



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
6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, virtually through Zoom.*

A virtual meeting was held using Zoom: Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

Others present: Dr. Alicia M. Roy, Principal; Lisa Carter, Superintendent; Dr. Scott Fellows and Jill Pace, Assistant Superintendents.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm. by Mrs. Drislane.

II. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the minutes for April 20, 2021, Regular Meeting, as written. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

III. Public Comment: None

IV. CABE and CAPSS Student Awards

K. Leonard was presented with the CAPSS (Superintendent's Award). Dr. Roy reported that K. Leonard has continually shown high levels of academic dedication throughout the past year during distance learning and has excelled in studies. K. Leonard has not only volunteered to paint the mural in the school hallway but has walked to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association. D. Brennan and A. White were both presented with the CABE Student Leadership Award. Dr. Roy described D. Brennan as a conscientious student who has excelled academically and has advanced capabilities in mathematics and pushes to achieve high scores in Algebra 2 honors. Dr. Roy described A. White as being wholeheartedly dedicated to academic studies and is a hard working, diligent student. A. White is dedicated to playing soccer, basketball, and helping to build furniture with a family member.

V. Communications:

A letter of resignation was received by Mary Davidson, Elementary Music Teacher.
A letter of resignation was received by Joseph Woodruff, Custodian.

VI. Region I Report - Mr. Bartram, North Canaan Representative

Mr. Bartram was unable to attend the North Canaan Board meeting, Ms. Carter reported as follows:

- Region One Board approved the recommendation made by the Standing Building Committee to move forward with the HVRHS lighting project as presented and prepared

by Jack Cunningham, Director of Sales, Energy Efficiency Division of Environmental Systems Corporation.

- Region One Board approved an HR Generalist Position Description at a salary of \$70,000
- There was an approval of the Social Worker and Math Tutor position descriptions.
- There was an approval for the Physical Therapist Employment Agreement for Jane Simonds
- There was an approval for the Web Author/Editor Employment Agreement for Nancy Hegy-Martin
- Policy approvals

VII. All Boards Chair Report

At the April 28th ABC Board meeting there was a discussion held regarding the evaluation process for the Superintendent. An agreement was held regarding continuing the process as it was done with the previous superintendent with the timeline beginning this summer. For the current year, Superintendent Carter will develop a self-evaluation, and each of the boards will be asked to weigh in.

VIII. Policies (1st reading)

There was a first reading of Policies 4213.6 Remote Work/Telecommuting/Telework; 6141 Curriculum Design/Development; 6141.311 Limited English Proficiency Program (English Learners); 6141.312 Migrant Students; 6141.322 Computers: Websites/Pages; 6141.326 Electronic Resources; 6144.1 Exemption From Instruction; 6145.8 School Activity Funds 6146.2 Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (Statewide Summative Assessments); 6152 Grouping Policy; 6159.1 Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals. Mr. Ellington had suggestions regarding 4213.6 policy. Ms. Carter and Mr. Ellington will discuss further and the policy will be brought back in June for voting. The Board will have a second reading with action to vote on the policies at the June 8, 2021, Board of Education meeting.

X. Action Items

A.-L. Policies

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of policies 6000 Instruction (Concept and Roles); 6114.1 Fire Emergency (Drills)/Crisis Response Drills; 6146 Graduation Requirements/Mastery-Based Learning; 6153 Field Trips; 6154 Homework/Make up Work; 6161 Equipment, Books and Materials; Provision/Selection; 6161.1 Evaluation/Selection of Instructional Materials; 6161.2 Care of Instructional Materials; 6162.51 Surveys of Students/Student Privacy; 6163.1 Library Books and Library Materials; 6171 Special Education Program and 6176 Career and Vocational Education. Mr. Ellington Seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

M. 9325.43 Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communications

1. Vote to suspend Board policy 9321 Adoption of Policies

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the suspension of Board policy 9321 Adoption of Policies. Mrs. Dodge Seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

2. Vote on new policy

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of policy 9325.43 Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communications. Mr. Devino Seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

N. Nonresident Student Tuition Fee

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the nonresident student fee of \$4,569 for the 2021-2022 school year, \$2,284.50 payable by August 13, 2021, and \$2,284.50 payable by January 14, 2022. This is the same fee approved for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Ellington Seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

O. Student Tuition (3 students) Waivers

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board to waive Policy #5118.1 for the 2020-2021 school year for the three nonresident students who are currently enrolled as children of staff and not to charge tuition. Mr. Devino Seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

XI. Administrative Reports (A copy is available through the links on the May agenda.)

Principal's Report: Dr. Roy provided a brief overview of her monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- There was a 31st celebration of Arbor Day and Earth Day. Family members of Katy Sherwood and Leila Wood joined students and staff to dedicate the two dogwood trees added this year to our arboretum in honor of the commitment of the two staff members to the students and school.
- The eighth grade graduation ceremony will be held on Wednesday evening, June 16th, at 6:30 PM in the field by the school so that immediate family members of all 41 graduates can attend. There will be a recording of the ceremony so those who cannot attend and want to view it will have access. The rain date will be Friday, June 18th, beginning at 6:30 PM.

Assistant Superintendent's Report: (A copy is available through the links on the May agenda.)

Mrs. Pace and Dr. Fellows both provided an overview of their monthly report. Some of the items they reported are listed below:

- A team of staff from across the Region has been created for an amazing and engaging Summer Learning Program that will meet the needs of students and families. This year's programming will feature a blend of SEL and fun camp activities with targeted tutoring opportunities.
- We are working our way through applications and reference checks for all of the positions as they are posted. New applicants are being given the opportunity to teach in class with a two-step interview process: a traditional interview and a teaching interview.
- All of Region One schools have agreed to use Xello in grades 6-12 as a platform on which to build their students' Student Success Plans (SSP), introduce students to college and career readiness at an appropriate developmental level, and to facilitate the delivery of our high school seniors' documents to colleges.

Dr. Roy is starting it in the NCES Kindergarten classes which will allow the rest of the Region to see how successful it is.

Superintendent's Report: (A copy is available through the links on the May agenda.)

- Positive COVID cases continue to remain low throughout the Region. The trend continues for students throughout the Region to be returning to school from distance learning.
- There was recent news from the Torrington Area Health District that students who are 12-15 years of age might be able to receive the vaccine before the end of May. TAHD staff are busy working with Hartford HealthCare to organize private clinics for students in its catchment area. We will be providing families with information in this regard as soon as it is available.
- With the relaxation of some of the Governor's health and safety restrictions, the K-8 students are able to engage in some expanded activities this spring. Ms. Carter is working with Principals and Dr. Suzanne Lefebvre to coordinate playground guidelines, end of year field trips, activities and graduation ceremonies to ensure that that health and safety guidelines are being followed.

XIII. **Public Comment:** None

XIV. **Adjournment**

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 pm. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 5-yes Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Michael Ellington, and Sarah Visconti.

Respectfully submitted,
Kerry Rooney

Approved: June 8, 2021