

Board of Education Minutes
March 27, 2019

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Central Office/North Stonington Elementary Shaw Media Center. Present were Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Mathwich, Ms. Welborn, Mr. McCord (7:26 p.m.), Dr. Robert, Dr. Potemri, and Mr. Mendolia (7:14 p.m.). Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. St. Germain, Mr. Chaney, and Mr. Pont. Chairperson Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Proposed Executive Session – Possible Legal Matter – On a motion by Dr. Robert, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. for the Purpose of Possible Legal Matter.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:27 p.m.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – Mrs. Helen Cassatta, parent, asked about the food service transportation and her question was answered. There was discussion.
5. Community Relations – Mr. Nero said the Ed Foundation met last Thursday in the new school. They have two new members and he explained. The trivia contest was very successful. The road race will be held Saturday on Memorial Day Weekend.
6. Presentations – Winter Athletics Wrap-Up – Mrs. Ellen Turner listed the sports that were offered in the winter. She said the hockey co-op did very well. There was also a team of one in gymnastics and wrestling. Basketball was in a new division this year and she elaborated. She explained the differences in the boys’ and girls’ teams’ schedules. She explained where they practiced and played their games. She read the stats for the boys’ and girls’ teams and listed the ECC awards. Questions were asked and answered. She read the cheering stats and had explanation. She reviewed the winter middle school sports and listed their stats. She read the girls’ basketball team stats and elaborated. She listed the middle school cheering stats and said the team won the spirit award. She had further comment. Mrs. Turner had comment on the cheerleaders traveling to games. She said it has been a tough year but it was very exciting to watch the athletes play. The parent and community support was awesome and she elaborated. A survey was sent out to parents and she will be reviewing the results with Mrs. St. Germain. She had further comment. Questions were asked and answered. The Board thanked Mrs. Turner.
7. Administrators’ Reports – None.
8. Administrative – a. Minutes – February 2, 2019 – Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Dr. Potemri to approve the minutes in consensus. There was comment to amend the minutes of March 13,

2019. The motion to accept the minutes as consensus as amended passed unanimously. The minutes approved were those of February 2, 2019, February 23, 2019, February 27, 2019, and March 13, 2019.

- b. Correspondence – Mr. Nero read a letter from the Mystic Aquarium thanking the school for their donation of coral.
 - c. Personnel – None.
9. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero thanked everyone in the district especially Mr. Pont and his crew and to the town for their personnel to help with the moves that were made. He had further comment. There is a punch-list for the new school. The ribbon cutting ceremony is this Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. He said Mr. Boucher and his staff have been a tremendous help.
- b. BOE Chairperson – Mrs. Wagner said she and Ms. Welborn met to talk more about the Healthy Start Times forum. They will be inviting those that showed interest to a meeting on Saturday, April 27th.
 - c. Committee Chairperson – None.
 - d. LEARN Board of Directors' Liaison – None.
 - e. School Modernization Building Committee – Dr. Potemri said Mr. Nero summed up everything. There was a meeting about the remediation which is going to be quite extensive and she elaborated. Their next meeting is Monday and she had further comment. Mr. Nero had comment. Dr. Potemri commented that we need to start on some type of plan for recruiting students from other districts and she elaborated. Board members had comment. Mr. Nero had comment. There was further comment.
10. Finance - a. February 2019 Financial Statements – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Dr. Robert to approve the February, 2019 Financial Statements. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.
11. Old Business – a. School Start Times – Discussed above.
- b. Web Site – Mrs. Wagner will be getting the school start time information to Mr. Pont to put on the web site. Ms. Welborn commented on the importance of the web site and there was further comment. Mr. Pont answered questions regarding contracting outside sources. Questions were asked and answered. There was discussion.
 - c. Budget Discussion – There was discussion. Board members had concerns about no money budgeted for supplies. Mr. Nero had comment as did Board members. Board members had questions on the budget that were answered. Mr. Chaney had comment on the budget. They have a new building and they will have nothing to work

with. He had further comment. Mrs. Wilkison had comment on where reductions were made. Board members had further comment. A member of the public had comment. Dr. Potemri had comment in response to her. Mr. Nero had comment. There was discussion. Dr. Robert said our job is to make sure we have a budget that can support the schools. Mr. Nero had comment. Board members had further comment. There was discussion. Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to approve the budget at 1.92%. There was discussion. Mr. Nero had comment. Board members had further comment. The motion passed with six voting in favor and one abstention. Ms. Welborn abstained.

d. Board of Education Goals – Nothing new to report.

e. Board Members Concerns/Topics of Discussion – Ms. Welborn told the Board she is now a member of the Board of Directors of Keep North Stonington Affordable and she elaborated.

12. New Business – None.

13. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – April 3rd is the Board of Finance meeting and there is a meeting with Mr. Spring on Friday. The next Board of Education meeting is on April 10th.

b. Committee Action List – None.

14. Public Comment –None.

15. Proposed for Executive Session – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 8:41 p.m. for continued discussion on Possible Legal Matter.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:17 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Dr. Potemri, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education