



**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 Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at NCES.*

**A regular meeting was held:** Matt Devino, Amy Dodge, Erin Drislane, Stephannie Grant, Christopher Jacques, Maribeth Marchi, and Kristine Simmons.

**Others present:** Dr. Alicia M. Roy, Principal; Lisa Carter, Superintendent; Dr. Jeanine Rose, Assistant Superintendent; Ned Gow, North Canaan Town Representative; Beth Johnson.

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Mrs. Drislane.

**II. Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 10, 2023, Regular Meeting and January 24, 2023, Special Meeting, as written. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

**III. Public Comment - None**

**IV. Communications - None**

**V. Region One Report**

Mr. Gow reported on the Region One Board Meeting and provided a brief overview of their February 6, 2023, meeting as follows:

- The Hybrid Meeting Technology Proposal, as presented, at a cost estimate of \$19,325.11, which is to be paid out of unexpended funds from the 2022-2023 fiscal year was approved.
- The dedication of the HVRHS gymnasium to Ed Tyburski was approved.
- The 2023-2024 HVRHS calendar was approved.
- The field trip for the German Exchange Program in April 2024 was approved.
- Employee contracts were approved for the 23-24 school year as well as an announcement of four employees that plan to retire on June 30, 2023.
- There were first readings of policies and policies that were approved.

**VI. All Boards Chair (ABC) Report**

Mrs. Drislane reported on the ABC Meeting and provided a brief overview of their January 25, 2023, meeting as follows:

- A mid-year Superintendent Goals update was provided and discussed with Superintendent Carter regarding each of her goals.
- HR Generalist, Michelle Curtis, has onboarded 119 new employees since the start of the 2022-2023 fiscal year.
- There was an Executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action on Central Office Administrators' compensation for 2023-2024.

## **VII. 2023-2024 Draft NCES BoE Budget (1st presentation)**

### **A. Projected Enrollment 2023-2024**

Dr. Roy presented the Board with projected enrollments for the North Canaan Elementary School for the 2023-2024 school year as well as how many teachers will be needed for each grade level. Dr. Roy then gave a presentation of the budget for 2023-2024 and explained line by line how and why costs have fluctuated. Some of the changes reported were a significant increase in Health Insurance (10%), a Bus Transportation decrease due to the elimination of one school bus (from four to three buses), and an increase in the cost of Heating Oil, and Middle School Sports and Activities. Action for the 2023-2024 Budget will be taken at the March 14, 2023, Board of Education meeting.

### **B. Board of Finance Budget Presentation - Wednesday, March 22nd, 7:30 at the Town Hall**

Dr. Roy noted the date and time of the budget presentation to the Board of Finance.

## **VIII. 2023-2024 NCES Calendar**

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to approve the North Canaan Elementary School Calendar for the 2023-2024 school year as presented. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

## **IX. Hiring of a custodian**

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to hire Larry Gwinn as custodian for the 2022-2023 school year at the entry level rate of \$19.54 per hour. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

## **X. Administrative Reports (A copy is available through the links on the February agenda.)**

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

- Thursday, February 2nd, NCES had the Winter Band and Chorus Concert. More than 50 students played and sang for over an hour.
- In January the students gathered in 16 groups across grade levels in their Community Groups to share winter stories, rejuvenate our recycling program (Reduce, Recycle, Reuse), and create snowmen to post on our bulletin boards in the cafeteria.
- Drama Club has begun having rehearsals for the spring play, Snow White.

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

Dr. Rose provided a brief overview of her monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- School counselors continue to meet to research adoption and implementation of aligned social-emotional wellness curriculum. The goal is to provide lessons not only for use by the counselors, but also for use by the K-8 teachers even if the counselor cannot be present.
- The Humanities curriculum will be rolled out in grades 4 and 5 at the March 10th PL day.
- There will be two summer programs for Region One. One for K-8 from June 26-July 21 at Sharon Center School, and the middle school program from July 10-21 at the high school.
- The Frontline evaluation system platform will be rolled out to teachers at the March professional learning day.

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

Ms. Carter provided an overview of her monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- EdAdvance has received \$8.7 million to support student mental health throughout the RESC. The grant will cover a five-year period and will include providing each school in Region 1 with a .5 counselor or social worker (in addition to current staff).
- Ms. Carter is working with the Healthcare Regional Sector Partnership task group. The focus is to provide meaningful internship programs for high school freshmen and sophomores for the purpose of exposing them to all career opportunities that exist in the healthcare industry. We hope to start the internships this summer.
- Melanie Wilde-Lane, Executive Director of The CT Association of School-Based Health Centers has updated Ms. Carter on the progress and the next steps to move forward with implementing School-Based Health Centers. After initial research and findings have been completed, Ms. Carter will organize a task group to help evaluate the report findings and make recommendations to the Region 1 BOEs.

#### **XI. Public Comment - None**

#### **XII. Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations (with action anticipated)**

Mrs. Drislane made a motion at 8:01 to enter an Executive Session for the Purpose of discussing contract negotiations. Ms. Carter, Dr. Roy, and Beth Johnson were invited to the Executive Session. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

The Board came back to the regular meeting at 8:45 pm.

- Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the full Board to approve the hiring of Beth Johnson as assistant principal beginning July 1, 2023, at the salary rate of \$114,859, according to the negotiated contract. Beginning July 1, 2024, Beth Johnson will become principal upon the retirement of Dr. Alicia Roy. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.
- Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the full Board to approve the 2023-2034 hourly rate of \$29.71 for Board Clerk Brandey Fogarty. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

**XIII. Adjournment:** Mrs. Drislane made a motion to adjourn at 8:46 pm. Mrs. Simmons seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerry Rooney

Approved: March 14, 2023