



# North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

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North Haven Public School  
Board of Education Meeting  
Meeting/Minutes

Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Joseph Solimene, Randi Petersen, Wesley O'Brien, Jennifer Cecarelli, Goldie Adele, Dorothy Logan, Amanda Gabrielle, Jen Stewart, Interim Director of Student Services, Pamela Mangini, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, Patrick Stirk, Superintendent of Schools, and Zoi Burns and Gia Iwenac, Student Representatives.

Eleni Diakogeorgiou was absent

I. Consent Agenda

- A. December 12, 2019 BOE Minutes
- B. January 9, 2020 BOE Workshop Minutes
- C. January 16, 2020 BOE Workshop Minutes
- D. Resignations of : Mary Ierardi, WL Teacher at NHMS  
Jennifer Frederick English Teacher at NHMS
- E. Retirement of Jane Sanford, PE/Health Program Coordinator at NHHS -  
at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year
- F. Maternity Leave of Kaitlin Dwyer - Ridge Road Teacher

Motion: to approve the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Joseph Solomene  
SECOND: Dorothy Logan  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0

Ms. Logan wished Jane Sanford well in her retirement, stating she was a great teacher/administrator and will be missed.

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Mrs. Anderson welcomed Gia Iwanec (Junior) as one of our NHHS Board of Education Board of Education Student Representatives. Gia will join Zoi Burns (Senior) for the 2019-2020 school year.

Gia reported:

- Course selection is underway
- Course Information Night was a few weeks ago
- Phantom of the Opera is underway. Tickets are \$15 and can be bought in advance or at the door. The play is February 27-March 1
- Unified Sports practices are underway as well
- Senior Night for girls basketball is tomorrow night at 7 p.m., and boys will take place on the 24th

Zoi reported:

- Senior Night for Fencing is also tonight
- Senior Night for Ice Hockey is the Saturday the 29th
- Senior Night for Boys Swimming and Diving is on the 24th

- Choirs are practicing and getting ready for the band trip
- Select Choirs are also getting ready for the band trip and have a performance at Pierpont on Saturday, February 22nd
- Freshman are holding a Valentine's Day Fundraiser and a Chipotle Fundraiser
- Class of 2020 is working on an apparel fundraiser

III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

- Mrs. Anderson wanted to remind everyone of the NHHS Play, Phantom of the Opera, February 27-March 1
- The Board of Education had a Retreat last week and reported that it was great and very informative. Will be scheduling another one at a later date.

IV. Unfinished Business

V. Reports of Standing Committees:

1. ACES

Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported:

- Discussion on recruiting a much more diverse teaching population, which is a universal problem
- Proposal RESC Alliance is applying for a transportation grant, which is a mapping tool, focusing on Special Education Transportation to out of district students.

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Dr. O'Brien reported:

- Dr. Dallai attended the meeting and gave an update on the 2023 Graduation Requirements Under this new proposal, students will need 25 credits (as opposed to the 24 they are currently required to have). This will not be difficult for North Haven because we are so close.

a. NHHS field trip to Ellis Island, NJ, March 19, 2020

Motion: to approve the NHHS field trip to Ellis Island, New Jersey, March 19, 2020

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien  
 SECOND: Amanda Gabriele  
 AYE: 8  
 NAY: 0  
 ABSTAINED: 0

b. NHHS Cheerleaders field trip to Rhode Island, August 23-26, 2020

Motion: to approve the NHHS Cheerleaders field trip to Rhode Island, August 23-26, 2020

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli  
 SECOND: Amanda Gabriele  
 AYE: 8  
 NAY: 0  
 ABSTAINED: 0

3. Finance and Operations

Information Item

Mrs. Mangini reported:

- There are some concerns regarding some of the underbudgeted areas as well as our Special Education costs
- The first portion of the EXCESS Cost Grant is expected in the next couple of weeks which is usually 75% of the total
- Meeting regularly with Jen Stewart, Interim Director of Student Services, monitoring our out-placed students
- insurance is trending below projections, however there are still some large claims
- distributed information to the Board regarding self funding vs. full insurance costs.

4. Middle School Building Committee - NO MEETING

Information Item

5. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Solimene reported:

- Committee Appointments made
- April 30, 2020 - Bee Trivia Wise event
- Great turnout at the last Trivia Night at North Haven Middle School

6. Policy - NO MEETING
7. PTA Council

Information Item  
Information Item

Dr. Petersen reported:

- PTA Council met on February 29th
- The PTA Council as well as the PTA Boards at every school are looking for people to take leadership positions, so if anyone is interested please contact the schools which you would like to work with
- There is a new committee formed for the Road Race which is April 5, 2020
- CT PTA Website is accepting nominations for Outstanding Administrator Awards
- Clintonville has their St. Baldrick's Fundraiser on March 10th
- Montowese is having a Yankee Game Fundraiser on April 25th at 1 o'clock
- Ridge Road has an Ice Skating Fundraiser on February 28th, a Blood Drive on March 6th, and Shred Day on March 28th
- NHMS is having a Spirit Wear and Chocolate Fundraiser for the Month of March
- NHHS is presenting the Phantom of the Opera Play. Tickets can be purchased online
- PTA is considering doing a Town Wide Tag Sale. Details will be forthcoming

VI. Staff Communications

- A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mr. Stirk reported:

- 2020-2021 Calendar Discussion - pending approval in March
- Next Generation Accountability Reports were released for all districts in the State and overall North Haven continues to show continued growth.
- Clintonville was recognized for being a school for high growth for all students and high needs students both in Mathematics
- Science was included in this report for the first time. The Science Program Coordinator, Paris Godbout, has been working with Melinda and the Math and Language Arts Coordinators to ensure that there is elementary time in the schedule for Science.
- NHHS was honored by the College Board for Computer Science Diversity Award
- CoronaVirus Update
- Update on PTA Gifts in the District

1. Donation - from Storytellers Photographers to NHHS Art Department - Art supplies value approximately \$9,797.00

Motion: to approve the above donation from Storytellers Photographer to NHHS

Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele  
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0

2. Donation - From Mr. and Dr. R. Petersen to NHPS, Music Department - Piano value approximately \$1,000.00

Motion: to approve the donation from Mr. and Dr. R. Petersen of a Piano to NHPS

Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele  
SECOND: Joseph Solimene  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- Update on the Graduation Requirements
- Mastery Based Diploma Proposal Update (still under development)
- Dr. Dallai will come to the full Board in April or May for an update
- Reminder regarding Kindergarten Registration - On District website or at schools

C. Director of Student Services Report

Information Item

1. Special Education Update

Information Item

Ms. Stewart reported:

- Pre-K Transition Night was last Thursday
- College Transition Night is on March 3, 2020
- SERC - Offering District to participate in Step by Step training. SERC Funds this training so there is no cost to the District

D. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operations Report
2. Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Information Item

Information Item

Mrs. Mangini reported:

- W-2, 1099, and 1095 forms have all been issued within the Federal and State timelines
- Payroll Clerk position has been posted and will begin interviews over the next week or two
- Working on getting the RFP ready for Food Management Company which is due by June 30th

VII. Public Comments

VIII. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

IX. Executive Session (Proposed) - discussions involving upcoming Transportation and Support Staff Contracts

Motion: to enter into discuss negotiation strategy around the upcoming Transportation Contract as well as the Support Staff Contract, as well as inviting Mr. Stirk in to Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen  
SECOND: Dorothy Logan  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0

X. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli  
SECOND: Amanda Gabriele  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson  
Chairperson