



North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public School
Board of Education Meeting

Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting
Thursday, August 9, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Jennifer Cecarelli, Bryan Bogen, Goldie Adele, Dorothy Logan, Amanda Gabrielle, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, and Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

Joseph Solimene was absent.

- I. Consent Agenda
 1. Minutes June 28, 2018
 2. Resignation of the following:
 - a. Tina Tanguay, Business Manager
 - b. Zoe Madden, Science Teacher at NHHS
 - c. Kayla Bartolomeo, Gr. 7 Special Education Teacher at NHMS
 - d. Ellen Davis, Preschool teacher at NHHS

Retirement of:

- a. Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

Motion: To approve all items on the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

- II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports
- III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Mrs. Anderson reported that she and Dorothy Logan interviewed a couple of Executive Search Consultants regarding a search for a new Superintendent, and have chosen one. She stated that they have chosen JE Consultants, Dr. Joseph Erardi, Jr. Dr. Erardi will be coming to the October and November Board of Education meetings to present to the Board and the public with updates. He will be scheduling focus groups, surveys and preparing a brochure to go out.

1. Appointment of the entire Board of Education as a hiring committee for the Superintendent search

Motion: To appoint the entire Board of Education as a hiring committee for the Superintendent Search

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen

AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

- IV. Unfinished Business
- V. New Business

VI. Reports of Standing Committees:

- 1. ACES Information Item

Next meeting is September 12, 2018

- 2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning Information Item
- 3. Finance and Operations Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported that since Tina Tanguay stepped down, we have a new interim Business Manager, Frank Connolly, with whom Mr. Bogen met with and reviewed all matters. Mr. Bogen stated that they also met with the Town Finance Office to review the current finances while trying to find a new Business Manager. Mr. Bogen stated he will meet again in a couple of weeks to get an update.

- 4. Middle School Building Committee Information Item

Mr. Adele stated that the Building Committee met on Monday. He reported that the solar panels should be ready by mid-September. Mr. Adele stated that the majority of the meeting was about some issues they are having with the floors in the gym. He stated that the committee is getting estimates to have them fixed, and it will be very costly. He also reported that there are no safety issues with the floor repairs, it is purely esthetic repairs. Mr. Adele also stated that they discussed some issues with the lighting in the auditorium, which were fixed. They are also looking into putting in some railings in the staircases.

- 5. North Haven Education Foundation Information Item
- 6. Policy Information Item

Mrs. Andersen stated that Policies need to be updated, and will be, however the search for a Superintendent will take priority at this time.

- 7. PTA Council Information Item
- 8. Ad Hoc Athletic Committee - update Information Item

Mrs. Petersen reported that this committee did meet and once again reviewed all fees with the Board of Education. The committee decided, with regard to access to fields, that there will be a lock box. The keys used for this box cannot be duplicated. She stated that keys would be given to coaches. Other organizations will have access to the lock box; however they will have to sign the key in and out. That will be done through the Athletic Office at the High School and Mr. Blumenthal will keep track of that.

Mrs. Petersen also reported that there was also discussion regarding signage at the fields. She stated that there are some signs from Sprint Turf, but we would like to put more signs up in the future, for example "No trespassing".

Mrs. Petersen stated there was further discussion regarding contracts for Group 4 (for profit organizations) using fields. There are further discussions needed with the Business Office regarding procedures as well.

Dr. Cronin gave the Board an updated regarding the temperature of the fields over the course of this week and there was further discussion about when is it too hot to play on these hot fields. The Board agreed to get more information from CIAC regarding the temperature of fields, and how other districts handle playtime during the hot weather.

- VII. Staff Communications
- VIII. Superintendent's Report Information Item
 - 1. Opening Schedule

Dr. Cronin stated:

- August 15, 2018 – Commissioners Welcome Back Meeting for Superintendents
- August 21-23, 2018 – New Teacher Orientation
- August 24, 2018 – Intern Orientation

- August 27, 2018 – District Convocation at NHHS
- August 28, 2018 – Professional Development
- August 29, 2018 – First Day of School

2. NHMS students attending out of district schools

Dr. Cronin stated that typically every year the Board inquires about how many students in 8th grade decided to go out of North Haven for their education. He shared that this year there are 22 students this year. Two have moved out of state. Dr. Cronin says that this seems to a pattern. This year there are a several going to Sacred Heart Academy , Notre Dame,. There are also some going to Platt Technical School as well as Lyman Hall.

