

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

Date: March 6, 2014
7:00 p.m.

THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT CENTRAL OFFICE, 5 LINSLEY STREET, NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473

Attendance at this REGULAR Meeting: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Alicia Clapp, Matthew Kerzner, Jennifer Caldwell, Jennifer Cecarelli, Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Kristine Carling, Director of Finance, Operations, and Human Resources, and Melinda McKenna, Director of Curriculum

Absent: Randi Petersen, Bryan Bogen and Goldie Adele

Mrs. Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Anderson made the following motions:

Moved: to add the North Haven Flexibility Request for 2013-2014 – Implementation of the Connecticut Educator and Evaluation Support System Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to add the consideration and possible vote on the 2013-2014 school calendar Revision Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

1. Presentation by Jill Metz , K-12 Social Studies Program Coordinator

Ms. Metz presented the following regarding the K-12 Social Studies Program:

- Instructional Changes
- Aligning Practice
- Professional Development
- Department Focus
- Strategies that Promote Common Core Literacy Standards in Social Studies

2. Presentation by Patti White – K-12 Science Program Coordinator

Mrs. White presented the following regarding the K-12 Science Program:

- Instructional Changes
- Aligning Practice
- Professional Development
- Department Focus
- The Eight Practices of Science and Engineering

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the Minutes of January 9, 2014

Moved: to approve the items under the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Items Removed from Consent Agenda:

4. Chairman's Report

Mrs. Anderson reported the following:

- High School play – unbelievably talented students. Excellent job, both staff and students
- Board's response to Emails - Anita Anderson will answer email that is directed to all Board Members unless another board member has more expertise in the area in question. Example: Common Core questions will be directed to Jennifer Cecarelli and Melinda McKenna, Policy questions will be directed to Jennifer Caldwell, etc.

1. Approval of Spring Coaches

Moved: to approve the Spring Coaches

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Alicia Clapp requested that all coaches/volunteers not be on the field unless they are all cleared. Dr. Cronin assured Mrs. Clapp that they will not be on the field with students unless they are all cleared and all requirements are met.

Student reports:

Jake Huston – Junior at North Haven High school reported:

- NHHS play Chicago opened this past week and was a huge success
- This week is National Foreign Language Week at North Haven High School. Every day the cafeteria is celebrating a new foreign language taught at the high school with specialty foods.
- Course selection closed 2/21
- CMEA All State Festival starts April 3, 2014 and ends with a concert on Saturday, April 5, 2014 and North Haven has six North Haven High School students participating in Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble Chorus at The Bushnell

Allison Carroll - Senior at North Haven High School reported:

- March 14, 2014 is Pi Day @ NHHS – pie baking contest
- Future Problem Solvers Conference at NHHS – Qualified teams from around the State come to compete at the end of March
- Student/ teacher talent show is this year. It will be held on April 4, 2014.

5. Report of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report

Mrs. Carling reported the following:

Finance and Operations met this evening and talked about 2013-2014 budget. The 2013-2014 budget is on target at this time. There have been some unexpected circumstances at Ridge Road with the pipes bursting earlier this year and the Middle School with some unexpected leaks. Mrs. Carling reported that she is watching spending going forward and has currently implemented a budget freeze. She also stated that a claim was submitted to the insurance company for the Ridge Road incident and we are receiving reimbursement on that. Mrs. Carling reported that there are currently repairs being done on the Middle School roof, and in order to reduce impact to students, administrators have moved students out of those areas affected. Repairs should take approximately one more week to be complete. Mrs. Carling stated that she has received notice of grant funding . We will be receiving approximately \$1.5 million which is going to be coming from grants, most of which is excess costs but the remainder of that is from the security grant.

