

North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting
Thursday, April 14, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
5 Linsley Street, North Haven, CT 06473

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Jennifer Cecarelli, Matthew Kerzner, Goldie Adele, Jennifer Caldwell, Dorothy Logan, Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

Bryan Bogen was absent

Mrs. Anderson welcomed Mr. Phil Piazza, Principal at North Haven Middle School and congratulated Mr. Piazza on being this year's PTA Principal of the Year. Dr. Cronin invited Mr. Piazza to this meeting to update the Board of Education on the Middle School and the SBAC scores and what the Middle School is doing to make improvements this year. Mr. Piazza stated that he is feeling good about the testing this year as the teachers and students have worked together to get a better understanding of the test and concerns the students may have had.

Mrs. Anderson made the following motions:

Moved: to add three action items to the agenda Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Randi Peterson
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to approve Chartwells as the district food service provider Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Randi Petersen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Dr. Cronin explained that Chartwells has been North Haven's food service provider. When the bid went out earlier there were three companies that bid on the contract here in North Haven. There was a mistake made in the application process at the State level so the districts that went out for proposal at that time, the districts had to re-open again and complete the process all over again. It was advertised once again and Chartwells was the only company that bid this time.

Motion: to hold graduation on Monday, June 13, 2016 Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Jennifer Caldwell
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Mrs. Anderson stated that the third Motion to be added will come up in the Finance and Operations discussion later in the meeting.

- I. Consent Agenda
 1. Minutes March 10, 2016
 2. Resignation of Darlene D'Agostino, IT Department
 3. Retirement of Janet Crean, Administrative Assistant to the

- Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources
4. Retirement of Mary Sue Arnone-Lemere, Grade 2 Teacher at Ridge Road Elementary School
 5. Leave of Absence for Leslie Fazzuoli, Special Education Teacher at North Haven Middle School
 6. Leave of Absence of Jacqlyn Giordano, Language Arts Teacher at

Moved: To approve the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
 SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
 AYE: 8
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Larissa reported:

- Larissa spoke with some of the teachers for subjects to discuss at this Board of Education meeting. Larissa stated that she spoke to Mr. DiBernardo, English Teacher, who suggested an ESL summer program, internships and other career opportunities. Mr. Marak suggested getting students involved in the budget process in the future, and there was some concern with teachers with the WIFI at the High School. Dr. Cronin, regarding getting the students involved in the budget, suggested that the students reach out to the PTSA groups, the Team 4 Education, and reminding people get out to vote.

Celeste reported:

- NHHS Band and Chorus left for Washington DC and will be home Monday, and wishes them well there.
- Thursday, April 14, 2016 at the High School is sophomore College Planning Night
- Talent show was last week and went very well
- Art Beat is May 5, 2016 where the art work from all schools is on display at the High School

III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Mrs. Anderson gave an update to the Board of Education on the recent budget reductions coming from Hartford and the impact on the Board of Education's budget, as well as the Town's budget. Mrs. Anderson stated that as of yesterday the ECS funding for the Board of Education will be decreased by \$352,700.00. She stated that the Town's funding from Hartford will be decreased by \$587,247.00 for a total deficit to North Haven of \$938,949.00. Based on this shortfall the Board of Finance has to make a decision if we do lose the \$938,949.00 where reductions will be made. A reduction of \$938,949 could be an additional tax increase to the towns proposed 1.1%. Mrs. Anderson also stated that the State has not yet paid the town \$1,445,730.00 for this year's budget and the Selectman's Office is being told the Town may not get this money. This could cause a deficit for this year as well. Mrs. Anderson reported that the Board is working very closely with the town and the impact these reductions will have on the Board of Education's revised budget of 4.4%.

Mrs. Anderson stated that Mr. Piazza has been selected as the PTA Principal of the Year. There will be a dinner in his honor at Costa Azzura, Milford on May 3, 2016 and welcomed all board members to attend.

Mrs. Anderson, on behalf of the entire Board of Education wished everyone a very nice vacation.

1. Discussion regarding search for Principal at Montowese Elementary School

Information Item

Dr. Cronin will be putting together a search committee for Principal at Montowese Elementary School. Dr. Cronin reported that Ms. Logan will be the Board Representative for the interviewing process.

IV. Unfinished Business

- Mr. Moore, a teacher at the North Haven High School has been put in charge of forming a committee regarding the mascot
- Field discussion
- Storytellers - Dr. Dallai will be putting together a search for a new photographer for the yearbook, class photos, and athletics, etc.

- V. New Business
- VI. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported Zoe Oliver, a North Haven High School ECA student was recognized and won 1st prize in the Connecticut Shakespeare Competition. Mrs. Logan reported that Village School in North Haven announced their tuition rates. Mrs. Logan also reported that ACES has summer schools in both East Haven and Amity.

