

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, February 11, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Board members present: Dolores Perotti, Chairperson, Dorothy Cecchinato, Richard Greco,
Beth McGuire, Laurie Perotti, Shelley Veronesi and Susan Warner

Patricia Chamberlain, Superintendent; Rosemary Keilty, Principal

Ruth Epstein (*Waterbury Republican*) and Susan Clayton

Mrs. Laurie Perotti made a motion to amend the agenda by adding (Public Comment) before and after 2010-2011 School Budget. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

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

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated, January 14, 2010 with one change (FOIC to FOIA). Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Written

Mrs. Dolores Perotti read a thank you note she received from the North Canaan Elementary School faculty. The faculty thanked the Board for the delicious grinder lunch that was provided during the holidays.

Public Comment

Mrs. Clayton reported that she attended the meeting tonight to make suggestions concerning the budget. Keeping taxes and services at the current level is important, she noted. Mrs. Dolores Perotti thanked her for coming.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty reported on the following additions to the school safety portion of her principal's report:

- The committee held a meeting to revise and update plans.
- Trooper Promotico attended the meeting and gave input.
- A building evacuation practice was held with a new gathering location at the town hall parking lot.
- A lock down was held and it was discovered that adjacent doors between some classrooms do not lock.
- Some areas outside the school do not have adequate lighting at night—this was discovered as a result of testing emergency lighting with the fire marshal.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Chamberlain reviewed the monthly superintendent's report. Some of the highlights are listed below:

- On March 3, 2010, Day on the Hill will be held and education members can participate in supporting their legislators.
- The high school is working with ISTE's Education Technology Priorities for 2010 to explore Internet connectivity speed.
- Summer school will be held in Cornwall this year and the significant expense for the program is the cost to transport students from each town.
- The high school band/music students had a successful fundraiser at the Wandering Moose Café.
- Eighteen teachers have volunteered at the high school as part of the Freshman Focus Group for a smooth transition from eighth to ninth grade.

Ms. Chamberlain announced that she received a letter of resignation from Emily Warner for personal reasons. She reported that she accepted the resignation and that Lexie Golden will fill in as interim librarian.

Old Business

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to approve policy #5115 Homework. Mrs. Laurie Perotti seconded. Vote: Unanimous

New Business

Miss Keilty reported that the school lunch program had a profit of \$729.07 this month and that the number of lunches being sold per day is up a little.

Miss Keilty reviewed with the Board a Teacher Early Retirement Incentive. She stated that if a teacher fits the criteria, they will receive \$5,000 per year for 3 years and fully paid health insurance according to the Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement for 3 years. She reported that according to an analysis eight teachers qualify.

Mrs. Laurie Perotti reported that an Early Retirement Incentive should be explored for the Non-certified staff also. Ms. Chamberlain stated that it was possible to create an Early Retirement Incentive for the Non-certified staff but it would probably save the Board less money than the Teacher Early Retirement Incentive.

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to accept the Teacher Early Retirement Incentive with the following changes: change the date from February 26, 2010 to February 23, 2010, receive a \$5,000 cash stipend

per year for three years and choose one of three options for health insurance including fully paid health insurance premium, Medicare cap at \$15,000, or Opt Out cap at \$15,000. Mr. Greco seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board took a break from 8:05 P.M. until 8:10 P.M.

Miss Keilty reported that refuse collection is now \$1,360 less in the 2010-2011 school budget. She reported that after meeting with a representative from the company, an option for a more efficient method of recycling was offered at a better price. Miss Keilty stated that other amounts in the budget are solid (with perhaps better numbers coming for insurance) and another review will take place after the Teachers Early Retirement Incentive is offered which could affect staffing and the teacher salary line.

Mrs. Beth McGuire made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of Superintendent Evaluation and Principal Contract at 8:50 P.M. Mrs. Warner seconded. Vote: Unanimous
Ms. Chamberlain was invited to attend the Principal Contract discussion only.

Mrs. Laurie Perotti made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:40 P.M. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 9:41P.M.

Mr. Greco made a motion to adjourn at 9:42 P.M. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous
The meeting adjourned at 9:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Gandolfo

Approved: March 11, 2010