

North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016 6:30 p.m.
5 Linsley Street, North Haven, CT 06473

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

I. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes September 8, 2016

Moved: to approve the items on the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 1

Anita Anderson abstained because she was out of the country and has not been able to read the minutes to date.

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Rachel Petry is the Jr. Student Representative from the High School. She reported:

- school year started off well
- Diversity Club returned from their field trip to California where they attended a conference Facebook Headquarters
- Parent Teacher Conferences are November 9, 2016 and November 14, 2016
- First term ended September 30, 2016
- PSAT Gr. 9-11 are on October 19 2016. It is recommended that seniors do college planning on that day.
- Pink Fun, supporting Breast Cancer is in October

III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

- There may be an additional meeting/workshop sometime in November for the organization of the sub-committees and review the Board of Education self-evaluations.
- Mrs. Anderson welcomed Cheryl Leonard, who is the new Accountant in the Finance Department at Central Office.

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES

Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported Patrice McCarthy from CAFE spoke regarding school funding, special education, and inaccurate publicity. There was also discussion regarding the 2017-2018 calendar. It was suggested that professional development days be held on a Monday or Tuesday at the beginning of the school year, instead of Thursday/Friday and beginning school on Monday for the students. Mrs. Logan reported that they feel it is better to start the students on a Wednesday and giving them a shortened week the first week of school.

2. Athletics

Information

No meeting

3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported that Curriculum, Instruction and Planning will meet October 17, 2016.

4. Finance and Operations

Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported that it is almost budget time and the committee is reviewing the budget layout process. There was some discussion regarding sick bank issues and how to proceed.

5. Middle School Building Committee

Information Item

Mr. Adele reported business as usual. There were some issues with the sinks in some of the science labs, but they were able to get them fixed. He reported also that Phase II (auditorium, music, entrance) will be finished December 15, 2016, and then Phase IIB (cafeteria and the nurses suite) is set for completion on March 31, 2017, Phase III (gym and locker rooms) will be completed in August 2017, and then Phase IV (athletic fields), which is due to be completed in November 2017

Mrs. Anderson suggested that the Board meet with the Middle School Building Committee regarding the fields prior to any work begins. Mrs. Anderson asked that a Board Member contact Hamden Board of Education and get some information about the turf they used and the pros and cons of it, and then bring it to the Board for further review as well as sharing it with Gary Johns and the Middle School Building Committee.

6. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Kerzner reported NHEF met today. This meeting was focused on the Treasury Report and financial statements. Currently they have \$78,000 balance and \$37,799.00 are restricted funds which are already spoken for. There have been other creativity grants requested and the committee is getting more information regarding them. Mr. Kerzner reported that the NHEF lost their Public Relations Member, and they need to find a replacement. The concerns they have is that the Annual Spelling Bee is coming up and Public Relations is a huge component in getting a nice turnout for that. Mr. Kerzner stated that if there is anyone that has Public Relations experience and would like to be part of the NHEF to please contact them. Lastly, the NHEF Membership drive begun and mailings have been sent to families.

7. Policy – No Meeting

8. PTA Council

Information Item

Mrs. Cecarelli reported:

The North Haven PTA Council met on September 26, 2016 in the NHHS Library conference room. Representatives from the following groups were present and provided reports:

- NHMS PTSA
- Montowese PTA
- Ridge Road PTA
- Clintonville PTA
- Green Acres PTA
- NHEA Rep
- Board of Education Rep
- Dr. Cronin

The school year's first meeting of the PTA Council was held on Monday, September 26, 2016. The PTA Council Executive Board highlighted some of last year's accomplishments, and outlined some goals for this year, including increasing networking among parents and working with the town to create engaging summer activities for teens and "tweens".

All of the PTAs reported they are working on gathering memberships at this time, and seem to be off to a great start!

All of the schools represented reported successful openings, and many had (or were about to hold) their first PTA meetings of the year. Many have had their first fundraisers, which have ranged from Shred Day, to Cookie Dough and Pie Sales, to wrapping paper sales. Some schools have already started planning for their holiday season events, including the very successful Vendor Village at Montowese School. Spirit Days have also begun at several elementary schools, and are benefitting a variety of charitable causes again this year.

The Council would like to continue to support to the BOE with budget awareness, community engagement, and increasing voter turnout this year.

The next meeting of the PTA Council will be held on Monday, October 24, 2016 at 7:00 in the NHHS Library Media Center.

VII. Staff Communications

A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

1. Integrated Day update

Dr. Cronin reported that Melinda and Dr. Tony Rigazio-Digilio along with some of the integrated day teachers from each school have met. Dr. Rigazio-Digilio has been a consultant in the district since Dr. Cronin came to North Haven and Dr. Rigazio-Digilio has some background in the integrated day program. Dr. Cronin wants to be sure that we are getting the most out of the program and what can be done to bring the program up to date with the state standards. There are three teachers from each school that meet with Dr. Rigazio-Digilio along with Melinda McKenna, Patrick Stirk and Laurie Bankowski. There needs to be some discussion regarding distribution of ID Students. Currently Ridge Road has ID for only Ridge Road and Green Acres takes ID for the rest of the district. There will be an update brought before the Board in March. Dr. Cronin has no intention of doing away with Integrated Day just wants to bring the program current and make sure that both Ridge Road and Green Acres ID teachers are communicating with one another and are working on the same curriculum.

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

- Mrs. McKenna reported that PSAT October 19, 2016
- Early Dismissal November 17 (evening) and November 18 (afternoon) for parent teacher conferences. Conferences are scheduled also in March on March 16, 2017 and March 17, 2017.

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report
2. Approval of the 2016-2017 Monthly Financial Report, including recommended transfers

Information Item

Mrs. Tanguay reported that the budget is on track for the beginning of the year. Mrs. Tanguay stated the WiFi for the elementary schools has been scheduled. Ridge Road and Clintonville has been complete, as well as new radios. Green Acres and Montowese is scheduled for November 8 and 11 because the company has to do this on days when there are not students in school.

Moved: to approve the 2016-2017 Monthly Financial Report, Including recommended transfers

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
 SECOND: Randi Petersen
 AYE: 9
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

VIII. Public Comment

- Cheri Gibson, Hilltop Terrace commented on how much she and her children like the Integrated Day Program and is happy the research is being done to bring both Ridge and Green Acres together. Mrs. Gibson suggested to include, if possible, parents to join some of these meetings to hear their feedback.
- Tom Marak commented regarding the funding appeal in Connecticut. Mr. Marak also commented on the new NHMS and some concerns that have come up. He also commented on the Integrated Day Program and how there should be equity of the program throughout the district.

IX. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

X. Executive Session –for matters of personnel

Moved: to enter into Executive Session for matters of personnel at 7:40 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
 SECOND: Bryan Bogen
 AYE: 9
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

Returned to public session at 8:47 p.m.

XI. Adjournment

Moved: to Adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

Approved

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| MOVED: | Jennifer Caldwell |
| SECOND: | Bryan Bogen |
| AYE: | 9 |
| NAY: | 0 |
| ABSTAIN: | 0 |

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson
Chairperson