

Board of Education Minutes
Special Meeting
May 18, 2020

DRAFT

A special meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom meeting platform meeting ID 84535280814. Present were Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Karpinski, Ms. Welborn, Dr. Robert, Mrs. Mastroianni, Dr. Potemri, and Mr. Mendolia. Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Costa, and Mrs. Wilkison. Chairperson Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First – None.
4. New Business – Approval of Proposed FFE for Elementary School Project – Mrs. Wagner explained the School Modernization Committee met. The Board needs to give their stamp of approval. Dr. Potemri said they had no budget for furniture and they worked with Downes to get ADA compliant furniture. She said they have a whole team of designers that look at the color schemes in the school to choose the furniture. Dr. Potemri explained further and told the Board they need to present this to the State tomorrow. She elaborated. Mrs. Wilkison asked about conference tables that were destroyed in the move and if they were included. Dr. Potemri said it was not part of this list but they will talk about that further. Mr. Karpinski asked if we had done this for the high school and she said it may be something that needs to be done in arrears. Ms. Joyal was going to research that. Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Karpinski to approve the proposed FFE for the elementary school project. Dr. Robert asked questions about warranties for these items because the furniture in the new building he moved into at Eastern has been breaking. Dr. Potemri said there are warranties. Mr. Nero said one year later he doesn't recall problems with wheels; they have held up well. Mr. Karpinski noticed there is a lot of white colored fabric and wondered if that was the best choice for younger children. He gave specific items numbers. Dr. Potemri answered his questions and said one of those is actually light blue. She commented on some of the teachers' furniture. Dr. Robert rescinded his motion and Mr. Karpinski rescinded the second. Dr. Robert made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mendolia, to approve the furniture, fixtures and equipment proposal dated May 15, 2020, according to specifications presented by QA+M Architecture LLC in the amount of \$87,000. Further questions were asked for clarification. The motion passed with six voting in favor and one abstention. Dr. Potemri abstained. Dr. Potemri explained she abstained because she is chairperson of the committee. Mr. Nero had comment. Mrs. Wilkison questioned the round cafeteria tables and being able to seat the needed number of students. Dr. Potemri explained that was noted on the plans.
5. Public Comment – None.

On a motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Dr. Robert, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to the Board of Education.