

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

Date: October 9, 2014  
6:30 p.m.

**THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT CENTRAL OFFICE, 5 LINSLEY STREET, NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473**

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

Anita Anderson was absent.

Dr. O'Brien introduced Rebecca Carr, Director of Guidance for the North Haven Public Schools

Mrs. Carr gave an overview of the Guidance Department and answered any questions the Board of Education members may have.

Dr. O'Brien asked for Motion to add: Natures Classroom Field trip on the agenda

Moved: to add Green Acres/Ridge Road Natures Classroom to the Board  
of Education Agenda Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner  
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to approve Green Acres/Ridge Road Natures Classroom field  
trip April 27, 2015-May 1, 2015 Approved

MOVED: Goldie Adele  
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner  
AYE: 7  
NAY: 1  
ABSTAIN: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this field trip due to the excessive cost and would like, in the future, to figure out a way to make this not so expensive for the families.

Mrs. McKenna reported on the proposed field trips FPS/Creative Learning/NHHS Band/Natures Classroom and answered any questions the Board had.

## 1. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of September 11, 2014

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Moved: to approve items listed in the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen  
SECOND: Alicia Clapp  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

### Items Removed from Consent Agenda:

## 2. Student Reports

Larissa Ostrinski reported:

- Sports teams are all doing well
- Second term is about to begin
- Class Elections are complete

Jake Houston reported:

- Sophomores and Juniors will be taking PSATs on October 16, 2014
- North Haven is hosting SATs this year on Saturday, October 11, 2014
- Honor Society and clubs have started up again
- College representatives are starting to visit North Haven High School

## 3. Chairman's Report – No Report this month

## 4. Report of Standing Committees

### a. Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report

Mr. Bogen reported that the district is in its third month of expenditures and everything is on track. Mr. Bogen reported that Mrs. McKenna has submitted the Title I, II, and III grants to the State this week. Mr. Bogen reminded the Board that we are approaching budget season.

Mr. Bogen stated that Mrs. Carling will be applying for a Breakfast Grant in the amount of \$50,000. He reported that this money would be used to purchase carts so that the breakfast food can be delivered to the classrooms for students to purchase breakfast.

## 2. Approval of the 2014-2015 Monthly Financial Report

Moved: to approve the 2014-2015 Monthly Financial Report

Approved

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

## 3. Approval of submission of Breakfast Grant

Moved: to approve the submission of the Breakfast Grant

Approved

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

### **b. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning**

Mrs. McKenna reported the following:

- North Haven High School Preschool Program- Michele DeGiacomo joined us to discuss the program. She shared the history of the program and information about when the program became full-time in 2001. Mrs. McKenna is scheduled to have a phone conference with Harriett Feldlaufer (Director of the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood at the CSDE). Questions will be asked about the need for certified staff. The group discussed concerns about cars driving in the area by the program.
- Region 13 ID Program Update- No update was given. The scheduled visit was canceled by Region 13. A new date will be determined.
- Field Trip Protocol- Mrs. McKenna shared the draft field trip protocol and the revised Field Trip Request form. The addition of a central office signature was added to the existing form. Moving forward a field trip master calendar will be
- Field Trip Approvals- out of state/overnight
  - Creative Learning Program field trip to Iowa State University
  - NHHS Music Department field trip to New York City
  - Creative Learning Program trip to Coventry High School (overnight)
  - Field Trip approvals- Out of State and Over Night
- The group discussed the proposed field trips and will bring them to the full board on Thursday. The committee asked that Mrs. McKenna gather information about how funds will be raised, as well as what guidelines will be used to help students who can't afford to go. In addition, the group

would like to know the difference in cost between busing and lodging for the CLP Coventry overnight field trip.

- District Data Team- Mrs. McKenna shared information about the District Data team and shared concerns brought forth by a parent in terms of our use of data and safeguarding student privacy. Mrs. McKenna will raise this issue with the full board on Thursday evening.
- Ridge Road Parent Coffees- Mrs. McKenna shared information from the parent coffees held last week. Topics discussed included: field trips, supplies and arrival and dismissal procedures.
- New Clubs Request- Chess Club was approved
- Mrs. McKenna gave a recap of the recent professional development that took place in the district, specifically how Montowese School spent their professional day.
- Mrs. McKenna shared some technology concerns from a parent she met with earlier this month with the Board
- Update on the Summer School Program, AP breakdown and SAT Information the board requested from the September Curriculum meeting.

1. Approval of the Creative Learning Program overnight field trip to Coventry High School on March 27 and March 28, 2015

Moved: to approve the Creative Learning Program overnight field trip to Coventry High School on March 27 and March 28, 2015 Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp  
SECOND: Bryan Bogen  
AYE: 7  
NAY: 1  
ABSTAIN: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this field trip due to the excessive cost and would like, in the future, to figure out a way to make this not so expensive for the families.

2. Approval of the NHHS Music overnight field trip to New York City April 23-26, 2015

Moved: to approve the NHHS Music overnight field trip to New York City April 23-26, 2015 Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp  
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner  
AYE: 7  
NAY: 1  
ABSTAIN: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this field trip due to the excessive cost and would like, in the future, to figure out a way to make this not so expensive for the families.

