



*The North Canaan Board of Education met at  
7pm on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 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; Vanessa Hinman

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mrs. Drislane.

## **II. Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Dodge made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 13, 2022, Regular 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 - Written**

A resignation was accepted by S. Mallette, Head Custodian. Dr. Roy stated that he moved out of state.

## **V. Region One Report**

Mr. Gow reported on the Region One Board Meeting and provided a brief overview of their October 3, 2022, meeting as follows:

- Meeting dates for the 2023 Region One Board meeting were approved.
- AP Pre-Calculus (new course) was approved.
- Board members agreed to move forward with the 7000 Series Policy Review by Attorney Thomas Mooney as presented.
- The High School's Walt Disney World trip was approved.
- There were first readings of policies.
- The Athletic Director and Business Manager both gave reports regarding their departments.

## **VI. All Boards Chair Report**

Mrs. Drislane reported on the All Boards Chair Meeting on September 28, 2022, and provided a brief overview as follows:

- The ABC meeting dates for 2023 were approved.
- Superintendent Performance Goals for the 2022-2023 school year were presented and approved.

## **VII. Policies (1st reading)**

There was a first reading 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. The Board will have a second reading with action to vote on the policies at the November 8, 2022, Board of Education meeting.

## **VIII. Action Items**

### **A. Hiring of a Custodian**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the hiring of Damian Gwinn as a 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.

### **B. Hiring of a Counselor**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the hiring of Sage Benjamin as the counselor for the 2022-2023 school year at step 2 sixth year, a salary of \$48,535. Mr. Devino seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

### **C. Hiring of a Receptionist/Secretary**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the hiring of Michelle Hewins as the receptionist/secretary for the 2022-2023 school year at the entry level hourly rate of \$19.71. Mr. Jacques seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

### **D. Strategic School Plan**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the Strategic School Plan for the 2022-2023 school year. Dr. Roy explained the plan and Portrait of a Graduate connections. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

### **E. School Calendar Change for March 2023**

Mrs. Drislane recommended to the full Board the approval of the change of the March conference days from March 22 and March 23 to March 29 and March 30 to accommodate the high school required SAT date. 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 October agenda.)

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

- Wednesday, September 21st, NCES hosted safety training given by state police troopers for all elementary schools in the region (with the exception of Sharon Center School) including the Run, Hide, Fight protocols that are the standard for active shooter response.
- Teachers new to NCES will meet with Dr. Roy voluntarily throughout the school year to read the book *The Skillful Teacher* to strengthen their repertoire of teaching skills that they can best match to classroom situations as appropriate.
- NCES Smarter Balanced Results were presented by Dr. Roy for 2016-2022. The SBAC and NGSS results show that our student cohort groups have made improvements in most grades in English, math, and science. There has been a strong focus this year on math in grades 5-6 to support students who need skill development.

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

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

- The Title I/II, III, and IV grants were submitted on Friday, September 30, 2022, the grant submission deadline.
- Work continues with Amy Tepper to prepare our evaluators (building-level administrators, Central Office administrators, school-based complementary evaluators, and High School department chairs) for calibration activities that help to ensure that all of the evaluators are seeing instruction and student learning in the same way.
- The Central Office staff are working to migrate the teacher evaluation forms to Frontline, our staffing platform.
- The Professional Development and Evaluation Committee (PDEC) endorsed the use of the flexibilities for the 2022-2023 school year. These flexibilities will keep a focus on strong academic standards and data-driven decisions about goals buttressed by social-emotional learning goals.
- Gale Caruso, the Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent, has completed an audit of the high school curricula entered into the Rubicon Atlas curriculum platform.

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

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

- The official enrollment of the Region One District was presented.
- The CT Department of Administrative Services has received federal funding in the amount of \$150 million to support the improvement of school HVAC systems. Grant funds will be awarded based on need, project size and the ability of applying districts to cover the cost differential after subtracting the DAS general construction reimbursement rate from the total project cost. Ms. Carter stated that larger schools may be awarded the funding due to necessity and size in place of Region One. Mr. Herrick and Ms. Carter will be meeting with the

Principals and their building management staff to determine the feasibility of participation in this grant process.

- CSDE has issued a grant opportunity to fund the addition of Mental Health Workers for new positions only.
- CSDE has issued an Unfunded Mandated Curriculum and Assessment change: the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success along with the CSDE had mandated that schools choose one of six reading programs and six universal screening assessment programs in alignment with the Center's goals. Programs and assessments must be implemented by July 1, 2023. Most school districts, including Region 1, do not use these programs and the State is not providing funding to support the enormous expense of making these transitions. Region 1 schools will likely qualify for a curriculum waiver; however, there is currently no opportunity to apply for a waiver for the assessment programs. Ms. Carter will keep BOE chairs informed if the Region needs BOE support.

**X. Executive Session for the Purpose of Reviewing and Discussing the Superintendent's Evaluation for the 21-22 School Year.**

Mrs. Drislane made a motion to enter an Executive Session for the Purpose of Reviewing and Discussing the Superintendent's Evaluation for the 21-22 School Year and invited Ms. Carter and Dr. Roy to the Executive Session. Mrs. Dodge seconded at 7:48 pm. 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 7:53pm. No action was taken.

**XI. Public Comment** - Vanessa Hinman reported some concerns she had about grades being entered into PowerSchool. She is hoping they can be entered earlier in the future so she is able to be proactive with her child if needed.

**XII. Adjournment:** Mr. Devino made a motion to adjourn at 7:56 pm. Mrs. Dodge seconded. Vote: 7-yes Mr. Devino, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Drislane, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jacques, Mrs. Marchi, and Mrs. Simmons.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerry Rooney

Approved: November 8, 2022