

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, October 14, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M.

Board members present: Dolores Perotti Chairperson, Richard Greco, Beth McGuire, Laurie Perotti, Karen Riccardelli, Shelley Veronesi and Susan Warner
Dorothy Cecchinato arrived at 7:20 P.M.

Patricia Chamberlain, Superintendent; Rosemary Keilty, Principal

Bob Gray (Channel 6 Cable)

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to amend the agenda by adding Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel and Collective Bargaining. Mr. Greco seconded. Vote: Unanimous

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

Mr. Greco made a motion to approve the minutes dated, September 21, 2010 as written. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Board Comment

Mrs. Dolores Perotti reported on an ABC (All Board Chairs) meeting she attended. Some of the highlights of that meeting are listed below:

- Two towns in Region I park their school buses on town property and the other towns, including North Canaan, park their buses on private property. Approximately \$2,223 may have to be added to the North Canaan budget to cover a \$12,000 parking cost this year, as Sharon buses cannot park on town property. The regional bus contract reflected town parking for Sharon in the second year. The schools will divide the expense.
- Not providing transportation to summer school impacted participation, and summer school is being discussed and studied by Region One. In addition, Cornwall has asked that another Region One school host the program for the 2011 summer session.
- Tuition Assessment is down at the high school as there are fewer North Canaan students; this will create a savings in the North Canaan budget.
- A 10 year enrollment projection was discussed.
- Sometime in the future the high school Athletic Director may change from a .6 position to full time to meet regional needs. The possibility of forming a Regional Middle School Sports Team is being investigated.

Mrs. Warner reported that she was impressed with the information she received from the "Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members" reading material concerning the focus on student achievement. She stated that she hopes the Board could become more knowledgeable on this topic. Ms. Chamberlain

stated that there is a Lighthouse Study containing action plans which address student achievement , and the Board could focus on this topic in the future.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty made the following additions to her monthly report:

- The cost for a Rediker Software module for the cafeteria point of sale program is \$2,920 plus hardware and the cost of the NutraKids software is \$4,395 plus hardware. The school will purchase Rediker because it is user friendly, more cost effective, and links to the Rediker database already in use.
- Cooperative Systems will come out to the school again to address issues related to the network and a server which has inexplicably shut down several times.
- A visit to the New High Street bus stop in Greenacres will take place soon by the Business Manager, Principal and the Bus Contractor to study the safety of the stop.
- North Canaan' enrollment is 321.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Chamberlain announced that Herbert Tedford was hired as interim principal at the high school. She stated that he is from Schenectady, New York and he will start on October 18, 2010.

Ms. Chamberlain reported that the assistant principal position will be posted soon and hopefully filled by January. She stated that after the position is filled, the principal position will be posted.

Ms. Chamberlain reported that teachers and staff are doing well at the high school; there is a positive attitude, and everyone is completely involved in academics, sports, and extra curricular activities.

Ms. Chamberlain stated that one of the major changes passed in the legislation is holding parent/teacher conferences twice a year starting in the Spring of 2011.

Old Business

Miss Keilty reported that she looked into the Board's, Errors & Omissions Policy and found that all employees and Board of Education members who sign checks or handle money are covered under the insurance policy. She is waiting for confirmation from the insurance company to verify that Board policy and the insurance policy match. All Board members agreed that the Chairperson and Secretary will continue to sign checks and the Vice-Chairman will sign in their absence.

New Business

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to accept the 2011 Board meeting dates as written. Mrs. Laurie Perotti seconded. Vote: Unanimous

All Board members agreed to ask the computer teacher to review the Internet Policy and make recommendations.

Board members had a first reading on policy numbers 5141.24 Students/Staff with HIV ARC (Aids Related Complex), 6164.12 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), 5125.11 Health Medical Records, and 5145.5 Exploitation/Sexual Harassment.

Ms. Chamberlain reviewed the C.A.B.E. Nutmeg article with Board members concerning the Nutmeg Board dealing with Facebook and a teacher's free speech rights. Ms. Chamberlain recommended that teachers should not put anything on Facebook that would embarrass them.

Mr. Greco made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:40 P.M. for the Purpose of Personnel and Collective Bargaining. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Ms. Chamberlain and Miss Keilty were invited to attend.

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:20 P.M. Mrs. Laurie Perotti seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 9:21 P.M.

Mrs. McGuire made a motion not to take any action on Michael Perry's letter requesting additional work and higher wages until budget time. Mr. Greco seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Greco made a motion to sign a letter of support for the superintendent and submit it to the Region One Board of Education. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to adjourn at 9:23 P.M. Mrs. Laurie Perotti seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board adjourned at 9:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Gandolfo

Approved: November 16, 2010