North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public School
Board of Education Meeting
Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting
Thursday, November 9, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Goldie Adele, Jennifer Cecarelli, Brian Bogen, Jennifer Caldwell, Dorothy Logan, Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools.

Matthew Kerzner was absent.

Mrs. Anderson began the meeting asking for the following:

Motion: to add an Action Item to this evenings Agenda regarding a donation from the North Haven Rotary — Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Dorothy Logan
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

I. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes October 12, 2017
2. Retirement of Rosalie Laczak, Computer Lab Aide at Montowese Elementary School
3. Maternity Leave for:

   a. Kaitlyn Nagy, Grade 1 Teacher at Clintonville Elementary School
   b. Katie Mattice, Grade 2 Teacher at Montowese Elementary School

Mrs. Caldwell mentioned that she thought the discussion regarding needing additional maintenance/facilities workers from October's meeting should have been mentioned in the minutes, although no vote was taken, she feels that that should be added into the minutes.

Mrs. Logan stated that Mrs. Laczak has been with the District for many years and has done a wonderful job with the students throughout her years. She will be missed.

Motion: To approve the items on the Consent Agenda — Approved

MOVED: Dorothy Logan

SECOND: Wesley O'Brien
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports Information Item

Mrs. Anderson introduced and welcomed the new Junior Representative from NHHS, Timothy Chin.

Rachel reported:

- Marking period ended on November 4th and grades closed on the 11th
- Pep Rally Committee met and plans to bring change to the Pep Rally this year
- National Honor Society has an initiative clothing drive. For every ten bags of clothing collected a teacher or faculty member (who signed up), will get a pie in the face at the Pep Rally
- Fundraiser pies from Lyman Orchard will be in the day of the Pep Rally
- National Honor Society had a Halloween fundraiser to support Hurricane Maria victims, which was a great success
- Student Council had a great courtyard Halloween event. They did face painting in the courtyard at the lunch waves, with great decorations, etc.
- Fall play: And Then There Were None. The play had great attendance.
- Musical auditions are this week and next week for Les Miserables

III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee Information Item

Mrs. Anderson reported that she is a member of the North Haven Rotary Club. The President of the Rotary contacted Dr. Cronin and Mrs. Anderson regarding donating a Golf Cart to the District for the NHHS/NHMS campus, which can be used by the athletic department as well as a mode of transportation for visitors that are unable to walk long distances. This cart is equipped with a total of four seats with an option to lower back seats to allow for transporting other goods, for example: food, cones, boxes, etc. It is an electric golf cart which they felt would also be good because it is a benefit to the environment. A letter will be needed from the Board of Education accepting this donation.

Motion: To accept the gift of a new golf cart form the North Haven Rotary Club with the understanding that the Board of Education will assume the responsibility for maintenance and insurance coverage, providing proof of insurance and acceptance of this gift on district letterhead. Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Mrs. Caldwell stated that she would like it to be clarified who can drive the cart for safety reasons. Mrs. Anderson agreed and requested that Administration put together a policy regarding who is allowed to drive the golf cart and the type of training that they have.

IV. Unfinished Business

Ms. Caldwell stated that she attended the recent Board of Finance Meeting and stated that the Finance Committee did not receive Mrs. Tanguay's budget information that she forwarded to the Finance Department after last month's meeting, and asked that Mrs. Tanguay forward it to the Finance Committee directly. Mrs. Caldwell stated that there were other topics brought up at the Finance meeting, such as the girls hockey team, and wanted clarification from Mrs. Anderson. Mrs. Anderson stated that Mr. Freda may be helping them in some way to get donations from local

businesses, but she was not sure of any details. Mrs. Caldwell suggested that the girl's hockey team contact the NHEF for help. Mrs. Caldwell also stated that the Board of Education should look at the athletic budget more carefully this year because why should the boys hockey team be a school team and not pay anything and the girls have to fund their team on their own. Her opinion was that it was very unfair that one team have to pay and the other does not.

Mrs. Anderson responded that it is because the Boys are a Team and the Girls are a Club. The Girls is a Club due to the amount of participants. Mrs. Anderson also said that the Board will be looking more closely at this come budget time this year.

