



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 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.*

A meeting was held: Lindsey Crane, Stephannie Grant, Amy Helminiak, Christopher Jacques, and Brooke Riva.

Others present: Beth Johnson, Principal; Melony Brady-Shanley, Superintendent

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mr. Jacques.

II. Consent Agenda

Mr. Jacques made a motion to approve the April 8, 2025 minutes, as written. Mrs. Grant seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Helminiak, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Riva.

III. LCSA Award and CABE Awards presented

Mrs. Johnson announced the winner of the LCSA Award and the winners for the CABE Student Leadership Award. She introduced P. Handlowich and A. Funk, both in 8th grade as the recipients for the CABE Award and K. Holst-Grubbe, in 8th grade as the recipient of the LCSA Award. The student's family members were present. Mrs. Johnson read biographies describing each student's accomplishments, their commitment to be of service to their peers and their integrity in and out of school.

IV. Public Comment - None

V. Communications - None

VI. Region One Report -

Superintendent Brady-Shanley provided a brief overview of the Monday, April 7, 2025 Region One Board meeting. Some of the items she reported on are listed below:

- The HVRHS Robotics team provided a demonstration and presentation on their robot.
- The math curricular program Math Medic was approved.
- 3 policies were approved.
- The 2025-2028 Non-Union Non Certified Contract for the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Region One Board Clerk was approved.
- The 2025-2028 Non-Union Non Certified Contract for the Business Operations and Project Manager was approved.

VII. All Boards Chair (ABC) Report

There was an ABC Board meeting Wednesday, April 23, 2025. A discussion was held regarding the Superintendent's Evaluation timeline and process review. Superintendent

Melony Brady-Shanley presented a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed process for the 2024-2025 year.

VIII. June meeting location/end of year dinner:

Mrs. Johnson suggested having the June Board of Education meeting at Stateline Restaurant. Dinner for the Board members will begin at 5:30 pm with the Board meeting to follow at 6:30. The Board members agreed.

IX. Board Policies (first reading) -

There was a first reading for the Addendum to the Tuition Policy and Policy 5114.12 - Challenging Behavior Prevention: Restorative Practices Response. The policies will be an action item in the June meeting.

X. Action Items:

A. Board Policies -

Mr. Jacques made a motion to the Board for the approval of the following policies: Policy 1212 Volunteers, Policy 4121 Substitute Teachers, and Policy 3323 Soliciting Prices/Bids. Mrs. Grant seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Helminiak, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Riva.

B. New Hires

1. Hiring of a 2nd grade teacher

Mr. Jacques made a motion to hire Skylar Agar as a 2nd grade teacher for the 2025-2026 school year at a Step 1 Masters with a salary rate of \$53,348. Mrs. Grant seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Helminiak, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Riva.

2. Hiring of a 3rd grade teacher

Mr. Jacques made a motion to hire Stefanie L. Remillard as a 3rd grade teacher for the 2025-2026 school year at a BA 8 with a salary rate of \$66,580.00. Mrs. Grant seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Helminiak, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Riva.

C. Approval of Grades 7 and 8 Regional Survey

Mr. Jacques made a motion to approve the Youth Voices Count survey to be administered to grades 7 and 8 students this spring. Mrs. Grant seconded. Vote: 5-yes Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Helminiak, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Riva.

XI. Administrative Reports

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

Mrs. Johnson provided a brief overview of her report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- On Tuesday, April 23rd, Pre-K through 2nd grade students at NCES created posters and cheered on their peers taking the SBAC tests. Older students followed with a spirited chant contest, turning the pep rally into a fun and uplifting event that brought a positive energy to state testing.
- NCES proudly celebrated our 35th annual Arbor Day ceremony. Fifth graders shared original poems, and first grade and Kindergarten students performed songs.

- NCES hosted our annual Arts Night, showcasing student artwork from all grade levels. The evening also featured a wonderful choral and band concert, highlighting the talents of our student musicians in grades 4 through 8.
- Mrs. Erickson is promoting reading through the Heifer International Read to Feed program. Students log their pages on the Beanstalk app and not only do they earn cool prizes but help fight world hunger.

Assistant Superintendent's Report: (A copy is available through the links on the May agenda.)
Dr. Rose was not in attendance.

Superintendent's Report: (A copy is available through the links on the May agenda.)
Superintendent Brady-Shanley provided a brief overview of her report. Some of the items she reported are listed below:

- There is a first impact from the changes at the federal level. In each of our schools, there is a .5 FTE social worker/counselor that is grant funded through EdAdvance. Unfortunately, EdAdvance has been notified that this grant will be discontinued effective December 31, 2025. EdAdvance is submitting a request for reconsideration, exploring alternative funding sources, and assessing whether they can support the position internally.
- On May 1, 2025, Dr. Rose and Superintendent Brady-Shanley attended the Troutbeck Symposium. Many Region One schools participated in the event, which highlights the rich history of the Northwest Corner.
- Senior Awards Night is being restructured. The presentation will encourage greater staff participation, ensure attendance from all National Honor Society members across all grades, and prominently recognize each of our local donors on stage throughout the event. The goal is to highlight the generous contributions the community partners make to support Region One's students. These gifts are deeply appreciated by both students and their families.

XII. Executive Session Anticipated for the Purpose of Superintendent Evaluation **[No Action Anticipated]**

The Executive Session was cancelled until the Board members could review the information needed for discussion. The Board members asked to do it virtually on May 27th at 6:30.

XIII. Public Comment - None

XIV. Adjournment

Mr. Jacques made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. Mrs. Grant seconded. Vote:
5-yes Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Helminiak, Mr. Jacques, and Mrs. Riva.

Respectfully submitted,
Kerry Rooney

Approved: June 10, 2025