



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**

Thursday, April 20, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Ronald Bathrick, Eleni Diakogeorgiou, Joseph Solimene, Goldie Adele, Amanda Gabriele, Marie Devlin, Thais Moore, Martin Rudnick, Jen Stewart, Director of Student Services, Howard Wardlow, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, and Patrick Stirk, Superintendent of Schools.

Randi Petersen was absent.

I. Approval of the March 9, 2023 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

MOTION: To approve the March 9, 2023 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 1

Mr. Solimene abstained as we was absent from the March 9, 2023 BOE Meeting

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

III. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- Michele Guglielmo, 26 Curtis Court, stated her disappointment in M & J Bus Company Mrs. Guglielmo shared an experience when her son was left on the school bus at the M & J Garage. Mrs. Guglielmo requested that the Board change bus companies, or at least hold M & J accountable for their policies, as well as raising the bar for who is being hired, and training. She also suggested cameras on every bus, van and bus depot, bus monitors on every bus, or hiring a transportation coordinator. Mrs. Guglielmo thanked Mr. Stirk for all of his support in this matter as well as Mrs. Preneta and Mrs. Gabriele in this matter.

The Board discussed this matter and would like to come up with a plan so this does not happen again.

IV. Presentation from Patrick Lawrence, District DEIB Facilitator

Information Item

Mr. Patrick Lawrence spoke on the work that he is doing as the District DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging) Facilitator. He shared that Administrators have been Training with SERC. He is visiting all schools, communicating with faculty, staff and students and supporting them in any way possible. Mr. Lawrence is also working closely with the District PTAs as well as the North Haven Coalition. He is in the process of developing a mission statement, which is currently in draft form. Mr. Lawrence thanked the community for all the support he is receiving around his work as DEIB Facilitator,

V. Consent Agenda

1. Resignation of Karen Castagnola, Varsity Softball Head Coach, NHHS
2. Resignation of Andrea Samperi, Special Education Paraprofessional at Clintonville School
3. Retirement of Joanne Callahan, 2-3 ID Teacher at Green Acres Elementary School

MOTION: To approve items on the Consent Agenda

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele

SECOND: Martin Rundnick

AYE: 8

NAY: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

Mrs. Gabriele thanked all of the teachers resigning/retiring for their service here in North Haven, and wished them well.

VI. Board of Education Parent Representatives Reports

Information Item

Kristen Cohen reported:

- There is a district wide fundraiser (Steady Strap) which will benefit the Special Education Committee
- PTA involvement is needed and welcoming anyone who would like to get involved
- National PTA has a budget deficit and will be raising the cost of dues
- Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-12, 2023

VII. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

1. Approval of the reduction in the 2023-2024 Board of Education Budget

MOTION: To approve the reduction in the 2023-2024 Board of Education Budget

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele

SECOND: Goldie Adele

AYE: 8

NAY: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

VIII. Reports of Standing Committees:

1. ACES

Information Item

Mr. Rudnick reported:

- ACES is looking at/evaluating staffing
- Making some staffing cuts
- Expanding some programs

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

- a. Approval of NHHS Photography class Field Trip to New York City on May 1, 2023

MOTION: To approve the NHHS Photography class field trip to New York City on May 1, 2023

APPROVED

MOVED: Martin Rudnick

SECOND: Amanda Gabriele

AYE: 8

NAY: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

3. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Stirk reported:

- NHEF Comedy Night is on April 28, 2023 at the Knights of Columbus in Hamden
All are welcome!

4. Policy

Information Item

a. SECOND Read of the following Policies:

- Policy 5141.21 Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
- Policy 5141.25 Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies, Glycogen Storage Disease and/or Diabetes
- Policy 5145.4 Non Discrimination (Students)
- Policy 5145.8(a) Policy Regarding Students and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Series 4000 Personnel Policy - Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events
- Series 4000 Personnel Policy - Exertional Heat Illness Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics

IX. Staff Communications

1. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

- Graduation will be Thursday, June 15, 2023
- Last day of school will be Friday, June 16, 2023

2. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- Shared district brochure
- Mrs. McKenna and Mrs. Tantorski presented at CAFE to share North Haven's summer program
- Credit redemption opportunities available for High School Students
- Piloting a new program for incoming Kindergarten students
- Thanked Jodie Wilcox, Tracy Gambardella, MaryLyn Tantorski, and Anthony Mastriano, who worked so hard putting this summer program together.

3. Director Of Student Services' Report

Information Item

Mrs. Stewart reported:

- The State Department of Education offered all Directors across the state the opportunity to apply for a grant called CT SEDS Stipend. The grant was approved for North Haven. Each special education teacher and related service staff member who complete Individualized Educational Plans will receive a stipend of \$250.00. Each staff member mentioned above will receive the stipend once the funds are released from the state. I appreciate all the hard work the staff has done to learn and navigate the new platform this year.

4. Director of Finance, Operations and Humans Resources

a. Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Information Item

Mr. Wardlow reported:

- Spending is trending with last year
- Overtime and substitute costs are up at this time
- Transfer update
- Elementary Cafeteria updates
- Slide at Ridge Road has been replaced
- Medical Reserve update
- Worker's Compensation update
- Special Education update
- Excess Cost Grant update
- Capital Project update

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

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

APPROVED

MOVED: Joseph Solimene
SECOND: Martin Rudnick
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

c. Approval of additional rental space at the maintenance garage
On Giles Avenue

MOTION: Approval of additional rental space at the maintenance garage on Giles Avenue

TABLED

MOVED: Martin Rudnick
SECOND: Joseph Solimene
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

X. Public Comments on Discussion/Action Items

- Jamie Krismarzick, 73 Lexington Gardens, thanked the administration and Board for bringing Mr. Lawrence to present at this BOE Meeting, stating that this work is needed
- Mariana Mattos, 2 Briarwood Circle, thanked the Board for bringing Mr. Lawrence to present and appreciate all the work he is doing. She would like the district to recognize all students and would like more information shared about hispanic/brazilian cultures
- Tim Gabriele, Renee Lane thanked Mr. Lawrence for all of his work around DEIB. Mr. Gabriele also commented that his daughter is hoping to get a Diversity Club at the Middle School and has been working with Administrators to do so. Mr. Gabriele also commented on information going around on the topic of books and wanted the Board to elaborate on that subject.
- Lisa Leamon, 11 Justine Drive, commented that she was very happy with Mr. Lawrence and all the work he is doing for the district.
- Ellie Mulligan, 7 State Street, asked when the last day of school will be (June 15, 2023)

Mrs. Devin wanted to thank all of the teachers in the District for all of their hard work.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

APPROVED

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Eleni Diakogeorgiou
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Bathrick
Ronald Bathrick, Chairman