

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, November 9, 2017.
The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

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

Pamela Vogel, Superintendent; Rosemary Keilty, Principal

Rebecca Cahill, Leila Hawken (*Lakeville Journal*) and Mike Flint (*CATV6*)

Mrs. Riccardelli introduced Rebecca Cahill and welcomed her to the Board.

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to amend the agenda by removing two items (III. Welcome Members and Meeting Protocols and IV. Election of Officers), and adding one item under New Business (C. Next Meeting Date Change). Mr. Ellington seconded. Vote: Unanimous

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

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated, October 12, 2017 with three spaces placed between words. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Region I Report

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

- There was a lengthy discussion on AP classes, whether or not the required AP test should be taken, and if so, who should pay for it.
- Exchange students spoke about how the high school compares to their home country schools. They reported that they are very different, and they are happy here.
- Mrs. A, a science teacher at the high school reported on the Next Generation Science Standards.

Communication to the Board

Miss Keilty announced that Mrs. Cecchinato was one of the high school Alumni Association Wall of Honor inductees. She stated that Mrs. Cecchinato was recognized for her life's work and many contributions to the high school. The Board congratulated Mrs. Cecchinato, who reported that the Wall of Honor is new this year, and it is an honor to be an inductee with so many other distinguished graduates.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty reported that the only addition to her monthly report is that she has been gathering information for the 2018-2019 budget at this time.

Miss Keilty reported that the non-certified contract expires on June 30, 2018. She inquired if the same Board members, who served on the certified contract negotiation team, would like to continue when the non-certified negotiations begin. Mrs. Drislane volunteered to be on the negotiating team.

Miss Keilty announced recognition of Susan Warner for over twenty years of service to the Board. She stated that she was a very valuable Board member who was a strong member of many negotiation teams, was always thoughtful, measured, and always listened to other Board members, parents, etc.

Miss Keilty made a presentation to the Board on the North Canaan Elementary School Strategic Plan. Some of the highlights that she stated in her presentation are listed below:

- The strategic plan is an improvement plan that each school creates after reviewing the regional improvement plan. The school's leadership team and principal write the plan, which is then brought to the faculty.
- Goal I guarantees that the state standards are taught and that students get equal opportunity through a high quality curriculum.
- The second initiative concerns data that is analyzed throughout the year by teachers and the administration.
- The third initiative covers teacher evaluation plans; teachers meet with the principal to set goals, check progress mid-year, and review year-end data and progress.
- The last goal is to promote a safe environment through a safe school climate plan.

Miss Keilty updated the Board on the math program in grade five. She stated that Shelby Diorio has been attending the classes during one period of each section in the block time to work with small groups of students and assist with planning and meeting the state standards. She also stated that the long-term substitute is meeting with the principal regularly. She reported that there will be a math presentation by teachers at the next Board meeting in December.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Vogel reported to the Board. Some of the highlights that she stated from her report are listed below:

- The state budget passed and North Canaan will receive ECS (Educational Cost Share) money as a result. However, the amount is not clear at this time.
- New legislation concerning Boards of Education making large purchases, requiring approval by the Board of Finance was changed to only consulting the Board of Finance, instead of getting approval.
- The administrators of twenty-two Connecticut school districts went to a CAPSS workshop and did an assignment on "What a high school graduate would look like."
- Dr. Vogel attended a summit in Newport, Rhode Island about technology and an after school program.
- Three Region One schools, Lee Kellogg, Cornwall and Sharon have completed teacher contract negotiations.

Dr. Vogel announced that a professional development meeting of Board members and Board Chairs will be held on January 3, 2018 at 6:30 P.M., in room 133 at the high school. Dr. Vogel added that FOI, Public Comment, and Executive Session are among the topics.

Dr. Vogel announced that Ned Gow made great contributions to the Region I Board of Education, especially on the Light House Project. She thanked him for his service.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Vogel reported that Ms. Carter has been very busy working on a \$10,000 grant for each school, helping with curriculum mapping, meeting with PLC groups, and working on grading practices and assessments.

New Business

Board members reviewed and had the first reading of policy #6120 Objectives of the Instructional Program. All Board members agreed to have a second reading on this policy next month.

Mr. Ellington made a motion to drop policy #6125 Career Education and policy #6130 Organizational Plan from the policy book. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

All Board members agreed to change the next Board meeting date to December 7, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. to comply with the thirty-day time frame of electing officers.

Old Business

Miss Keilty reviewed the 2017-2018 budget forecast with the Board. She stated that at this time the unexpended funds are approximately \$40,000.

The Board took a break from 8:30 P.M. until 8:34 P.M.

Mr. Ellington made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:35 P.M. for the purpose of the Principal Contract and Certified Contract Negotiations. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous. The Board invited Rebecca Cahill, Rosemary Keilty, and Pamela Vogel

Mr. Ellington made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:15 P.M. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 9:16 P.M.

Mr. Ellington made a motion to adjourn at 9:17 P.M. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous
The meeting adjourned at 9:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gandolfo

Approved: December 14, 2017