

NORTH STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
North Stonington Education Center  
298 Norwich-Westerly Road  
North Stonington, CT 06359

*Our Goals: Safe, Valued, Sense of Belonging - Innovative Instruction – Efficient and Transparent Processes*

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

6:30 PM

**Regular Meeting - Hybrid Format**

Via Hybrid Meeting Platform

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88460093604?pwd=UFZhmGRod3ZNTWhMNno3UDR4WkZQQT09>

Passcode: 676265

Via Telephone: 646 558 8656

**AGENDA**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Public Comment**

**Please be advised that our meeting structure does not allow for two-way dialogue during public comment but the Board uses this information to guide their decision making. Depending on the topic, they may ask the Superintendent or another District employee to follow up with you. Likewise, public comment might lead to a topic being added to a future meeting agenda.**

4. **Presentations**
  - a. Give Back Club
  - b. Student Support Services
  - c. Student Recognitions:
    - CABE Awards - Logan Kumpf and Molly Perkins
    - BOE Student Ambassadors - Jon Anderson and Madison Wagner
    - Athletic Achievement - Rose Tardiff
5. **Reports**
  - a. Superintendent's Report:
    - Email update
    - Bank Account Reconciliation
    - LEARN Support for Financial Procedures
    - Information Technology Collaborative
    - New England Institute of Technology Dual Enrollment Program
    - BOE Retreat and State of the District Presentation
    - Trail Upgrade Project - Sophie Zichichi
  - b. BOE Chair's Report
  - c. Student Ambassador's Report
6. **Policy and Advocacy Discussion**
  - a. Bylaws: 9020, 9020.1, 9030, 9030.1
7. **Administrative**
  - a. Correspondence
  - b. Consent Agenda

- i. Approval of Minutes:
    - April 3, 2024
    - April 24, 2024
  - c. Move monthly financial reports to the BOF
- 8. **Old Business**
  - a. Playground Update (Equipment, Installation, Woodchips)
  - b. STEAP Grant Irrigation Update
  - c. Non-lapsing Procedures
- 9. **New Business**
- 10. **Calendar**
- 11. **Public Comment**
- 12. **Adjournment**

**NORTH STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**

298 Norwich-Westerly Rd.  
North Stonington, Connecticut  
Board of Education Meeting - May 22, 2024

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**  
Presented by Troy C. Hopkins

*Our Goals: Safe, Valued, Sense of Belonging - Innovative Instruction - Efficient and Transparent Processes*

**Staffing**

Wheeler - PE Teacher	Baylee Brackett	2024-2025
NSES - one-year 3rd Grade Teacher	Brenna Sullivan	2024-2025
Wheeler - 0.6 Social Studies Teacher	Elizabeth Short	2024-2025
Alternative Education Teacher	Kevin Noonan	2024-2025
Cub Club Director	Deb Dwyer	2024-2025
NSES Paraprofessional	Shey Carrion	Immediate
Wheeler Paraprofessional	Raquel Tucker	Immediate

**Safe, Valued, Sense of Belonging**

**The Cub Club**, before and after school program, has 24 students enrolled so far. Parents will sign up each month for the exact days they want, and will need to enroll in those sessions by the 20th of the month before.

**Wiring for new cameras** has been completed.

**Innovative Instruction**

**New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)**. Principal St. Germain, and Director of Teaching and Learning, Kim Haggerty, attended a showcase event to gather and share ideas on school and district improvement.

**New England Institute of Technology Dual Enrollment** - Wheeler Principal, Kristen St. Germain will share more.

**Eagle Scout Trail Upgrade Project** – Sophie Zichichi

**Efficient and Transparent Processes**

**Email Update** - The BOE will have Google Gmail email accounts, to be used only as backup.

**Bank Account Reconciliation** - There appears to be around a \$10,000 short fall in the BOE bank account, which may have existed for several years. We are working together with the town, and using LEARN, to identify the cause of the discrepancy and exact amount. That amount should be deposited into the account to ensure that no checks bounce. This should be resolved by the first week in June.

**Business Functions** - LEARN is working with our business office to document practices and procedures that have proven to be successful in other districts. They will also be providing training to our new business manager.

**Information Technology Collaborative** - We are working with the town to increase collaboration and training of IT personnel.

**BOE Retreat and State of the District Presentation** (October – early November?) We should schedule a BOE retreat to review goals and meeting structures. This could also be a BOE self-assessment. We may want to consider scheduling a State of the District meeting early in the next school year in order to showcase accomplishments during a non-budget season.

