

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, February 11, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M.

Board members present: Karen Riccardelli, Chairperson, Claudia Callinan, Dorothy Cecchinato,
Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Edwin Gow

Patricia Chamberlain, Superintendent; Pamela Vogel, Assistant Superintendent;
Rosemary Keilty, Principal

Mrs. Callinan made a motion to adopt the agenda as written. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated January 14, 2016 as written. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Written

Ms. Chamberlain read a letter from Melissa and Justin Hajek seeking permission to enroll their daughter, Jullia in the North Canaan Elementary School Early Kindergarten Program for the 2016-2017 school year. The letter also stated that Justin works at the school, and they live in New Marlboro, Massachusetts. The request was added to the agenda under New Business.

Region I Report

Mr. Gow reported on the last Region One meeting he attended. Some of the items he discussed are listed below:

- Cow Pots, farm equipment, and robotic milking are the topics for the Tech Talks this month at the high school.
- The 2016-2017 Regional Budget is still being worked on and the increase is 1.61% at this time.
- The SAT will be administered at the high school instead of SBAC testing.
- Three high school students qualified for the 2016 Northern Regional Chorus.
- Shelby and Bailey Jacquier went to the legislative offices in Hartford to meet with legislators on behalf of the VoAg Department.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty announced that after 24 years of teaching at North Canaan, JoEllen Belter will retire in June 2016. The Board thanked her for her service and wished her well.

Miss Keilty reported that the following budget time line dates are set:

- Tuesday, March 29, 2016 Board of Finance 7:30 P.M. Town Hall
- Tuesday, April 26, 2016 Public Hearing 7:30 P.M. Town Hall
- Tuesday, May 17, 2016 Budget Vote 7:30 P.M. Town Hall

She stated that all Board members are welcome to attend the meetings.

Miss Keilty reported that the Education Connection report describes what Education Connection does for North Canaan and the programs that are available to the school.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Chamberlain reported that C.A.B.E.'s Day on the Hill, which covers education issues, will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2016.

Ms. Chamberlain reviewed the NESDEC enrollment report with Board members. The first two pages show North Canaan historical enrollment data, and pages three and four display future enrollment projections.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Vogel updated the Board on meetings she held with Region One teachers and principals concerning literacy, mathematics, and teaching strategies. She met with seventh and eighth grade math teachers and high school math teachers to determine the math skills students need to be successful at the secondary level.

Dr. Vogel reported that she attended a C.A.B.E. convention in November 2015 which had a presentation on Personalized Learning.

Dr. Vogel reviewed Connecticut Mastery Test results for grades five and eight science from spring 2015. She compared North Canaan with the State results.

New Business

Ms Chamberlain reported that the All Boards Chair Committee has worked on revising the 7000 Series Policies for the last two years and that this is draft twelve. She recommended that Board members read and review the policy and give any comments that they wish to make to her secretary, who will forward them to the All Boards Chair Committee. She reported that an attorney will review the final draft before it comes back for a second reading. She added that this is a lengthy process of approximately six months, concluding with each Board voting on it.

Ms. Chamberlain reported that each Board is required to have a new Restraint and Seclusion Policy which includes all students and is no longer limited to just Special Education students. She stated that everyone will receive new training, with approximately thirty people attending each session. She recommended that Board members read and make corrections for the second reading next month.

Miss Keilty reported that the 2015-2016 budget is on track with a projected surplus of approximately \$20,000. She recommended that the Board pay JoEllen Belter's retirement severance of approximately \$13,000 out of these unexpended funds by June 30, 2016. Mrs. Callinan made a motion to pay the severance out of this year's surplus. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Miss Keilty reported that the town selectmen would like Board representation on a town building committee to explore a possible project (new gym, soccer field, swimming pool, and playground). Once a committee is formed, it will begin to meet in April. Mrs. Cecchinato, Mr. Ellington, and Mrs. Riccardelli volunteered to be on the committee.

Ms. Chamberlain reviewed the C.A.B.E. Nutmeg article with Board members concerning the Nutmeg Board dealing with using personal e-mail accounts and the impact on FOIA.

Mr. Ellington made a motion to approve the application request for Jullia Hajek to attend the North Canaan Elementary School Early Kindergarten program for the 2016-2017 school year. Mrs. Callinan seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 P.M. Mrs. Callinan seconded. Vote: Unanimous
The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gandolfo

Approved: March 10, 2016