



**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, November 8, 2022, at NCES.*

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

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

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Mrs. Drislane.

**II. Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 11, 2022, Regular Meeting, as written. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Marchi.

**III. Public Comment -** Vanessa Hinman stated some concerns she had regarding Policy 5144.4 regarding recess being given 10 minutes a day in the Middle School and the Physical Education rotation schedule. Mrs. Hinman wanted to make sure that the students are getting everything written in the 5144.4 Policy. Kirsten Swanson reiterated those concerns as well.

**IV. Communications - None**

**V. Region One Report**

Mr. Gow reported on the Region One Board Meeting and provided a brief overview of their November 7, 2022, meeting as follows:

- The field trip to Quebec in May of 2023 was approved.
- Policies were approved.
- The new course proposal for Agriculture Business was approved.
- There was an update regarding the Hybrid-Meeting Technology Room.

**VI. All Boards Chair Report**

Mrs. Drislane stated that there hasn't been an All Boards Chair Meeting to report on this month.

**VII. Action Items**

**A - G. Policies**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the following policies: Policy 4113.12 – Minimum Duty-Free Lunch Periods for Teachers, Policy 5113.2 - Truancy, Policy 5141.213 – Opioid Overdose Prevention (Emergency Administration of Naloxone), Policy 5141.4 – Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault,

Policy 5144.4 – Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students, Policy 5145.511 – Exploitation: Sexual Harassment, and Policy 9321.2 – Time, Place, and Notification of Meetings. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Marchi.

#### **H. Hiring of a Head Custodian**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the hiring of Douglas Pecor as head custodian for the 2022-2023 school year at the entry level rate of \$26.97 per hour. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Marchi.

#### **I. 2023 Board of Education Meeting Dates**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the 2023 Board of Education meetings as presented. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 6-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Marchi.

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

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

- For four days and three nights the sixth graders visited Nature's Classroom in Litchfield County.
- Using the problem solving skills from the Region 1 Portrait of a Graduate, students worked with their Community Connections Group making scarecrows of some of the Faculty teachers.
- NCES sold many Scholastic books at the Book Fair, more than \$7,000 worth which is almost double of what the school has done in the past.
- The Energy in Action Van came to NCES which is a free interactive mobile learning experience funded by Energize Connecticut.
- NCES had their annual Fire Prevention Day. The Fire Department came to the school to talk with students, sharing fire safety strategies and reminding students to have a family plan and a place to reunite in the case of a home fire.

***Assistant Superintendent's Report:*** (A copy is available through the links on the November agenda.) Ms. Carter provided a brief overview of Dr. Rose's monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- Dr. Rose will be meeting with the high school departments over the next few months to establish what curriculum needs to be written, revised or updated in Rubicon Atlas, the curriculum platform.
- The ELA teachers in grades 4-8 are working during all professional learning days to develop standards aligned common assessments for all units.
- Dr. Rose will be meeting with the K-12 School Counseling staff to establish a plan for selecting, adopting, and implementing a K-12 counseling curriculum that will be used consistently throughout the Region.
- Teacher goal setting is due for completion by November 15, 2022

- The next district Professional Learning day will be on November 9 (K-8) and November 10 (9-12).

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

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

- School nurses have reported cases of COVID-19, RSV, Strep, Flu, and other respiratory illnesses in Region 1 schools.
- Region One has received a grant in the amount of \$62, 265 from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BCTF). The grant funds are awarded to ensure that transportation can be provided for all Pre-k-8 students' summer school program and to support the expansion of the middle school enrichment program at HVRHS.
- We received notification that the E-Bus rebate agreements have been approved for Region 1, Sharon and Cornwall. Sam will be working with All Star, the building administrators and the BOEs with respect to completing the terms of these agreements, which include an initial cash outlay of \$395,000 for each district. The amount is fully reimbursable after all terms of the agreement have been met. The buses will not be available until the fall of 2023.
- Anne MacNeil will provide a summary of the fall season and information regarding the winter season at the November Middle School Sports and Activities meeting scheduled for November 16th at 6:00 p.m.
- Monday, November 21st, the Region 1 BOE will hold a retreat for the purpose of discussing future plans for education programming and career development. Jonathan Costa, the EdAdvance Assistant Executive Director will facilitate the retreat.
- A big shout out to Nancy Hegy-Martin for her energetic efforts to promote Region 1 this fall! Nancy has worked with Ted Perotti to complete all of the filming. Ted and his team will now work on producing a short video about each school in Region 1 as well as films about the Central Office and HYSB.

**IX. Public Comment** - Both Vanessa Hinman and Kirsten Swanson commented about the PE Education schedule and the 10 minute daily recess. They both requested it be looked at and be reevaluated. Dr. Roy explained the rotation by saying that the teachers thought it was beneficial to have students daily for 3 weeks at a time to concentrate on building skills in that particular area. Dr. Roy also pointed out that there are two special schedules to run, one for the EK-4th grades and one for Middle School and explained the difficulty of having one teacher per special. She realizes there are pros and cons to any rotation schedule and she is doing her best to maintain the best schedule for the students to get the most out of each rotation.

There were some negative comments made by parents both present and on the Board on how the Middle School Sports and the Town Recreation Department has brought the sports together as a Region as opposed to having smaller Town/School Teams. Board members discussed the pros and cons of the Regional Sports programs. Ms. Carter added that the feedback from the surveys show students enjoy getting to know each other students on a regional level and when they meet up at the High School in 9th grade it shows there isn't such a large separation of schools but rather a comradery of peers.

**X. Adjournment:** Mr. Devino made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Mrs. Drislane seconded.  
Vote: 6-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Marchi.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerry Rooney

Approved: December 13, 2022