

Board of Education Minutes  
November 13, 2013

**DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. McCord, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Mathwich, Mr. Karpinski, Dr. Robert, Mrs. Wagner, and Mr. Mendolia. Mrs. Buzzee was absent. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mr. Sandford, and Mrs. St. Germain. Chairman McCord 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 – Mr. Sandford read a letter to the Board of Education thanking them for their support of him and the school through his tenure. Board members had comment.
4. Community Relations – None.
5. Presentations – a. Literacy and Math Presentation – Mr. Nero had comment on the new positions that were put in the budget and added this year. Mrs. Rebecca Schilke gave background information. She and Mrs. Marybeth Tavares spoke of the literacy program. They spoke of various aspects of the program that take place in and out of the classroom. They elaborated and spoke of the NCTE conference that they will be attending. Mr. Sandford had comment. Board members had questions. Mrs. Wilkison introduced Deanna Scanapieco and thanked the Board for including the math intervention specialist in the budget and she elaborated. Mrs. Scanapieco spoke of the math program. She spoke of the aspects of the program including the students being able to work at home to reinforce what is being done in the classroom. She spoke of assessments. She spoke of the NCTM conference she attended and elaborated. She continued speaking of the program. Mr. Nero spoke of the professional development being done through Title II funds and he had further comment. Board members had comment and questions. There was further comment.  
  
b. Elementary School Report Cards – Mrs. Wilkison spoke of instruction based on CCSS and how the current report card does not align to what they are teaching. Mrs. Wilkison said that Emily Knowles did research on report cards that align with the Common Core and has developed report cards. She elaborated. Mrs. Scanapieco spoke on the report cards. Questions were asked and answered. There will be separate report cards for unified arts. There was further comment.  
  
c. French Class Field Trip – Mr. Sandford gave background information on the trip to Quebec. Mrs. Janet Devaux spoke on the trip. There were questions asked and answered. Seven Wheeler students are interested in the trip. Mrs. Devaux elaborated on the French program and how it has expanded over the years. Dr. Robert made a

motion that was seconded by Mr. Mathwich to approve the trip as outlined in the memo. There was comment. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Adventure Club Field Trip - Mr. Sandford gave background information on the trip. There are 44 students that would like to attend this trip. Mrs. Tavares reviewed the trip. Questions were asked and answered. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Adventure Club Field Trip.

6. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. St. Germain explained happenings at the middle and high school including athletic events, Give Back Day, Renaissance events, the Boston trip, the Human Body Exhibit visit, and collaborative meetings. Questions were asked and answered. Mrs. Wilkison said the third annual Veterans' Day event was held with about 60 Veterans attending. She thanked Mr. Noonan for his work on the program and said Commander Vinciguierre of the Coast Guard spoke. She told the Board the drama club will hold auditions, the trimester closed November 18<sup>th</sup>, conferences are on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, and on November 26<sup>th</sup> a special Chikumbuso event will be held and she elaborated.

7. Administrative – a. Minutes – October 23, 2013 Workshop – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2013, workshop.

October 23, 2013 Regular Meeting – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2013 meeting.

b. Correspondence – None.

c. Personnel – Will be acted on later in the meeting.

8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero spoke of the new Board member orientation that CAFE is having. He elaborated. He went over some different scenarios. He told the Board he is going on a NEASC visit next week and the week after Thanksgiving he will be at the NEASC conference in Boston. There was further comment.

b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. McCord commented on the Board makeup, the items that are going to be happening and the work that needs to be done and gave facilities as an example. He had further comment.

c. Committee Chairperson – None.

d. PSPBC Liaison – None.

9. Finance – a. October 2013 Financial Statements – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Carlson to accept the October 2013 Financial Statements as presented. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Transfer Request – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia to accept the transfer request. Mr. Nero had comment and explanation on the transfer. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Old Business – a. Ad Hoc Building Committee Update – Mr. Mathwich said a meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in Mr. Nero’s office with the architect. Mr. Mathwich had further explanation of his conversation with the architect. Mr. Nero had comment. Board members had comment.

11. New Business – a. Board Committee Assignments – Committees will be assigned before the next meeting. Each committee will meet for 10 minutes before the next meeting to choose members and a chairperson.

b. Meeting Schedule for 2014 – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Wagner to accept the 2014 schedule of meetings. Mr. McCord gave explanation. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – November 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the meeting with the architect and the next regular meeting will be on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

b. Committee Action List – None.

13. Public Comment – None.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:02 p.m. for the Purpose of Interim Principal Position and Personnel Issue and to invite Mr. Macrino into such session for the Interim Principal Position portion of the session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:22 p.m.

15. Action Concerning Interim Principal – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Donald Macrino as Interim Principal from December 2, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

On a motion by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to  
The Board of Education