



# North Canaan Board of Education

## MEETING MINUTES

90 Pease Street, North Canaan, CT 06018 [www.nceschool.org](http://www.nceschool.org)

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*The North Canaan Board of Education met at 7pm on Thursday, March 14, 2019,  
in the North Canaan Elementary School library.*

**Board members present:** Erin Drislane, Chairperson; Rebecca Cahill, Dorothy Cecchinato, Michael Ellington, Robert Hewins, Doug Humes and Sarah Visconti

**Others present:** Dr. Alicia M. Roy, Principal; Ms. Lisa Carter, Assistant Superintendent

Nikki Blass, Callie Bosio, Edward Bosio, Donald Drislane, Lindsey Drislane, Kaelary Gwinn, Ella Hewins, Autumn Kelly, June Kelly, Geoff Merrill, Leigh Ann Merrill, Ava Nason, Linda Peppe, Kaylin Piscitello, Melissa Piscitello, Noah Shippa 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. Drislane asked for nominations for Board recognition for April. There were no nominations at this time.

III. **Board of Education Appreciation Month Recognition:** Dr. Roy reported that March is Board Appreciation Month, and she stated that all Board members are appreciated for their volunteerism that is extensive as a Board member. She also gave them a token of appreciation for their dedication.

IV. **Consent Agenda:** Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Drislane, Mr. Ellington, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

Mrs. Cecchinato made a motion to approve the minutes dated, February 21, 2019, as written. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Drislane, Mr. Ellington, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

V. **Public Comment:** None

VI. **Communications:** Dr. Roy reported to the Board that Mountainside donated \$500 to the school for the D.A.R.E. Program and that she has already sent a thank you note. She stated that the donation is greatly appreciated and the money will be used to purchase items for the upcoming family celebration and D.A.R.E. graduation.

VII. **Region I Report:** Mr. Humes reported on the last Region I meeting he attended. Some of the items he discussed are listed below:

- The high school budget is finished and it has had a 0% increase for the second year in a row.
- The Board continues to work on reviewing policies.
- The Board has been accepting new policies.
- The Middle School sports program was not included in the budget as it has been postponed until a committee is formed to review the program.
- The Building Committee has recommended updating the security at the high school.

**VIII. All Board Chair Report:** Mrs. Drislane reported on the last All Boards Committee meeting she attended. She stated that they talked about the services of EdAdvance, the midyear review of the superintendent's goals, the regional middle school sports program, and regionalization.

**IX. Pride in Student Learning - *Mulan Jr.*, upcoming School Play:** Mr. & Mrs. Merrill and Mrs. Peppe reported to the Board on the upcoming school play. Mrs. Peppe announced that the play is *Mulan Jr.*, which takes place in Ancient China. Mrs. Merrill reported that the story is about a girl named Mulan who changed her gender to joined the Army so her father would not have to go. Mrs. Merrill and middle school students performed for Board members *Written in Stone*, a song in the play. The students reported that being in the play was nothing but fun. The teachers thanked all the wonderful volunteers who sew and knit costumes, go shopping, help with dressing students, make props and doing the lighting. They stated that they do it all for the students. Mrs. Merrill announced that the play will be held on March 28 and March 29, 2019, at 7:00 P.M.

**X. Star Data Presentation:** Dr. Roy reported that all students take the STAR testing, which is used as a universal screener and for progress monitoring, at the beginning, middle and end of year. She reviewed charts on Metrics, and Reading & Math Data. She reported that the steps after the data review are to create goals for students, teach to match the needs of students and monitor student progress.

**XI. First Reading of Recommended Policies:** The Board had a first reading of policies #0050 Code of Ethics, #0100 Mission Statement, #0200 Purposes-Goals-Objectives, #0521 Nondiscrimination, #0521.02 Commitment to Religious Neutrality and #0523 Equity and Diversity. All Board members agreed to one change in policy #0521.2 Nondiscrimination, which was to remove the words "the Boy Scouts and other" from the policy. The Board will have a second reading on the policies with a vote for approval next month.

## **XII. Action Items**

### **A. [1212 Community Relations Policy](#)**

Mr. Hewins made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of policy 1212, Community Relations as recommended by CABE. Mr. Ellington seconded. Vote: yes- 6 Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Drislane, Mr. Ellington, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

### **B. Increase to Student Lunch Price 2019-2020**

Mr. Ellington made a motion to recommend to the full Board the increase of the student lunch price to \$2.70 beginning in the 2019-2020 school year to be in compliance with the federal requirement as calculated through the paid lunch equity tool. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Drislane, Mr. Ellington, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

### **XIII. Administrative Reports**

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

- The Canaan VFW Auxiliary donated books to the school with social studies topics.
- Thirty staff members, students and onlookers had a good time playing and enjoying basketball against the 8th graders.
- Fourth graders took part in the NAEP testing this year and the presenters were proud that the students took the tests seriously.
- Six teachers and Dr. Roy attended Alpine Training, the new regional data warehouse.
- Teacher midyear evaluations have been completed.
- Dr. Roy attended the first session of a Spring Leadership Series, Improving Outcomes for Students with Disabilities, which is free.

**Assistant Superintendent's Report:** Ms. Carter reported to the Board on her monthly report. Some of the items she discussed are listed below:

- Fourth graders in Region I had a great time at Arts Day at Hotchkiss yesterday.
- Sixteen teachers volunteered to be on a committee to plan for changes to social emotional learning.
- A team of staff members will work to develop a computer science curriculum for Region I.
- The robotics competition was amazing.
- Teacher-led workshops will be part of the professional development day on March 15, 2019.
- The dates for State Summative Tests have been set.
- The career work program is going strong.
- The English learning program continues to support the success of EL students.

**Superintendent's Report:** Ms. Carter announced that there will be a Board Retreat to look at case studies held on March 26, 2019, at 5:30 P.M. at the high school with dinner included and there will be a presentation by Marie Horn and Greg Minor on Education Issues held on April 8, 2019, from 9:00-11:00 A.M. in room 133 at the high school

Ms. Carter reviewed a graph on the high school NYPs for semester 1. She reported that Mr. Strever felt because it was midyear that it would be a good time to make this presentation.

**XIV. Public Comment:** None

**XV. Adjournment:** Mr. Ellington made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 P.M. Mrs. Cahill seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Cecchinato, Mrs. Drislane, Mr. Ellington, Mr. Hewins and Mrs. Visconti

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Gandolfo

Approved: April 11, 2019