



North Canaan Board of Education

MEETING MINUTES

90 Pease Street, North Canaan, CT 06018 www.nceschool.org

*The North Canaan Board of Education met at 7pm on Thursday, November 8, 2018,
in the North Canaan Elementary School library.*

Board members present: Erin Drislane (Chairperson), Rebecca Cahill, Dorothy Cecchinato, Amy Dodge, Robert Hewins, Douglas Humes and Sarah Visconti

Others present: Dr. Alicia Roy, Principal; Lisa Carter, Assistant Principal

Beth Johnson, Evangeline Bouchard, Jaime Crane, Jaclyn Brown, Eileen Fox, Darrel Long, Lily Najdek, Weston Doyen, Ella Hewins and Mike Flint (CATV6)

I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Mrs. Drislane.

II. Board Recognition: Mrs. Cahill recognized Beth Johnson, computer teacher. She stated that she is a jack of all trades. She said that her own children have stated that she is easy to talk to and treats students as young adults. She also reported that she not only teaches computer but helps students with their math and she is a great listener.

Dr. Roy recognized the Canaan Community Foundation. Mrs. Crane introduced the members attending the meeting tonight as Jaclyn Brown-President, Eileen Fox, Darrel Long and herself. Dr. Roy reported that they have been very helpful and generous to the school and the community. She stated that they have done great work with the theatre. She proudly presented them with a donation of \$69.00 from the North Canaan Elementary School staff dress down day.

Mrs. Drislane asked for nomination for Board recognition for December. Dr. Roy recommended recognizing Brandy Devino and Marjorie Gandolfo, school secretaries.

III. Consent Agenda: Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Hewins seconded. Vote: 6 - Yes Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Communications: Written - Mrs. Drislane read a thank you note addressed to Dr. Roy and the North Canaan Board of Education from the North Canaan Elementary School staff. The note stated that they wish to thank the principal and Board for the delicious



pizza and beverage dinner they received on the first parent/teacher conference day. The note also stated that they were very happy to sit, relax and visit with one another.

VI. Region One Report: Mr. Humes reported on the last Region I meeting he attended. He stated that the Regional Board approved policies and that they are working on reviewing more of their policies. He also stated that the Board is working on improving security at the high school.

VII. Pride in Student Learning: Ms. Bouchard reported to the Board on the Global Read Aloud workshop she attended. She stated that it has changed the way she teaches Language Arts. Some of the items she discussed in her presentation are listed below:

- We pick a book to read aloud to the students and at that same time we try to make global connections.
- We use Padlet, Flipgrid and Skype.
- They students are reading *Refugee* by Alan Gratz and demonstrated three characters, three settings and three points of view.
- The students will go out into the world and be problem solvers.

Ms. Bouchard announced that three students were brave to come to the Board meeting and report on the Global Read Aloud program. Ella Hewins was a questioner who asked questions. She stated it was very interesting. Lily Najdek was a signer. She stated that it was fun to talk to people from different places. Weston Doyen was an atlas/map expert. He answered true or false questions and stated that it was fun to meet people.

VIII. State Assessment Results Overview: Dr. Roy reviewed the Smarter Balance testing results that were given in the spring. Some of the results that are received in the fall that she discussed are listed below:

- The results do not affect the classroom but are only a starting point for discussion.
- It's a measurement only but one or two students can make a change in the results.
- The test identifies learners' progress compared to the state.
- The goals is to have students at proficient or above.
- Teachers talk with the students about their level of achievement.



IX. Action Items: *State, security grant, purchase and application:* Dr. Roy reported that she can do another round with the grant that was finalized for \$26,000 and get \$5,000 more for security. Mrs. Cahill made a motion to recommend to the full Board the purchase of additional security measures, including lights and cameras for the exterior of the school, not to exceed a total of \$5,000. Mrs. Cecchinato seconded. Vote: 6 - Yes Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

Hiring of a mathematics teacher: Dr. Roy reported that as stated in the letter of resignation from Nicole Simmons, her last day will be Friday, November 16, 2018. She stated that she highly recommends hiring Andrea Caggiano as a middle school mathematics teacher. She reported that she has 8 years of experience at the middle school level and will start on Monday, November 19. Mr. Hewins made a motion to recommend to the full Board the hiring of Andrea Caggiano as a middle school mathematics teacher at a master's degree step of 8 to 9 with a prorated salary rate of \$62,624. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: 6 - Yes Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

X. Administrative Reports:

Principal's Report: Dr. Roy reviewed her monthly report with Board members. Some of the items she reported on are listed below:

- Parent/Teacher conferences were held since the last meeting and they were student led.
- Families purchased over \$3,000 in books from Scholastic during the conference week.
- Red Ribbon week for a healthy lifestyle was celebrated.
- Safety drills are held monthly and last month was a fire drill and evacuation.
- Grade 2 students visited Geer and performed for the residents with songs.
- North Canaan boys soccer was difficult but the girls were co-champions.
- Students wore costumes to school for Halloween.
- There were nice speakers at the Literacy for All Conference.
- Students got together across the grade levels and made projects for the PBIS Celebration.
- Kindergarten students had an A,B,C fashion show of letters including an alphabet parade.



Assistant Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Carter reviewed her monthly report with Board members. Some of the items she reported on are listed below:

- Entitlement grant applications are all in and North Canaan is down a little in Title I and up a little in Title II.
- A curriculum audit was conducted for grades 4-8 in Language Arts & math and the results will be shared with teachers and administrators.
- A new data warehouse system called Alpine has been purchased for teachers to access and analyze student data.
- EdAdvance council meetings are held once a month to share information about curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- A variety of workshops were attended by teachers at the October professional development day.
- SafeSchools, a new program for the delivery of State-Mandated Professional Development was purchased this fall.
- Instructional coaches in the Region met with Alisa Simeral, a consultant in October.
- Dr. O'Neill is doing a great job with career work.
- Mrs. Huber is doing an outstanding job with the English Learner Program.

Superintendent's Report: The report was tabled until the December meeting.

XI. Public Comment: None

XII. Adjournment: Mrs. Cahill made a motion to adjourn at 8:29 P.M. Mr. Hewins seconded. Vote: 6 - Yes Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gandolfo

Approved: December 13, 2018