

**NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2006 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE NCUHS LIBRARY**

**Board Members Present:** Arne Amalixsen (Chair), Steve Brochu, Ken Canning, Richard Cartee, Rick Geisel, Rose Mary Mayhew, Harold Morse, Peter Moskovites, Muriel O’Gorman, James Privee

**Board Members Absent:** Joe Gregersen (Newport Town); David Merrill (Holland); June Rosenberg (Westfield); Morgan Rep; 1 Newport City Rep

**Administration:** Bill Rivard, Bob Fitts, Thomas Pound

**Media:** Chris Roy: The Newport Dailey Express

**Student Council:** None

**Faculty Forum:** None

**Guests:** Parents, Students, Eileen Blackwood, Esq.

A, Amalixsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance the Flag. **A. Amalixsen asked for approval of the minutes of June 19<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The minutes were approved as submitted (S. Brochu/M. O’Gorman).**

**At 6:32 p.m. S. Brochu moved the board enter executive session for a student hearing, inviting Mr. Rivard, Mr. Fitts and Ms. Rubino to attend.**

**At 7:03 p.m. R. Cartee moved the board return to open session. The motion was unanimously approved (R. Cartee/R.M. Mayhew).**

A. Amalixsen noted the board had heard the evidence regarding the violation; and at this point they would vote as to whether the violation took place. R. Cartee stated they had to determine if it was a violation. **S. Brochu moved the board support the administration and that the violation did take place, seconded by R.M. Mayhew.** K. Canning stated he didn’t know if they heard from the administration; that they brought the issue to the board for them to decide if it was a weapon or a violation of policy. Mr. Rivard stated the administration brought it to the board’s attention so the board could look at the evidence and determine if this falls within the weapons policy; adding the administration felt it did. He stated once that determination was made other evidence could be supplied by the student, parent and attorney. A. Amalixsen stated that was not relevant now and K. Canning noted the intent comes in the second half of the hearing procedure. **A vote was held on the motion: R. Cartee and J. Privee voted against the motion; all others voted in favor. The motion carried (S. Brochu/R.M. Mayhew).**

**At 7:09 p.m. S. Brochu moved the board return to executive session to continue the student hearing. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/M. O’Gorman).**

**At 7:37 p.m. S. Brochu moved the board return to open session. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R.M. Mayhew).**

A. Amalixsen asked the board if they were in favor of going without the last part of the student hearing. The board concurred.

**S. Brochu moved the board follow the recommendation of the administration for Student A. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R. Cartee).**

### **Career Center Director's Report, Bob Fitts**

#### **Ad-Hoc NCCC Building Committee Update**

Mr. Fitts distributed the notes from their last meeting and reviewed the highlights with the board. He noted no Act 250 permits were necessary for any of the construction at the Land Lab site; adding they hope to begin construction there in the fall. He reviewed the criteria required for a construction manager. Mr. Fitts reported a walk-through would be held August 9<sup>th</sup>, with bids due in August 21<sup>st</sup>; that the bids would be read publicly at the NCUHS board meeting on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and a recommendation sent to the Ad-Hoc NCCC Building Committee on August 24<sup>th</sup>. He noted that committee would decide if they would accept bids as is or ask for some changes.

### **Perkins Grant**

Mr. Fitts noted at the last meeting he reported the Perkins Grant had been submitted and signed by Dr. Weston and Grant Spates, Chair of the RAB; that it was mentioned that this board chair should have signed the grant. Mr. Fitts noted that Dr. Weston contacted Tracy Gallo, Director of the DOE's Division of Lifelong Learning; and that the email had been included in the board packet, which clarified who was required to sign the grant. He noted that next year the DOE would include that this board chair sign the document as well.

