

## Board of Education Minutes

December 13, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held in a hybrid format on December 13, 2023, beginning at 6:30 PM in the North Stonington Education Center. Present were Mr. Bryan Burdick, Mr. Alex Karpinski, Mrs. Judy Main, Mrs. Stephanie Mastroianni, Mrs. Lisa Mazzella, Mr. Chet Stefanowicz, Dr. Jamie Towle-Weicksel and Mrs. Christine Wagner. Also present were Mr. Troy Hopkins, Superintendent of School, Mr. Bill Merrill, Business Manager. Present online were Mr. Rob Cillino, North Stonington Elementary School Principal and Mrs. Kristen St, Germain, Wheeler Principal.

### 1. Call to Order

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Mrs. Mastroianni, Chairperson.

### 2. Roll Call

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

### 4. Public Comment

*Please be advised that our meeting structure does not allow for two-way dialogue during public comment, but the Board uses this information to guide their decision-making. Depending on the topic, they may ask the Superintendent or another District employee to follow up with you. Likewise, public comment might lead to a topic being added to a future meeting agenda.*

None.

### 5. Presentations

Motion to Move items 10.a., b and c. to After 5.a. - Student Activities. This motion, made by Mrs. Mazzella and seconded by Mrs. Main, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,

Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 8, Nay: 0

#### 5.a. Student Activities - Fall

Ellen Turner, Athletic Director, reported on Student Athletics Fall. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

#### 5.b. Accept October Finance Report

Motion to accept the October Finance Report. This motion, made by Mr. Karpinski and seconded by Mr. Burdick, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Mr. Bill Merrill, Business Manager, reported on the October Finance Report. The report is attached to the original minutes. Questions were asked and answered.

5.c. Present November Finance Report

Mr. Bill Merrill, Business Manager, presented the November Finance Report. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

5.d. Eversource Electric Bill

Mr. Bill Merrill, Business Manager, reported on Eversource Electric Bill. The report is attached to the original minutes. Questions were asked and answered.

**6. Administrative**

**6.a. Approval of minutes**

6.a.i. September 13, 2023

Motion to approve the September 13, 2023 minutes. This motion, made by Karpinski and seconded by Burdick, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Absent, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Abstain: 1 Judy Main, was not a BOE Member during this meeting.

6.a.ii. September 27, 2023

Motion to approve the September 27, 2023 minutes with the correction to show the voting outcome. This motion, made by Mr. Karpinski and seconded by Mr. Burdick, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Absent, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Abstain: 1 Judy Main, was not a BOE Member during this meeting.

**7. Reports**

7.a. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Troy Hopkins, Superintendent of Schools, reported on the Superintendent's report. The report is attached to the original of the minutes. Questions were asked and answered.

7.b. BOE Chair's Report

Mrs. Stephanie Mastroianni, Chairperson, presented the BOE Chair report. The report is attached to the original to these minutes.

7.c. Student Ambassador's Report

Ms. Madison Wagner, Student Ambassador, reported on Wheeler High School and Middle School. The report is attached to the original minutes. Mr. Jon Anderson, Student Ambassador, reported on North Stonington Elementary School. The report is attached to the original minutes.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

None

10. **Facility and Finance Discussion**

10.a. Non-Lapsing

Motion to approve up to \$3,500.00 for lighting and drama production and \$2,800 for keyboards from the non-lapsing account. This motion, made by Mr. Stefanowicz and seconded by Mrs. Wagner, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Mrs. Stephanie Mastroianni, Chairperson, reported on the Non-Lapsing. The report is attached to the original minutes.

Mr. Troy Hopkins, Superintendent, reported on the non-lapsing. The report is attached to the original minutes.

11. **Policy and Advocacy Discussion**

11.a. 112 News Media Relationship

Motion to delete policy 1112.6 Videotaping of Staff/Students. This motion, made by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Burdick, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Mr. Chet Stefanowicz, ~~Policy Committee Chair~~, reported on Policy 1112 News Media Relationship. The reports are attached to the original minutes.

11.b. 4111 Recruitment & Selection

Mr. Troy Hopkins, Superintendent of Schools, presented 4111

12. BOE Comments for Future Agenda Items

- School Traffic lights on Route 2
- Bylaws
- Playground

13. Public Comments

None

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:39 p.m. This motion, made by Mr. Karpinski and seconded by Dr. Towle-Weicksel, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Respectfully submitted by  
Irma Wilhelm  
Recording Clerk  
Approved with corrections on January 24, 2024