

Board of Education Minutes  
October 22, 2014

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. McCord, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Mathwich, Mr. Karpinski, Mrs. Wagner, Dr. Robert, and Mrs. Buzzee. 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 7:10 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 reviewed upcoming events sponsored by the North Stonington Education Foundation.
5. Presentations – a. Grounds Update – Mr. Wayne Coats, Mark Christensen from Green Acres, and Mrs. Ellen Turner were present. Mr. Coats reviewed the handout that was at the Board's place regarding potential legislation regarding banning pesticides from high school fields. A pictorial presentation was made showing all the damage. The presentation was reviewed. Mr. Christensen explained that there was no sign of infestation in September and he explained why he thought that was. Mr. Nero had comment about finding a way to get a waiver to temporarily use pesticides. Mark had explanation of the lifecycle and when the most damage is done. There was discussion. Organic chemicals were discussed including their ineffectiveness. Nematodes were explained and how they don't work with all types of varieties of grubs. It was explained that our fields have about 20 grubs per square feet. There was discussion and further explanation. A plan of action was discussed. Mr. Mullane had comment. There was discussion. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Superintendent to take action on the fields due to the emergency situation.
6. Administrators' Reports – None.
7. Administrative – a. Minutes – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2014, Special Meeting and the minutes of the October 8, 2014, regular meeting with a revision to the minutes of the regular meeting of October 8, 2014.
  - b. Correspondence – Mr. Nero told the Board that Mrs. Turner successfully completed courses and testing and is now a certified Athletic Director.
  - c. Personnel – None.
8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero spoke of the North Stonington Education Foundation activities.

- b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. McCord commented on the Wheeler All-Class Reunion that he and Dr. Robert had attended.
  - c. Committee Chairperson – The Facilities and Finance Committee met and reviewed the financial statements and transfer. Action will be taken later in the agenda.
  - d. LEARN Board of Directors Liaison – Mrs. Wagner attended the meeting. She had information on Magnet Schools and why you become a magnet school. She explained. She said it looked like the State was starting to limit the magnet schools. She reviewed items that were discussed regarding building projects. The community forum was held on Saturday. There was discussion. Mr. Nero had comment. Board members had comment.
  - e. PSPBC Liaison – Mr. Nero said he met with Mr. Mullane last week. Mr. Nero spoke of the list. Mr. Mullane is trying to get the full \$75,000 reinstated. Mr. Nero had further comment. There was discussion.
9. Finance – a. Financial Statements for September 2014 – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Buzzee to approve the September 30, 2014, Financial Statements. Questions were asked and answered. There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Transfer Request – On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to approve the requested transfer.
10. Old Business – On a motion by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to add Shared Services and School of Choice to the agenda under Old Business. Mr. Carlson spoke of his discussion at the last meeting on School of Choice. He had further comment. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the Board voted unanimously to talk to the Preston Board of Education about shared services and School of Choice.
11. New Business – None.
12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – November 12<sup>th</sup> is the next regular meeting. A meeting date will be decided upon for a Tri-Board meeting shortly. There was discussion.
- b. Committee Action List – The Student Success Committee will meet before the next meeting.
13. Public Comment – None.
14. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Strategy for Collective Bargaining – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. for the Purpose of Strategy for Collective Bargaining.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to  
The Board of Education