2. Athletics Information Item

- o Team / Individual awards –
 - Shane O'Connor – New Haven Register All Area recipient and MVP (Indoor Track)
 - Omar Gebriel - New Haven Register All Area recipient (Indoor Track)
 - <http://www.gametimect.com/2015-16-new-haven-county-area-boys-indoor-track-team/>
 - NHHS Cheerleading team finished 12th of 24 teams in the State Open and All New England Competition.
- o Club Sports – Rugby
 - The team submitted sport packets for all individuals on the team. In collaboration with Annette Sauerbrunn, the RN Dept. is going to clear the individual's sport physical and Medical History.
 - The school nurse will also keep track of all concussions obtained by those students as mandated by the State of CT.
 - They will use the USA Rugby injury form.
- o Field Improvements / recommendations
 - Baseball meeting was held between area teams. Phil Diana was the representative. It was reported at the meeting that the town will try to use existing fields and plan on using BOE fields much less this Spring due to declining numbers.
- o Vanacore Field
 - Repairs needed and necessary closure. Over seeding, top dressing, and patchwork completed.
- o DeMayo Field will be closed at the end of the baseball season (mid-June) in order to capitalize on the growing season as much as possible.
- o Coaching (Personnel guidelines) – Draft created and discussed. Draft will be discussed at next Athletic Committee meeting and then brought to the entire Board for discussion and approval.

Next Athletic Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 3rd at 5:00 at Central Office.

3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning Information Item

- There was no April meeting
- Next Meeting May 2, 2016

4. Finance and Operations Information Item

- Budget is trending at this time and numbers are typically where they should be at this time. Mrs. Tanguay stated that she has met with the Director of Students services regarding Excess Costs accounts. North Haven is still waiting on funding from Excess Costs. .
- Discussion regarding the transfer process in the past and what the process should be going forward. Transfers going from one line item to another, over \$5,000, needs to be approved by the Board of Education on a monthly basis.
- Chartwells was the only company to bid on the North Haven account.

5. Middle School Building Committee Information Item

Mr. Adele reported:

- NHMS Site Visit April 26, 2016 at 5 p.m.
- Still waiting for the States response to the FF&E
- Committee deciding what kind of laptops to purchase

6. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Kerzner reported:

- Spelling Bee will be April 28, 2016 at 7 p.m., Mr. Kerzner stated there are 35 teams.
- Rehearsal for Spelling Bee will be Monday, April 25, 2016 at 5 p.m.
- NHEF sponsored the NHMS basketball team to go to West Point and students shared their experience in a thank you letter to the Foundation
- Looking for 5 new members of the North Haven Education Foundation

7. Policy

Mrs. Caldwell reported:

- There was no April meeting
- Next meeting to be announced

8. PTA Council

Information Item

Mrs. Cecarelli stated that she did not attend the PTA council meeting but reported:

- Update on basketball fundraiser
- Relay for Life American Cancer Society on Saturday, June 11, 2016

VII. Staff Communications

A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Dr. Cronin reported:

- Graduation date will be Monday, June 13, 2016, at 4 p.m. It will be decided as we get closer as to if graduation will be inside or outside this year.
- Tuesday, April 26, 2016 there will be voting at the elementary schools for the primary. Public will only have access to voting areas only, and police officers will be present at each school as a precautionary measure for security reasons.

Mr. Kerzner made the following motion:

Moved: to cancel school for the elementary school on Tuesday April 26, 2016

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

Motion: to amend the above motion to cancel school for the elementary school on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
 SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
 AYE: 8
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to add the following amended motion Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
 SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
 AYE: 8
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to cancel school for all schools primary day Tuesday, April 26, 2016 Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennifer Caldwell
AYE: 6
NAY: 2
ABSTAIN: 0

Anita Anderson and Randi Petersen voted against this motion. Mrs. Petersen stating she feels that the parents should be given a choice to keep their student home as an excused absence, and there is really no need to cancel school all together.

Moved: to add an additional motion to the agenda: Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Jennifer Caldwell
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to have all after school activities on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 as scheduled Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Randi Petersen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- 5th grade field trip survey around Natures Classroom. Mrs. McKenna is in the process of compiling that information to share with the Board once complete
- Finished kindergarten screening and it went smoothly
- Monitoring kindergarten numbers at this time
- April 27th is Connecticut SAT school make up day

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report Information Item

- At this time the budget is still on freeze

2. Approval of the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Moved: to approve the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Anita Anderson
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to approve budget transfers

MOVED: Anita Andersen
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

VIII. Public Comment

- Ian Seagel- Gould 7 Round Hill Road commented regarding the North Haven mascot and regarding the lack of internet service in the area of the cafeteria in the High School.
- Oliver Seagel-Gould 7 Round Hill Road commented regarding the North Haven mascot
- Karen Simpson, 4 Roberta Road, commented regarding the WI-FI at the elementary level
- Lisa Burton, 21 Larsen Drive commented regarding the possibility of a partnership for getting grants written in the future.
- Celeste Battipaglia, the Student Representative on the Board of Education stated that there was a survey regarding mascot. She also stated that there are no coaches for volleyball and other sports/activities for next year. Dr. Cronin responded that coaching positions will be posted in the very near future.

IX. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

X. Executive Session –for matters of personnel (NOT NEEDED)

Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson
Chairman