

Board of Education Minutes
March 25, 2015

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Carlson, Mr. Karpinski, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Buzzee, and Mr. Mendolia (7:41 p.m.) Since there was not a quorum, Vice Chairman Carlson called the non-meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.
4. Presentations – a. Senior Travel Club – Jacob Umphlett, president of the Class of 2016, explained the proposed trip to Orlando, Florida in April of 2016. He explained they were looking for permission to plan the trip. Questions were asked and answered.
5. Administrators’ Reports – None.
6. Community Relations – Mr. Nero spoke of the Chamber of Commerce “State of the Stoningtons” that he spoke at this morning. He highlighted the speech he gave. He elaborated.
7. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero spoke of the volunteer fingerprint situation and he elaborated. The Raptor System will be used temporarily if fingerprints are not returned in order for there to be enough chaperones for the upcoming field trips.
 - b. BOE Chairperson - There was discussion about the Board Chair position.
 - c. Committee Chairperson – None.
 - d. PSPBC Liaison – Mr. Carlson said he spoke to Jim Lord. They had a discussion regarding the line item in the Town’s budget.
 - e. LEARN Board of Directors Liaison – Mrs. Wagner said the next meeting is next week.

Mrs. St. Germain gave an update on the state of the ECC. She elaborated. She said it looks like the 14 schools will stay. She had further comment. Questions were asked and answered. Mrs. St. Germain commented further. There was discussion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:41 p.m. with the arrival of Mr. Mendolia. Miss Kylie Garcia reviewed the proposed trip. On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Senior Travel Club's proposed trip for April 2016.

8. Administrative – a. Minutes – March 11, 2015 – On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2015 meeting.

Mr. Carlson reviewed the proposal to use the Raptor system. Mr. Nero had comment. Mr. Mendolia made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Buzzee to use the Raptor system for those volunteers having submitted fingerprints on or before April 10, 2015, including those volunteers for the all-night graduation party. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Correspondence – None.

c. Personnel – None.

9. Finance – a. February 2015 Financial Statements – On a motion by Mrs. Buzzee, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to accept the February 2015 Financial Statements.

b. Transfer Request – On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to accept the transfer request.

Mr. Nero spoke of the CASBO Brief and the article regarding BYOD policies. He said we are featured in the article along with a number of other schools.

10. Old Business – a. Tri-Board Meeting Update – Mr. Carlson gave an update on the last meeting. He explained why the Tri-Board meeting was on a Saturday. He elaborated. A tour of the science labs will be held. There was comment. Mr. Nero reviewed the top priorities. There was further comment.

11. New Business – a. Air Quality Report – Mr. Nero said he sent out the air quality report to the Board. He sat with Mr. Boucher and had a conference call with the gentleman that did the report. Mr. Nero said everything in our buildings was okay. He elaborated. There is nothing in the report that stands out. There was comment from Board members.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – The Tri-Board meeting is on March 28th, April 8th is our next meeting and the April 22nd meeting will be rescheduled to Tuesday the 21st. It will be a special meeting. Questions were asked and answered.

b. Committee Action List – It was mentioned that the Student Success Committee and the entire Board did policies on Saturday, March 21st.

13. Public Comment – None.

On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to add Executive Session, Salary and Benefits of Non-Bargaining Unit/Non-Certified Staff to the agenda.

14. On a motion by Mrs. Buzzee, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:17 p.m. for the Purpose of Salary and Benefits of Non-Bargaining Unit/Non-Certified Staff.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:38 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the Board voted four in favor and one abstention to give the Superintendent of Schools the discretion to provide to non-bargaining unit staff up to a 3.2% salary increase for the 2015-2016 school year provided the Town budget passes. Mrs. Buzzee abstained from the vote.

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzee, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education