

Board of Education Minutes
May 22, 2019

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Central Office/North Stonington Elementary School Shaw Media Center. Present were Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Karpinski (7:39 p.m.), Mr. Mathwich, Ms. Welborn, Mr. McCord (7:06 p.m.), Dr. Potemri, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. St. Germain, and Mr. Chaney (7:38 p.m.). Chairperson Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Student Maddie Perkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to move item 11b, Budget Discussion, to Item 7a.

3. Proposed Executive Session – On a motion by Ms. Welborn, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:03 p.m. for the Purpose of Personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:12 p.m.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.

5. Community Relations – Mr. Nero said this Saturday is the NSEF Road Race and he elaborated. He gave kudos to Jenna Rogers and Marc Tardiff for their work on the race. He spoke at the boy scouts ceremony about his job and he elaborated.

6. Presentations – a. Invention Convention Participants – Will be held at a later date.

b. Interact/Giveback Club Request – Mrs. Schilke gave background information on the club and the events they have held. She gave information on the proposed trip they have been asked to help with in Ecorse, Michigan. She had further comment. She said the students that would like to attend are in good academic standing. She had further comment. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero had comment. Dr. Potemri made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia to accept both proposals as presented by Mrs. Schilke. Board members had comment on Samaritan's Purse. Mrs. Schilke responded. There was discussion. Dr. Potemri amended her motion to approve the first request only for the students to leave on Tuesday and it was seconded by Ms. Welborn. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Administrators' Reports – None.

a. Budget Discussion – Mrs. Wagner had comment on the meeting she had with the First Selectman and the Board of Finance Chair. She elaborated and said we worked very hard on that budget. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero clarified some concerns. Further questions were asked and answered. Board members had

further comment. There was further discussion. Board members had further comment and concern. Discussion ensued. Ms. Welborn made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Karpinski to move the savings from the recent retirements to instructional supplies and keep the budget the same. There was further discussion. The motion passed with six in favor and one opposed. Mr. McCord was opposed.

The Board will meet on May 29th at 6:00 p.m. for a special meeting.

8. Administrative – a. Minutes – May 8, 2019 – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Dr. Potemri, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the May 8, 2019, meeting.

b. Correspondence – None.

c. Personnel – Mr. Nero said the special education administrative assistant was hired. Ryan Beattie will fill that position.

9. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero said we are getting ready for the end of the year. He has spoken to Bill Turley about the “Say Something” program and he elaborated. He said it is a “train the trainer” model. He said he has gotten some correspondence about the landscaping and he elaborated. A lot has been invested with seed and grub control and he elaborated. He spoke of the strategic plan and the lack of participation with the focus groups. The steering committee has had 100% attendance. He spoke of the food services program. He thanked Aramark.

b. BOE Chairperson – Mrs. Wagner said she and Mr. Nero met with M&J Bus and spoke of the change in times. They are going over things to try to anticipate any issues.

c. Committee Chairperson – Nothing new to report.

d. LEARN Board of Directors’ Liaison – None.

e. School Modernization Building Committee – Nothing new to report. There are some remediation issues at the elementary school but they are dealing with those individually as they occur. Questions were asked and answered.

10. Finance - a. April 2019 Financial Statements – Mr. Mathwich made a motion that was seconded by Mr. McCord to approve the financial statements for the period ending April 30, 2019. Questions were asked and answered. Mrs. Martin had comment and explanation. Board members had further comment. There was discussion. Ms. Welborn left at 8:39. There was further comment. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Transfer Request – Mrs. Martin had explanation of the request. There was comment. Questions were asked and answered. On a motion by Dr. Potemri, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer request.

11. Old Business – a. Tuition – Will be covered at a later meeting.

b. Budget Discussion – Covered above.

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

d. Board Members Concerns/Topics of Discussion – Mr. Karpinski said the budget is a concern. He also spoke of the minimum wage. There was comment.

12. New Business – None.

13. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – May 29th at 6:00 p.m. for a special meeting and the policy workshop will be June 15th.

b. Committee Action List –

14. Public Comment – None.

15. Proposed for Executive Session – None.

On a motion by Dr. Potemri, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to
The Board of Education