

**THE NORTH HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
5 LINSLEY STREET  
NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473**

**MINUTES**

January 16, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Kristine Carling, Director of Finance and Operations, Melinda McKenna, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Planning, Dana Corriveau, Director of Special Education, Wesley O'Brien, Jennifer Cecarelli, Goldie Adele, Randi Petersen, Alicia Clapp, Matthew Kerzner, Jennifer Caldwell, and Bryan Bogen.

1. Budget Workshop

Dr. O'Brien called the workshop to order, asked that questions only be asked for purposes of clarification and understanding. If there are any other "larger scope" questions, Dr. O'Brien asked the other Board Members to jot them down and ask them at the end.

Dr. Cronin stated that the Board Members will find at their seats a revised budget, and went through that revised budget this evening. Dr. Cronin explained that this evening's Budget Workshop was going to focus on the High School's and Middle School's budget.

These are some of the items that were discussed with regards to the Middle School:

- Math Lab – students placed in this lab based on CMT scores for students that needed extra help in math. These students do have a regular math class. This lab just serves as extra help. (Grades 6-8)
- Guided Study Hall – regular study hall, where teachers monitor students working on various assignments
- Mentored Study Hall – this is a smaller group of students placed a group by the study area they are having difficulty in.

Dr. Cronin explains that the largest ticket item from the High School this year is a request for a new Social Studies Teacher.

Dr. Dallai explained that Civics is now required to be taught to all Seniors for a full year and there is not a teacher to teach that at the present time.

Mr. Piazza spoke to his needs for math coaches and intervention teacher. Each team is handling helping students out on their own along with special education teachers. There is no formal SRBI Program at the Middle School right now.

Mr. Piazza explained some of the things the Middle School is offering to students:

Math Lab – support class for students struggling. There are 6-10 students for all grade levels (6-8).

Guided Study – a regular study hall.

Mentored Study – smaller group placed with teachers in the subject area they are struggling in. These are smaller groups of students.

Dr. Cronin shared:

After last Thursday's (1/9/14) meeting we had a 6.4% increase

After reductions proposed today (1/16/14) we were down to 4.7% increase

After discussions today (1/16/14) the Board ADDED items and are now at: 5.6% which needs to be brought back down.

#### **Priorities**

Social Studies Teacher

Transition Program

Alternative School

Art

Vocal Music

Integrated Day

There was some discussion on keeping the above positions in the budget for the 2014-2015 school year.

Randi Petersen has concerns about the lack of social workers throughout the district as well as only having one school psychologist at the middle school. Mr. Piazza stated that the current psychologist has a difficult time getting to all students/groups.

Dr. Cronin handed out an updated proposed budget and went through each line item one by one. In an effort to bring the budget down Dr. Cronin showed the Board of Education through some of those areas which he is proposing a decrease in. Dr. Cronin stated that this is not written in stone just yet, that he was just putting some of these ideas out there in order to get the budget down some.

Dr. Cronin has proposed decreases in each of the following areas:

- Teachers
- Certified Stipends
- Custodial Services
- Substitutes
- Hospital Insurance
- Program Development
- Staff Development
- Pupil Services (Outside Professional)

- Prof./Tech Services
- Legal Fees
- Property Services (repairs and maintenance)
- Grounds
- Mechanical
- Other Repairs
- Regular Transportation
- Athletic Transportation
- Postage
- Printing
- Mileage Allowance
- Maintenance Supplies
- Textbooks
- Other Supplies
- Equipment
- Leases
- Dues and Fees

With all of these decreases it brought North Haven to a 4.7% increase.

There was continued discussion weighing all of the options brought before the Board and it was agreed on by all to continue said discussion at the next Budget Workshop scheduled for Thursday, January 30, 2014.

## 2. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.

Approved

MOVED:	Alicia Clap
SECOND:	Jennifer Cecarelli
AYE:	9
NAY:	0
ABSTAIN:	0

Respectfully submitted,

*Wesley O'Brien*

Wesley O'Brien  
Chairperson

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**