**At 8:06 p.m. S. Brochu moved the board enter executive session to conduct student hearings. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R. Cartee).**

**At 8:20 p.m. S. Brochu moved the board return to open session. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/K. Canning).**

**S. Brochu moved the board follow the administration's recommendation for Student B. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R. Cartee).**

**S. Brochu moved the board follow the administration's recommendation for Student C. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R. Cartee).**

### **Principal's Report, Bill Rivard**

#### **Exchange Student**

Mr. Rivard referred to policy F.17 and requested the board accept a 2<sup>nd</sup> foreign exchange student for this next school year. R. Cartee asked if the student would have any special needs, such as an English tutor. Mr. Rivard stated there would be no such needs. **S. Brochu moved the board accept the exchange student from Germany. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R.M. Mayhew).**

### Summer School

Mr. Rivard reported they had 38 students enrolled; with 33 successfully completing science, English, math and social studies classes. He reported they did try to start a summer bridge program for science and math to give 8<sup>th</sup> grade transitioning students a chance to brush up on their skills; but only had 3 students enroll. He stated they would back track to see what they did or didn't do to get more kids enrolled. Mr. Rivard reported depending on the number of students enrolled in summer school they sometimes have morning and afternoon classes; but that the enrollment for this year was only enough to hold morning classes.

### Cleaning Schedule

Mr. Rivard reported C wing was cleaned first due to summer school; that the main office had been finished and most classes upstairs were completed. R. Cartee requested the administration send letters to the custodial staff to thank them for a job well done.

### Finance/Operation's Committee

#### Minutes

**S. Brochu moved the board approve the minutes of June 28<sup>th</sup> and July 7<sup>th</sup>. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/M. O'Gorman).**

#### Signing of Vouchers

R. Cartee reported a request had been made to allow vouchers to be signed weekly versus bi-weekly, allowing them to take advantage of discounts. **R. Cartee moved the board approve printing and signing of vouchers on a weekly basis, seconded by H. Morse.** S. Brochu noted it would be nice to do that; noting they only had so much money in the budget and asked if the additional \$40 for every week would cover the cost of what they saved. A. Amalixsen stated it was presented as most definitely they would save money. **A vote was held: all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously (R. Cartee/H. Morse).**

#### Lead Negotiator

R. Cartee reported monies for this could be found in the budget.

#### Backboards

R. Cartee stated the committee decided no decision would be made until Mr. Cain made another presentation to them; that there would be no recommendation tonight pending the finance/operation's committee meeting tomorrow night. A. Amalixsen stated he heard that as well. Mr. Rivard stated it was his understanding that he and Mr. Hilliard would present information to the committee.

#### Personnel Committee

**P. Moskovites moved the board accept the minutes of July 6, 2006. The motion was unanimously approved (P. Moskovites/H. Morse).**

#### Approve Hiring Sarah Fitts as Director of Student Services

**M. O'Gorman moved the board appoint Sarah Fitts as Director of Student Services, seconded by R. Geisel.** Mr. Rivard stated he was behind this 120%. A vote was held: R. Cartee voted against the motion; all others voted in favor. **The motion carried (M. O'Gorman/R. Geisel).**

### **Hiring Update**

M. O’Gorman reported the committee recommended that Annette Benson be offered the .25 FTE culinary arts position. **M. O’Gorman moved the board offer Annette Benson the .25% FTE culinary arts position, seconded by R. Geisel. A vote was held: R. Cartee voted against the motion; all others voted in favor. The motion carried (M. O’Gorman/R. Geisel).**

M. O’Gorman reported they recommended Betty Stewart for the health careers position; adding that Brownington would pay 20% of her salary. **M. O’Gorman moved the board offer the health careers position to Betty Stewart. The motion was unanimously approved (M. O’Gorman/S. Brochu).**

M. O’Gorman reported the committee recommended Suzette Cyr for the social studies position; that if she did not accept the offer the position would be offered to Thomas Barth. A. Amalixsen noted that both were very competent. **M. O’Gorman moved the board offer the social studies position to Suzette Cyr. The motion was unanimously approved (M. O’Gorman/S. Brochu).**

### **Negotiation’s Committee**

**R.M. Mayhew moved the board hire Dennis Wells as their lead negotiator, seconded by S. Brochu. A vote was held: J. Privee voted against the motion; all others voted in favor. The motion carried (R.M. Mayhew/S. Brochu).**

### **Any Other Business**

Mr. Rivard reported they would be receiving approximately \$112,000 from Microsoft Technologies.

**There being no further business to conduct the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:44 p.m. (S. Brochu/R.M. Mayhew).**

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Rubino  
Recording Secretary