



# North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

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North Haven Public School  
Board of Education Meeting  
**Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**/Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting  
Thursday, March 9, 2017 6:30 p.m.

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

Mr. Kerzner was absent.

- I. Motion: to add two items on the agenda Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli  
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

- II. Presentation: Len Fasano and Dave Yaccarino Information Item

Mrs. Anderson introduced Senator Len Fasano and Representative Dave Yaccarino, who came to speak to the Board of Education regarding some of the proposed budget cuts coming down from the State level. Dave Yaccarino reviewed a handout showing Governor Malloy's recommended modifications to the Education Funding for North Haven. Senator Fasano stated that every town is nervous about the Governor's proposal. Some of the topics focused on were the teacher's retirement funding, which has been underfunded, and the ECS Grants. These will be the two big challenges. Senator Fasano stated that it is all influx at this time, and that this is not the way it should be, and hopefully things will look better in the end. He stated that on April 27 and 28 the State will be voting on the final budget and those are the dates to keep in mind. The Board of Education members asked Senator Fasano and Representative Yaccarino questions regarding the budget and the ECS Grants.

- III. Presentation: Phil Piazza – North Haven Middle School Honor Society Information Item

Mr. Piazza gave a presentation hoping to start up a National Junior Honor Society at North Haven Middle School. Mr. Piazza explained all of the research he and his committee did to recognize the pros and cons of bringing this to the Middle School. He stated that this would help build leadership skills and build future leaders to our community. There was further discussion with the Board Members who stated their concerns with starting up this program. The Board has agreed to re-visit this subject again in April or May.

- IV. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes February 16, 2017
2. Resignation of Jon Firman, Science Teacher at NHHS
3. Resignation of Alice Bessonett, Special Education Teacher at NHMS

Moved: to approve the times on the consent agenda Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien  
SECOND: Randi Petersen  
AYE: 7  
NAY: 0

ABSTAIN: 1

Moved: to approve the NHHS Varsity Cheer overnight field trip to Providence Career & Technology Academy in Providence, RI, MARCH 17-19, 2017 Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell  
SECOND: Randi Petersen  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

Dr. Cronin updated the Board that the NHHS Cheerleaders placed third in the State competition And are now invited to represent Connecticut in the New England Competition in Rhode Island.

V. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports Information Item

Rachel reported:

- Legally Blonde was a huge success
- Junior Planning Seminar took place last night at NHHS
- Juniors will be able to view their class ranks on Naviance this weekend
- There will be two concerts this month, March 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Spring sports begin on March 20<sup>th</sup>
- Junior class starting fundraiser this month

Celeste reported:

- Senior class starting fundraiser (cookie dough)
- Volleyball and Unified Sports are holding a pay to play volleyball tournament for staff and students to play against one another on April 25
- Badminton tournament at NHHS
- Pi Day is coming up and the Math Department is having their annual pie eating contest
- Boys winter banquet is being held this evening
- Mr. North Haven was cancelled and is being replaced with a Variety Show On April 7, 2017

VI. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee Information Item

- Mrs. Anderson went to see Legally Blonde and enjoyed it thoroughly. Thought everyone did a phenomenal job
- Reminded the Board members of the upcoming Spelling Bee April 27, 2017 at NHHS
- St. Baldrick's Fundraiser was at Montowese and Clintonville this year

Mrs. Logan also added that there was Read Across America Districtwide

VII. Unfinished Business

Ms. Caldwell asked the status regarding the letter from the Police Commissioner regarding having dogs search the High School. She was absent from last month's meeting and was seeking clarification. Mrs. Anderson told her the Board decided that according to its policy, if the principal had a situation and felt it was needed to bring a dog in to search, that they would of course do it.

VIII. New Business  
IX. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported that ACES met this afternoon. She stated that Mr. Sharkey gave a legislative update, which was the same information Senator Fasano and Representative Yaccarino to the Board this evening. Mrs. Logan also reported that they spent some time on the teachers' contract, and the ACES insurance collaborative.

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning Information Item

No Meeting

3. Finance and Operations Information Item

Mr. Bogen stated that Finance and Operations met earlier this evening and discussed the Excess Cost Grant, and the money received from that. The amount was \$866,000 combined between the Excess Cost and the Agency monies that came in. That amount will be on the financial statement next month. Mr. Bogen stated that we are still waiting to hear from the Town on some direction and see where we stand on our 2017-2018 budget.

4. Middle School Building Committee Information Item

Mr. Adele reported that everything at the Middle School is going as scheduled. He stated that they still have to select the contractor for the turf fields. He reported that they received three bids and will looking at them and select one to do the work.

5. North Haven Education Foundation Information Item

Dr. Cronin reported that the North Haven Education Foundation met and he just wanted to remind everyone about the Annual Spelling Bee and all of the good things it does for the North Haven Public Schools.

6. Policy Information Item

7. PTA Council Information Item

PTA Council cancelled this month's meeting

X. Staff Communications

Dr. Cronin wanted to share a letter that Dr. Dallai received from a parent praising the staff at NHHS and stating what a positive experience her daughter has had at North Haven High School.

A. Superintendent's Report Information Item

1. Approval of the 2017-2018 District Calendar

Moved: to approve the 2017-2018 District Calendar Approved

MOVED: Dorothy Logan  
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

2. 2015-2016 Accountability Index Results Information Item

Dr. Cronin spoke about the Next Generation Accountability System. Dr. Cronin shared some of the details regarding the twelve indicators ranging from how students performed on SATs and SBAC to college and career readiness. He also stated they also look at Grade 8 students on target to graduate on time as well as chronic absenteeism. Schools are placed in categories 1-5. Category 1 being the better and Dr. Cronin reported that in North Haven, we have four Category 1 schools and two Category 2 schools, which is quite impressive. Dr. Cronin went on to explain that there are listed 116 "Schools of Distinction", and of the 116 two of them are in North Haven. Those being Green Acres, based on the highest growth of all students and the highest growth of high needs students. Ridge Road was also recognized for the performance of their school as a whole, the highest growth of all students and the highest growth in high needs students.

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported that the English Proficiency testing has been completed. She stated that the window for Smarter Balance Testing is between March 27-May 26, 2017. Each building will set their own testing schedule and communicate that in their newsletters, etc. They will not begin this testing until after the April break. The CMT/CAPT Science window for testing will be March 27-April 28, and the goal is to have this testing done before April break. She also reported that the Grade 11 Assessment is the SAT and April 5<sup>th</sup> will be Connecticut SAT School Day. Mrs. McKenna reported there are mandated make up days, if a student should be out on the day of their testing.

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report

Information Item

Mrs. Tanguay reported that she is monitoring the current budget closely and trying to work on the upcoming budget working with the Administrators on any anticipated cuts that may need to be made.

2. Approval of the 2016-2017 Monthly Financial Report, including recommended transfers

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

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen  
SECOND: Randi Petersen  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

XI. Public Comment

- Susan DuVal commented regarding the Integrated Day Program at Ridge Road Elementary School and Ridge Road School, school walkthroughs, and having some meetings at different schools.
- Lisa Burfon commented on the NHMS Honor Society and the Next Generation Accountability Report.
- Grace Gavigan commented regarding the Board of Education Members doing school walkthroughs, as well as the Integrated Day Program

XII. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

XIII. Executive Session – for matters of personnel

Moved: to enter into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli  
SECOND: Randi Petersen  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

XIV. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen  
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

*Anita Anderson*

Anita Anderson  
Chairperson