



North Haven Public Schools
North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting

NHHS - Library
221 Elm Street

North Haven, CT 06473

Regular Meeting
Minutes

Attendance: Ronald Bathrick, Randi Pedersen, Amanda Gabriele, Goldie Adele, Joseph Solimene, Martin Rudnick, Marie Devlin, Jen Stewart, Director of Student Services, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, Patrick Stirk, Superintendent of Schools

Absent: Eleni Diakogeorgiou, Thais Moore, and Howard Wardlow, Director of Finance, Operations, and Human Resources

Thursday, December 8, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Bathrick opened the meeting apologizing for the late cancellation of the October meeting and not being at the November meeting, stating that he had an acute medical issue that needed to be addressed. Mr. Bathrick thanked everyone who sent him letters/notes, as well as thanking Dr. Pedersen for taking over the meeting last month.

I. Approval of the November 10, 2022 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

MOTION: to approve the November 10, 2022 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

MOVED: Martin Rudnick
SECOND: Amanda Gabriele
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Mr. Bathrick introduced one of our new Student Representatives, Kaiya Aning representing the Junior class. Kaiya introduced herself and stated she was excited to be representing her class.

Alex Ranciato reported:

- NHHS has implemented the 2022-2023 Graduation Requirements
- Career Related Internship Program is up and running
- PTSA Fundraisers have begun
- School Counseling Department held School Parent night on November 30th
- Parent conferences were in November
- NHHS teacher Kate Fontain Pop Up Art Shop is up and running with many gift items available to purchase.
- Career and Tech Education Department is proud to debut North Haven athletic wear and Spirit apparel online store.
- Choir students Nicole Ortiz and Chloe Diaz were chosen to be in the 2022 All National Honors Festival
- Music Department students Nicole Ortiz, Rissa Tobin, and Amelia Shaw were selected to take part in the 2022-2023 All Eastern Honors Festival.
- NHHS Football team will be in the Championship game on Saturday
- Winter sports has begun, including the Wrestling team, which is new to North Haven

- Councilors are meeting with Juniors to begin the planning process for careers, college, etc.
- Senior to Senior Breakfast was held and a huge success. There were 225-250 people in attendance

III. Public Comments on Non-agenda items

- Jamie Krzmarczik, 73 Lexington Gardens Thanked the Board and teachers for all of their work and dedication She shared North Haven’s Mission and commented regarding social and emotional learning, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and would like more updates from the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Administrator.
- Scott Friedman, 17 Cooper Road commented regarding diversity, social emotional learning, curriculum, books,pronouns and thanked the Board for their service. Mr. Friedman commended the district and teachers for engaging students. Also commented regarding the BOF and stated that he believes that the BOE should Control carryover funds.
- Tim Gabriele, 18 Renee Lane, commented he would like more updates regarding curriculum, Diversity and Inclusion and supports the educators in North Haven
- Sally Buemi, 5 Blossom Drive commented regarding the MOU discussed at November’s BOE Meeting Specifically regarding carryover funds and false statements she feels were made made about a member of the Board of Finance.
- Anna Buono, 20 Alexander Drive, commented regarding diversity, pronouns, books, surveys and her belief that parents should be notified prior to surveys go out.

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Retirement of Martha Butterworth, Supervisor of Technology Support Services

MOTION: to approve items on the Consent Agenda

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele

SECOND: Martin Rudnick

AYE: 7

NAY: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

V. Board of Education Parent Representatives Reports

Information Item

Mrs. Giering reported:

- Mr. Lawrence, Assistant Principal at NHHS and the DEI Coordinator has agreed to be on the PTA Council and attend meetings and adding the word “belonging” to his title, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Coordinator
- Hoping to get a PTSA Newsletter (monthly or quarterly)
- Hoping to bring back the annual Road Race in the Spring
- Working with administrators to get parents and grandparents back in schools to share their cultures and backgrounds.
- Special Education Committee as part of PTA Council is being encouraged to get more involved.
- Fundraising across the district is up and running.

