

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 Tuesday, January 11, 2022, virtually through Zoom.

A virtual meeting was held using Zoom: Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Christopher Jacques, Maribeth Marchi, and Kristine Simmons.

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 7:03 pm by Mrs. Dodge.

II. Consent Agenda

Mr. Devino made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2021, Regular Meeting as written. Mrs. Simmons seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

III. Public Comment - None

IV. Communications

A letter of resignation was received from D. Murray.

V. Region One Report

Ms. Carter reported that the ABC Committee met with the Region One Board of Education. There was an agreement to form a search committee for the Assistant Superintendent position for 2022-2023. Superintendent Carter will look into options on whether or not they should use an executive search consultant, names of search consultants and what kind of timeline that would be. This information will be shared at the next Region One Board Meeting. Dr. Roy reported that Ned Gow was appointed as our new North Canaan representative, replacing Erin Drislane, for the Region One Board of Education.

VI. All Boards Chair Report

Ms. Carter stated that there hasn't been a meeting in January yet and will be later in the month.

VII. Policies (1st reading)

There was a first reading of Policies 1325 Advertising; 2112 Professional Development; 2133.13 Notice to Students Regarding Discipline; 2300 Statement of Ethics for Administrators; 2400 Evaluation of Administrators; 3524.2 Green Cleaning Program; 3543.31 Retention of Electronic Records. The Board will have a second reading with action to vote on the policies at the February 8, 2022, Board of Education meeting.

VIII. Action Items

A-O. Mrs. Dodge recommended to the full Board the approval of policies 1331 Prohibition Against Smoking, 9240 Board Member Development, 9270 Conflict of Interest, 9321 Time, Place, Notification for Meetings, 9321.2 Electronic Board of Education Meetings 9322 Public and Executive Sessions,9323 Agenda Construction, 9325 Meeting Conduct, 9325.1 Quorum, 9325.2 Order of Business, 9325.3 Parliamentary Procedures, 9326 Minutes, 9327 Electronic Mail Communications, and 9400 Board Self-Evaluation. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

P. Hiring of a Teaching Assistant

Mrs. Dodge recommended to the full Board the hiring of Cristina King as a Teacher Assistant 1, entry level, for 30 hours per week at the rate of \$15.07 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year with a January 12th start date. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

IX. Administrative Reports (A copy is available through the links on the January agenda.) *Principal's Report:* Dr. Roy provided a brief overview of her monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- Many students and staff were either ill or in quarantine for this new calendar year. We averaged 40 students absent our first week back after break along with 12 or 13 staff members.
- There will be another free vaccination clinic at NCES with Griffin Health for students ages 5-11 on Thursday, January 13th and February 3rd from 3:30-7:30 pm in the school gym.
- Thank you to the PTO for ensuring every student went home with gingerbread from Freund's Farm on the last day before break.
- Students and staff raised more than \$435 to Support Team Seas. For every dollar donated, one pound of trash will be removed from ocean waters.
- We welcomed Miss Kathryn Hodgson as our new school psychologist this week.

Assistant Superintendents' Report: (A copy is available through the links on the January agenda.)

- The first professional learning activities for 2022 were held on January 3, 2022. The theme of the PL day was Professional Learning and Self-Care. Sessions were scheduled on Title IX with a video presentation and then a Q&A with an attorney from Shipman and Goodwin. Additionally, there was time for cross-district grade level meetings and middle school-high school collaboration and discussion so the teachers could meet and get to know each other.
- Mrs. Pace reported that finding staff positions and substitutes have been taking up a lot of
 their time. They are working closely with the Building Principals to fill openings as they
 occur. Prior to Winter Break they were able to hire a number of substitute teachers, some
 long term and some for the day-to-day needs of the buildings.

Superintendent's Report: (A copy is available through the links on the January agenda.) Ms. Carter provided an overview of her monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- Covid-19 Test kits and masks have been delivered to all our Region One schools by The CT Department of Public Health. There are more expected to be delivered in the coming weeks.
- Safety Protocols have changed to a more relaxed law.
- During November and December Ms. Carter visited all of the schools in the Region. Most teachers in the Pre-K-8 schools were especially positive about the student engagement and progress relative to curriculum expectations for the current school year.
- There is a newly formed committee called the Region 1 Policy Review Committee They will meet on January 13. Policies that are approved for a first read will be added to BOE agendas in late January and February.
- All Region 1 BOE members will meet on Tuesday, January 25th to discuss and approve the 2022-2023 calendar.
- Anne B. MacNeil, Sports/Athletic Director sent a feedback form to all 85 students who participated in the Fall season. There was enthusiastic feedback from the students for the experience and being able to make new friends throughout the regional schools.

X. Public Comment: None

XI. Adjournment: Mrs. Dodge made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 pm. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

Respectfully submitted, Kerry Rooney

Approved: February 8, 2022