

**THE NORTH HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
5 LINSLEY STREET
NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

MINUTES

Date: March 8, 2007

Attendance at this REGULAR Meeting: John Lambert, Alicia Clapp, Sandra Cummings, Anthony DeChello, Stephen DiCapua, Suzanne Donofrio, James Hogan, Joseph Nuzzo, and Sara-Jane R. Querfeld, Superintendent of Schools.

Meeting called to order by Chairman John Lambert at 7:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes, February 8, 2007
 - a. January 11, 2007 minutes corrected to reflect correct bond rate of 3.92

Moved: to approve minutes of February 8, 2007 Approved

MOTION: James Hogan
SECOND: Anthony DeChello
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

2. Budgets:
 - a. 2006-2007 Budget
 - b. State and Federal Funds
 - c. Extra-Curricular Activities

Moved: to accept the budget reports and place them on file Approved

MOTION: Sandra Cummings
SECOND: Anthony DeChello
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

Dr. Hogan asked about the 165% used in legal fees. Mrs. Querfeld explained that the amount was over this year due to mediation and arbitration of the teacher's contract, and the support staff's contract going to mediation.

3. Report of Standing Committees
 - a. Finance and Operations

The committee met earlier in the evening and Mr. DiCapua reported that the current year's budget is in good shape. The short fall in special education transportation will be offset by the increase in the excess cost funding North Haven will receive.

b. Personnel

1. Approval to Hire Louis Iannotti, M.S. Boy's Baseball Coach (enc)

Moved: to approve hiring Louis Iannotti as the M.S. Boy's Baseball Coach
Approved

MOTION: Sandra Cummings
SECOND: James Hogan
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

c. Curriculum, Instruction and Planning

1. Approval of June 21, 2007 as the Graduation Date

Moved: to approve June 21, 2007 as the graduation date Approved

MOTION: John Lambert
SECOND: Anthony DeChello
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

Mrs. Donofrio reported in Mrs. Rocklin's absence. The request to keep the date of graduation as June 21, 2007 is due to the fact that the last day of school is now Friday, June 22. Project Graduation needs to be held on a day other than Friday.

2. Approve Board Policy 10023: Student Discipline (enc)

Moved: to approve Board Policy 10023: Student Discipline
Approved

MOTION: Sandra Cummings
SECOND: Anthony DeChello
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

Mrs. Donofrio reported that Mary VanDeun, Pat Brozek and Russ Dallai met with the committee to review the policy. Attorneys from Shipman & Goodwin recommended North Haven's discipline policy be updated.

3. Approve Out-of-State Field Trips (enc.)

- a. Middle School to BODIES Exhibit, New York, 5/24/07
- b. High School to BODIES Exhibit, New York 5/2/07

Moved: to approve two out-of-state field trips to the BODIES
Exhibit in New York

Approved

MOTION: James Hogan
SECOND: Sandra Cummings
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

Mr. Nuzzo asked if the middle school students would be paying for the trip, as it was reported that the high school students are. Mrs. Querfeld said it depends on whether the schools have exhausted their field trip funds, and the high school has exhausted all their funds.

d. ACES

Mrs. Clapp attended the meeting at ACES today and reported that Jack Hasegawa from the State Department was in attendance. Mr. Hasegawa was very complimentary to North Haven and their accomplishments with the Open Choice program. Mr. Hasegawa also informed the group that the State has changed the way they are doing some of their funding. The State used to get \$350,000 to distribute to those school systems that have open choice students. They are now asking for \$1,000,000. This change would mean that any district having more than 10 students, the amount given per child to the school district would go from \$300 to almost \$800. Mr. Hasegawa also said there is a sensitivity program, "World of Difference," which can provide teachers and students with sensitivity training. Also discussed was the selection process for Open Choice, the need to try and accommodate siblings, and needed investment by parents in the school district their children are attending.

In addition, budgets were discussed. Village Street will have the highest increase. ACES tuitions are lower than other RESC facilities.

e. North Haven PTA Council

Mrs. Donofrio reported that the council will meet on March 26, 2007, 7:00 p.m., high school library.

f. School Building Committee

Mr. DiCapua reported that the committee is winding down. Renovations still need to be completed on the grandstand at the football field.

4. Superintendent's Report

a. Enrollment

The NEASC Visiting Committee will arrive on Sunday, March 25th. The committee will meet with board members at 3:00 p.m. Following the meeting, high school staff and administration will join the board members for a reception.

On March 3, 2007, Dr. Hogan and the North Haven Association of Black Citizens, First Selectman Kevin Kopetz and the schools hosted a Diversity Forum. The forum was one of the best attended. There were representatives from all schools.

Mrs. Querfeld represented the school system at the Economic Development Breakfast this morning. Mrs. Querfeld had the opportunity to discuss some of the schools' science endeavors with local businesses. The goal is to develop partnerships between the schools and businesses.

Mrs. Querfeld attended the dress rehearsal for "West Side Story," performed by the high school.

Pamphlets have gone out in the search for a new principal at Green Acres Elementary School. Three pamphlets were sent to each school district in the state. The position will also be advertised for two Sundays in the Hartford Courant and the New Haven Register.

The summer school brochure is available. North Haven will again partner with North Branford Public Schools. North Haven will again host an academic portion.

Future Problem Solvers Scenario Writing Competition went very well. North Haven finalists are: Junior Michael Rose, First Place Senior Division; Senior Sara Peck, Third Place Senior Division; and Kaitlin Fung, Second Place Middle Division. High School teacher Dan O'Brian coaches the students. The students will receive their awards at UCONN near the end of March, in addition to attending the International Competition.

North Haven's Chinese Grant is moving along very nicely. Mrs. Querfeld was invited to the Chinese class New Year's celebration and shared a card she received from the students. Mrs. Querfeld will travel to China during April vacation.

Pi Day is March 14th at the high school. Mrs. Querfeld and the high school administration will judge the Pi contest. There will be many other activities.

Mrs. Querfeld traveled to Enfield to watch the North Haven girl's basketball team compete in their tournament game against Ferme High School. Although the girls gave their very best effort, they were defeated. The boy's hockey team was also defeated by South Windsor. Both teams did a very good job and North Haven is very proud of them. The boys and girls sports banquets will be held in the next couple of weeks.

CAPT and CMT testing is taking place this week.

Work continues on the standard based report cards and walkthroughs.

Mrs. Clapp said there has been a recall on defibrillators and wondered if the ones North Haven has have been recalled. Mrs. Querfeld was not aware of any problems but will check with Mrs. Sauerbrunn.

5. Public Comments

Mrs. McCarty asked for the Excess Cost reimbursement. Mr. DiCapua said it was between 93%and 96%. Mrs. Querfeld commented that the \$600,000 received was based on 96%, but in actuality it will be 93%. The school district is in the process of updating their eligibility and then the state will refigure based on what is going on right now.

Mrs. McCarty asked for two lines about the student discipline policy and how it is different from what we have. Mrs. Querfeld explained that the law had changed to require mandatory expulsions for students caught selling or distributing drugs outside of school. The law also changed to require mandatory expulsion for students who engaged in weapon behavior outside of school. The district's policy had not been updated to reflect these changes in the law. Other minor changes were made including a more clearly defined procedure for expulsion.

6. Executive Session - none

7. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.

MOTION: James Hogan
SECOND: Sandra Cummings
AYE: Unanimous
NAY:

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Cummings
Secretary