VI. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Mr. Bathrick reported:

- In February Board would like to have instructional updates
- January Board will have their Budget Workshops

VII. Reports of Standing Committees:

ACES

Information Item

Mr. Rudnick reported:

- Programs of Students in various schools. Students made postcards and tee shirts
- Head Start Presentation
- ACES is having staffing issues. Trying to hire more non-certified staff

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Mr. Solimene reported:

- Meeting was this evening
- English 9-12 Department Presentation by Devin Mannion 9-12 ELA Coordinator.
English Department Proposal:
 - Textbook Proposal to Update A.P. Language & Composition Textbook to the 15th edition
- Music Department Proposals:
 - NHHS Music Theory Course Level Change- Addition Music Theory Level 2
 - New Course Proposals:
 - Guitar 2
 - Piano Lab

The above course changes and proposals were approved

3. North Haven Education Foundation NO REPORT

Information Item

4. Policy

Information Item

a. Second read of the following Policies:

Information Item

- Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline Policy
- Meal Charging Policy
- Policy to Improve Completion Rates of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Curricular Exemptions Policy
- Student Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism Policy
-

5. Ad Hoc District Calendar NO REPORT

Information Item

VIII. Staff Communications

1. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mr. Stirk reported:

- It is budget season and he and Mr. Wardlow have been meeting with Administrators across the district regarding their budgets
- Budget Workshops will be January 12, in place of the Regular BOE Meeting and January 17 at 6 p.m.
- Mr. William DiGuiseppe has been hired as our Athletic Trainer and will start in a couple of weeks
- Next Generation Accountability Reports have been received and Mr. Stirk and Mrs. McKenna will be digging into them and will report back to the Board once they have reviewed them.
- Buses continue to be a concern. Mrs. Stirk stated that he has been working closely with M&J and believes the bus issues are getting a little bit better as far as drop off times in the PM. M&J is still short on drivers and are doing everything they can to keep their current drivers and getting new ones.
- District is also short on bus monitors and is currently looking to hire more.
- Best of luck to the NHHS Football team this weekend

a. Approval of a donation from BJE Design, LLC for \$500 to re-configure lights for the theater at North Haven High School

MOTION: To approve a donation from BJE Design, LLC for \$500 to re-configure lights for the Theater at North Haven High School

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele

SECOND: Martin Rudnick

AYE: 7

NAY: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

2. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- Presentation of "Hour of Code" highlighting some initiatives in the district. This was done to help increase student interest in Computer Science, the Math, Science and Career Education departments. These departments teamed up to have all North Haven students complete an Hour of Code

3. Director of Student Services' Report

Information Item

Mrs. Stewart reported:

- Last Wednesday evening an event for junior families was held at the high school. There was a great turnout from families. Over thirty-five families attended the event.
- The school counselors were provided with positive feedback from families regarding the night.
- The interim director of admissions and the director of financial aid from Albertus College provided an overview of the college planning process. The Albertus representatives do not advertise Albertus during this presentation. The representative provided general information about the college process. The director of finance reviewed the FAFSA process and financial aid. Materials from the night can be located on the district's website.

4. Director of Finance, Operations and Humans Resources
a. Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Information Item

Mr. Stirk reported:

- Monthly report showed spending to be steady
- Line item updates
- Monthly transfer update
- Operational item update
- Thanked Howard and the Board for being able to extend the free school lunch program
- Reserve account update
- Capital Funds account update

b. Approval of the 2022-2023 Monthly Financial Report,
including recommended transfers

MOTION: to approve the 2022-2023 Monthly Financial Report, including recommended transfers

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

IX. Public Comments on Discussion/Action Items

- Jen Geiring, 73 Mowry Street, commented regarding the new district logo and simplifying it for smaller projects.

X. Adjournment

MOTION : to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Bathrick
Chairperson