



North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

**THE NORTH HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
5 LINSLEY STREET
NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473**

MINUTES

January 9, 2020

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

Dorothy Logan was absent

Mrs. Anderson opened the Budget Workshop by welcoming all and turning the workshop over to Mr. Stirk for his presentation of the 2020-2021 Proposed Board of Education Budget.

1. Budget Priorities, Elementary and Student Services

Mr. Stirk began the meeting thanking his staff for all of their hard work crunching numbers and putting the budget book together. Mr. Stirk stated that there is very little change in the overall budget proposal on all levels and within all departments. All proposed increases are a result of contractual obligations, costs of benefits and remedying past under-budgeted areas. He reported that within this year's budget recommendations, there are no new programs, or new positions. He stated that he met with district leaders to design a fiscally responsible budget that ensures:

- equitable and developmentally appropriate educational experiences between schools
- safe and clean learning environments
- fulfillment of statutory obligations
- continue to advance BOE goals
- maintain districts focus on improving achievement for ALL students
- meet the 2023 graduation requirements; and
- address the social and emotional needs of all learners by beginning to increase the level of support services within our schools and district programs.

Mr. Stirk reviewed his plans regarding staff reductions of an administrator position, coordinator, and anticipated retirements, as well as savings in utilities, Student Services, Facilities and IT line items.

Originally, Mrs. Stirk felt the Board would need three Budget Workshops, however, Student Services aside, each department and school does not have any significant increases or new initiatives within their budgets. That being said, we will only hold a total of two meetings.

Mrs. Mangini highlighted changes in some of the line items, explaining that some of the changes were simply moving funds into the appropriate accounts, as in the past they were not in the appropriate line item accounts.

Mrs. Stewart, Director of Student Services gave an overview of Student Services needs, explaining some of the increases, such as tuition, transportation, and professional Tech Services and where the District plans to reduce some contracted support services, such as vendors for RBT/BCBA Services and OT/SLP Services, which will save the district some money.

There was further discussion and questions regarding student needs at each school and making sure that their needs were met, including supplies, library books, etc and where the District stands with the self-funding insurance.

The requested increase at this time is 5.4%, or \$2,933,932. The major budget drivers being:

- Certified/Non-Certified wages
- Health Insurance Benefits
- Special Education
- Electricity
- Transportation

The next meeting will be a Special Board of Education Meeting and the presentation will be regarding North Haven Middle School, IT, North Haven High School, Athletics, and Facilities. This will take place on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6 p.m.

2. Executive Session: Discussion concerning the Superintendent's contract

Motion: to go into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Contract Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Randi Petersen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Motion: to invite Mr. Stirk into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. Approved

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

3. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Approved

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

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson
Chairperson