

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

Date: March 12, 2015
6:30 p.m.

THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL, PATRICIA K. BROZEK, THEATER, 221 ELM STREET, NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473

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

Goldie Adele was absent.

Mrs. Anderson called the meeting to order and made the following Motion:

Moved: to change the order of the agenda items for tonight's meeting to read:

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes of January 8, 2015
 - b. Resignation of Roy Castagnola, In School Suspension Aide, NHHS
 - c. Resignation of Jacqueline Cappiello, Science Teacher, NHHS
 - d. Resignation of Kate Giamattei, Art Teacher, Ridge Road Elementary School
 - e. Extended Leave of Absence of Deanna Bernier for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.
 - f. Leave of Absence of Laura Donle (maternity) , Grade 4, Green Acres Elementary School, until December 2015/January 2016

Moved: to change the order of the agenda

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

Moved: to approve the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Jennifer Caldwell
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

2. Auditor Presentation

Scott Bassett, Partner at McGladrey and Pullen gave a brief presentation regarding the audit McGladrey and Pullen prepared for the Town of North Haven. Mr. Bassett stated that the public schools are a part of the audit performed on the Town. Mr. Bassett reported that there are four areas they looked at during the audit. They were the operating budget, school cafeteria fund, education grant fund, and student activities. Mr. Bassett answered some questions that some of the Board of Education members had regarding the processing/approval of purchase orders, etc.

3. Presentation on Astroturf Fields

Nancy Alderman, president of Environmental and Human Health Inc. made a presentation regarding turf fields at the new North Haven Middle School. She gave information about the health effects of synthetic turf, and what synthetic turf is made of, as well as various health issues turf fields can cause. Mrs. Alderman also spoke regarding the cost and maintenance of turf fields as well.

4. Presentation by Talia Gallagher on the District Mascot

Talia Gallagher, sophomore at Clark University and 2013 graduate of North Haven High School presented a petition and additional research and reasons why, in her opinion, the North Haven School District should change their mascot.

5. Student Reports

Larissa reported that on the teacher's professional development day in February, the history department had a student board come in, and asked the students what helped them learn and how the teachers might be able to teach them better. Larissa thought that was a great activity to do with the teachers and is hoping that other departments in the high school will do the same.

Jake reported:

- Pi Day is tomorrow (March 14) Many activities throughout the day
- Sound of Music was last Friday and Saturday, and were both great successes
- Music Department is having a concert next Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 7 p.m. at NHHS. The wind and two jazz ensembles will be performing.
- Seniors are starting to hear back from colleges
- Juniors are preparing the take their SAT's and ACT's for next year

6. Chairman's Report

Mrs. Anderson reported the following:

- Congratulations to the students who participated in the Sound of Music
- Congratulations to the North Haven Hockey Team
- Participated and gave presentation in a Chinese class at North Haven High School, and enjoyed doing so
- Reminded and invited all to attend the Board of Finance Meeting is March 18th, the Public Hearing for the budget is April 7th, and the Annual Town Budget Meeting is May 11th, and the referendum will be May 19th.
- Middle School is doing a performance of Shrek
- Girls' sports banquet is this evening

7. Report of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report

Mr. Bogen reported that Finance and Operations met earlier this evening and reviewed the budget for period ending February 28th. Mr. Bogen reported that the budget is on target at this time. He also stated that Mrs. Carling is monitoring expenses closely through the end of the year.

2. Approval of the 2014-2015 Monthly Financial Report

Moved: to approve the 2014-2015 Monthly Financial Report

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
 SECOND: Alicia Clapp
 AYE: 8
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

- b. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning** – Curriculum, Instruction and Planning did not meet on March 2, 2015 due to the inclement weather. The meeting has been rescheduled for March 23, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. This meeting will be a meeting combining the cancelled March meeting and April 6th meeting.

c. Building Committee

Dr. Cronin reported architects and representatives from the Building Committee met with representatives from the Office of School Facilities on February 25, 2015 to present the drawings for the new middle school. Those drawings have now all been submitted to the State and we should be hearing back from the State within the next 3-4 weeks. Dr. Cronin stated that in addition, there is a third party reviewer looking at and reviewing the documents for accuracy and code standards.

Dr. Cronin stated that the next step will be for local officials (Fire Department, Department of Civil Engineering and Police Department) to also review these materials.

- d. Policy Committee** – Policy Committee did not meet this month. The next meeting/workshop will be scheduled for some time in April.
- e. Athletic Committee** – Athletic Committee did not meet this month due to inclement weather. The next meeting April 7, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at Central Office.

6. ACES

Mrs. Clapp reported:

- ACES will be entertaining a sister group program with China focusing on ECA and there will be an exchange between the two countries
- Testing has begun at Mill Road School including the iready program
- Superintendents meeting will be discussing legislative issues and policies
- There was a second reading of bylaws dealing with human resources and insurance measures
- There is a waiting list at Mill Road School
- Monthly report involving human resources

7. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Cecarelli stated that the next PTA Council meeting is next Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7 p.m. at North Haven High School Media Center.

8. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cronin reported:

- Anthony Sagnella was selected as Connecticut's National Football Foundation's Coach of the Year.
- North Haven High School's Math Team has qualified for April's State Meet. Mrs. Opramolla, a member of the high school's math department is the team's advisor
- The middle school's Math Counts Team placed second last weekend at the Foote Math Competition. Middle school math teacher, Anthony Benvenuto, coaches the Math Counts Team.

Mr. Kerzner stated that he will be the Board of Education Representative for the North Haven Education Foundation. Mr. Kerzner requested that the North Haven Education Foundation be listed on Board of Education agendas going forward so that he can report the activities they are involved with. Mr. Kerzner attended his first Foundation meeting this week and reported:

- April 30th the North Haven Education Foundation is holding a Spelling Bee. To date they have 30 teams registered and would welcome more. There is more information regarding the Spelling Bee on their website – nhef.org and there is also a Facebook page.
- June 27th the North Haven Education Foundation is having an All Class Reunion from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

9. Public Comments

Mrs. Anderson announced that she will now hear public comments, however wanted to state that in keeping with the North Haven Board of Education ByLaws, public comments are limited to 20 minutes on each subject matter. Per the ByLaws, each person has a maximum time of 5 minutes to speak.

The following people spoke in favor of the synthetic fields:

- Dave Mikos, 30 Central Avenue
- Shay Atlareau, 317 Mansfield Road

The following people spoke opposing the synthetic fields:

- Mary White, 67 Summer Lane

The following people spoke opposing the name change of the mascot:

- Sally Buemi, 5 Blossom Drive
- Dr. Tahia Thaddeus Kamp, 26 George Street
- Pam Parilla, 25 Trumbull Place
- Michael Parisi, former student of North Haven High School/Resident, presented the Board of Education with a petition of over 2000 signatures opposing the name change.
- Jackie St. Peter, 58 Juniper Drive
- Carolyn Vanacore
- Ralph Zingarella, 39 Mountain Brook Road
- Joan Mesurik, Cloudland Road
- Terri Gherlone-Devivo, 11 Ash Street

The following people spoke in favor of the name change of the mascot:

- James Rawley, Chairperson of the Connecticut Native American Intertribal Urban Council
- Norman Clement, a Confederate Quinnipiac
- Jo Papa Kenney
- Richard Gallagher, 27 North Hill

10. Executive Session: for matters of personnel/legal matters if needed

11. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Approved

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

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Andersen, Chairman