



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

Regular School Board Meeting Minutes from December 18, 2017 Northend Elementary School

Call to Order and Roll Call

Call to Order

Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, President of the Board Education, called the meeting to order at 6:43 PM.

Board Members Present

Ms. Catherine Cheney, Mr. Merrill Gay, Mr. Nicholas Mercier, Ms. Annie Parker, Ms. Nancy Rodriguez, Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, Ms. Daisy Sanchez, Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly, Ms. Violet Jiménez Sims

Board Members Absent/Excused

Ms. Grisselle Aponte

Public Participation

Marie Cataquet | 37 Harrison Street

Ms. Cataquet spoke about her daughter's fourth grade class at Lincoln Elementary School, noting that they have 27 students in the classroom. She also stated her son's class has 29 students. She noted that the test scores at Lincoln are below state average and she believes this is due to the large class sizes. She is hoping something will be done to resolve this situation.

Jamaly Rios | 398 Glenn Street

Ms. Rios said that her children attend Northend Elementary School and she loves it there, but thinks that there should be more outside services getting involved to help with special education students. She also stated her concern for large class sizes.

Reports

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Nancy Sarra, Superintendent of Schools, reported the following:

- Tonight's districtwide data presentation and analysis is our commitment to reviewing data on a quarterly basis throughout the district and adjust our district wide scorecard strategies and subsequent building level school improvement strategies in an ongoing effort to meet the targets set forth.
- An update was given regarding the impact to CSDNB due to students coming from Puerto Rico. Currently, there are 169 total students in grades K-8 and 43 students in grades 9-12.

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Presentation

Dr. Nicole Sanders, Assistant Chief Talent Officer, gave a presentation regarding an update on the CSDNB Strategic Plan. The presentation has been attached.

Old Business

Policy: Approve Policy 3453.05 - Music Instrument Rental Fund

Submitted by Nicholas Mercier on behalf of Leona Clerkin | Reviewed by the Policy Committee on November 29, 2017

Mr. Mercier motioned to approve Policy 3453.05 - Music Instrument Rental Fund, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly.

Mr. Mercier motioned to amend the policy to read as follows: "Acceptable form of payment includes a cashier's check or money order made out to CSDNB Rental Fund. A credit card will also be accepted as a form of payment." This was seconded by Ms. Nancy Rodriguez. Motion carried unanimously.

Original motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

There were no objections and/or requests from board members to move the following items off the Consent Agenda. Therefore, these items were approved:

Operations: Approve minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on December 4, 2017

Submitted by Matthew Cannata | No committee review

Personnel: Approve Personnel Transactions

Submitted by Shuana Tucker | No committee review

Operations: Accept Enrollment Report

Submitted by Jeff Prokop | No committee review

New Business

Partnerships: Accept donation from Picture Book Summit in the amount of \$3,328.38 for Lincoln School

Submitted by Lisa Torres | Reviewed by the Finance Committee on November 28, 2017

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to accept the donation from Picture Book Summit in the amount of \$3,328.38 for Lincoln School, seconded by Ms. Sanchez.

Picture Book Summit is a world-class online conference for picture book writers and illustrators. With keynotes and workshops from bestselling, award-winning authors and illustrators, plus other learning and networking opportunities for aspiring picture book authors around the globe, all from the comfort of home, this is the one conference for children's writers you don't want to miss!

Every year Picture Book Summit donates a generous portion of our proceeds to a different charity. To date, they have donated over \$10,000. Charities they've partnered with so far include Reading Partners and We Need Diverse Books.

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This year, Picture Book Summit is giving to students “coast to coast.” Proceeds from Picture Book Summit 2017 will be donated to two Title 1 schools – Harrison Elementary in Cottage Grove, OR, and Lincoln Elementary, in New Britain, CT. A portion of each Summiteer’s ticket will go directly to each school’s library. For more information, see www.picturebooksummit.com.

The total is \$3,328.38 and the funding source is Picture Book Summit.

Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Accept donation of a King Tempo Trumpet in the valued amount of \$1,000 for NBHS Marching Band

Submitted by Leona Clerkin | No committee review

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to accept the donation of a King Tempo Trumpet in the valued amount of \$1,000 for NBHS Marching Band, seconded by Ms. Sanchez.

The donation of a King Tempo Trumpet valued at approximately \$1,000.00 will ensure the students of NBHS Marching Band have the necessary instruments to perform on and will provide students with a high-quality instrument. The total is \$1,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Accept donation from Connor Harris for Vance School in the amount of \$2,000

Submitted by Sarah Harris | No committee review

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to accept the donation from Connor Harris for Vance School in the amount of \$2,000, seconded by Ms. Sanchez.

Connor Harris, a seventeen-year-old senior in high school, organized a mini golf fundraiser for Vance School. He developed a mini golf tournament with family and friends. He wrote sponsor letters and each hole had a sponsor. 100 people played in the tournament. He raised \$2,000.00 for Vance School to purchase sports equipment and recess games. The total is \$2,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Approve grant in the amount of \$700 for Target Field Trips

Submitted by Evelyn Hudyma | No committee review

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to approve a grant in the amount of \$700 for Target Field Trips, seconded by Ms. Sanchez.

This grant strengthens the partnership pillar by cultivating and sustaining engaging family-school- community partnerships for student and staff success. The Target Field Trips Grant promotes opportunities for students to explore outside of the classroom to allow for historical thinking. This funding is critical to for this type of experience. The total is \$700 and the funding source is Target Field Trips.

Motion carried unanimously.

