



## CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

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

November 6, 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, 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.

## 2. Public Participation

James Sanders: In support of his sister Gayle Sander- Connolly, he wished her well as she departs from being President of the Board.

## 3. Reports

### A. Committee Reports

**Curriculum** –The committee reviewed an informational presentation regarding health equity, as well as an informational presentation on PK-5 Language arts new curriculum

**Policy** – Policy meeting was cancelled.

**Personnel** –The committee discussed a new position request and an MOU regarding two new grant funded courses, which have both been moved to the consent agenda.

**Finance** –The committee discussed donations, contracts and purchases orders which have been moved to consent. The committee also discussed the vent systems at Slade

### B. Board Reports

Merrill Gay stated this will officially be his last meeting, and sends his well wishes to the future members of the Board.

Mr. Kane stated senior night will be happening this week, and the support of the community is essential in this event being successful.

Mr. Cane reiterated this will be the first time in years that a member for the Sanders family won't be on the Board of Education. He wished Gayle Sanders- Connolly the best on her future endeavors.

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Ms. Santana highlighted Art Literacy night and gave a shout out to Lincoln Principal Ms. Cavallo and Assistant Principal Mr. Ruiz for their great effort.

Mr. Listro attended the Work Based Student Learner event as well as Read for the Record event. He had an amazing time learning and assisting with the students.

Ms. Gayle Sanders- Connelly stated this will be her last meeting, as it has been a pleasure to serve on the Board.

**C. Student Reports**

**D. Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent's Report is attached.

## 4. Executive Session

- A. Discussion of Worker's Compensation Matter with Attorney Nicole Fluckiger  
Submitted by Ms. Heather Barrett

Mr. Cane motioned to go into executive session to discuss a Worker's Compensation Matter with Attorney Nicole Fluckiger, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Superintendent Gasper, and Chief of Staff Ms. Maryellen Manning were invited to executive session with the full Board.

## 5. New Business

- A. Approve minutes from the Regular Board of Education meeting on October 2, 2023  
Submitted by Ms. Aja Edwards | No Committee Review

Ms. Santana motioned to approve minutes from the regular Board meeting on October 2, 2023, seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried unanimously.

### Board Acceptance:

- B. Enrollment Report  
Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | No Committee Review
- C. Report of Personnel Transactions and Extracurricular Appointments  
Submitted by Dr. Nicole Sanders | No Committee Review

Mr. Kane motioned to approve Report of Personnel Transactions and Extracurricular Appointments, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion approved unanimously.

### Board Approval:

- D. Approve purchase order between CSDNB and Chromebookparts.com to provide Chromebook chargers to schools – Districtwide  
Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: ESSER Grant Funding

Mr. Cane motioned to approve purchase order between CSDNB and Chromebookparts.com to provide Chromebook chargers to schools districtwide, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Motion carried unanimously.

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- E. Discuss nominations and approval of NBBOE delegate(s) to the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education  
Submitted by Ms. Tina Santana  
**The Board motioned to nominate Joseph Listro, Tina Santana and Diana Reyes as the NBBOE delegates the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education. Motion carried unanimously.**
- F. Discuss recommendation and possible adoption of new name for New Britain Transitional Center  
Submitted by Dr. Tony Gasper & Mr. Joseph Listro  
**The Board motioned to approve adoption of new name for New Britain Transitional Center for the 2024-2025 school year as the Catalyst Academy. Motion carried unanimously.**

## 6. Consent

**(There were no objections and/or requests from Board Members to pull the following items off the Consent Agenda. Therefore, these items were approved):**

