

Board of Education Minutes
May 8, 2013

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Testa, Mr. McCord, Mr. Mendolia, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Mathwich, and Mrs. Dame (7:10 p.m.). Also present were Mr. Nero, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Apicelli. Chairman Testa called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.
4. Community Relations – Mr. Mike Urgo of ICONS, spoke of the Community Conversation that was held in April. He elaborated and said a follow-up meeting will be held next Tuesday. Mr. Nero had comment and explained why ICONS handled that event. He had further comment.
5. Presentations – None.
6. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. Costa said the pre-school lottery was held and 14 students will be attending in the fall with 14 more on the waiting list. Mrs. Wilkison spoke of happenings at the elementary school including the concert that was held and she thanked Mr. Noonan. She said 19 students took place in the Invention Convention with a number of students going on to the State competition with two of our students placing, the fifth graders took place in the Secretary of State Essay Contest with four out of five winners in the school with the recognition program being May 17th, the CHET program holds a contest every year and a number of our students won, Student Author Day was held, and it's National Teacher Appreciation Week. She listed the concert dates. Mr. Sandford spoke of happenings at the middle/high school with the Senior Projects being presented on June 7th, the mock car crash which is a pre-prom event will be held tomorrow for grades 11 and 12, Friday night is an outdoor concert sponsored by PHIT and the prom is Saturday.
7. Administrative – a. Minutes – April 10, 2013 – On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the April 10, 2013 meeting.
 - b. Correspondence – Mr. Nero read the Official Statement naming May 8, 2013 as School Nurses' Day for the record.
 - c. Personnel – Mr. Nero announced that Kimberly Allen has been named as the new business manager. He gave background information on Mrs. Allen. Mr. Nero told the Board a new science teacher has been hired. He gave background information on Mike Shugrue. Mr. Nero told the Board that Regina McGowan has resigned due to moving out of state.

8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero told the Board the Mrs. Starr, art teacher, won an award and he explained. He spoke of the prom. Mr. Nero said he will now be the supervisor for the maintenance, custodians and the groundkeeper. He suggested having just one meeting a month for May, June and July due to the many happenings with end-of-year activities. Mr. Nero said a Board of Education member is needed to speak at the Grade 8 Class Night and at Graduation.

b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. Testa spoke of the budget hearing and the town meeting on the boilers. He elaborated on both.

c. Committee Chairperson – Mr. McCord said the Facilities and Finance Committee met and will take action later in the agenda.

d. PSPBC Liaison – None.

On a motion by Mrs. Dame, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to move item 11a to item 8e.

e. Christine Wagner of the Economic Development Committee spoke. She told the Board about the workshop that is going to be held on May 30th. She said they are trying to get members from each board and commission to attend the workshop. She elaborated. Questions were asked and answered. She had further comment.

9. Finance – a. Financial Statements for April 2013 – On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to accept the financial statements for April 2013 as presented.

b. Transfer Request – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to accept the transfer request from the Business Manager dated April 30, 2013.

10. Old Business – a. Insurance Consortium Update – Mr. McCarthy gave an update. The medical portion will not be ready to go on July 1, 2013. The dental and prescription will be able to go July 1st of this year and looking at July 1, 2014 for the medical portion. He elaborated. Mr. McCarthy said we do have legal representation with an attorney from Shipman and Goodwin looking out for our interests. There was further comment and information passed along. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero had further comment. There was further comment and questions.

b. Tuition Rate for 2013-2014 – Mr. Sandford said he and Mr. McCarthy came up with a tuition figure and he explained how they came up with the figure. The same formula will be used in the years to come. Board members had comment about being able to accept some of these funds. Mr. Nero had comment. Further questions were asked and answered. There was further comment. Mr. Sandford had comment. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich,

seconded by Mrs. Dame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the tuition rate of \$10,972 for the 2013-2014 school year for non-resident high school students. Questions were asked and answered.

c. Technology Plan – Mr. Nero commented on the plan. He said the Board needs to approve it. He said the issue was measurement and he elaborated. He had further explanation. Questions were asked and comments made. Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to approve the comprehensive technology plan template for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015. There was comment and suggestions were made. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Educational Specifications Review – Mr. Nero had comment. He reviewed his recommendations for the middle/high school. Board members had comment during the review. Mr. Nero had comment and answered questions. Mr. Nero reviewed his recommendations for the elementary school. There was comment. Questions were asked and answered.

11. New Business – a. Economic Development for Public Officials Workshop – Covered above.

b. Request from Class of 1973 – Mrs. Dame made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to close the account of the Class of 1973 per the class president's request. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to honor the Superintendent's request for one meeting a month for the remainder of the school year and through the summer and to add any meetings as needed.

b. Committee Action List – None.

13. Public Comment – None.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – Salaries/Benefits of Non-Bargaining Unit, Non-Certified Staff – On a motion by Mrs. Dame, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. for the Purpose of Salaries/Benefits of Non-Bargaining Unit, Non-Certified Staff.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:05 p.m.

15. Possible Action Concerning Salaries/Benefits of Non-Bargaining Unit, Non-Certified Staff – No action was taken.

On a motion by Mr. McCord, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

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