

Board of Education Minutes

March 22, 2023

DRAFT

A Special Meeting - In Person of the Board of Education was held in a hybrid format on March 22, 2023, beginning at 5:30 PM in the North Stonington Education Center. Present were Mr. Alex Karpinski, Mrs. Stephanie Mastroianni, Mrs. Lisa Mazzella, Mr. Phil Mendolia, Mr. Chet Stefanowicz, Dr. Jamie Towle-Weicksel and Chairperson Christine Wagner. Also present were Superintendent Hopkins and Business Manager Mr. Bill Merrill.

1. Call to Order

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items with Students Speaking First*

None

4. **Reports**

4.a. Superintendent's Report

Nothing to report at this time.

4.b. BOE Chairman's Report

Mrs. Wagner reported that for the most part, all discussions have been regarding the budget. She appreciates everyone's comments and support on the budget.

5. **Facilities and Finance**

5.a. Review of 2023-2024 Education Budget

Mrs. Wagner indicated, that at this time we don't need to review the 2023-2024 budget as the Board has already approved it. There was further discussion regarding the alternative education program. Mr. Stefanowicz would like to have a discussion regarding the lost storage under the stage at the elementary school. In addition, would like to explore additional outdoor equipment for physical education at the elementary school. Mr. Hopkins, apologize to the Board because his team was able to determine that the hardware for the curtain was purchased early on in the school year; however,

it was paid from the regular operating budget and not non-lapsing. Also, there were three additional items that were approved from non-lapsing but were paid from the regular operating budget. This will be discussed further during another meeting.

6. **New Business**

6.a. Healthy Food Certification

On a motion by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Stefanowicz, the Board voted unanimously that Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the North Stonington Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools 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 non-school organizations and groups.

On a motion made by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Stefanowicz, the Board voted unanimously that the North Stonington 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 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.

7. Proposed for Executive Session

- Non-Renewal of One-Year Positions
- Custodial and Paraprofessionals Contract Negotiations

Motion to move into Executive Session and to invite Mr. Merrill for discussion of contract negotiations. Motion made by Mr. Karpinski and a second by Mrs. Mastroianni. Carried

Motion to move out of Executive Session made by Mr. Stefanowicz and seconded by Mr. Karpinski. Carried.

8. Public Comment*

None

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Motion made by Stefanowicz and a seconded by Karpinski. Carried.

Respectfully submitted by
Irma Wilhelm
Recording Secretary to
The Board of Education