

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

MINUTES

Date: March 8, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Attendance at this REGULAR Meeting: Stephen DiCapua, Alicia Clapp, Carole Franceschet, Anita Anderson, Bryan Bogen, Wesley O'Brien, Stephen Consiglio, Jennifer Caldwell, and Patricia K. Brozek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

Bert Mozealous was absent from this meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes of February 9, 2012

Moved: to approve the Minutes of February 9, 2011

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Carole Franceschet
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

2. Chairman's Report

a. Discussion of location of Board of Education Meetings

Mrs. Anderson reported that a "Chairman's Report" will be added to each agenda. Mrs. Anderson stated that it has been suggested to her by parents in the district to have the Board Meetings at different schools each month. Mrs. Anderson reported that she and Dr. Cronin have decided that the April 12, 2012 Board of Education Meeting will be held at the North Haven Middle School, May will most likely be held back at Central Office, and June will possibly be at one of our other schools. We will post these changes on the website.

3. Budgets:

a. 2011-2012 Budget

Moved: to accept budget reports and place them on file

Approved

MOVED: Stephen DiCapua
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Report of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Operations

Mr. Bogen reported that Finance and Operations met this evening. He stated the first item on the agenda was the transportation policy. Mr. Bogen stated that they were given some rough drafts to review regarding revising the transportation policy, which the committee will review and report on that next month. Mr. Bogen reported they also looked at stipends, meaning non-contractual stipends. Mr. Bogen stated that Finance and Operations discussed the 2012-2013 monthly financial report. He stated that the Excess Cost Grants did come in totaling \$850,000. Mr. Bogen stated that regarding the 2012-2013 budget there was a surprise in regards to a \$40,000 defined benefit for the non-certified employees. He stated that if the budget is passed we will have to juggle some money around.

b. Personnel

1. Approval of 2012 Spring Coaches

Moved: to approve the 2012 Spring Coaches

Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson
SECOND: Carole Franceschet
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

c. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning

Mrs. Franceschet reported that Curriculum, Instruction and Planning met on March 5, 2012 and discussed the following:

- Dana Correaveu – presented summer school plan for this year
- Graduation and Project Graduation will be June 21, 2012. Seniors will return to the NHHS on the morning of June 22, 2012 for breakfast and will receive their official diplomas. The last day of school for all other grades (K-11) will remain as Friday, June 22, 2012.
- A college consultant service called College for Less contacted Dr. Cronin and will be holding a workshop on April 14, 2012 at Lyman Hall High School and Dr. Cronin is planning on attending to gather information about the firm and what it has to offer North Haven.
- Draft of the District Culture Plan for North Haven has been submitted to the State.
- Protocol for introducing a new sport, club or activity
- Alternative Task Force has begun working on re-designing the current program
- Professional Development Update: Administrators have another 2-hour session on BEST Instructional Practices
- Dr. Cronin has begun his visits to each of our six schools, meeting with staff for discussions regarding next year's proposed changes
- The next Curriculum, Instruction and Planning meeting will be April 2, 2012 here at Central Office at 9:30 a.m.

1. Approval of the 2012-2013 School Calendar

Moved: to approve the 2012-2013 School Calendar

Approved

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

2. Approval of North Haven High School field trip to Ellis Island and The Eastside Tenement Museum, New York, NY on April 13, 2012

Moved: to approve the North Haven High School field trip to Ellis Island and the Eastside Tenement Museum, New York, NY on April 13, 2012

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

3. Approval of North Haven Middle School field trip to New York City to visit, 911 Memorial, Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and South Street Seaport on June 5, 2012

Tabled

MOVED: Stephen DiCapua
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Approval of Ridge Road Elementary School field trip to Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, MA on May 22, 2012

Moved: to approve the Ridge Road Elementary School field trip to Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, MA on May 22, 2012

Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 7
NAY: 1
ABSTAIN: 0

5. ACES

Mrs. Clapp reported on the following:

- Reviewed three of the budgets for ACES and all of them were approved
- No change in Professional Development Department
- There are 14 districts that are coming together to form Core Curriculum Common Practices
- Received a handout of acronyms

6. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Caldwell reported that PTA Council did not meet. Their next meeting is scheduled for the end of March

Old News:

1. Adopt-A-School

Mrs. Anderson attended a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House at the Omni in New Haven. She reported that one of our football coaches, Anthony Sagnella was one of the contestants in the "Dancing Under the Stars" benefit. Mrs. Franceschet attended "Read Across America" at Montowese and read to a third grade class. She also went to NHMS and read to a seventh grade class. Mrs. Clapp attended the NHHS play "Hair Spray" Mrs. Clapp stated the play was wonderful. She was very impressed with all of the great talent we have in North Haven.

7. Enrollment

8. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cronin reported the following:

- Attended the NHHS play. He stated the students did a wonderful job, as well as the director, Kathy Grassi, instrumental music, Ken Tedeschi, vocal music, Ashley Hahn, and Jared Andrew Brown the choreographer. They all did a remarkable job with the students.
- The tennis courts at Ridge Road are being demolished and being made into a playing field
- CMT/CAPT testing taking place
- There was a fire at the Middle School, around a fish tank. Dr Cronin reported the school worked nicely together to get through the crisis.

9. Public Comments

- Krista Kaplan – commented regarding CMT District Policy testing days. Dr. Cronin responded that there is not a policy. He believes that the elementary schools have an agreement as to the days it is administrated. Dr. Cronin stated that that is something they can look at in the future. Ms. Kaplan also stated that she is in charge of public relations for the teacher's union and was able to get a grant for a community outreach program. She stated that with that grant money she created a website for NHEA and the Board should feel free to check it out. (NHEA.org) The union is also sponsoring a program. It is a social media seminar where a specialist comes in to talk to parents about internet safety.
- Dot Logan – likes the idea of the Board of Education Meetings being held at the schools and suggested the Board members take a tour of the schools.
- Julie Bosebery – commented that she would like the Board and Dr. Cronin to re-consider the budget plan and add the social workers, special education teachers, and guidance counselors back into the budget.
- Cheri Gibson – commented on the budget and staff cuts
- Maureen Munzner – commented on the budget and staff cuts, and would like a priority list of which teachers/counselors/social workers will be added and in what order they will be added back in if money becomes available.
- Ken Lacilla – commented on the budget and staff cuts
- Dr. Cronin stated that currently North Haven Schools are on something called "Focused Monitoring" by the State Department of Education in Special Education. He stated that we are on Focused Monitoring in Special Education for two reasons. One reason is that we did not, at the time in which the State became involved (which was before he arrived in North Haven) have a District Improvement Plan. He reported that has been rectified and we do have one now. Dr. Cronin stated that the other reason that the State is involved with North Haven Special Education is in part because of the achievement of special education students. Dr. Cronin stated that what that is saying is that we (North Haven) has to look at what we are doing and is there another way of doing it differently and better. He stated if we keep doing what we are doing the same way we will not improve. Dr. Cronin reported that over the last 5 or so years, there have been a number of positions that have been cut in North Haven (e.g. teachers at the High School and some programming at the Middle School). During that same period there were seven special education teachers added to the district. He stated that at the time those teachers were added, the student population was declining. His decision was not arbitrary. He stated that he and the Board looked at all of those variables. Dr. Cronin stated that the services and variables that he is planning on introducing are also for all students in North Haven. Dr. Cronin also stated that he recommended to the board what he believes is the best use of those resources.
- Krista Brooks – commented on concerns she had regarding RTI (Response to Intervention)
- Cheri Gibson – commented that she was looking forward to Dr. Cronin meeting with the Ridge Road PTA meeting on March 15, 2012.

10. Executive Session: (if needed)

Moved: to go into executive session for reasons of personnel 8p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Carole Franceshet
SECOND: Stephen DiCapua
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Back in public session at 8:40 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 8:4 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Carole Francescet
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson
Chairman