2. Approval of the 2013-2014 Monthly Financial Report

Moved: to approve the 2013-2014 Monthly Financial Report

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

b. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning

1. Approval of North Haven High School Future Problem Solvers
Field trip to Iowa State University June 11-15, 2014

Moved: to approve the North Haven High School Future Problem Solvers
Field trip to Iowa State University June 11-15, 2014

TABLED

The Curriculum, Instruction and Planning Committee has requested more information

2. Approval of North Haven High School Music Department
Field trip to Montreal – Six Flags, May 1-4, 2014

Moved: to approve the North Haven High School Music Department Field trip to
Montreal – Six Flags, May 1-4, 2014

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 5
NAY: 1
ABSTAIN: 0

Jennifer Caldwell was opposed to this field trip due to the cost to students and families.

3. Montowese Elementary School field trip to Sturbridge Village
June 5, 2014

Moved: to approve Montowese Elementary School field trip to Sturbridge Village
June 5, 2014

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Clintonville Elementary School – field trip to Sturbridge Village
May 7, 2014

Moved: to approve Clintonville Elementary School field trip to Sturbridge Village
May 7, 2014

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

c. Director of Curriculum and Instruction Report

Moved: Amend Agenda to include acceptance of the requested clubs:

- Ultimate Frisbee Club
- Video Game Club
- Women's Movement Council
- Hiking Club

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Mrs. McKenna reported that the Smarter Balance Field Testing begins March 18th. Grades 3-8 and Grade 11 will be participating in this field test. At this point the State Department of Education is telling us that we will not get any results. They stated that they would possibly have some results out by January of 2015. Grades 5 and 8 took their CMT science component. That is the one component they are required to do. Grade 10 will also be taking the science portion of the CAPT.

d. Policy Committee

Ms. Caldwell reported that currently Community Relations and Administrative series are complete and have been sent back to CABA. CABA will send us the final copies for our records. The Advisory Committee has given input into the Community Relations series. Ms. Caldwell stated that the Board did the first read of Mission Series last month and revisions have been made based on feedback from the community on our Mission Statements and Goals.

Next meeting will be Monday, March 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. and the committee will begin the 3000 series.

e. Building Committee

Mrs. Carling reported that the Building Committee selected an architect for the Middle School project. They have selected Perkins Eastman for this project. Mrs. Carling reported that working sessions with architect will take place next week.

The next meeting will be March 17, 2014.

6. ACES – No report at this time.

7. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Cecarelli reported the PTA Council met twice since the last regular Board of Education meeting. These meetings were January 13, 2014 and February 10, 2014.

Mrs. Cecarelli reported the following:

- At the January 13, 2014 meeting the council hosted two guest speakers: Don Rosomer and Pat LaTerza. Don Rosomer, CT PTA President who answered questions and shared ideas for increasing family involvement in the PTA and how the PTAs can advocate for getting out the vote at referendum time. Pat LaTerza, is the Head of Children's Services at the North Haven Public Library. She introduced the council to the One Book, One Town initiative that will be kicking off on May 5, 2014. All of the school PTA's agreed to donate funds to the initiative that will enable Ms. LaTerza to order several thousands of dollars' worth of books for the event. The PTA Council voted to donate \$2,500.00 to the project.
- All schools were represented, and shared a variety of happenings such as fundraisers, book fairs, bingo nights, and holiday events.
- At the February 10, 2014 meeting the PTA Council reiterated that it will do all it can to support the Town budget when it goes to referendum. The PTA Council has also tentatively planned the PTSA Road Race for April 20, 2014, and is working with Coach Clay from Yale to coordinate the event.
- Dr. Cronin discussed his "Coffee with Schools" initiative, where he is meeting with small groups of parents at schools for morning coffee, conversation, and to answer questions. He plans to do this at all of our schools. He also updated the Council regarding the Board of Education Budget process.
- School representatives restated their support for the "One Book, One Town" initiative, and as of that meeting all of the elementary PTA's had contributed \$500 each in support. Mrs. Cecarelli stated that she believes that the Middle School and High School PTA's are planning to do the same.
- Schools shared a variety of events such as bingo nights, book fairs, box top contests, fundraisers, and charitable endeavors.

