

Board of Education Minutes  
November 12, 2014

**DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. McCord, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Mathwich, Mr. Karpinski, Dr. Robert, Mrs. Buzzee, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. St. Germain, and Mr. Chaney. Chairman McCord called the meeting to order at 7:05 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. Nero said the North Stonington Education Foundation would be meeting tomorrow and that their annual dinner-dance was held.
5. Presentations – Marybeth Tavares, Adventure Club advisor, asked for permission to take an overnight ski trip with the club. Questions were asked and answered. Mrs. Tavares explained the trip. On a motion by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Adventure Club ski trip.
6. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. Wilkison reviewed happenings at the elementary school including the Veterans Day Breakfast and ceremony and professional development opportunities on Staff Development day. She had further explanation. Mr. Chaney reviewed happenings at the middle and high school including students' athletic recognitions, Wheeler was awarded the program of distinction for the boy's soccer team given by the local officials, the grade 8 trip to Boston, the distracted driving program in December, and the ROPES course for sixth graders. He also handed out newsletters. Questions were asked and answered. Mrs. St. Germain also spoke of the programs being offered to students about making the right choices and creating a policy regarding using a breathalyzer and purchasing one. There was discussion and further explanation. She said students are coming forward asking to be proactive. Professional development activities were reviewed as well as the Farm and Garden Club. Questions were asked and answered about the athletic trainer and the fall season.
7. Administrative – a. Minutes – October 22, 2014 – On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2014, meeting.
  - b. Correspondence – None.
  - c. Personnel – The custodian position has been filled.
8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero spoke of the safety and security grant. He spoke of the conversation with the representative from the Department of Homeland Security. He elaborated. He spoke of our reimbursement. He read items in the grant by school. Questions were asked and answered. He had further

explanation. Mr. Nero placed an article in their packets about taking part in a meeting via electronic means. He explained. There was further comment. Mr. Coats will be present at the December meeting to give an update on the grub situation. Mr. Nero had further comment. The PSPBC list was updated and given to Mr. Mullane. Mr. Nero said the facilitator will meet with him, Mr. Spring, and Mr. Donahue on the 20<sup>th</sup> and then a meeting date will be set for another tri-board meeting. Mr. Carlson said they will be meeting with the Preston Board of Education representatives and he explained.

b. BOE Chairperson – None.

c. Committee Chairperson – Mr. Carlson said the Facilities and Finance Committee met and action will be taken later in the agenda. Mr. Mathwich said the Student Success Committee met and items will be discussed later in the agenda.

d. LEARN Board of Directors Liaison – None.

e. PSPBC Liaison – Mr. Mathwich had comment. Mr. Nero will send a copy of the revised list to all Board members.

9. Finance – a. October 2014 Financial Statements – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mathwich to accept the October 2014 Financial Statements. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Old Business – None.

11. New Business – a. 2015 Meeting Schedule – The meeting schedule was discussed. On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the meeting schedule with the amendment to November's meeting. Mr. Nero had comment about the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and asked that it be moved to December 17<sup>th</sup>. On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to move the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be a special meeting.

b. Policy Updates – Mr. Mathwich spoke on the policies. He began with suggested new policy 1105, Volunteers, and explained. On a motion by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to accept new policy and regulation 1105, Volunteers.

Policy 3231, Medical Reimbursement for Special Education Students – Mr. Mathwich explained the change. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to accept the revision to policy 3231.

New Policy 3542.43, Food Service, Student Charging Policy – Mr. Mathwich explained the new policy. Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Buzzee to accept new Policy 3542.43 as amended to add

breakfast. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero had further comment. Mrs. Allen had comment and explanation. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mathwich explained the committee will review policy 4118.231, Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco. Mr. Nero had comment.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – December 17<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting. December 10<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled.

b. Committee Action List – None.

13. Public Comment – None.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Strategy for Collective Bargaining – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. for the Purpose of Strategy for Collective Bargaining.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:14 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Mendolia, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to  
The Board of Education