Ms. Caldwell also stated that the Board of Finance also discussed the field maintenance and the possibility of maintaining not only the turf fields but the others as well. Ms. Caldwell stated that Mr. Freda stated that he would need some estimates of what that would cost the Town. She suggested putting together some costs analyses of what that would be. Perhaps give them an estimate of what all fields would be and what just the turf field's maintenance would be. Mrs. Anderson stated that she doesn't want any decisions made at this time until the Middle School is completed.

V. New Business

Ms. Caldwell reported that a group she was working with needed to rent out the NHHS auditorium and commented on the price because when they rented it last year it was much cheaper. Ms. Caldwell had some concerns regarding the cost of the lighting and sound and NHHS contracting that out for such a large fee. Dr. Cronin stated they are trying to find someone interested in taking that positon on, but was unsuccessful, and that is why they had to go outside for that service.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees:

1. ACES Information Item

Mrs. Logan stated that ACES does their convocation on Election Day. They announced that there will be six teachers retiring at the end of the year. ACES gives an incentive to each teacher that announces early (November 1) that they will be retiring at the end of the school year. Mrs. Logan reported that ACES will be breaking ground on Leeder Hill School in January 2018. Mrs. Logan also got information for Mrs. Corriveau regarding tuition rates for the 2018-2019 school year.

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning Information Item

Dr. O'Brien stated that this month's meeting was a very short meeting. He reported there was discussion about two clubs, the Stock Market Club and the Girls on the Run Club at Montowese. Dr. O'Brien also stated there was a date change on the Ellis Island Field Trip at the High School and there is no need for a formal vote, because it was just date that was changed, everything else remains the same. The Curriculum, Instruction and Planning would like it if out of state field trips were not scheduled on a Friday.

Dr. O'Brien stated that the field trips below are out of state field trips that occur every year and are approved every year.

Mrs. Caldwell suggested that these field trips get approved one at a time and not together.

Approval of the following field trips:

- NYC Garment District and FIT Museum- Sewing & Design class- April/ May 2018 (date TBD)

Motion: to approve the NYC Garment District and FIT Museum – Sewing & Design April/May 2018 Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson

SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

- Orlando, Florida- Culinary Arts- April 26-30, 2018

Motion: to approve the Orland, Florida Culinary Arts field trip April 26-30, 2018 Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson
SECOND: Randi Petersen
AYE: 7
NAY: 1
ABSTAINED: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this motion.

Ms. Caldwell would like to know if there is fundraising for this trip as it is a costly one. Mrs. McKenna stated that they plan on doing several fundraisers, as they did last year. Last year they were very successful in their fundraising.

- University of Wisconsin, Lacrosse, Wisconsin- Future Problem Solving Conference- June 6-June 10, 2018

Motion: to approve the University of Wisconsin, Lacrosse, Wisconsin– Future Problem Solving Conference June 6-June 10, 2018 Approved

MOVED: Anita Anderson
SECOND: Dorothy Logan
AYE: 7
NAY: 1
ABSTAINED: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this motion.

Ms. Caldwell has the same concerns with this field trip and feels that it is too costly. She suggested going to the North Haven Education Foundation. Mr. Marak stated that there is a lot of fund raising done, the district budgets for a portion of it, and they also get a very large donation to help cover these costs.

- Virginia Beach, VA- Music 9-12- Spirit of Norfolk and the Festivals of Music April 5-April 8, 2018

Motion: to approve the Virginia Beach, VA Music, Grades 9-12 Spirit of Norfolk and the Festivals Of Music field trip on April 5-8, 2018 Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 7
NAY: 1

ABSTAINED: 0

Ms. Caldwell voted against this motion for the same reasons as others (too costly)

3. Finance and Operations Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported that Finance and Operations met this evening. Mr. Bogen stated that the good news is that we now have a State budget and the district is waiting to hear about the Excess Cost Grant. He reported that there was some discussion in preparation for the upcoming budgetary season. Mr. Bogen reported that Dr. Cronin is beginning that process with the Administrators, getting their requests for the 2018-2019 school year. He reported that every Thursday in January there will be Budget Workshops, with the exception of the regular Board of Education Meeting. These will begin at 6 p.m.

4. Middle School Building Committee Information Item

Mr. Adele reported that they are in the middle of the final cleanup portion of the project. There were some issues with the signage that needs to be rectified. He reported other issues discussed were signage for the cafeteria and replacing the backboard for the basketball court and moving the scoreboard. Mr. Adele stated that there was some feedback from the contractors regarding the fields. The fields passed the G-Max text, stating the scores came back good. The next NHMSBC meeting is Monday November 3, 2017 at 8:15 a.m.