*Our Goals: Safe, Valued, Sense of Belonging - Innovative Instruction - Efficient and Transparent Processes*

## BOE Meeting Dates and Presentation Topics

1st Meeting of the Month	2nd Meeting of the Month	
<b>Committee Discussions (Facilities/ Finance, Policy/Advocacy) 4 members on each committee</b>	<b>Business, Reports and Presentations</b>	<b>Topic Presentation for 2nd meeting</b>
	August 23th	Facilities
September 13	September 27	Technology
October 11	October 25	Student Testing Data
Combined with November 8	November 8	Curriculum Updates
Combined with December 13	December 13	Student Activities - Fall
January 10, 2024	January 24, 2024	Superintendent's Budget
February 14	February 28	(Curr. Proposals/Updates) - removed
March 13	March 27- Special Meeting	Student Activities - Winter (postponed)
April 3	April 24 - Special Meeting at 5:30	Student Activities - Winter
May 8	May 22 - Student Recognitions	Special Services and Give Back Club
June 12- Educator Evaluation	June 26	Student Activities - Spring (June 12)
July 10	July 24	Goals Review
August 14	August 28	Facilities
September 11	September 25	Student Testing Data
October 9	October 23	Technology
November 6	November 6	Curriculum Updates
Combined with December 11	December 11	Student Activities - Fall

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Public Statements**

The North Stonington Board of Education recognizes that communication is a continuous two-way process. The Board believes that it is important to keep the public informed about educational programs, and, in turn, that the community should have the opportunity to provide input.

Communication will be a concurrent responsibility of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent of Schools will work with the members of the Board of Education to conduct an active and comprehensive program throughout the school district and community for the prompt dissemination of information about decisions made at all Board meetings. Releases to the press and brief summaries of Board meeting actions prepared for distribution to staff members and parent/guardians are regarded as appropriate media of information for meeting the requirements of this bylaw. Press releases relative to Board of Education action shall be released only by the Board Chairperson.

(cf. 1112.2-School News Releases)

(cf. 1120-Board of Education Meetings)

**Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 6, 2007**

NORTH STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

North Stonington, Connecticut

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Public Statements**

#### **Advocacy**

The Board of Education believes that advocacy is a critical part of its activity and an important responsibility of school Board members. Advocacy is engagement in the political process at local, state and national levels to influence the public policies that affect Boards of Education and school children.

Education advocacy requires the Board of Education to publicly state what is needed to achieve effective public education. It is a recognition that the Board of Education has an important message to deliver to all governmental levels, the media and community, that affect educational policy and power to influence outcomes.

Education must be a priority in local, state and national policy and actions. Advocacy is necessitated by the many laws mandated on the school district by the state and federal government as well as regulations promulgated by State and Federal Departments of Education.

School Board members, respected by legislators are powerful advocates, with the responsibility to explain to legislators, the local impact of state and federal policy decisions. Local school Board members must help the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education deliver its message to legislators.

In fulfilling its advocacy responsibilities, the Board of Education will cooperate with parent groups, other educators, special interest groups, business and service organizations other school Boards, CABE, and community members to achieve favorable legislation on education issues. Coalition building is critical to effective advocacy.

The Board of Education will develop a plan to fulfill its advocacy responsibilities.

To fulfill its advocacy role, the Board of Education will:

1. join a broad advocacy network, including CABE membership, at the state and national levels;
2. recognize the Board of Education Chairperson, as the press spokesperson for the Board of Education on state and national educational issues;
3. use varied available means of communication, such as newsletter, general media, public forums to publicize federal and state legislative policy issues being addressed by the Board;
4. agree, as a Board, in its lobbying effort on the particular issues and tactics, to be given priority;
5. cooperate, in a coalition with other Boards of Education, teachers parents, administrators, local elected officials, business and community leaders on agreed upon education lobbyist issues;

6. use media as an advocacy tool, meeting with the editorial board of newspapers serving the local area, writing letters to the editor and talking with reporters on educational legislative issues.

**Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 6, 2007**

NORTH STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

North Stonington, Connecticut

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Commitment to Democratic Principles in Relation to Community, Staff, Students**

#### **Board-Staff Communications**

The North Stonington Board of Education recognizes the need to maintain open communication between itself and the staff. Essentially, communications with staff deal with three general areas -- administration, policy and philosophy. While the Board recognizes the necessity for Board-staff communications, it also recognizes that administrative matters must be dealt with through its chief administrator. Hence, the basic line of communication for administrative matters shall be through the Superintendent.

