



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, April 12, 2022, virtually through Zoom.*

A virtual meeting was held using Zoom: 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. Scott Fellows and Jill Pace, Assistant Superintendents; Ned Gow, North Canaan Town Representative.

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 March 8, 2022, Regular Meeting, as written. Mr. Jacques 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

A letter of resignation was received from K. Cimmino, 3rd Grade Teacher
A letter of resignation was received from M. Hritz, Music Teacher

V. Region One Report

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

- The AgEd Tuition requests for 2022-2023 were approved.
- A Public Hearing regarding the Regional School District Number One proposed budget for 2022-2023 was held on Thursday, April 7, 2022, using Zoom, at which time there was an approval of the 2022-2023 budget for Housatonic Valley Regional High School in the amount of \$8,431,256. The referendum is to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 12:00 – 8:00 p.m. in each of the town halls.
- The 2022-2023 budget for Pupil Services in the amount of \$6,682,441 was approved.
- The 2022-2023 budget for Regional School Services Center in the amount of \$1,552,271 was approved.
- The total amount of the 2022-2023 budget approved is \$16,665,968, for an overall increase of 3.99%.

VI. All Boards Chair Report

Mrs. Drislane reported on the two All Boards Chair Meetings and provided a brief overview of the meetings as follows:

- Superintendent Lisa Carter’s salary for the 2022-2023 school year was approved at the March 23, 2022, meeting.
- A special meeting of the ABC Board was held on April 1st to rediscuss Superintendent Lisa Carter’s salary, which was approved with an increased salary of 4% and a 0.5% increase to her annuity for the 2022-2023 school year.

VII. Policies (1st reading)

There was a first reading of policy 4115 Evaluation and Support program. The Board will have a second reading with action to vote on the policy at the May 10, 2022, Board of Education meeting.

VIII. Action Items

A-H. Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of policies 4000.1 Sex Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace; 4152.6/4252.6 Family and Medical Leave Act Policy and Procedure; 5131.911 Bullying Prevention and Intervention; 5145.44 Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment; 5141.28 First Aid/Emergency Medical Care; 5141.7 Student Sports - Concussions; 5142 Student Safety and 6115 Ceremonies and Observances. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

I. The Canaan Foundation Grant

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the acceptance of a \$500 grant from The Canaan Foundation to purchase a Yamaha flute. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

J. Eversource Heat Pump Program

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the acceptance of the \$65,408 incentive award offered by Eversource for the Heat Pump Project with a cost of \$175,466. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 0-yes and 7-No Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

K. Healthy Food Certification Program

1. Renewal with Healthy Food Options

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board to continue the Healthy Food Certification Program for the 2022-2023 school year with healthy food options. Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority 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, 2022, through June 30, 2023. 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 recommended to the full Board that the board of education or governing authority 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. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

L. Increase to Student Lunch Price 2022-2023

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the increase of the student lunch price to \$3.00 (an increase of \$.10) beginning in the 2022-2023 school year to be in compliance with the federal requirement as calculated through the paid lunch equity tool. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

M. Nonresident Student Tuition Fee

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the nonresident student fee of \$4,569 for the 2022-2023 school year, \$2,284.50 payable by August 13, 2022, and \$2,284.50 payable by January 14, 2023. This is the same fee approved for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

N. Hiring of an Art Teacher

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the hiring of Abigail Fifer as a grades K-8 art teacher at a bachelor’s degree step 8 with a salary of \$52,985 for the 2022-2023 school year. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

O. Survey

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the survey prepared by the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau for students in grades 6-8 as presented. Mrs. Dodge 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 Reading Challenge is now concluded. Nearly 200 book reviews were written by 83 students during this challenge.
- There was a schoolwide celebration to honor all students who love reading at NCES. Students were able to have a reading campout on Friday, April 8th, where students converted their desks to tents and read.
- Student-Led Conferences were held on Wednesday and Thursday, March 23rd and 24th. Families came to NCES to see student work, talk with teachers, and learn about student progress in meeting their goals.
- The 8th graders, under the direction of Mrs. Merrill and Mrs. Peppe, performed *My Name is Rumpelstiltskin* in the NCES auditorium on Thursday and Friday, April 7th and 8th.

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

Dr. Fellows and Mrs. Pace provided a brief overview of their monthly report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- There was a productive conversation with one of the primary curriculum writers of what will become the new K-4 Social Studies curriculum. The transition will start with the new curriculum at the kindergarten level for the 2022-23 school year, adding first grade the following year, and so on.
- K-8 administrators and complementary evaluators met in Kent with Amy Tepper to engage in collegial calibration activities.
- North Canaan Elementary School will host the Region One Summer Learning Program from June 27- July 22. Berkshire Taconic and the Northwest Corner Fund has given Region One grants to ensure that Region One will be able to offer free transportation again this year.

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

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

- The COVID-19 case rate remains very low in most of the schools in Region 1. At the end of March, North Canaan experienced an uptick in cases that is inconsistent with the rest of the Region. The schools, community and staff at Region One were alerted and advised to wear masks at NCES until the illnesses were decreased.
- The Region 1 summer school program will be held for grades Prek-8 this summer, made possible due to the receipt of a generous grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation, which will provide funds to pay for all of the bus transportation as well as the pilot of a new program for middle school students.
- Ms. Carter summarized the Connecticut State Department of Education's recently released 2020-2021 Condition of Education Report. This report is CSDE's yearly status report on public education in the state of Connecticut. This report can be found in the April 12, 2022, Agenda.

X. Public Comment: None

XI. Adjournment: Mrs. Drislane made a motion to adjourn at 8:11 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 10, 2022