

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 7:26 P.M.

Board members present: Dolores Perotti, Chairperson, Dorothy Cecchinato, Laura Freund,
Beth McGuire, Laurie Perotti and Susan Warner
Richard Greco arrived at 8:00 P.M.

Patricia Chamberlain, Superintendent; Rosemary Keilty, Principal

Diane Goncalves, Assistant Superintendent, Karen Bartomioli (*Lakeville Journal*) and Bob Gray (Channel 6 Cable)

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to amend the agenda by adding Child Rearing Leave under New Business. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous

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

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated, June 10, 2010 as written. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Region I Report

Ms. Freund reported on the last Region I meeting she attended on September 13, 2010. Some of the highlights of that meeting are listed below:

- Minutes of the last five Region I meetings were approved.
- Mr. Hart of the Arboretum Committee reported that a Hawthorne tree was planted.
- Ms. Goncalves reported that the Freshman Orientation went very well.
- Mr. Herrick reported that he has a candidate to take the new assistant business manager position.
- There is going to be a presentation on "Board Members' Roles and Responsibilities" given by Attorney Gary Brochu on September 22, 2010.
- The Board approved the hiring of Attorney Pingpank for an independent review at the high school.
- A FOI workshop will be held on September 27, 2010 and any Board member may attend.
- A field trip to Indiana by the FFA students in October was approved.
- A cell phone policy is being reviewed.
- A contract for Mr. Bayersdorfer to serve as Interim Assistant Principal was approved.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty made the following additions to her monthly report:

- The P.T.O. Fun Festival held on Sunday was a huge success.

- The annual asbestos report was good and is included in the Board packet.
- The health insurance line in this year's budget has a surplus of \$92,035 because of changes in coverage by some teachers/staff and a change in insurance carriers.
- Kitchen software (a point of sale system in the Cafeteria) is being explored and may cost approximately \$3,000.
- Mr. Fanelli of Raynard & Pierce Insurance Company has reported that there will be no liability for MIRMA until next summer and then the Board will have to pay part of an anticipated \$17,000 bill.
- The PBIS team planned the opening day of the school year which was very successful.
- Mounting projectors for SmartBoards on classroom ceilings, new flooring in some middle school classrooms and replacing blinds in the library, cafeteria and some classrooms were several of the building maintenance projects that were completed this summer.
- The digital thermostat project is still being pursued.
- Children from the Canaan Child Care Center walk over to the school for story hour in the library and a few retired teachers have volunteered to come and read to them
- The school enrollment is 319 students at this time

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Chamberlain made the following additions to her monthly report:

- Region I had a wonderful opening day.
- She thanked Ms. Goncalves for working with teachers on the Freshman Transition and the high school executive secretaries for their hard work getting everything done for the first day of school.
- Jean Anderson received a milestone award for teaching 25 years in Region I.
- Thirteen new teachers were hired in Region I.
- A picnic was held at Mr. & Mrs. Gannett's house for the 60th Anniversary of the American Field Service and Mr. Ruotolo and his past students told stories about various adventures over the years.
- Mr. Bayersdorfer will be the Assistant Interim Principal at the high school until mid January.
- At the October Region I Board meeting a new interim principal for the high school will be announced.
- The State of Connecticut did not receive the Race to the Top Grant.
- North Canaan will receive \$84,600 from the Education Job Fund Program to spend over two years for saving and creating new jobs.
- Fifty nine students attended Summer School in Cornwall.

New Business

Ms. Chamberlain read a letter she received from Brandy Devino. The letter stated that she would like to take a Child Rearing Leave from September 24, 2010 – January 3, 2011. Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion

to approve an unpaid Child Rearing Leave for Brandy Devino from September 24, 2010 – January 3, 2011. Mrs. Laurie Perotti seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Board members had a brief discussion concerning an alternate Board member signing checks. Mrs. McGuire reported that the school account is combined with the town account and town officials who sign checks are bonded. Miss Keilty reported that a recommendation will be coming from the auditor regarding a separate account for the school. Ms. Chamberlain recommended that anyone signing checks should be bonded. All Board members agreed to wait until the accounts are separated and bonding is looked into before adding a new alternate Board member to sign checks.

All Board members agreed to put the October and December Board meetings back to their original dates of Thursday, October 14, 2010 and Thursday, December 9, 2010. They also agreed to leave the November meeting at Tuesday, November 16, 2010.

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:10 P.M. for the purpose of personnel. Mr. Greco seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Ms. Chamberlain, Ms. Goncalves and Miss Keilty were invited.

Mr. Greco made motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:49 P.M. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 8:50 P.M.

Mr. Greco made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 P.M. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous
The meeting adjourned at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Gandolfo

The Board held a Non-Meeting for Purposes of Collective Bargaining from 8:52 P.M. until 9:10 P.M.

Approved: October 14, 2010