



North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public School
Board of Education Meeting
Meeting/Minutes

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Joseph Solimene, Randi Petersen, Dorothy Logan, Wesley O'Brien, Jennifer Cecarelli, Amanda Gabriele, Goldie Adele, Eleni Diakogeorgiou, Patrick Stirk, Superintendent of Schools, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Pamela Mangini, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Jen Stewart, and Interim Director of Student Services, Jen Kozniewski

Thursday, June 11, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Anderson called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence in memory of Dr. Harold Bornstein who passed away last week. Dr. Bornstein acted as a physician for the district and sports teams for many years, and also to remember Gerald Nolan, a retired administrator in North Haven Public Schools.

- I. Consent Agenda
 - A. May 21, 2020 BOE Meeting Minutes
 - B. June 2, 2020 Special BOE Meeting Minutes
 - C. Retirement of Patricia Schiller, Library/Media Specialist

Mrs. Logan stated that she had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Schiller, who has worked in the district for over 30 years. Mrs. Logan thanked her for her years of service and wished her well in her retirement.

Motion: To approve the items on the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabrielle
SECOND: Joseph Solimene
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

2. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Mr. Stirk began his report stating that he would like to speak regarding the current climate around our country. Stating there is a great need to focus on change and equity all over our country. In education we look at equity through many different lenses, including students and teachers. Currently it is the duty of North Haven to provide all students an equal opportunity to fully access the Distance Learning platform. And for the teachers, support staff and administrators to engage with all families so we can meet them where they are in order to fulfill their education, social, emotional and physical needs. He continued stating that in the coming months North Haven will return to school in some capacity. North Haven will continue to provide and offer families support in their transition back to school and support them in coping with the uncertainty and upheaval this pandemic may have caused in their lives. Mr. Stirk assured the community that North Haven Public Schools is committed to providing all students and families an equal, fair and just educational experience. And that as a district North Haven Public Schools must acknowledge that there is continuous work to be done to achieve this. North Haven is ready and committed to this challenge.

- a. Class Rank Update

Mr. Stirk reported that he would like to table this discussion. Mr. Stirk feels that the committee will reconvene after the summer and bring further discussions back to the Board at a later time, stating that reopening schools is the main priority at this time. Mr. Stirk thanked the committee for all the work they have put in and looks forward to working with them again.

b. Reopening of Schools Update

Mr. Stirk reported:

- surveys will go out periodically throughout the summer months to both students, teachers and parents. The first of the many was sent out to families and staff this week. There were a total of 1440 who participated in the first survey. As it stands now 54% of our parents would send their student back to school tomorrow if it opened. There were 95% of our teachers and staff that plan to return to work on August 31st.
- The State has not released any guidelines for the reopening of schools.
- Working together with other districts, North Haven has begun ordering the necessary PPE supplies through the ACES Consortium.
Three scenarios for the reopening of schools: the first being that school will be back in session full time following safety guidelines, the second scenario would be a full Distance Learning Experience, with the intent to improve our delivery platform and instruction, as well as mimic the traditional school setting, and the third scenario would be a model which will have a smaller amount of students in a school at one time. This would honor social distance and occupancy parameters. This would mean students would be in school for part of the week while using Distance Learning the other part.
- Schools will be cleaned aligned with the State Department of Health guidelines.
- These scenarios are being planned because we do not know what September will bring. The District may have to move between one scenario and another depending on the State and Local guidelines.
- Community will be updated as information becomes available, as Districts are still awaiting guidance
Mr. Stirk

3. Director of Student Services Report

Information Item

a. Special Education Update

Mrs. Stewart reported:

- Extended School Year (ESY) program letters will be going out to families, stating the amount of time each student will have. Staff will contact families for times they are slotted for. Many of these sessions will be through live feeds.
- Any questions or concerns can contact Mrs. Stewart directly.

b. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operations Report
2. Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Information Item

Information Item

Mrs. Mangini reported:

- Bus negotiations are almost complete
- fiscal year budget is trending at this time. Will end the year in the black.
- Excess costs grant payment was received. North Haven received just under \$1.4 million, which was exactly what was expected.
- District is on top of our other Grants and they are in good shape
- Food Service Management Contract is complete and the State has approved North Haven's Contract.

3. Approval to accept the Healthy Food Option as stated for 2020-2021

Motion: To approve the Healthy Food Option as stated for the 2020-2021 school year: Pursuant to the C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the 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, 2020 through June 30, 2021. 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, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups. Approved

MOVED: Joseph Solimene
SECOND: Amanda Gabriele
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

4. Approval to accept the Exemptions for Food Items for the 2020-2021

Motion: to approve the Exemptions for Food Items for the 2020-21 School Year as stated: the Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards 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 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, 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. Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Cecarelli
SECOND: Amanda Gabriele
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

5. Approval to accept the Beverage Exemptions for the 2020-2021

Motion: to approve the Beverage Exemptions for the 2020-2021 school year as stated: The Board of Education will allow the sale to students of 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 beverages 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. The "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 sales. Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Dorothy Logan
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

6. Approval to Accept Food Service Management Company Contract

Motion: to approve and accept the Food Service Management Company Contract,
with Compass USA/Chartwells

Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Dorothy Logan
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

The Board of Education had some questions regarding the Food Service Company during the COVID-19 and Mr. Stirk and Mrs. Mangini assured the Board that administrators and Chartwells are working very close, and they are going above and beyond to abide by all State guidelines.

Mrs. Anderson stated that before the meeting went to the Public Comment portion of the meeting, she would like to thank Zoi Burns, who was the Board of Education Senior Student Representative. Mrs. Anderson congratulated her on graduation and wished her well at college. Mrs. Anderson continued to Congratulate the entire NHHS Class of 2020.

Mr. Solimene also thanked Dr. Dallai and the North Haven Education Foundation for all their support and organizing the special events for our Senior Graduates, including delivering their caps and gowns as well as lawn signs for each graduate

4. Public Comments: a link to request to join for public comment will be posted to the Facebook page before the meeting. Please install the latest version of Zoom from zoom.us if you intend to join the meeting. Join information will be provided upon submission of the form

- Katie O'Shaughnessey commented regarding the issue of Class Rank and her opinion that there should not be class rank.
- Sarah Kenyon commented with her concerns regarding the Distance Learning Process in the North Haven District. She feels more support is needed for the students and families.
- Dave Woyciez commented regarding online classes and wanted to know if the District got advice from local universities. Mrs. Kosziewski answered his question accordingly.

5. Executive Session- not needed

6. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn

Approved

MOVED: Amanda Gabriele
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson
Anita Anderson
Chairperson