The next PTA Council meeting will be Monday, April 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Library at North Haven High School.

Old News:

1. Adopt-A-School

8. Enrollment

9. Superintendent's Report

- a. D.A.R.E. Update

Dr. Cronin reported that there are no changes in the content of DARE for the 2014-2015 school year. All Grade 5 classrooms will receive the program this spring. Dr. Cronin reported that one change may be the pairing back on the number of lessons. All classrooms will receive five lessons. Dr. Cronin stated going forward there has been conversation about moving program from elementary level to MS level. This conversation started from the Police Department. After much research, they would like to get into the Middle School and concentrate on drugs, social media, cyber bullying, bullying, etc. The Chief of Police would like to start doing this in Grade 7. Dr. Cronin reported that the Chief of Police would like to start a committee to discuss this further.

School Security – Chief McLaughlin wanted reassurance that the Board was in favor of the idea of having the supernumeraries (two retired police officers) at the elementary schools and middle school. These police officers, who would have a regular physical presence at all elementary schools and the middle school, would

be in some sort of uniform (a dress down uniform) and also be armed. This would begin the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. The Board of Education was all in agreement with this matter. Mrs. Anderson stated that the funding for these officers was going to be the responsibility of the Town.

b. System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED)

Dr. Cronin stated that he has learned recently that the State Department of Education, at their January meeting voted to allow districts to make some flexibility to the teacher and administrator evaluation program that we had to submit earlier this year. Dr. Cronin stated that North Haven agreed to follow the State model, which seemed to make the most sense. Dr. Cronin is asking the Board of Education to reduce from two SLO's (Student Learning Objectives) to one SLO. Dr. Cronin stated that the one other change is around observations. He explained that originally all teachers would have 3 formal and 3 informal observations and a review of practice. The recommended change now is tenured teachers, (teachers with more than four years' experience) will have one formal observation every three years, and on the off years they would have three informal observations. Dr. Cronin further explained that every year there is what is called a "review of practice", and that would be looking at teacher/administrators responsibility outside of instruction, within the school.

Moved: to approve the recommended flexibilities to the North Haven's adoption of the Connecticut's System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED) document

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Dr. Cronin also reported:

- ACES honors people have contributed to ACES, exhibiting the values and beliefs of ACES. This year Alicia Clapp is one of the honorees this year. The ACES Gala is March 27, 2014 at the Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven.
- Adjustment to the 2013-2014 school calendar: Currently North Haven has eight snow days. Dr. Cronin stated that the last day of school is now June 23, 2014. Dr. Cronin stated would like the Board of Education to consider cancelling the March 31, 2014 Professional Development day, making that a full school day making the school year end Friday June 20, 2014, and making graduation Thursday June 19, 2014. Dr. Cronin stated that the "official" graduation date will be set at the April Board of Education Meeting.

Moved: to make the above adjustments to the 2013-2014 school calendar.

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

- Mr. Tagliatella, who donated the entire computer lab at the North Haven Middle School, recently passed away. Dr. Cronin would like to send condolences to his family on behalf of the Board of Education

10. Public Comments

- Brett Heidenis Rifle Coach – advocating for the Rifle Team
- Corey Cristante – captain of the rifle team
- Dennis Bennett – Rifle Assistant Coach – advocating for the Rifle Team
- Tom Marak NHEA President – commented on the budget and congratulated the Board of Education on all of their hard work getting to the proposed budget and the teacher's union fully supports said proposed budget.

11. Executive Session: personnel and legal matters

Moved: to enter into executive session for reasons of personnel and pending litigation
@ 9:05 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to invite Kristine Carling into executive session

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennifer Caldwell
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

The Board of Education returned to public session at 10:10 p.m.

Moved: to authorize chairwoman, Anita Anderson to act on behalf of the Board of Education
With respect to pending litigation under Docket Number 3:14-CV-00008-SRU

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

12. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clap
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE:
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson,
Chairman