



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 Geer Village
at 7 pm on Tuesday, June 13, 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; Dr. Jeanine Rose, Assistant Superintendent; Anne MacNeil, Athletic Director.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by Mrs. Drislane.

II. Consent Agenda

Mr. Devino made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 9, 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. Dr. Rose reported the following:

- Business Manager Sam Herrick and his Executive Secretary, Sara Woloszyn, presented on the electric school bus project.
- Many policies were approved.
- Hiring of Grace Hemenway, Pupil Services School Psychologist, was approved.

VI. All Boards Chair (ABC) Report

Ms. Carter reported that there was an executive session for discussion on the Superintendent evaluation and reflection of goals.

VII. Discussion of Middle School Athletics and Activities (Action anticipated.)

Mrs. Grant reported on the Middle School Athletics and Activities Committee Meeting. She said that the Boards need a decision by June 30, 2023, for the 24-25 school year as to whether or not they would continue the Middle School Sports program. Lee Kellogg and Sharon have voted yes to continue. Discussion was held regarding an update on the funding model. Three models were presented: the current funding model, 1/5 equal funding model amongst member towns, and a model based on actual student participation by town. Mrs. MacNeil stated that there have been some considerable changes to the program. Coaching is now publicly advertised in hopes to get more coaches, which would result in longer playing time for students. The high school will be the home site instead of other towns in our Region to make it more centrally located. Mrs. MacNeil is also

hopeful that there will be volleyball and/or lacrosse clinics set up in the future. Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the full Board to approve North Canaan Elementary School's continued participation in the middle school athletics program for 2024-2025 if all towns agree to funding model 3, which allocates the cost by total participation by town. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

VIII. Teacher Placements for 2023-2024

Dr. Roy presented the Teacher Placement list for 2023-2024. There will be one teacher for 3rd grade and one teacher for 4th grade. A social worker has been added 2.5 days a week. Funding comes from a five-year grant coordinated by EdAdvance.

IX. Strategic Action Plan Overview

Dr. Roy reported that the Strategic Action Plan has been very effective. One of the areas of focus this past school year has been the Region One Portrait of a Graduate skills. Every month the school highlighted and focused on one of the skills: the school has been globally and environmentally Aware by raising money for Team Seas and Team Trees; Reducing, Recycling, and Reusing Challenges; Acts of Kindness; and Reading Challenges are a few examples of projects that support the Region One Portrait of a Graduate skills. Two additional areas on which we focused on the Strategic Action Plan were data management and high-quality learning practices: weekly professional learning community or inquiry team meetings with teachers enabled us to focus on these last two components. Dr. Roy stated these actions have been very successful in helping us to meet our goals. The students and staff have worked together to support our students to be good communicators and problem-solvers, to self-advocate, and to encourage them to be confident and globally and environmentally aware while striving to meet high academic standards.

X. Administrative Reports (A copy is available through the links on the June agenda.)

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

- Seventy-five students and many families started their day with our Annual Walk, Bike & Roll to School on May 10th. Two students were selected to win a scooter and a helmet from the PTO.
- The PTO celebrated the teachers and staff for a week starting May 8th. They created fun activities every day and prepared many treats. NCES is very thankful for all their support and appreciation.
- NCES had a Spring Arts Celebration on May 11th, sharing a concert and artwork from every student.
- Third and fourth graders took a field trip to the Connecticut State Capitol.
- The 7th grade field trip to Boston included walking the Freedom Trail and visiting the Science Museum.
- For the first time in many years, the 8th grade class went to Washington, DC. When Dr. Roy arrived to NCES the 8th grade class trip was to Gettysburg. For the trip in 2020, a return to DC was planned but was not possible for three years due to the pandemic. The students this year had a fabulous time with Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Weber, visiting many historical sites and museums. Students were especially impressed by the original documents in the museums,

and the changing of the guard, laying of the wreath, and the flyover at Arlington National Cemetery.

- NCES participated once again this year in the KIDS Marathon in Torrington and came in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, finishing the final mile on Sunday, June 4th.

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

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

- The Humanities Curriculum purchased from Naugatuck combines K-8 ELA and social studies instruction into one curriculum. We will be implementing the curriculum for grades 4 and 5 in all schools next year, along with a couple of individual teachers who would like to implement in grades 3 and 6.
- The Reading Task Group has narrowed the selection down to two programs: Amplify and Savvas. The first few months of the new school year will be spent visiting schools that are implementing each program to help make the final decision.
- Summer School Directors Larissa Morby of Salisbury and Eve Davis of North Canaan are busy planning the K-8 summer school, which will be held at Cornwall Consolidated School from June 26-July 21.
- We will also offer an exciting hands-on middle school summer program to be held at the high school from July 10-21.

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

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

- End of Year Administrator Evaluations will be completed by mid-June.
- In addition to checking in with students this year, staff, parents and caregivers are also taking a climate survey. This is an activity required by CSDE.

XI. Executive Session for the Purpose of Reviewing the Superintendent's Self-Assessment for 2022-2023

XII. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing a Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Leave Request from the Head Custodian (Action anticipated.)

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to combine both Executive Sessions with action anticipated for the leave request. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

Mrs. Drislane invited Dr. Roy and Ms. Carter into the Executive Session at 8:25 pm.

At 8:33 pm the Board came out of the Executive Session and returned to the regular meeting.

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to the full Board for the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement with North Canaan Elementary School Employees Local 1303-269 regarding the leave request from Doug Pecor, head custodian. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

XIII. Public Comment - None

XIV. Adjournment: Mrs. Dodge made a motion to adjourn at 8:34 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: September 12, 2023