Mrs. Anderson wanted to add that the fields were completed October 24 or 25th. Mrs. Anderson wanted to report to the public that the Board of Education did not receive word until TODAY that the fields were released to us. Mrs. Anderson reported that the next step for the Board of Education is to get insured and bonded. Those are the reasons the fields have not been used.

5. North Haven Education Foundation Information Item

Dr. Cronin stated that he attended the meeting and there was much discussion regarding this year's Spelling Bees, with their goal getting more corporate sponsors this year. They made approximately $25,000 last year. The Spelling Bee is scheduled for April 26, 2018. The Foundation also approved several grants at this last meeting.

6. Policy Information Item

NO REPORT – Mrs. Caldwell reminded the Board that the Homework Policy needs to be looked at and updated. Mrs. Anderson also stated that the Building Usage and Rental of our Facilities need to be updated as well.

7. PTA Council Information Item

NO REPORT

VII. Staff Communications

A. Superintendent's Report Information Item

1. Resuming search for NHMS Assistant Principal Information Item

Dr. Cronin reported that now that there is a State budget, he would like to resume the search for the Assistant Principal at North Haven Middle School. The process was started back in late September and then put a hold on it due to the budget. All internal applicants have been interviewed already. Dr. Cronin stated that he would like to begin interviewing external candidates on November 16, 2017.

2. Sunday evening telephone messages from principals Information Item

This item is something Mr. Kerzner brought up, and he would like to address his concerns when he is here at the meeting. This will be revisited at the December meeting.

3. Update on Strength and Conditioning Program Information Item

Dr. Cronin stated that he got this update from Mr. Blumenthal:

- We are in the fourth week of the new Strength and Conditioning Program at North Haven High School
- In each of the training groups they have come close to full participation from all athletes who do not have schedule conflict due to participation in fall sports
- There has been limited participation from students playing boys' hockey and members of the riffle team.
- Mr. Blumenthal and the trainer, Corey Berrios, plan to speak with the coaches of those teams.
- As with any new program, Mr. Blumenthal and Mr. Berrios are continuing to evaluate how things are going and then make adjustments as necessary.
- Currently, they are working on having all participation from all teams, as well as, increasing the number of students not affiliated with athletics who are taking advantage of the program.

Participation Rates:

October 23 – 21 students
October 24 – 33 students
October 26 – 32 students
October 27 – 24 students
October 31 – 39 students.

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report Information Item

Mrs. McKenna gave the Board of Education a follow-up report regarding the ELL program. Currently there are 92 English learners identified in the District. She reported that this number changes daily. Mrs. McKenna stated that there are at least 23 different languages these student speak, ranging from Arabic, Turkish, Spanish and Vietnamese just to name a few. There are two ELL Teachers between the six schools, using funding from the small amount of Title III grant money the district receives (between $10,000-$12,000). She reported that the district is adding extra help at Green Acres because they have 32 ELL students in that building alone. These numbers are monitored closely and added support is added when needed.

Mrs. McKenna added that she will be working closely with Tina, Jenn and Dana around a new Entitlement Grant that the State is putting out. She reported that it is part of "Every Student Succeeds" Act (Title IV). This grant will be used for technology at Montowese School.

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report Information Item

Mrs. Tanguay reported now that the budget has been set, her goal is to maintain where the District is at this time. Mrs. Tanguay is also preparing for the 2018-2019 budget, meeting with principals and coordinators.

2. Approval of the 2017-2018 Monthly Financial Report, including recommended transfers

Motion: to approve the 2017-2018 Monthly Financial Report, including Recommended transfers Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien

AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

VIII. Public Comment

- Laurie Mansur commented on field trips and that they are a financial hardship to some families
- Michael Maturo commented regarding administrative responsibilities based on Board Policies
- Lisa Burton commented regarding procedures on how Boards and Commissions operate as well as commented regarding the Girls Hockey Club and the NHMSBC Audit regarding the fields.

IX. Future Agenda Items Discussion Item

X. Executive Session – contractual negotiations

Motion: to move into Executive Session at 7:56 p.m.
Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

XI. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson
Anita Anderson
Chairperson