



## CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

# New Britain Board of Education | Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

September 5, 2023 - 6:00 PM – New Britain Educational Administration Center

## 1. Call to Order and Opening

### Meeting Called to Order

Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly, President of the New Britain Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

### Board Members Present

Mr. Anthony Cane, Ms. Monica Dawkins, Mr. Merrill Gay\*, Mr. Anthony Kane, Mr. Joseph Listro, Ms. Barbara Marino, Ms. Annie Parker, Ms. Diana Reyes, Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly and Ms. Tina Santana.

*\*Online*

## 2. Public Participation

**Jennese Birritteri**, head of Holmes PTA, and mother of 6 students in the district discussed her concerns regarding the removal of the Honors Team at Pulaski Middle School, as well as the safety concerns of both students & teachers. She asked the Board to review the email she sent privately, as she would like to further discuss her concerns. She ended by thanking the staff at Pulaski that have influenced and helped her children throughout their time attending there.

## 3. Reports

### Board Reports

**Joseph Listro** – Mr. Listro sent a big thank you to those that participated as the Community Greeters for the First Day of School.

**Tina Santana** – Ms. Santana thanked the students of New Britain that assisted HRA with making bags to donate 700 pounds of food to the City of New Britain. She thanked Mayor Erin Stewart, for hosting the Puerto Rican parade in New Britain.

**Barbara Marino** – Ms. Marino attended convocation, and she was impressed with the student's performance.

**Diana Reyes** – Ms. Reyes attended two different schools on the first day of school and she was able to interact with the families. She also attended the bagging and donation of food donated by HRA.

### Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent's Report is attached

## 4. Executive Session & Public Action

- A. Appointment of Academics & Accountability Officer PK-5  
Submitted by Dr. Tony Gasper

## New Britain Board of Education

Gayle Sanders-Connolly – President | Merrill Gay – Vice President | Joseph Listro – Secretary

Anthony Cane | Monica Dawkins | Anthony Kane | Barbara Marino | Annie S. Parker | Diana Reyes | Tina Santana

Mr. Cane motioned to go into executive session to discuss the Appointment of Academics & Accountability Officer PreK-5, seconded by Mr. Listro. Superintendent Gasper, and Deputy Superintendent Ivelise Velasquez were invited into executive session with the full board.

*Mr. Cane motioned to appoint Ms. Kristie Bourdalous as Academics & Accountability Officer PreK-5, seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried 9:1 vote, Ms. Santana opposed.*

## 5. New Business

- A. Approve Minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on August 14, 2023  
Submitted by Ms. Aja Edwards | No Committee Review

*Ms. Marino Motioned to Approve Minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on August 14, 2023, seconded by Ms. Santana. Motion carried unanimously*

### Board Acceptance:

- B. Enrollment Report  
Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | No Committee Review

*Ms. Parker Motioned to Accept Enrollment Report, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Motion carried unanimously*

- C. Report of Personnel Transactions and Extracurricular Appointments  
Submitted by Dr. Nicole Sanders | No Committee Review

*Ms. Reyes Motioned to Accept Report of Personnel Transactions and Extracurricular Appointments, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried unanimously*

- D. Financial Report – August 31, 2023  
Submitted by Ms. Ann Alfano

*Ms. Dawkins Motioned to Accept Financial Report – August 31, 2023, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried unanimously*

- E. Grant from Partners in Social Research, LLC To Implement Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs – Districtwide (\$71,210.00)  
Submitted by Dr. Tony Gasper

*Ms. Marino Motioned to Accept Grant from Partners in Social Research, LLC To Implement Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs Districtwide in the Amount of \$71,210.00, seconded by Ms. Reye. Motion carried 9:1 vote, Ms. Santana opposed.*

### Board Approval:

- F. Memorandum of Understanding Between CSDNB and Local 2407, New Britain Federation of Paraeducators, regarding, Compensation for Professional Development  
Submitted by Ms. Maryellen Manning

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## New Britain Board of Education

**Gayle Sanders-Connolly – President | Merrill Gay – Vice President | Joseph Listro – Secretary**

Anthony Cane | Monica Dawkins | Anthony Kane | Barbara Marino | Annie S. Parker | Diana Reyes | Tina Santana

Ms. Parker Motioned to Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between CSDNB and Local 2407, New Britain Federation of Paraeducators, regarding, Compensation for Professional Development, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Motion carried unanimously

- G. Contract & Purchase Order Between CSDNB and SREB To Provide Feedback, Professional Development and Instructional Coaching to Teachers – New Britain High School (\$29,700.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Sondra Sanford | Funding: Perkins 2023-2024 Pending 2028-969-1000-000-001-53320

Ms. Marino Motioned to Approve Contract & Purchase Order Between CSDNB and SREB To Provide Feedback, Professional Development and Instructional Coaching to Teachers at New Britain High School in the amount of \$29,700.00, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried unanimously

- H. Purchase Order Between CSDNB and Action Air for Slade HVAC Project (\$4,296,500.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez | Funding Source: ESSER 206393110002-54001

Ms. Parker Motioned to Approve Purchase Order Between CSDNB and Action Air for Slade HVAC Project in the amount of \$4,296,500.00, seconded by Ms. Santana. Motion carried unanimously

- I. Contract Between Bridge the Gap Educational Consulting, LLC and CSDNB to Provide Instructional Coaching for Special Education Teachers – Chamberlain Elementary School (\$22,680.00)  
Submitted by Mr. Manuel Zaldivar | Funding Source: SIG GRANT 53320

Ms. Santana Motioned to Approve Contract Between Bridge the Gap Educational Consulting, LLC and CSDNB to Provide Instructional Coaching for Special Education Teachers at Chamberlain Elementary School in the amount of \$22,680.00, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Motion carried unanimously.

- J. Purchase Order Between CSDNB and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for the Purchase of Read180 Intervention Class to Improve Student’s Reading Abilities – Pulaski Middle School (\$31,245.14)  
Submitted by Mr. Alex Ortiz | Funding Source: Commissioner's Network 2347-053-10001-53320

Ms. Reyes Motioned to Approve Purchase Order Between CSDNB and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for the Purchase of Read180 Intervention Class to Improve Student’s Reading Abilities at Pulaski Middle School in the amount of \$31,245.14, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried unanimously

## Closing and Adjournment

- A. Other Business as Permitted by Law

➤ Ms. Marino motioned to amend the agenda and add an item, seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried

Ms. Santana motioned to add discussion and possible action regarding the Board engaging a consultant for the purposes of developing and finalizing the Board's annual goals for the Superintendent, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried with 7:2 vote. Ms. Parker, and Mr. Cane opposed, Ms. Sanders-Connolly abstained from voting.

- B. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

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## New Britain Board of Education

Gayle Sanders-Connolly – President | Merrill Gay – Vice President | Joseph Listro – Secretary

Anthony Cane | Monica Dawkins | Anthony Kane | Barbara Marino | Annie S. Parker | Diana Reyes | Tina Santana