- A. New Position Request – Dean of Students  
Submitted by Mr. Andrew Mazzei
- B. Memorandum of Understanding between CSDNB and Local 871, New Britain Federation of Teachers, regarding two grant funded courses - NBHS  
Submitted by Mr. Damon Pearce & Ms. Sondra Sanford | Funding Source: Perkins Grant 2028-061-100001-51191
- C. Accept donation from Lisa and Jim Dufour for incentives in support of the tier one behavioral reinforcement point system - NBTC (\$2,388.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Donnah Swaby
- D. Accept donation from Together Matters program to provide compensation for 22 students to obtain 120 hours of employment and high school credit – NBHS (\$40,000.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Sondra Sanford
- E. Accept Donation from Master Yang from US Taekwondo Center in support of summer programs - Districtwide (\$2,500.00)  
Submitted by Dr. Tony Gasper
- F. Approve contract between CSDNB and OIC of New Britain for the Men of Many Colors Program, designed to support career development, healthy lives, and issues that arise with young men – NBHS (\$15,000.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Daisy Sanchez | Funding Source: ARP ESSER 3 Grant 2063-969-22002-53200
- G. Approve purchase order and contract between CSDNB and OIC of New Britain for the Healthy Living project, designed to expose youth to three areas of academic enrichment – (\$57,000.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Donna Clark | Funding Source: Title IV 2019 969 10001 53340
- H. Approve purchase order between CSDNB and Red Thread for the purchase of student furniture to support student centered engagement – Slade Middle School (\$95,000.00)  
Submitted by Mr. Andrew Mazzei | Funding Source: Low Performing Bond Grant 2394-052-10001-57333
- I. Approve purchase order and bid waiver between CSDNB and Action Air Systems, Inc. for the installation of a new vent line for existing grease trap – RELC (\$25,975.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez | Funding Source: Food Service - account 101093131000-57010

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- J. Approve purchase order between CSDNB and Hussey Advantage for end rail safety code upgrade – RELC (\$33,500.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez | Facilities local budget 931-2600-000-56102
- K. Approve purchase order between CSDNB and Air Temp Mechanical Services Inc. for replacement of the condenser coil for the trane rooftop unit – NBEAC (\$27,494.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez | Funding Source: Facilities local budget 931-2600-000-56102
- L. Approve bid waiver and purchase order between CSDNB and NYSS Inc. for the expansion of visitor management project – Districtwide (\$82,462.23)  
Submitted by Mr. Robert Smedley | Funding Source: ESSER
- M. Approve bid waiver between CSDNB and vendor Carl Knox for instrument repair services – Districtwide (\$14,964.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Leona Clerkin | Funding Source: Instrument Repair Account / Music Instrument Repair Account / Music line item 260196360021 58999
- N. Approve contract Between CSDNB and Agile Sports Technologies, Inc. dba Hudl for subscription renewal of account – NBHS (\$10,600.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Lisa Kawecki | Funding Source: Athletic High School Non-Instructional Equipment-New 101097830019-57301 101097830019-57301
- O. Approve purchase order and Contract Between CSDNB and Vector Solutions to provide School Based Diversion Initiative (SBDI) designed to prevent school-based arrests and reduce out-of-school suspensions & expulsions for students experiencing emotional or behavioral health challenges – Districtwide (\$23,280.00)  
Submitted by Ms. Keira Soler | Funding Source: SBDI Grant Purchased Professional and Technical Services- 300
- P. Approve purchase order for remediation to be conducted at Slade Middle School (*Details are forthcoming and will be distributed at the committee meeting*)  
Submitted by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez
- Q. Accept financial report – September 30, 2023  
Submitted by Ms. Ann Alfano

## 7. Executive Session

- A. Executive Session and Possible Public Action for the Purposes of Discussing the Superintendent's Contract  
Submitted by Dr. Tony Gasper

Mr. Listro motioned to go into executive session and possible public action for the purposes of discussing the Superintendent's contract, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Superintendent Gasper and Chief of Staff Maryellen Manning were invited into executive session with the full Board.

Mr. Listro motioned to amend the Superintendent's contract, seconded by Ms. Marino. Motion carried unanimously.

## 8. Closing and Adjournment

- A. Other Business as Permitted by Law
- B. Adjournment

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*Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.*

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