#### **1. Staff Communications to the Board**

All formal reports to the Board or any Board committee from administrators, supervisors, teachers or other staff members shall be submitted through the Superintendent. This necessary procedure shall not be construed as denying the right of any employee to appeal to the Board from administrative decisions on important matters, provided that the Superintendent shall have been notified of the forthcoming appeal and that it is processed in accordance with the Board's policy on complaints and grievances. (cf. 4135.4 and 4235.4 re Complaints/Grievances)

Staff members are also reminded that Board meetings are public meetings. As such, they provide an excellent opportunity to observe and participate first hand the Board's deliberations on problems of staff concern.

#### **2. Board Communication to Staff**

All official communications, policies and directives of staff interest and concern will be communicated to staff members through the Superintendent, and the Superintendent will employ all such media as are appropriate to keep staff fully informed of the Board's problems, concerns and actions. (cf. [9020](#)-Public Statements)

#### **3. Visits to Schools**

Individual Board members interested in visiting schools or classrooms will make arrangements for visitations through the administrators of the various schools. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes. Official visits by Board members will be conducted only under Board authorization and with the full knowledge of staff, including the Superintendent, building administrators and other supervisors.

#### **4. Social Interaction**

Staff and Board members share an interest in the schools and in education generally, and it is to be expected that when they meet at social affairs and other functions, they will informally discuss such matters as educational trends, issues, and innovations and general school district problems. Individual Board members have no special authority except when they are convened



at a legal meeting of the Board or vested with special authority by Board action. Board of Education members are expected to avoid discussion of:

- A. Matters that are, or have the potential of becoming, the subject of an executive session;
- B. Information and data contained in personnel records protected by the privacy act;
- C. Contested issues that may require final resolution by the Board.

(cf. 2220- Representative and Deliberative Groups re staff involvement in decision making)

(cf. [5145](#)- Civil and Legal Rights & Responsibilities)

(cf. [9133](#)- Special/Advisory Committee re: staff advisory committee and student advisory committee)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-220](#) Duties of boards of education.

**Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 6, 2007**

NORTH STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

North Stonington, Connecticut

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Commitment to Democratic Principles in Relation to Community, Staff, Students**

#### **Conflicts in Public Education**

Our nation urgently needs a reaffirmation of our shared commitment, as American citizens, to the guiding principles of the Religious Liberty clauses of the First Amendment to the Constitution. The rights and responsibilities of the Religious Liberty clauses provide the civic framework within which we are able to debate our differences, to understand one another, and to forge public policies that serve the common good in public education.

Today, many American communities are divided over educational philosophy, school reform, and the role of religion and values in our public schools. Conflict and debate are vital to democracy. Yet, if controversies about public education are to advance the best interests of the nation, then how we debate, and not only what we debate, is critical.

This Statement of Principles is not an attempt to ignore or minimize differences that are important and abiding, but rather a reaffirmation of what we share as American citizens across our differences.

Democratic citizenship does not require a compromise of our deepest convictions. We invite all men and women of good will to join us in affirming these principles and putting them into action. The time has come for us to work together for academic excellence, fairness, and shared civic values in our nation's schools.

In the spirit of the First Amendment, we propose the following principles as civic ground rules for addressing conflicts in public education:

#### **I. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY FOR ALL**

Religious liberty is an inalienable right of every person.

As Americans we all share the responsibility to guard that right for every citizen. The Constitution of the United States with its Bill of Rights provides a civic framework of rights and responsibilities that enables Americans to work together for the common good in public education.

#### **II. THE MEANING OF CITIZENSHIP**

Citizenship in a multi-cultural society means living with our deepest differences and committing ourselves to work for public policies that are in the common interest of all individuals, families, communities and our nation.

The framers of our Constitution referred to this concept of moral responsibility as civic virtue.

#### **III. PUBLIC SCHOOLS BELONG TO ALL CITIZENS**

Public schools must model the democratic process and constitutional principles in the development of policies and curricula.

Policy decisions by officials or governing bodies should be made only after appropriate involvement of those affected by the decision and with due consideration for the rights of those holding dissenting views.

#### **IV. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Public schools may not inculcate nor inhibit religion. They must be places where religion and religious conviction are treated with fairness and respect.