3. SRO Update

Dr. Cronin stated that he has spoken/met with the police chief a number of times and currently four (4) Resource Officers have been recommended from the North Haven Police Force and are being interviewed by the Police Commission. One of the four includes our current SRO from the High School. Dr. Cronin stated that means there are two more needed and will be interviewing outside officers for those two positions. Dr. Cronin stated that at the start of school, there will be a full time officer at the High School and Middle School and one officer will share two elementary schools until these other positions are filled.

Mrs. Anderson stated that she hopes that they are able to hire all SRO before school begins.

The SROs go through a six-day training which covers: youth specific de-escalation, preventing school violence, internet safety, helping students with grief, teen suicide, health issues, youth substance abuse, bullying prevention and intervention, etc.

Dr. Cronin stated that it is his hope that the SROs will go to school functions, i.e. Open Houses, and introduce themselves and make their presence seen.

Some of their responsibilities will be to be visible at all times, monitor morning and afternoon bus ramps, and parent drop off locations, to monitor visitors to the schools, patrol interior and exterior of schools, coach and mentor youth when appropriate, relationship building. It has been made very clear that the SROs are not involved in everyday discipline at the schools. That is being left to the school administrators to take care of.

4. Teacher Negotiations

Dr. Cronin stated that Teacher's Negotiations will begin soon, as well as Custodial Negotiations. Dr. Cronin asked for volunteers from the Board to sit on each of those negotiations. This year Dr. Cronin wanted to include the Town Board of Finance to sit in on these negotiations to better understand the process.

Dr. Cronin stated that at the September 13th Board of Education meeting the Board will be meeting Jessica Ritter, Attorney for the District. She is replacing Gary Brochu. Attorney Ritter would also like to meet with the Teacher's Negotiations committee prior to the Board meeting.

5. Custodian Negotiations ((see above #4)
6. Homework Policy

There was some discussion regarding the Homework Policy and questions were answered appropriately.

7. Technology Policies – student and staff

There was discussion regarding technology policies and Dr. Cronin answered questions appropriately. Mrs. Gabrielle stated that she is very impressed with all the work the Technology Department has done in the district. Dr. Cronin stated that

Jenn Kozniewski, our Technology Director has made great strides since she came on board in North Haven and North Haven is lucky to have her.

Dr. Cronin stated that this will be considered the first read with these policies and the Board will have the second read and vote on them in September.

There was also discussion regarding students wearing lanyards with their ID. The high school students are required to wear lanyards at this time. The Board also decided that at the Middle School level, the district would be piloting 8th graders wearing them for the upcoming year. ID's need to be visible at all times. Dr. Cronin stated that this is being put in place to keep everyone safe and need to be worn at all times. The principals will determine consequences.

A. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported that Curriculum, Instruction and Planning will have their first meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

Mrs. McKenna stated that there will be some professional development at the beginning of school. The High School will be doing some work around NEASC, the Middle School will be doing some Professional Development that is appropriate there and all Elementary teachers will be meeting at Clintonville, with the focus being on all of the new technology being brought into the district.

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report

Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported that the district has hired an interim Business Manager, Frank Connelly and the Board will go into executive session this evening to discuss hiring a permanent Business Manager.

IX. Public Comment

X. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

- Mary White – thanked the Board of Education regarding all of their work on the turf fields and taking the temperature of them, as well as commented regarding the hiring of the SRO's in District and their requirements, qualifications and training. Mrs. White handed out packets with the training required by the SROs.

XI. Executive Session – if needed

Motion: to go into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Goldie Adele
SECOND: Amanda Gabrielle
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

XII. Adjournment

Motion: to Adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson
Anita Anderson
Chairperson