

**THE NORTH HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
5 LINSLEY STREET
NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

MINUTES

Date: September 8, 2011

Attendance at this REGULAR Meeting: Stephen DiCapua, Alicia Clapp, Carole Franceschet, James Hogan, Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Bryan Bogen, Stephen Consiglio, and Patricia K. Brozek, Superintendent of Schools

Bert Mozealous was not in attendance.

7:05 p.m.

Mr. DiCapua welcomed Stephen Consiglio, who was appointed to the Board of Education by the First Selectman last night to fill a vacant spot on the Board of Education.

1. Approval of Minutes of August 11, 2011

Motion: to approve the Minutes of August 11, 2011

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Carole Franceschet
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Dr. Hogan abstained, as he was not at last month's meeting and Stephen Consiglio abstained, as this was his first Board of Education meeting.

2. Budgets:

a. 2011-2012 Budget

Moved: to accept budget reports and place them on file

Approved

MOVED: Carole Franceschet
SECOND: James Hogan
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Stephen Consiglio abstained, as this was his first Board of Education meeting.

3. Report of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Operations

Finance and Operations met this evening and went over our budgets. Mr. DiCapua stated that the budgets are in good shape.

Old Business:

1. Fields

Mr. DiCapua reported to the Board the status of the utility fields. He stated that there were some issues with getting the fields repaired and hoping to get a plan in place. He stated that this project was out to bid and is actively being worked on. Mr. DiCapua reported that ultimately the goal is to get a yearly field maintenance schedule. Mr. DiCapua introduced Mr. Albert, who is willing to work with us and provide us information to get to our goal regarding the maintenance of the fields.

b. Personnel

1. Ratification of teachers hired in June, July, and August (attached)

Moved: to approve the ratification of teachers hired June, July and August

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Carole Franceschett
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Stephen Consiglio abstained, as this was his first Board of Education meeting

Old Business:

1. Approval of Girls Basketball coach (see attached)

Moved: to approve the Girls Basketball coach

Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson
SECOND: Carole Franceschett
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Stephen Consiglio abstained, as this was his first Board of Education meeting

2. Approval of Boy's Ice Hockey coach (see attached)

Moved: to approve the Boy's Ice Hockey coach

Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson
SECOND: Carole Franceschett
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Stephen Consiglio abstained, as this was his first Board of Education meeting

c. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning

1. Approval of Green Acres/Ridge Road Elementary Schools field trip to Nature's Classroom during the Spring of 2012

Motion: to **TABLE** this motion until later in the year when the C & I Committee can review/revise the field trip forms

Approved

MOVED: James Hogan
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Stephen Consiglio abstained, as this was his first Board of Education meeting

Mrs. Franceschet stated that Curriculum, Instruction and Planning met on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 and discussed a number of agenda items to be discussed throughout the school year. She stated in the first few months the agenda will include such items as presentations by administrators sharing their goals and objectives, a student assessment update, ongoing analysis of our curriculum, updating our school policies, and professional development. Mrs. Franceschet reported that the next meeting will be Monday, October 3, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

4. ACES

Mrs. Clapp attended the ACES Meeting this morning and reported that she attended a Memorial Service at Mill Road School. Mrs. Clapp stated that it was an unbelievable service. These students at Mill Road School are special needs children who did a wonderful job participating in this service.

Mrs. Clapp reported that ACES had opening day on Tuesday, September 6th, as we did and they will make up the day they missed during the March staff development.

Dr. Edmondson was named State Task Force on Technical Schools by Martin Looney.

5. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Franceschet reported that PTSA will have their first meeting September 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the North Haven High School Library.

Old Business:

1. "Adopt a School"

Mrs. Anderson is proposing that each board member "Adopt a School", and attend functions happening at their assigned school, and report on their visits at the monthly Board of Education Meetings. Mrs. Anderson feels that will keep the Board in touch with what is going on at the schools and make them more visible.

6. Superintendent's Report

- Opening of Schools – major challenge this year was transportation which is typical when schools start and this year it was compounded here because we are working with a new bus company. Dr. Cronin stated that there is improvement each day. He stated we are not yet where we want to be with regards to arrivals and departures. Dr. Cronin reported that the administration and the bus company meet every morning to get any concerns/issues resolved.

- Dr. Cronin reported that there will be a program at the North Haven High School tomorrow, September 9, 2011, in commemoration of 9/11 during all of the lunch waves. They are also observing a moment of silence.
- Dr. Cronin shared the final District Improvement Plan. Dr. Cronin said he will keep the Board up to date throughout the year.

7. Public Comments

- Michelle Spader –15 Leighton Court, has safety concerns regarding transportation and the caliber of the bus drivers. She suggested that the postcards go out a little earlier over the summer notifying parents of the child’s bus stop. Mrs. Spader has also suggested that when an Alert Now message goes out the person identify themselves. She also suggested that the Board of Education members also get them so that they know what is going on. Mrs. Spader further suggested that the messages go out two times, to ensure that they are heard.
- Diane Visschio - Mrs. Visschio stated that the postcards do not work and suggested that we notify the families some other, more effective way. She feels that the schedules should be posted well in advance. Mrs. Visschio called many times with concerns and questions and calls were not returned.
- Susan Smith – Montowese District - wanted to know about the video cameras on the bus and seat belts. Dr. Cronin stated that the tapes are there for a while before it is recorded over (minimum of 30 days). He also informed the public that although the seat belts are in place, they are not being used, as there is a lot of conflicting concerns regarding using the seat belts or not using the seat belts, and whether or not they are appropriate. Dr. Cronin is in touch with the State about what should be done. He stated once again that the seat belts are not being used at this time.
- Audra Marro – Bus issues with regards to her 4th grader’s bus stop. Suggested that the bus company go out and look at these stops to make sure they are safe for children to be waiting for the bus.
- John Owecki – Commented on the utility field and getting them in shape for the children to play on. He stated that he is in support of getting the field up and running. Mr. Owecki stated that they need to be made safe.
- Terri Hannon - has contacted Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. Feels that her family is being retaliated against.
- Al Warren – commented that there was a bid in the paper regarding landscaping the fields. Mr. Warren asked if there was any litigation going on regarding the fields. Mr. DiCapua responded that there is some litigation going on.

8. Executive Session: (if needed)

9. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: James Hogan
 SECOND: Carole Franceschet
 AYE: 8
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN:

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen DiCapua

Stephen DiCapua
 Vice Chairman