Public schools uphold the First Amendment when they protect the religious liberty rights of students of all faiths or none. Schools demonstrate fairness when they ensure that the curriculum includes study about religion, where appropriate, as an important part of a complete education.

#### **V. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOLS**

Parents are recognized as having the primary responsibility for the upbringing of their children, including education.

Parents who send their children to public schools delegate to public school educators some of the responsibility for their children's education. In so doing, parents acknowledge the crucial role of educators without abdicating their parental duty. Parents may also choose not to send their children to public schools and have their children educated at home or in private schools. However, private citizens, including business leaders and others also have the right to expect public education to give students tools for living in a productive democratic society. All citizens must have a shared commitment to offer students the best possible education. Parents have a special responsibility to participate in the activity of their children's schools. Children and schools benefit greatly when parents and educators work closely together to shape school policies and practices and to ensure that public education supports the societal values of their community without undermining family values and convictions.

#### **VI. CONDUCT OF PUBLIC DISPUTES**

Civil debate, the cornerstone of a true democracy, is vital to the success of any effort to improve and reform America's public schools.

Personal attacks, name-calling, ridicule, and similar tactics destroy the fabric of our society and undermine the educational mission of our schools. Even when our differences are deep, all parties engaged in public disputes should treat one another with civility and respect, and should strive to be accurate and fair. Through constructive dialogue we have much to learn from one another.

**Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 6, 2007**

**NORTH STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

North Stonington, Connecticut

**Board of Education Minutes**  
April 3, 2024

**DRAFT**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held in a hybrid format on April 3, 2024, beginning at 6:30 PM in the North Stonington Education Center. Present were, Mr. Karpinski, Mrs. Main, Mrs. Mastroianni, Mr. Mazzella, Mr. Stefanowicz, Dr. Towle-Weicksel, and Mrs. Wagner. Mr. Burdick was Absent  
Also present were Mr. Hopkins, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Merrill, Business Manager.

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Mastroianni called the Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. Public Comment**

Please be advised that our meeting structure does not allow for two-way dialogue during public comment, but the Board uses this information to guide their decision-making. Depending on the topic, they may ask the Superintendent or another District employee to follow up with you. Likewise, public comment might lead to a topic being added to a future meeting agenda.

No public comments.

Motion to add to add Before & After Care as item 5.b. and Irrigation as 5. c. This motion, made by Mrs. Mazzella and seconded by Dr. Towle-Weicksel, Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**4. Facility and Finance Discussion**

**4.a. Monthly Financial Reports**

Mr. Bill Merrill, Business Manager, reported the Monthly Financial Report for March 2024. The original report is attached to the original minutes. Questions were asked and answered.

4.b. Non-lapsing

Motion to approve the expenditure of \$9,609.39 for GameTime (Sensory Wave).

This motion, made by Mrs. Mazzella and seconded by Mrs. Main, Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve \$2,991.00 for American Parks Company (Bouncy Balance Beam).

This motion, made by Mazzella and seconded by Main, Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve \$3,450.00 for BellXcel (Arly) Software for the Before & After

School program. This motion, made by Mazzella and seconded by Mr. Karpinski,  
Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Abstain, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1

Motion to approve \$1,060.00 for Sportees. This motion, made by Mazzella and  
seconded by Karpinski, Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve \$116 for Sheffield Pottery; \$81.03, \$430.06, and \$834.80 for  
Riverhead Building Supply. This motion, made by Mazzella and seconded by Main,  
Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,

Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**5. Old Business**

5.a. FY25 Budget

Mrs. Mastroianni, Chair, reported on the FY25 budget. The BOF accepted what was given to them and they moved the BOE to a budget hearing that will take place on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The report is in the original of the minutes.

5.b. Before & After School Program

Motion to open an account for the Before & After School Program. This motion, made by Towle-Weicksel and seconded by Mazzella, Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Nay, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Nay

Yea: 5, Nay: 2, Absent: 1

5.c. Irrigation

Mrs. Stephanie Mastroianni, Chair reported on the Irrigation Project, which is through the STEAP grant and it has to go through different agencies to be approved. This project has landed with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which requires an archaeological assessment survey. Questions were asked and answered.

**6. New Business**

6.a. Superintendent's Staffing Report

Mr. Troy Hopkins reported on staffing. Athletic Director, BCBA, Special Education Teachers, Teachers for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Social Studies position. Mr. Merrill is retiring at the end of the year. An ad went out for the Business Manager position.