3. Approval of the Creative Learning Program field trip to Iowa State University in Ames Iowa from June 10-14, 2015

Moved: to approve the Creative Learning Program field trip to Iowa State University in Ames Iowa from June 10-14, 2015

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner  
SECOND: Alicia Clapp  
AYE: 7  
NAY: 1  
ABSTAIN: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this field trip due to the excessive cost and would like, in the future, to figure out a way to make this not so expensive for the families.

#### **c. Building Committee**

Mr. Adele reported that the final stages of design are coming together. The final stages of the application process are also coming together. Next meeting is Tuesday, October 14, 2015

#### **d. Policy Committee**

Mrs. Caldwell reported last meeting was September 18, 2014. Policy workshop is scheduled for October 23, 2014. The committee will begin 5000 Series. Advisory Committee will meet on October 20, 2014, and that representatives are still needed for the Advisory Committee.

#### **e. Athletic Committee**

Mrs. Petersen reported:

- Football game for John Liquori on Friday Oct 17, 2014 with the color purple as a theme
- Team Donations: Youth FB donated a new tackling sled worth approx. \$3500
- October events – PINK week updates
- Girls' Volleyball will donate gate money to "The Sisters Project" – a local organization which donates money to North Haven and Wallingford families with a family member suffering with cancer
- Facebook update – FB will be used for general announcements; Twitter will be used for posting scores
- Trespassing Issues on athletic fields – signs posted at fields to prevent the use of fields without permission.
- Warning track – Softball – estimates came in and we are looking to install the warning track before the winter season
- Fundraising
- Concession Stands
- Current groups running the stands are school based organizations such as Drama Club, Yearbook Club, and more recently Class of 2016.  
Athletic team fundraising
- If a food truck is used for fundraising at an event, a permit is required by the North Haven Police Dept
- Soccer Field update:
  - Right Field area was top dressed and seeded in early September. Appears to be coming in well in that area.
  - Soil tests have come back negative for soil problems
  - Determined to be a watering issue (not enough) rather than sprinkler head issue.

- Short term plan: Will close rest of baseball field (area within current soccer field) as soon as high school baseball is concluded – approx June 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Maintenance

- **Long term plan:** looking into adding ADDITIONAL sprinkler system AND a second water line to feed it and provide sufficient water pressure. The 2<sup>nd</sup> sprinkler system would cut the approx. 42 zones at athletic complex in half and better control over: time of water on AND better control of how long
- **Long term plan:** Looking into irrigating the Bailey Rd Complex (Bailey RD baseball, MS Soccer, and old Practice FB / Track (Field) throwing zones
- **Town assistance** – Grants. Lynn Sadosky (Public Works Dept) Currently working on writing a grant (Public Works) for approx. 500K. (STEAP) Small
- Town Economic Assistance Program grant, which would involve: (250-500) visiting bleachers, concession stands, bathrooms, meeting room, fencing improvements. Submission to office of policy and management (State of CT) by 10/31/14. [Due 11/28/14]

#### New Building project and Track re-surface

- Once plans are returned from State of CT, bidding proposed to go out in April. Inquire of beginning the track re-surfacing to begin at conclusion of Spring track season – in June.
- Two (2) Drill Borings were dug on current practice football field due to building prep. Holes were small and completely filled in to ensure safety for students.

#### New Business

- Concussion update and recent media

#### 5. ACES

Mrs. Clapp reported that ACES met today. By June 30, 2015 ACES expects to build a collaborative, inter-district personalized technology driven learning program, which includes summer school programs, an accelerated learning, as well as programming for students at risk due to mental health, depression, disengagement, pregnancy and other crisis situations. Mrs. Clapp stated that there is a need for a program like this, where if students have had some health, or emotional issues, they can attend one of these programs. Next month Pete Smith, who is a lobbyist with the State, presents discussing equalizing magnet tuitions. Mrs. Clapp stated the convocation will be on Election Day at Thomas Edison School in Merien. Mrs. Clapp reported that today's agenda also included ratification of the CSEA contract.

#### 6. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Cecarelli reported that PTA Council has not had a big response for members. Mrs. Cecarelli is trying to form this committee and will update Board next month.

#### 7. Enrollment

#### 8. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cronin reported:

- Acknowledged the passing of Joanne Benevento, nurse at North Haven High School
- Middle School Intervention Teacher Update
- Teachers at Middle School and High School to submit list of students who are in danger of failing and who has failed.
- The need for Technology Teachers in the district

- New Middle School – need to begin thinking about design a middle school program that is suited for students in the twenty first century. This can be done by visiting other middle schools that have gone through this process
- Music schedule update throughout the district

**9. Public Comments**

- Amani Jones – parent/teacher suggestion to look at Thomas Edison School for technology assistance, as well as Wintergreen Magnet School.
- Kathy Farrily – question regarding the "late bus" and why there is not one.

**10. Executive Session:** for matters of personnel/legal matters

**11. Adjournment**

Moved: to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

Approved

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Wesley O'Brien*

Wesley O'Brien, Vice Chairman