

**NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2006 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE NCUHS LIBRARY**

Board Members Present: Arne Amalixsen (Chair), Ken Canning, Richard Cartee, Rose Mary Mayhew, Harold Morse, Peter Moskovites, Muriel O’Gorman, James Privee, June Rosenberg

Board Members Absent: Steve Brochu (Derby), Todd Durkee (Newport City), Rick Geisel (Derby), Joe Gregersen (Newport Town), David Merrill (Holland), Morgan Rep

Administrators: Bill Rivard, Thomas Pound, Lisa Boskind, Judy Boucher

Media: NEK-TV; Chris Roy: The Newport Daily Express; Robin Smith: The Caledonian-Record

Student Council: Jason Benn, Tyler Uhlendorf, Jennifer Johnson

Faculty Forum: Helen Poulin

Guests: Frank Davis, Alan Lane, Keith Wooster, Gregory Trahan, Keshia Heinchon, Joshua Farrar, others

A. Amalixsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the culinary arts class for their fine presentation of food.

Recognition Presentations

JROTC

Mr. Rivard introduced Keith Wooster and Alan Lane: the JROTC Instructors who had some students with them tonight to make a presentation to the board. Gregory Trahan: Battalion Commander; Keshia Heinchon: Executive Officer; and Joshua Farrar: Battalion Operations reviewed their program with the board. They reviewed their handout, which included information on the program outline; participation rates; competitive events and alternative unit activities. They also informed the board of their color guard events; community support activities, including the NECKA food drive and America Walks for Diabetes; they also reviewed the Green Mountain Cadet Challenge and service learning activities they had been involved with.

Colonel Wooster noted this was the 10th anniversary of the Corp Cadets at NCUHS; noting it had been a good ten years; that Major Lane had been here for the entire time; adding it was due to his efforts and the student’s that they learn some great leadership skills. Colonel Wooster noted this program would not have been successful without the support of the board, community and the support also provided by the US government. Major Lane stated the school had progressed light years since he first came here; that he was proud to be a faculty member of NCUHS; adding he was proud of the way the administration and the board supports the program.

Trish Buttice: New England Basketball Hall of Fame

Mr. Rivard noted a letter had been included in the board packet about Ms. Buttice's induction into the NE Basketball Hall of Fame; adding she couldn't be present tonight as her mother is ill. He reported there were pictures of Ms. Buttice in the hall outside of the Guidance Office; adding it was quite an honor for her.

Frank Davis: Who's Who Among America's Teachers

Mr. Rivard noted that Mr. Davis was a staff member with 24 years of service to NCUHS who would be leaving the school at the end of the current year. Mr. Rivard presented Mr. Davis with a plaque acknowledging his accomplishment.

Minutes

R. Cartee noted the board omitted to approve the minutes of October 3, 2006. **A. Amalixsen asked for approval of the minutes of October 3, 2006. The minutes were unanimously approved as submitted (R. Cartee/M. O'Gorman).**

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Rod Weston

A. Amalixsen noted Dr. Weston had included several informational items for the board, including the NSBA Conference information. J. Rosenberg asked who pays for board members to attend; A. Amalixsen stated he didn't know, but would check into it.

Administrative Reports

Bill Rivard: Principal

Mr. Rivard distributed his written report to the board.

HSTW Technical Visit Follow-up

Mr. Rivard reported the purpose of this follow-up visit was to review and assess the action plans taken to implement the recommendations indicated in their technical visit report, which was completed in October 2003. He noted a team of 3: consisting of a district representative, a HSTW staff member, and a member of the state would spend a whole day and evening with them to take a look at the work they had been doing since October 2003.

AP Scholar Awards

Mr. Rivard reported there were 10 students who earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college level Advanced Placement Program.

Mr. Rivard distributed postcards that he was handing out to faculty members to use as good notes home to parents; adding then when on field trips students could use them also to leave notes thanking folks for supporting NCUHS; which would build community spirit at NCUHS.

Mr. Rivard stated he was leaving copies of the Spectator Newspaper for the board to pick up, for their review.

Mr. Rivard reported the Open House and Parent/Teacher Conferences would be held on Thursday, November 2nd; followed by the fall band concert.

Career Center Director's Report: Bob Fitts

A. Amalixsen noted that Mr. Fitts was attending the Newport City Planning Committee this evening for permitting issues. He noted the progress on the Land Lab project was good; adding a contract for the work had been signed.

Mr. Hilliard reported the Land Lab work was going forward; that there was a sighting issue, but that excavating work was going forward, with Joe Aja and Black River Design overseeing the work. He reported the meeting with Newport City tonight was only preliminary; with them showing their outside plans as they exist today. Mr. Hilliard noted the group was talking about work on the land lab taking about a month longer than originally planned. Mr. Hilliard noted the NCCC Ad-hoc Building Committee would be meeting tomorrow night.

Faculty & Student Council Representatives

Tyler Uhlendorf read a letter to the board, which he distributed to them. He stated that Jennifer Johnson would be the student council's official designee to the board; adding they would both be attending the board meetings and informing the board of student activities. He also distributed the NCUHS Student Council Constitution. He reviewed student activities including the upcoming Halloween dance; a food drive that would begin after the dance. He stated they were creating a Fall Behind program, which goes hand in hand with Academic Success and where students would be peer mentored; adding that it would be an after school activity and entirely optional.

