

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

MINUTES

Date: July 12, 2012

7:00 p.m.

THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT CENTRAL OFFICE, 5 LINSLEY STREET, NORTH HAVEN, CT

Attendance at this REGULAR Meeting: Anita Anderson, Carole Franceschet, Wesley O'Brien, Bryan Bogen, Jennifer Caldwell, Stephen Consiglio and Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

1. Approval of Minutes of June 14, 2012

Moved: to approve the Minutes of June 14, 2012

Approved

MOVED: Carole Franceschet
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

2. Chairman's Report

Mrs. Anderson reported that she has spoken with Alicia Clapp today and she is doing well, up and walking around. Mrs. Anderson introduced Mr. Matthew Kerzner, who will be joining the Board of Education, replacing Bert Mozealous, in August. Mrs. Anderson reported that the August Board of Education meeting will be here at Central Office and beginning in September, the meetings will alternate between the schools and Central Office. A schedule will be posted.

3. Financial Reports:

- a. 2011-2012 Financial Report

Mrs. Carling reported that there was no Finance and Operations meeting this evening due to a lack of quorum. She reported that at this point she is closing out the 2011-2012 year. She stated that the year has ended on a positive note. Mrs. Carling reported that the carry over money was spent in a timely manner and are in compliance with them. A complete report will be available at the August meeting.

4. Report of Standing Committees

- a. Finance and Operations – Finance and Operations did not meet due to a lack of quorum.

- b. Personnel

1. Approval of Fall coaching positions (see attached)

Moved: to approve the Fall coaching positions

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

2. Approval of the retirement of Marilyn Gillo, Secretary, Athletics
North Haven High School

Moved: to approve the retirement of Marilyn Gillo, Secretary, Athletics,
North Haven High School

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

3. Approval of the retirement of Marilyn Sapienza, Language Arts
Reading Consultant, Montowese Elementary School

Moved: to approve the retirement of Marilyn Sapienza, Language Arts
Reading Consultant, Montowese Elementary School

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Carole Franceschet
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

4. Approval of a leave of absence for Stephanie Hryb,
Grade 1 teacher for the 2012-2013 school year.

Moved: to approve a leave of absence for Stephanie Hryb, Grade 1
Teacher for the 2012-2013 school year

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

c. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning

Mrs. Franceschet reported that Curriculum, Instruction and Planning did not meet in July. She stated that the next meeting will be September 10, 2012 at Central Office at 9:30 a.m.

5. ACES

Mrs. Clapp was absent; therefore there is no report on ACES

6. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Caldwell reported that North Haven PTA Council did not meet in July.

Old News:

1. Adopt-A-School

Mrs. Anderson reported that NHHS held a benefit football game with teams "Landisio" and "McLaughlin. All of the proceeds were donated to Benhaven. This game was quite a success.

7. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cronin reported on the following:

- Summer school is up and running. Thirty five students at the elementary level, thirty four students at the Middle School. There are many students at the High School as well, but the number was not available at this time. In addition, there is a special education summer school serving about 80 students from Pre-K through age 21. Students in the special education summer school were recommended because there was concern that without the program students ran the risk of losing any of the gains they made last year.
- Student enrollment at Ridge Road Elementary School: Most recently there were about 25 students in one group and 27 in the other. The class size guidelines for fourth and fifth grade are 25. At this time we are working with Mrs. Carling to look for the resources to add an additional class if possible. If the resources for that are not available, we would like to look at adding a paraprofessional to each classroom.
- Moving the August Board of Education meeting to Thursday, August 23, 2012. That would be prior to the start of the new school year and there will be a great deal to report at that time.

Mrs. Anderson introduced Mike Collins, Mike Beebe, Lil Cooney, all from M & J Bus Company to present the public with an overview of the two tiered bus system. Mr. Collins explained that the reason why they proposed this is because the students at the high school and middle school level are getting to school one half hour before school starts. The other issue is the elementary busses are getting to school right at the start of school, if not later. Mr. Collins stated that fortunately this past winter was mild, but if the road conditions were different due to inclement weather, the students/busses would have been very late. He stated that he would like to prevent this from happening in the future. This system would give the busses a full hour between the HS/MS run and Elementary runs, so that the elementary students can get to school 10-15 minutes prior to the start of school. Mr. Collins is also very concerned about the double line of busses at the High School. It is a major safety issue that he would like to fix. With all of these matters taken into consideration, Mr. Collins recommended the two tier system to North Haven. Mr. Collins shared that out of the twelve towns M & J service, six of them use this two tier system successfully. He stated that there are less behavioral issues with MS students riding with the HS students and have had no major issues. Mr. Collins offered contact names for parents with concerns, so that they can call other districts to confirm their success. In some towns they separate the HS and MS students, with HS students in the back of the bus and MS students in the front, etc.

Public comments were made by the following people opposing the two tiered system:

- Jennifer Ceccarelli
- Dyann Vissicchio
- Tony Iello
- Catherine Salvo-Toce
- Tom Marak – suggested putting M & J's power point on the district web site
- Dot Logan – suggested that the bus company take a look at the MS drop off areas

8. Public Comments

The following made further comments regarding the two tiered plan:

- Dyann Vissicchio – presented her petition
- Jennifer Ceccarelli
- Catherine Salvo-Toce – would like to see more open communication between the Board and families
- Ann DeMatteo – commented, questioning if the Board would reverse its decision. The Board responded that they would discuss this matter further; however they always have the best interest of the students in mind.

9. Executive Session: pending legal matters

Moved: to go into executive session 8:04 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Carole Franceschet
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

8:45 p.m. Back in Public Session

10. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 6
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson,
Chairman