



North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public School
Board of Education Meeting
Meeting/Minutes

Thursday, December 12, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Jennifer Cecarelli, Goldie Adele, Dorothy Logan, Amanda Gabriele, Joseph Solimene, Eleni Diakogeorgiou, Jennifer Stewart, Director of Student Services, Pamela Mangini, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, and Patrick Stirk, Superintendent.

Randi Petersen was absent.

Mrs. Anderson began the meeting with a Moment of Silence in memory of Anthony Longley and sent condolences to his family from the entire Board of Education.

Mrs. Anderson welcomed everyone, and Mr. Michael Freda, First Selectman began this organizational meeting

I. Organization of the Board of Education Officers by the First Selectman Information Item

Nominations were opened for Board Officers

a. Chairman

MOTION: Jennifer Cecaelli nominated Anita Anderson Approved
SECOND: Amanda Gabrielle
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

b. Vice-Chairman

MOTION: Wesley O'Brien nominated Joseph Solimene Approved
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

c. Secretary

MOTION: Anita Anderson nominated Randi Petersen Approved
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

II. Consent Agenda

- A. November 14, 2019 Minutes
- B. Resignation of Karen Bosco, Grade 3 teacher at Montowese Elementary School

Motion: To approve the items on the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOTION: Dorothy Logan
SECOND: Amanda Gabrielle
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

III. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Zoi Burns was not in attendance but emailed her report:

- Juniors just ended their MCM Pie fundraiser, which did very well
- Seniors are looking forward to getting their college applications done and are meeting with counselors before break, getting decisions back, etc.
- Poinsettia fundraiser is coming to a close and everyone is looking forward to a great holiday break
- Student Council is currently holding a clothing drive for the winter
- The annual toy drive has started and the National Honor Society is helping out, hoping to get lots of toys to donate to the children at Yale New Haven Hospital
- Phantom of the Opera rehearsals have started and everyone is getting ready for the show. The shows are February 27, 28 and March 1st
- Choral and Band winter concert is coming up next Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at NHHS

IV. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

- Mrs. Anderson thanked her fellow Board members for the nomination of Chairperson, and welcomed Eleni Diakogeorgiou as our new Board member.
- Thanked the Board for the extra time they will be putting in during the upcoming Budget Meetings, which will be on January 9, 14, and 16 at 6 p.m.
- Board Retreat is scheduled for February 5, 2020
- Wished all a very Happy Holiday and New Year
- Committee changes: Finance Committee members will be Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Cecarelli, and Mrs. Gabriele, and Randi Petersen will now be the representative from the Board on the PTA Council

V. Unfinished Business

VI. New Business

VII. Reports of Standing Committees:

1. ACES

Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported:

- Annual Holiday Meeting recognizing students from all schools that participated in making holiday cards, tee shirts, mugs, etc.
- CABE presented the legislative priorities. Also shared that legislatures are going to be looking at a later start time for high school, policies for vaccinations, school climate, and non-directed play. CABE's priorities are social, emotional learning, removing the cap on SPED's excessive cost grant, attracting quality educators from diverse backgrounds, and promoting social competency for all educators.

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Dr. O'Brien reported:

- Text book proposal from Paris Godbout, Science Program Coordinator for an Environmental Science AP Class, which would be a hard copy, as opposed to a digital suite. This was recommended to be approved.
- Brian Hutton spoke regarding two, half year courses: , Music Technology and Guitar Classes. We recommended that these classes be approved.

3. Finance and Operations

Information Item

Mrs. Mangini reported:

- 2019-2020 Budget was reviewed
- watching the Excess Cost Grant closely
- spending freeze was put into place on discretionary accounts and watching the budget closely over the next few months
- Health Insurance , self funding account is currently running 15% below projection for claims, which is a good place to be.

4. Middle School Building Committee NO REPORT

Information Item

5. North Haven Education Foundation NO REPORT - next meeting Dec. 18th

Information Item

6. Policy

Information Item

Mr. Stirk reported:

- Jen Kozniewski, Director of IT joined the committee to discuss policies regarding privacy issues, confidentiality, etc
- First read policies from last month are brought for a second read this month.
- Mr. Stirk answered some questions the Board had last month regarding certain policies

Second Read of the following policies:

- A. Policy #4118.231 (a)/#4218.231 - Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug-Free Workplace
- B. Policy #5125 - Confidentiality and Access to Education Records
- C. Policy #5131 - Student Discipline
- D. Policy #5141 - Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
- E. Policy #5144 - Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students and Use of Exclusionary Time Out

7. PTA Council - NO REPORT - Next meeting is December 16th

Information Item

VIII. Staff Communications

A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mr. Stirk reported:

- Snow day procedures and how decisions are made to ensure the safety of all students, faculty, and staff.
- implementation of adding a three hour delay, if needed. This is a common practice throughout other districts and may help in certain circumstances. The Board agreed
- Update on professional development with administrators with Lyle Kirtman, a leadership development consultant who works with school districts all over the country. This is a work in progress, but has been a very helpful practice for administrators, which at some point would like to bring to the Board as well.
- NHHS was named to the College Board 10th Annual Advanced Placement District Honor Roll. There are 250 district schools throughout the country and North Haven High School was one of them for increasing access to AP courses as well as the percentage of students who are at a Level 3 or higher. North Haven was 1 of 7 Connecticut school districts named.

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- She met with Dr. Dallai and a group of administrators and teachers regarding the new graduation requirements for the class of 2023. The State will define what is required for this. There is some work to be done at the school level and Dr. Dallai will go before C & I and the Board sometime in the Spring.
- Kindergarten registration will once again be on line and will be open in January for families.
- NHHS Mixed Choir, which our student representative, Zoi Burns is in, has been selected as a showcase performance ensemble at this years CTMEA, which is a huge honor.

C. Director of Student Services Report
1. Special Education Update

Information Item
Information Item

Mrs. Stewart reported:

- Social Emotional Meeting took place earlier this month. There were parents, and staff in attendance. The committee noticed that the social emotional learning needs to start Pre-K and continuing throughout the grade levels.
- Grade 5-6 Transitional night will be May 7, 2020
- Transition to college Night will be March 3, 2020
- IEP vs. 504 Information night will be in April

D. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operations Report

Information Item

Mrs. Mangini reported:

- 2018-2019 is closing out
- the district audit is complete and went well
- Monitoring the 2019-2020 budget
- developing the 2020-2021 Budget, which will be presented to the Board on January 9th

2. Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Information Item

IX. Public Comments

- Kim Cohen commented about the Transition Nights and insurance claims

X. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

XI. Executive Session - regarding NHHS Varsity Soccer Coach

Motion: to move into executive session to discuss NHHS Varsity Soccer Coach, and invited Mr. Stirk to come into Executive Session @ 7:15 p.m.

Approved

MOTION: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Joseph Solimene
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

XII. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Approved

MOTION: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson
Chairperson