

Board of Education Minutes  
October 26, 2022

**DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held in a hybrid format on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the North Stonington Education Center media center. Present were Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Stefanowicz, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Burdick, Dr. Towle-Weicksel, Mrs. Mastroianni, Mrs. Mazzella and Mr. Mendolia via Zoom. Also present was Mr. Hopkins.

Chairperson Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First\* - none

Motion by Mrs. Mastroianni, second by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to remove Personnel from Executive Session.

4. Reports - a. Superintendent – Mr. Hopkins was pleased to announce that there are two Student Representatives to the BOE Madison Wagner and Jon Anderson, Class of 2024. Mr. Hopkins informed the Board of the resignation from the Director of Facilities with his last day being on November 4, 2022.

b. BOE Chairperson – No report.

5. Old Business – a. Goals – Discussion and Approval. Mr. Hopkins presented the 3 district goals. How to track progress on the goals. There is a measurement list that was distributed at the retreat. Would like to see a timeline. Assignment for subcommittees were created:

Goal #1- Mrs. Mazzella, Mrs. Mastroianni, Dr. Towle-Weicksel, Mr. Mendolia, Mr. Stefanowicz.

Will meet on November 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Goal # 2 – Mrs. Mazzella; Dr. Towle-Weicksel, Mr. Burdick, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Stefanowicz.

Will meet on November 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Goal #3 – Mrs. Mastroianni, Mr. Burdick, Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Mendolia

Will meet on November 16 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Stefanowicz, second by Dr. Towle-Weicksel, the Board unanimously approved the North Stonington District's Educational goals for 2022-2025.

BOE Retreat – Follow-up comments. Mr. Hopkins continues to remind everyone to make Goal #3. Transparent and Efficient. We have a lot of creative thinkers that allow them to make it happen through budget and advocacy. Mrs. Wagner, liked the sheet as long as we can support the right policies.

6. Facilities and Finance

a. Director of Facilities Position – nothing new to report.

b. Non-Lapsing – Innovative Instruction PD

STEAP grant has been approved and will need to do an RFP until DOT gives a final approval. We might RFP with the Town. We might use one company to do both projects. Work will start in the spring. This time frame might inconvenience for the school but would not wait until the end of the school year. We still need assessment on the grounds. We will need the Athletic Director, the Facilities Director and Mr. Hopkins to assess and evaluate what are the needs for grounds.

Funding for Innovation Funding – how to empower/support with training of technology that already exists. For Professional Development, welcome the idea to learn more. For this year's budget to create a line item for Innovative Instruction – this way we don't have to approve every line item. On a motion by Mrs. Mazzella, seconded by Mrs. Mastroianni the Board unanimously approved to add a line item for Innovative Instruction for this year 2022-2023.

Dr. Towle-Weicksel pointed the playground equipment. Mrs. Wagner suggested that we ask Rob to see what his needs are for playground equipment might look like. Questions were asked and answered.

As we start to approach budget season, have admins to talk to teachers that it is important to plan that moving forward.

7. Policy Votes - a. SEL Policy Approval –  
On a motion by Mrs. Mastroianni, second by Mr. Burdick the Board unanimously approved the SEL policy as presented.
8. Calendar  
Moved to November 16 and sub committees on the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to vote on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
9. Public Comment\* - none
10. On a motion by Mr. Stefanowicz, second by Mr. Karpinski the Board entered into Executive Session at 7:31 p.m.  
Out of Executive Session at 7:55
11. Adjournment  
On a motion by Mr. Karpinski and second by Mr. Burdick the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Irma Wilhelm  
Recording Secretary to  
The Board of Education