

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, January 11, 2018.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01P.M.

Board members present: Karen Riccardelli, Chairperson, Rebecca Cahill, Dorothy Cecchinato,
Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane

Pamela Vogel, Superintendent

Nikki Blass, Robert Hewins, Pam Howe, Noah Shippa, Sarah Visconti, and Craig Whiting

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to amend the agenda by adding, X. New Business: 2018-2019 Region One Calendar. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended above. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Riccardelli introduced Sarah Visconti and Robert Hewins to the Board. Mrs. Visconti reported that she has a daughter in the first grade and looks forward to working with the Board, school, and community. Mr. Hewins reported that he has a daughter in the seventh grade and looks forward to working with the school and community. Mrs. Drislane made a motion to appoint Sarah Visconti and Robert Hewins as new North Canaan Board members. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated, December 14, 2017 as written. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Region One Report

Dr. Vogel reported on the last Region One meeting she attended. Some of the highlights are listed below:

- The Board approved and posted a new position as Head Custodian/Facilities Manager for the high school; this is a salaried position, and the successful candidate will be on call at all times.
- Drafts of job descriptions for the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and the Business Manager were reviewed. The descriptions will be submitted to the Personnel Committee for review. The Superintendent's job description will be sent to the All BoardsChair Committee.
- The Board will have a retreat this Saturday and they will set goals.
- Dr. Mary O'Neill (HVRHS career exploration program) is working hard with teachers on student internships.

Written Communication

Mrs. Riccardelli read a thank you note she received from the North Canaan Elementary School staff. The note thanked the Board for the delicious pizza luncheon with beverages and holiday cookies.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Vogel reviewed her monthly report with Board members. Some of the highlights of her report are listed below:

- Six Region One contracts have been settled and three non-certified staff contracts will start negotiations soon.
- A Board Orientation workshop will be held next Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. at the high school.
- An ABC meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at Central Office.
- Today all principals attended the Sustainable Transformation Workshop with a focus on "*The Portrait of a Graduate.*"
- Several Region One schools have hired C.A.B.E. to review their policies.
- The high school will start Special Olympics with bowling and track and field.
- Region One weather delays will be two hours in length from this point forward.
- All Region One schools will be establishing Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Old Business

All Board members agreed to table the 2017-2018 budget discussion until next month.

Mrs. Riccardelli reported that the 2018-2019 budget process started and the dates for the Board of Finance presentation, Budget Hearing, and Town Meeting will be available soon.

New Business

Dr. Vogel announced the Region One Board approval of the 2018-2019 school calendar.

Some of the highlights of the calendar are listed below:

- The holiday break will be longer and professional development for teachers will occur on January 4, 2019.
- The last day of school will be June 12, 2019, and teachers will work on June 13, 2019.
- Conferences will be held on October 24 and 25, 2018 and April 3 and 4, 2019.
- Early dismissal days for professional development will be the same as last year.
- Rosh Hashanah is September 10, 2018 and Yom Kippur is September 19, 2018.

Public Comment

The following are public comments concerning the 2018-2019 Region One calendar:

- Consider adding one hour to the school day to cover time lost, instead of adding days at the end of the year.
- Two weeks for the holiday break is too long.
- School should start after the Labor Day holiday as was past practice.
- If holidays like Martin Luther King Day were used to make up snow days, employees and bus drivers may have to be paid extra.

Dr. Vogel will take the above comments and suggestions concerning the calendar back to the Region One Board.

In addition, a member of the public commented on Board policies, and suggested that all Region One schools use the same policies to reduce the cost when they need review and revision.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:40 P.M. for the Purpose of Certified Contract Negotiations. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous Dr. Vogel and Craig Whiting were invited.

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:56 P.M. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Riccardelli made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Principal Search. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: Unanimous Dr. Vogel was invited.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:35 P.M. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 8:36 P.M.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to adjourn at 8:37 P.M. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The meet adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gandolfo

Approved: February 8, 2018