



North Canaan Board of Education

MEETING MINUTES

90 Pease Street, North Canaan, CT 06018

www.nceschool.org

*The North Canaan Board of Education met in the library
at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.*

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; Anne MacNeil, Athletic Director; and David Valcin, Salisbury Board of Education Chair.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Mrs. Drislane.

II. Consent Agenda

Mr. Devino made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 14, 2023, Regular Meeting, as written. Mrs. Dodge 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 was not present.

VI. All Boards Chair (ABC) Report

Mrs. Drislane reported that the ABC board had not met since the last North Canaan board meeting.

VII. Middle School Sports and Activities

Anne MacNeil, David Valcin, and Superintendent Lisa Carter gave a financial presentation comparing and contrasting costs and responsibilities the school would have if North Canaan stayed in or opted out of the Middle School Sports program. The North Canaan Board of Education members expressed concern and discussed how the cost of the program is allocated among the six elementary schools. North Canaan pays the highest percentage of the cost due to the amount of students enrolled in 7th and 8th grade, but has a very low participation rate in the middle school sports program. The North Canaan Board of Education would like to see the cost evenly distributed across all 6 schools, regardless of student body. The Board discussed the pros and cons of the program and the fact that there has been a large decrease of participation with the Regional Town Recreation Sports as well. After much discussion, the North Canaan Board of Education suggested that Mrs. MacNeil, Mr. Valcin and Ms. Carter relay the concerns and requests discussed with the Middle School Sports committee. Mrs. Hinman, a parent of three NCES students, was also present and stated that their family participates in many sports. They have experienced a strain traveling to other towns far away at night for their children. Mrs. Hinman suggested that there could be other ways to foster a relationship among the 7th and 8th graders before high school other than sports.

VIII. Action Items

A. 1. Renewal with Healthy Food Options

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the Board that Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the North Canaan Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the school under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

2. Food and Beverage Exemptions

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the Board to approve that The North Canaan Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

B. Increase to Student Lunch Price 2023-2024

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the Board for the approval to increase the student lunch price to \$3.10 (an increase of \$.10) beginning in the 2023-2024 school year to be in compliance with the federal requirement as calculated through the paid lunch equity tool. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

C. Region 1 Teacher Job Description

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the Board for the approval of the Region 1 teacher job description as recommended by administration. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

D. Region 1 Curriculum Committee Framework

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the Board for the approval of the Region 1 teacher job description as recommended by administration. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

E. Approval of Grades 7 and 8 Regional Survey

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the Board for the approval of the Youth Voices Count survey to be administered to grades 7 and 8 students this spring. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

IX. Administrative Reports (A copy is available through the links on the April agenda.)

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

- The drama club gave two performances of *Snow White* on March 23rd and 24th.
- On Monday, March 20, students in grades 3-8 had individual grade-level mythology interactive workshops by Shakesperience.
- 78 students earned honor roll awards at the Trimester 2 Celebration.
- Student-led conferences were on March 29th and 30th. The annual book fair was also held and sold \$5,786.40 in books.
- Dr. Roy presented at the ASCD national conference in Denver on Sunday, April 2 and also represented the state of Connecticut as she serves as the state ASCD affiliate president. Dr. Roy talked about leadership and some of the fundamental changes that have been made at NCES. Over 4,800 educators throughout the nation attended this conference.
- NCES students read almost 5,000 books during the past month for a Reading Challenge and earned a Reading Campout during school.

Assistant Superintendent's Report: (A copy is available through the links on the April agenda.) Dr. Rose was not present for the Board meeting. Ms. Carter reported that the Summer School program has been relocated from Sharon Center School to the Cornwall Consolidated School.

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

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

- The search committee for the Cornwall Consolidated School Principal and the Supervisor of Special Education positions are underway and hope to be filled by the end of April or beginning of May.
- Administrators will continue to review the school safety protocols and training with the Region 1 admin team to ensure that we are doing all that we can to keep our students safe.
- Grant applications for the school-based health centers for Sharon Center School, North Canaan Elementary School and HVRHS have been submitted. If selected, the funds will be awarded in August.

X. Public Comment -

Vanessa Hinman expressed her opinion regarding how the middle school student-led conferences are run. She would like them to include other core teachers during the conference time, not just the advisor.

XI. Adjournment: Mrs. Drislane made a motion to adjourn at 8:43 pm. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

Respectfully submitted,
Kerry Rooney

Approved: May 9, 2023