

**Board of Education Minutes**  
September 13, 2023

**DRAFT**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held in a hybrid format on September 13, 2023, beginning at 6:30 PM in the North Stonington Education Center. Present were Mr. Bryan Burdick, Mr. Alex Karpinski, Mrs. Stephanie Mastroianni, Mrs. Lisa Mazzella (6:36 p.m.), Mr. Phil Mendolia, Mr. Chet Stefanowicz: Present, Dr. Jaime Towle-Weicksel and Mrs. Christine Wagner. Also present were Superintendent Troy Hopkins, and Business Manager Bill Merrill.

1. Call to Order - Mrs. Wagner called the Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment - No public comment.
4. **Reports**
  - 4.a. Superintendent's Report - Mr. Hopkins announced that Mrs. Kristen St. Germain will be recognized as High School Principal of the Year during an event on October 26, 2023, at St. Clements Castle in Portland CT, and will also be representing CT Washington, D.C.
  - 4.b. BOE Chair's Report

Mrs. Wagner reported that negotiations with the administrator's contract had ended. Also attended the tri-board meeting on Monday, September 11, and had some good discussions.
5. **Old Business**
  - 5.a. Before & After Care Program - Dr. Towle-Weicksel reported on the Before & After Care Program. The Committee will be sending a letter to the public/parents clearly communicating the plan. Questions were asked and answered.
  - 5.b. STEAP Grant - Nothing new to report on the STEAP grant.
6. **New Business**
  - 6.a. Capital Projects – Mrs. Wagner indicated the need of start discussing what will be given over to the town for the October 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline. Mr. Hopkins, Superintendent of

Schools, reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Questions were asked and answered.

**7. Facility and Finance Discussion**

7.a. Present August Report – Mr. Merrill, Business Manager, reported. The August report is attached to the original of these minutes.

7.b. Finance Procedures – Mr. Hopkins reported the Finance Procedures Manual is a working draft, of the original request from the auditors. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

7.c. Signs for leashing of dogs – Mrs. Wagner, Chairman of the Board, reported that Karcher Deshefy, Animal Control Officer, has requested the posting of signs on the fields regarding animals being on the leash.

**8. Policy and Advocacy Discussion**

8.a. 5132 - Dress and Appearance Policy will be revised and will be presented at the following meeting.

8.b. CABE AI Policy - Mr. Hopkins, Superintendent of Schools, reported. The recommended AI Policy is attached to the original of these minutes.

8.c. 3541 & 5131 Transportation Guidelines – Mr. Stefanowicz reported 3541-Transportation Guidelines is a regulation, not a policy, and 3541.311-Riding Other Than Assigned Bus. The reported policies are attached to the original of these minutes.

8.d. 9000 - 9020 BOE Bylaws - First read for the bylaws. The Bylaws are attached to the original of these minutes.

9. BOE Comments for Future Agenda Items – Dr. Towle-Weicksel requested an update on the playground. Mrs. Mastroianni requested to have non-lapsing. Mr. Stefanowicz requested to have a Capital List.

10. Public Comments - None.

11. Adjournment – Motion made by Mr. Karpinski and seconded by Mrs. Mastroianni to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Irma Wilhelm  
Recording Secretary