

The North Canaan Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, September 10, 2009.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

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

Administration present: Sam Herrick, Business Manager; Rosemary Keilty, Principal

Julianna Bonett, Melanie Cullerton, Shelby Macchi, Sarah Morey, Allison Perotti, Abigail Rosier, Katie Soper and Breanna Sutton attended.

Mrs. Veronesi made a motion to adopt the agenda as written. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated, June 11, 2009 as written. Mrs. Laurie Perotti seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Board Comment

Mrs. Dolores Perotti inquired whether the school blacktop project was done. Miss Keilty reported that the project was put off because the blacktop was in worse condition than originally thought, and that to do it correctly would mean tearing it up and professionally grading it so that a water problem would not develop. This would mean spending more money than originally planned. She stated that the money was returned to the town.

Mrs. Cecchinato reported that the new school sign looks good, and it has already had many announcements on it.

Mrs. Laurie Perotti inquired whether there is still a vulture problem at the school. Miss Keilty reported that the decoys were effective and it looks like the birds have left.

Principal's Report

Miss Keilty reported that she and the school nurse attended a meeting today concerning the H1N1 flu virus. She stated that they were informed that the best defense against infection is hand washing. They received a great deal of information and are highlighting cleaning at the school, hand washing, and recommendations to parents as ways to combat infection. She also reported that vaccination clinics in schools are being explored.

Miss Keilty reported that one non-certified staff member has requested and received an unpaid leave of absence to pursue further education. The staff member will return after Thanksgiving.

Miss Keilty reported that the school's beginning enrollment was 324 students. First day enrollment in September 2008 was 338 students; 319 students were projected for September 2009. She stated that three more students are expected to enroll next week.

Miss Keilty reported that the Connecticut Mastery Test scores were received over the summer, and she and a few teachers will report the results at next month's Board meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Dolores Perotti reviewed the Management Plan for Students with Life Threatening Food Allergies with Board members.

All Board members agreed to have the first reading of policy #5141.26 (Students with Special Health Care Needs/Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs) next month.

Mr. Herrick reported that the opening day of school went very well in Region I. The opening day program for teachers included a motivational talk by a guest speaker.

Mr. Herrick reported that State law now requires progress monitoring of students and Scientific Research-Based Intervention (SRBI) is a model of addressing interventions. SRBI is now a district wide initiative.

Mr. Herrick reported that Region I will continue to work with the Torrington Area Health District for updates and related information on the H1N1 Flu Virus.

Mr. Herrick reviewed some of the 2009 Public Acts with Board members.

New Business

Miss Keilty reported that the school lunch program is starting off well. She added that a picnic lunch was served on the first day of school free of charge.

Mr. Herrick reviewed the C.A.B.E. article concerning administrative regulations. Mr. Herrick explained that it is the Board's job to set policies for their district, and the superintendent's job is to see that those policies are implemented with procedures or guidelines.

All Board members agreed that there will be a first reading on the policies of the 5000 series that were approved in 1975.

Miss Keilty reported that there was no Building Expansion report because there was no Building Committee meeting. All Board members agreed to remove Building Expansion Project from the monthly agenda for the time being.

Mrs. Laurie Perotti made a motion to go into executive session at 7:55 P.M. for discussion of the Non-certified Contract. Mrs. Veronesi seconded. Vote: Unanimous Mr. Herrick and Miss Keilty were invited.

Mrs. McGuire made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:59 P.M. Mrs. Veronesi seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The Board reconvened to its regular meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Mrs. Laurie Perotti made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. McGuire seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Gandolfo

Approved: October 8, 2009