

**NEW CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
GENERAL MEETING
NEW CANAAN HIGH SCHOOL ~WAGNER ROOM
June 4, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

I. Call to Order

Chair, Ms. Carlson, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Attendance:

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Present	√	7:05 PM	√	√	√	√		√	√
Absent							√		

II. Approve Minutes: May 21, 2018

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Richardson.

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√		√		√	√		√	
No									
Abstain				√					√

Approve Minutes: Special Meeting May 30, 2018

Ms. West moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Hayes.

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√		√	√		√		√	√
No									
Abstain					√				

III. Review and approve agenda: BOE Meeting, June 4, 2018

Ms. West moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Hobbs.

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√		√	√	√	√		√	√
No									
Abstain									

IV. Comments from the Public

Parents and students spoke about changing school start times. Parents discussed the negative effects of reduced sleep and the toll it takes on both the physical and mental health of students. They also commented on the district survey that was sent. Students gave examples of a typical day and how it is hard for them to fall asleep at night. Extra time in the morning would allow them to get additional sleep and improve their attention at school.

V. Reports and Recognition

1. CABE Student Awards

Dr. Luizzi

The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education honor two seniors at the high school who exhibit exemplary leadership skills, show concern for others and have the dedication to honor commitment. This year the recipients were Olivia Buckley and Will Dooley. When Dr. Luizzi met Olivia he stated that he was struck by her thoughtful nature. She aspires to help others and has much to offer. She formerly competed in the Junior Olympics as a synchronized swimmer. She was also a leader in the Caring Crew Club and president of the Autism Awareness Club. She is described as compassionate, well organized, committed and driven. She plans on attending Dickinson College in the fall. Will sets the tone for NCHS every morning by broadcasting the morning announcements. He is described as a star in the making, witty and motivated. He has had lead roles in many of the school productions and is also very strong academically. He is a committed scholar, a motivated leader and has intellectual energy and enthusiasm. Will is very active in his church community and has volunteered in many storm relief efforts. He will be attending Boston College next year.

2. Recognize Retiring Staff

Dr. Luizzi

Dr. Luizzi recognized seven retiring teachers and administrators. Peggy DeSantis worked 15 years as an Art Teacher at East School. She was a true leader and always supported her fellow teachers. Josef Graham worked at Saxe Middle School for the past 38 years as a Math Teacher. He was one of the first teachers to teach mini courses in STEM and was described as an instructor who taught “the whole child”. At East School, Rob Polley is leaving after 20 years. He is described as a skilled critical thinker and innovator that always helped when needed. Colleen Durkin is retiring after 18 years of teaching Math at Saxe. She kept students at the center of instruction and taught students through real world learning. Attending the meeting was Carol Dacey, a SPED Instructional Leader from South School. For the past 13 years she was insightful, dedicated and created strong bonds with the staff that she worked with. Lou Marinelli has dedicated 31 years to the high school as a PE Teacher and Head Football Coach. He has been a positive role model for students and a compassionate teacher. He will remain at NCHS as the Head Football Coach. Greg Macedo has been the Principal of Saxe for the past 25 years. He has been through two school renovations and has been a positive spirit and problem solver.

3. School Start/End Times

Dr. Luizzi

Dr. Luizzi presented a preliminary research review of school start times. He attended a conference last April on adolescent sleep, health and school start times. With a later start time, research shows less depression, substance abuse and fewer car crashes. It can also improve attendance, reduce tardiness and may improved grades. In September, teachers, administrators and instructional leaders had an open dialogue about what is happening in this area and reviewed current research. Hanover did a study for New Canaan and found that student health and wellness was the most influential factor in choosing to delay school start times. As they looked at peer districts, they found that a delay in high school start times have resulted in more sleep and a more positive culture at each school. They also found that parents are most concerned with impacts to their work schedules. Changes in transportation, athletic schedule and effects on staff schedules will be challenging and they stated that transparency will be a key factor in each phase of the process. A survey was sent out to stakeholders about school start and end times to gather feedback, concerns and motivations. The results included 1,312 middle and high school students, 1,126 parents/guardians and 379 staff members. Although they have the initial data, it has not yet been disaggregated. Recommendations from the study show that NCPS should continue researching a schedule with a slightly later start/end times for middle and high school and slightly earlier start/end times for elementary schools. Also recommended was to explore how other school districts have supported staff while implementing changes. The sense of the Board was to continue to move forward with Dr. Luizzi’s recommendation to have a consultant work with the district and its constituents and

form a committee in the fall. This committee would bring forth options with budgetary impacts in November for the Board to review.