**7. Policy Approval**

None

**8. BOE Comments for Future Agenda Items**

Mrs. Wagner would like a replacement for the Capital Committee, the next meeting is Monday, April 8. Mrs. Mazzella has volunteered to step into the role.

**9. Public Comments**

None

**10. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. This motion, made by Karpinski and seconded by Main,  
Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Yea,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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

## Board of Education Minutes

April 24, 2024

### DRAFT

A Special Meeting - Hybrid Format of the Board of Education was held in a hybrid format on April 24, 2024, beginning at 5:30 PM in the North Stonington Education Center. Present were Mr. Burdick, Mrs. Main, Mrs. Mastroianni, Mr. Stefanowicz, Dr. Towle-Weicksel and Mrs. Wagner. Mr. Burdick arrived at 5:38 p.m., Mr. Karpinski joined via Zoom at 6:08 p.m. Also present were Mr. Troy Hopkins and Ms. Ana Zeeman, the Student Ambassador elect (for 2024-2025 school year).

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mastroianni called the Special Board of Education meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to move the Superintendent's Report to 3. b. This motion, made by Wagner and seconded by Stefanowicz, Carried.

Burdick: Absent, Karpinski: Absent, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Comment

Please be advised that our meeting structure does not allow for two-way dialogue during public comment but the Board uses this information to guide their decision making. Depending on the topic, they may ask the Superintendent or another District employee to follow up with you. Likewise, public comment might lead to a topic being added to a future meeting agenda.

None.

4. **Presentations**

Motion to move 5.a to 4.a. This motion, made by Wagner and seconded by Stefanowicz, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent,



Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

4.a. Student Activities - Winter

Mrs. Ellen Turner reported on the Student Activities - Winter. Her report is attached to the original minutes.

5. **Reports**

5.a. **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Troy Hopkins, Superintendent, reported. The report is attached with the original minutes.

5.a.i. Staffing

5.a.ii. Goals

5.b. BOE Chair's Report

The Board of Education Chair will cover her report in Old Business.

5.c. Student Ambassador's Report

Mr. Jon Anderson, Student Ambassador, reported on Wheeler.

Ms. Madison Wagner, Student Ambassador, reported on North Stonington Elementary School.

6. Policy and Advocacy Discussion

None

7. **Administrative**

7.a. Correspondence

Heard.

7.b. **Consent Agenda**

7.b.i. **Approval of Minutes**

7.b.i.a. March 13, 2024

Motion to approve the March 13, 2024 meeting minutes as amended. This motion, made by Main and seconded by Towle-Weicksel, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Abstain, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea,

Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (Not present at meeting): 1

7.b.i.b. March 27, 2024

Motion to approve the March 27, 2024 meeting minutes as amended. This motion, made by Wagner and seconded by Towle-Weicksel, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

7.c. Move monthly financial reports to the BOF

Motion to move the March monthly financial report to the Board of Finance. This motion, made by Main and seconded by Towle-Weicksel, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8. **Old Business**

8.a. Budget

Chairperson Mastroianni reported.

8.b. Cub Club

Chairperson Mastroianni reported. Mr. Hopkins reported there are twenty-one students enrolled.

8.c. STEAP Grant

Motion to proceed with the STEAP grant and to have Susan vet the SHPO consultant and to spend up to \$5,000. This motion, made by Wagner and seconded by Stefanowicz, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Chairperson Mastroianni reported on the STEAP Grant

8.d. Non-lapsing procedures

Motion to authorize the chair signing off approved invoices from the non-lapsing account. This motion, made by Wagner and seconded by Towle-Weicksel, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea  
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

9. **New Business**

9.a. Approve Healthy Food Certification (vote required)

Motion to approve to participate in healthy food certification as follows: 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, 2024, through June 30, 2025. 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. This motion, made by Towle-Weicksel and seconded by Wagner, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent, Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion to approve to participate in the combined food and beverage exemptions as follows: 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 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. This motion, made by Burdick and seconded by Karpinski,

Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

10. Calendar

The next meeting will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 8 is a Regular meeting and we will meet at 6:30 p.m.

11. Public Comment

None

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Education. This motion, made by Stefanowicz and seconded by Burdick, Carried.

Burdick: Yea, Karpinski: Yea, Main: Yea, Mastroianni: Yea, Mazzella: Absent,  
Stefanowicz: Yea, Towle-Weicksel: Yea, Wagner: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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