about the technology equipment. Further questions were asked and answered. Questions were asked and answered about the magnet schools' tuition and transportation. Mr. Nero had comment. Further questions were asked and answered. There was comment and discussion. Mr. Nero referred to his original budget statement made at the beginning of this process and he elaborated. Board members had further comment. Questions were asked and answered on the math program at the elementary school. There was comment about making sure the townspeople know what is not in the budget. Board members had further comment. Questions were asked and answered. The football program will be eliminated and the \$13,708 from that program will be transferred to the elementary math program. The technology equipment line item will be reduced by \$13,229. Lacrosse will be reinstated for a total of \$12,747. Questions were asked and answered about the special education budget. Mr. Urgo, Board of Finance liaison, had comment. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to accept the 2013-2014 proposed budget with an increase of 5.32% for a total of \$12,739,190 incorporating the adjustments as stated.
5. Public Comment – None.

On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

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