4. District Goals Review Administrative Team

District Goal 1 is to Increase Student Learning as Measured by Multiple and Varied Assessment. Dr. Correnty discussed the progress of Objective 1 of this goal and how the CLC meeting monthly to discuss common assessments and depth of student knowledge. They are working on vertical alignment at different grade levels. Objective 2 deals with graduation requirements and a committee is being created to look at standards. For Objective 3, STEM initiatives, multiple presentations by Ms. Meyer have discussed standard based grading and Next Generation State Standards. For Goal 4, Health curriculum, Jonathan Adams has made several presentations. Grades three and four will have new units of study for next year. Mr. Salvestrini has assisted in Objective 5 by presenting professional learning to staff about Digital Citizenship and what it looks like in the classroom. He has also looked at different units of study and the integration of Librarians and TPs (Tech Integrators) into the classroom at the elementary schools. Objective 6 includes Response to Intervention (RTI) and ELL (English Language Learners). Staff have been following the RTI guidebook, meeting regularly and sub committees have been working hard with students. In ELL, 23 of the 59 students will be exiting at the end of this year. World Language teachers are currently working on Objective 7 and are still gathering data. At the high school, 81% of students participate in a world language and 266 students received a “Bi-literacy Seal” this year. Goal 2 is the Communications Goal. Website managers have been meeting on a monthly basis and have worked on the uniformity of all the district sites. Twitter has been used by administration as a quick way to get out positive messages and the Crisis Team has developed updated communication protocols for different emergencies. Goal 3 deals with Exemplary Professional Practices. Dr. Correnty and Ms. Woleck gave a presentation to the Board about TEPL and included that work is being done on coaching the next level of teacher leaders. At the last meeting, an update was given about the Tri-State Committee and their recommendations to the district. Goal 4 revolves around Citizenship. Ms. Pianka discussed the presentation by Dr. Bliss and her review of the School Climate Survey. From this survey new goals will be made for next year. Anchor tools are going to be taught to students K – 8 next year and parent education programs and speakers will be considered. Under Safety and Security, NCPS will be hosting ALICE training over the summer and 40 staff members have already signed up. At the last Board meeting, Dr. Keating gave an overview of Goal 5 and the savings over the past three years in the areas of Employee Benefits, Facilities, Transportation and Business Operations.

5. Budget Discussion BOE & Administrative Team

Dr. Luizzi presented best recommendations for the operating budget reductions for 2019. He provided the board cuts to the proposed budget totalling \$900,000. Reductions included staff at the elementary school due to decreased enrollment, turnover savings, the restructuring of printing services, deferring of maintenance projects and deferring a Learning Management System and Media Management System Software. He also presented a financial plan for the Alternative School that showed that costs are offset by revenue and a funding plan which will allow the school to move forward for the 2018-19 school year.

VI. Comments from the Public - Parents reminded the Board that they have a lot of data readily available through their website and Facebook pages. They shared their concern that a committee that started meeting in September might not have enough time to gather data before the November deadline. They also suggested we be proactive with other districts with later start times on sports programs.

VII. Announcements and Future Meetings:

Next BOE Meeting: June 18, 2018. Proposed items: Introduce Dave Gusitsch, new Saxe Principal, Introduce new NCHS Asst. Principal, District Goals and Objectives (1st read), Athletics Update, BOE Policy #4000 (1st read), Contract Signature Authorization, Statement of Accounts, Executive Session (Negotiations).

VIII. Adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with CGS 1-200(6). The subject to be discussed is personnel matters.

Ms. Richardson moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:57 PM, seconded by Mr. Hayes.

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√
No									
Abstain									

IX. Reconvene Regular Meeting

Mr. Cronin moved to reconvene at 10:55PM, seconded by Ms. Hobbs.

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√
No									
Abstain									

X. Action Items

Renewal of Superintendent’s Contract

Move to authorize the Board Chair to enter into a contract extension with the Superintendent of Schools for the next three years.

Ms. West moved to approve, seconded by Ms. Parkhill,

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√
No									
Abstain									

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Cronin moved to adjourn at 10:57 PM, seconded by Mr. Hayes.

	Carlson	Cronin	Hayes	Hobbs	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√
No									
Abstain									

Respectfully Submitted,
 Ms. Jennifer Richardson
 Board of Education Secretary