

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, February 8, 2018.

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

Board members present: Karen Riccardelli, Chairperson, Rebecca Cahill, Dorothy Cecchinato, Amy Dodge, Michael Ellington, Robert Hewins, Douglas Humes, and Sarah Visconti.
Erin Drislane arrived at 8:05 P.M.

Rosemary Keilty, Principal; Pamela Vogel, Superintendent

Rachel Barger, Joseph Brennan, Katty Brennan, John Budge, Lindsey Olownia, and Mike Flint (CATV6)

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the Budget Meeting minutes dated, January 11, 2018 as written.
Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes dated, January 11, 2018 as written.
Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the Budget Meeting minutes dated, January 25, 2018 as written.
Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Middle School Math Presentation

Miss Keilty introduced Mr. Budge, Miss Olownia, Miss Barger, and Joey Brennan to the Board and asked them to explain the middle school math program. The highlights of the presentation are listed below:

- Students in grade 5-8 are expected to solve math problems and explain their answers.
- The problems are in line with the CCCSS (Connecticut Common Core State Standards) that prepare students for college and careers.
- Group discussions, hands-on Learning, projects, pair sharing, videos, flipped learning, authentic problem solving, and spiral review are strategies teachers use in the classroom to advance student achievement and master the state standards.
- Some of the resources the students use to learn and practice at school or home are Glenco Math, ConnectEd, Khan Academy, Front Row, STAR Testing, MathAntics, Real Life Application Activities and Scholastic Study Jams.
- Teachers monitor student progress with assessments and classroom observations.
- A block of time is set aside each day for intervention/enrichment.

Joey Brennan, an eighth grade student explained how Khan Academy works. Some of the items he discussed about the program are listed below:

- He can use the program at home on his tablet.
- You can select a subject such as science or math.
- There are practice activities for equations.

- The program provides students with videos, worksheets, quizzes, and unit tests. The program will suggest additional practice if the student is struggling. A student can practice repeatedly until a score of 100 is achieved.
- Teachers can customize the activities and assign homework.
- He likes Khan Academy, “because you can challenge yourself”.

Region I Report

Mr. Humes reported on the grading system meeting he attended at the high school. He stated that the parents gave great feedback, and the new grading system should continue.

Dr. Guskey Grading Practices Conference

Mr. Ellington reported on a grading conference he attended in New Hampshire. Some of the highlights that he stated from the workshop are listed below:

- He found the conference very interesting and learned a great deal about assessing and grading, including why schools give grades, what report cards mean, and how students achieve. Attendees asked questions and offered comments, which he found very useful.
- The NYP (Not Yet Proficient) concept was discussed.

Miss Keilty reviewed the 2017-2018 budget forecast. Some of the items that she stated are listed below:

- The budget surplus is \$64,000 at this time.
- An extra kindergarten teacher assistant was hired.
- The Board of Education line is over due to fees incurred from contract negotiations.

Miss Keilty reported that the 2018-2019 budget is at 0.89% at this time, and it will be refined in the coming weeks and brought to the next budget meeting on February 22, 2018.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty reviewed her monthly report with Board members. Some of the additions to the report that she stated are listed below:

- She strongly recommends that Board members attend Dr. Guskey's Grading Practice workshop when he comes to Region One in August 2018.
- North Canaan held their first Community Partnership meeting and discussed "A Portrait of a Graduate" and the SBAC assessment. Groups formed at tables to discuss topics and ask questions. Leadership team members facilitated the discussions.

Miss Keilty offered to customize the wording of the Public Comment statement on North Canaan’s agenda based on Nick Caruso's suggested wording from a presentation to Board members. All Board members agreed to use the new Public Comment statement and her suggestion to customize it.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Vogel reported that Ms. Carter has been busy writing curriculum assessments. She stated that every Region One school has different curricula, and she is working hard to make them all the same.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Vogel reported on her monthly report to Board members. The following are highlights:

- More courses will be offered at the high school next year such as Advanced History.
- Boards are changing to the consent agenda for their meetings.
- There is now legislation that requires schools to include Human Trafficking in the curriculum.
- Next year's Region One calendar will be presented to the administration, teachers/staff and then the Region One Board for approval.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Certified Contract Negotiations at 8:12 P.M. Mr. Ellington seconded. Vote: Unanimous Miss Keilty and Dr. Vogel were invited.

The Board discussed the conclusion of the teacher contract negotiation and reviewed the changes and the overall agreement. Mrs. Dodge made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:25 P.M.

Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 8:26 P.M.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to accept the new teacher contract. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Board members chose a committee for the non-certified staff negotiations. Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Visconti, and Mrs. Drislane volunteered to be on the committee.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to go back into Executive Session for Personnel Discussion at 8:29 P.M. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Miss Keilty and Dr. Vogel were invited.

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:39 P.M. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Ellington made a motion to go into Executive Session for Administrative Search at 8:40 P.M. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Dr. Vogel was invited.

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:57 P.M. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to adjourn at 8:58 P.M. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gandolfo

Approved: March 8, 2018