Tyler noted it was great to have Jason representing the student council for the past year. Mr. Rivard asked the students to share with the board what they were interested in: Tyler reported he is a junior; that he enjoys art; adding he works at the Eastside Restaurant and Urban Access. Jennifer reported she is a sophomore and involved in the band; she recommended board members attend the fall concert as they would see a preview of what the band will play in Orlando.

Helen Poulin reported she is a Spanish teacher and would be representing the faculty this year.

Comments from Guests

Jason Benn thanked the board for letting him serve for the past year and a half; adding he would still be at the meetings for the production work. The board thanked Jason for his service.

Finance/Operation's Committee

K. Canning moved the board approve the minutes of October 4th and October 11th, 2006. The motion was unanimously approved (K. Canning/R.M. Mayhew).

R. Cartee reported they started working on the budget on Monday; that Mr. Rivard presented them with a packet of department wish lists and they would begin reviewing the lists next Wednesday. A. Amalixsen noted a packet had been submitted by each department, which the committee would go through in detail. R. Cartee reported they told the administration they wanted an administrative budget, which includes teacher lists and class sizes. He noted that is where they will start working from to formulate the budget they will bring to the full board.

Bus Garage

R. Cartee noted there was information about the bus garage in the minutes; that it had been put out to bid; then the committee would open and review the bids and hopefully by the next board meeting have a recommendation. R. Cartee asked the board to allow the finance/operation's committee to move forward with the project. **R. Cartee moved the board authorize the finance/operation's committee to have the authority to make a decision on the bus garage, seconded by P. Moskovites.** R. Cartee noted this would be similar to the board allowing the personnel committee to hire during the summer months; adding S. Brochu had requested this be done. A. Amalixsen noted the bids would appear in the local papers and would be opened at their next committee meeting. J. Rosenberg stated she was under the impression from their last meeting that they would just open the bids and make a recommendation to the full board at their next meeting. R. Cartee noted the board was in the process of building an \$18 million facility following state mandated guidelines; which was different from the board buying a bus garage with the \$300,000 already authorized by the voters; adding he didn't see why the committee had to come back to the full board.

K. Canning noted the majority of the board makes decisions; and asked by waiting until November 8th how it would hamper the process. R. Cartee stated if the committee had a viable offer it would give that person the capability of starting the planning process and lay a slab before snow arrives; adding they were trying to beat the weather. J. Privee expressed his concern with authorizing the committee to make a selection in advance; that they don't know anything until they go through the bidding process; that he would like to see those numbers; adding the voters authorized the board to spend \$300,000, but they didn't know what the estimates would be. R.M. Mayhew noted that 6 of the 8 board members present tonight are on that committee. **A. Amalixsen asked the board to vote on the motion and asked for a show of hands: 3 no, 5 yes. The motion carried (R. Cartee/P. Moskovites).** A. Amalixsen stated those board members who are concerned could attend the next finance/operation's meeting.

Parliamentarian Update

K. Canning referred to the material included in the board packet and reviewed it briefly with the board. He noted that Robert's Rules of Order can be complicated; and reviewed issues of decorum and debate; as well as respect for the authority of the chair of the board.

A. Amalixsen noted the board was ahead of schedule and asked if there was any other business to come before the board before they entered executive session for a student issue.

R. Cartee stated he now had a concern about the action the board took on the bus garage; not knowing what the proposals might be, the one that may be the leading one could exceed the amount of money the voters authorized them to spend. P. Moskovites noted the motion said the committee had the authority to make a decision on the bus garage, but that they didn't need to act on this. A. Amalixsen recommended if the amount exceeds \$300,000 the issue come to the full board for approval. J. Rosenberg noted traditionally this board had made major decisions in the public; adding the more visible and transparent they were the better.

At 7:30 p.m. A. Amalixsen stated the board would take a 10 minute recess.

At 7:42 p.m. R. Cartee moved the board enter executive session for a student issue. The motion was unanimously approved (R. Cartee/M. O’Gorman).

At 8:10 p.m. K. Canning moved the board return to open session. The motion was unanimously approved (K. Canning/H. Morse).

R.M. Mayhew moved the board allow Student A to resume his regular schedule: 50% time at NCUHS and 50% time at NCSAP; that all homework assignments for NCSAP be completed by October 23, 2006 and all NCUHS homework assignments be complete by November 7, 2006; and that Student A be placed on administrative probation until June 30, 2007

A. Amalixsen noted it was understood that Mr. Pound would follow-up on the homework assignments and that treatments currently taking place would continue.

A vote was held: with all voting in favor. The motion carried (R.M. Mayhew/M. O’Gorman).

At 8:15 p.m. R. Cartee moved the board enter executive session for negotiations issues. The motion was unanimously approved (R. Cartee/M. O’Gorman).

At 8:20 p.m. R. Cartee moved the board return to open session. The motion was unanimously approved (R. Cartee/R.M. Mayhew). No action was taken.

There being no further business to discuss the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. (R. Cartee/H. Morse).

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Rubino
Recording Secretary