Academics: Approve curriculum for Introduction to Music Technology and Advanced Music Technology

Submitted by Leona Clerkin | Reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on November 27, 2017

Mr. Mericer motioned to approve the curriculum for Introduction to Music Technology and Advanced Music Technology, seconded by Ms. Cheney.

Music Technology 1 will study the techniques of modern computer-based music. Topics will include introductions to Digital Audio Workstations, Musical Instrument Digital Interface controllers, music notation software, composition, electronic music in

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multiple genres and styles, and music for film. Students do not need a musical background to enroll for this course. This course will take place during the first semester of the school year.

Music Technology 2 will continue to study the techniques of modern computer-based music. Topics will include samples, automation, composition, mash ups, the Foley Effect and scoring for film. Students need to complete Music Technology 1 to enroll for this course. This course will take place during the second semester of the school year.

Mr. Mercier stated that there was some confusion regarding the standards that were supposed to be placed in the curriculum.

Mr. Mercier motioned to postpone curriculum to second meeting in January with understanding it can go into the Program of Studies, seconded by Ms. Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Approve Bid Waiver and Purchase Order for High Schools That Work

Submitted by Sondra Sanford | No committee review

Ms. Sanchez motioned to approve the bid waiver and purchase order for High Schools That Works, seconded by Ms. Nancy Rodriguez.

As part of the Commissioners Network, High Schools That Work will provide professional development and coaching for the mathematics teachers to implement high impact instructional strategies and leadership development. HSTW is continuing the work that was started by Clark Consulting.

The total is \$59,685 and the funding source is Commissioners Network 2345-061-10001 53340 NBHS Commisioners Network Prof/Tech Services.

Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Approve Bid Waiver and Purchase Order for Perkins Consulting Group (NBHS Administration)

Submitted by Nancy Sarra | No committee review

Ms. Nancy Rodriguez motioned to approve the bid waiver and purchase order for Perkins Consulting Group (NBHS Administration), seconded by Ms. Sanchez.

Perkins Consulting Group will provide New Britain Consolidated School District with a high school principal and assistant principal mentoring and coaching consultation. A single designated senior consultant will provide these services from January 2018-June 2018.

PCG Proposal Highlights

- District can leverage the expertise of Perkins Consulting Group expert consultants to deliver a yearlong professional learning experience for the high school principal and the full cabinet of assistant principals.
- High School Principal and assistant principals can engage in a blended professional learning community with monthly one-day local face-to-face sessions and online virtual learning opportunities and supports.
- Perkins Consulting Group staff collaborates with high school principal and high school assistant principals to customize leadership modules and leadership instruments to meet district needs and strategic goals.
- Every session with the Perkins Consulting Group provides a technology-rich, engaging, reflective, and highly collaborative space for a developing educational leader.

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- Cost structure that minimizes district human resource costs for professional learning - \$54K for 7/10 month-school year of professional learning for high school principal and high school assistant principals.

Mr. Michael McKenzie is the senior consultant. Michael has been a member of Perkins' senior consulting team for the past two years and has a sparkling success record as a leadership coach. Michael is practicing urban school administrator. In his work, he has a wide-range of experiences and achievements in K-12 pedagogy, human resource management systems, special education, educational law, educational policy, andragogy, academic achievement in underserved communities, student culture, adult culture, community relations, educational technology, educational finance, and K-12 educational research. Michael has a Master's Degree in Education Administration with a focus on urban education, a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology with a minor in urban studies. Michael is a certified administrator for grades early childhood – 12 and certified special education teacher for grades early childhood - 12.

As an urban school leader, Michael's impact has led double-digit achievement gains in mathematics and ACT scores for high school learners. He has also implemented social-emotional programming that has led to substantial decreases in school suspensions and improved time-on-task for economically disadvantaged learners. He has led in underserved communities using research-based practices, tenets of critical race theory, and community-centered leadership, respectively.

Michael is a former fellow of the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Leadership as an Evolving Visions Institute, Loyola University of New Orleans Institute of Politics, and the Houston Annenberg Foundations Regional Principal Leadership Academy, respectively. He is a doctoral student at Teachers College Columbia University pursuing a doctorate in education in urban education leadership.

The total is \$52,440 and the funding source is Commissioner's Network.

Motion carried unanimously.

Operations: Approve Purchase Order for PowerSchool Registration

Submitted by Jeff Prokop | No committee review

Ms. Sanchez motioned to approve the purchase order for PowerSchool Registration, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly.

This purchase order is for the purchase of PowerSchool Registration (formerly InfoSnap.) This is a one-year license and this quote includes the one time setup costs.

This software performs two functions; one is to make the registration process easier and for parents to start the process from any computer kiosk. Central Registration will be able schedule appointments with parents to complete the registration process. The second function is to allow parents to update information electronically every year and for the district to be able to collect information and parental sign offs for information such as photo release and network access forms.

As this system is part of the PowerSchool family of products, it will fully integrate with our student information system when collecting necessary information from the parents.

The total is \$33,889.88 and the funding source is Local MIS Software Budget 101092110000-53510.

Motion carried unanimously.

Addition to Agenda

Mr. Mercier motioned to add agenda item regarding a personnel transaction, seconded by Ms. Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the appointment of Daisy Sanchez to the position of Districtwide Supervisor of Central Registration Services PK-8, Central Registration, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly.

At this time, Ms. Sanchez recused herself from the discussion and vote. Ms. Nicole Rodriguez requested a roll call vote.

The following were in favor of the appointment: Ms. Cheney, Mr. Gay, Mr. Mercier, Ms. Parker, Ms. Nancy Rodriguez, Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, Ms. Sanders-Connolly, and Ms. Sims.

None were opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

Closing and Adjournment

Ms. Sanchez motioned to adjourn at 7:59 PM, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.