

**NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**  
**North Country Career Center, Room 380**  
**September 15, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.**

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Clerk David Ghelli, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and called for additions or adjustments to the agenda. There were none.

II. **Motion** to approve the minutes of August 18, 2015 (Attachment A) BOSKIND/SWANSON **APPROVED**

III. Public Comments, Communication with Parents/Staff/Citizens

Parent Marcel Choquette asked why the bus does not pick up students on the Glenn Road. He stated that there is no sidewalk and it is not safe to walk, as there is lots of traffic because of the prison. The Superintendent stated that NCUHS does not provide transportation, but asked Mr. Choquette to contact him. David Ghelli asked for Mr. Choquette's contact info, saying that we will get back to him. Scott Boskind is concerned with setting a precedent, as there could be multiple similar cases. John asked that the board let him work on it, as that is what the policy dictates.

IV. Staff and Student Presentations

NCUHS Special Programs Coordinator Jessica Puckett: "Stories of my students..."

Jessica asked current and former students and their families, who have used the services of the Special Programs Department, to attend and speak of their experiences. Four students and their parents shared their stories. The board gave each student and family a hearty round of applause.

Student Report: Erica Tweed reported that there is a new Block 3 program to help students bring their grades up: "Enriching Students". Fall sports are starting, there are new seats in the auditorium, the band is preparing for the Disney Trip (which includes workshops), and the French exchange and German trip are coming up.

Mr. Shaffer, NCUHS science teacher and cross-country coach gave a report on the day's great X-country results, and talked about the SU middle school X-country team that has been formed this year.

Africa Trip Consideration: Mr. Shaffer also asked for support for a South African trip project. The project would begin in the spring of 2016 with an independent study, which would entail the student meeting with their teacher to come up with a topic relating Vermont to South Africa. The VT section of the program will award a ½ science credit. In the fall of 2016, the students would travel to South Africa for 2 weeks, sleep in cages, travel with armed guards, and see their project in action. This would also be worth a ½ credit. Mr. Shaffer characterized this opportunity as life changing, a chance for broader connections and focus, and a way to broaden horizons. He said this would fit right in with Personalized Learning Plans, as each project is individualized. The students will visit a school in a South African village on one day of the trip. The cost per student is \$3,500.00, with a total cost for the trip of about \$40,000.00. Mr. Shaffer shared that one of the requirements of the students is that they give a presentation to the School Board and two other entities after the trip. Mr. Rivard stated that the NCUHS administration is very supportive of the trip.

**Motion** to approve the South Africa trip project for 2015-16. NELSON/YOUNG **APPROVED**

V. Financial Report

Action:

Approve the Warrants (Attachment B) CARTEE/MASON **APPROVED**

Approve Financial Report of August, 2015 (Hand Out) Financial Report was not available.

## VI. Committee Reports

A. Business Operations: George Swanson reported for Chair Peter Moskovites, who was absent.

### Action:

1. **Motion** to accept a donation from Gates Electric of a Scissor Lift, worth \$6,000.00, which will be used at the Land Lab by staff (not by students). SWANSON/CARTEE **APPROVED**
2. **Motion** to follow the same action that the NCUJHS Board takes at its September 22nd meeting in awarding the Wood Chip Bid. George reported that NCUJHS Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Hodgeman is handling the specs, and the bids will be opened Monday. SWANSON/BOSKIND **APPROVED**
3. **Motion** to transfer NCCC activity funds generated by each program to the corresponding student activity funds. NCCC director Eileen Illuzzi explained the process. The balance generated by each program, after all expenses are paid, goes into the corresponding student activity accounts. Each activity has their own account, and the money stays with that account. SWANSON/BOSKIND **APPROVED**

### Information:

1. FY17 Budget Process: John Castle distributed a document illustrating the timeline of the process, and said he will be meeting soon with Bill and Eileen. John would like to discuss the Junior High at the joint October meeting. He stated that the boards will have to be very mindful, with a high level of scrutiny due to Act 46, and be very intentional in creating their budgets. John said he would like to discuss the budget process, relative to Act 46, at the retreat on the 30th. He will present a "series of considerations" to the Business Ops Committee, and said he sees amounts of \$600,000.00 to \$800,000.00 up for consideration, plus and minus, between both the High School and Junior High School. Richard Cartee encouraged board members to attend the Business Ops meetings and give input on the budget. John stated, "We will do less with less". He said the Boards must consider: what do we want to preserve, and is there anything we want to add? Kristin Mason said we need to think outside the box, and look to philanthropic organizations for creative funding

## B. Curriculum & Instruction

### Information:

1. Minutes from Sept. 1, 2015(Attachment C)

Committee Chair David Ghelli shared that the committee has developed a calendar of agenda items for their meetings, items which fit with the NCUHS Continuous Improvement Program. He said the committee is talking about academic assistance for all students, not just those that are struggling.

C. Policy and Special Programs (did not meet)

D. Human Resources (did not meet)

## VII. NCUHS Principal's Report (Hand Out)

Principal Rivard distributed the Student Activities Calendar, which includes Board meetings and can help with avoiding conflicts. He said the calendar can also be viewed on the NCUHS website. Mr. Rivard stated that enrollment was 736 on Sept. 2nd. A discussion followed concerning maintaining sports programs in light of decreasing enrollment. Mr. Rivard said NCUHS is reaching out to other schools to form co-op teams and member-to-member arrangements. He reported that the Auditorium seats are being installed. The installation team arrived Monday, and is making good progress.

## VIII. NCCC Director's Report (Attachment D)

Ms. Illuzzi reported that enrollment is 252, though a few students are in 2 programs, so the actual number of students is slightly lower. Fitness Day is Friday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> and Career Day is Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>. The AOE has finally sent the video that was filmed last year, and Eileen asked Liz to send it out to all NCUHS Board members.

IX. Superintendent's Report

John reminded the board that the Retreat is scheduled for September 30th. He mentioned that this Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, is the NCSU Full Board meeting, and all are encouraged to attend. John has sent an article out to all board members to read ahead of the meeting. Food will be available at 5:30, and the meeting will begin at 6:00. John promised an "Engaging Learning Opportunity."

X. Unfinished/New Business

Action:

1. **Motion** to adopt the following three (3) revised policies (Attachment E):

D.8 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace

D.11 Drug and Alcohol Testing

E.26 Tobacco Prohibition

**CARTEE/BOSKIND APPROVED**

XI. Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting

A. Fall NCUHS/NCUJHS Board Retreat: Sept. 30

B. October 20, 2015 – Joint NCUHS/NCUJHS Board Meeting

XII. Executive Session: Not needed

XIII. **Motion** to Adjourn at 8:15 CARTEE

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Butterfield  
Recording Secretary

<u>Meetings:</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
NCUJHS Board	Tuesday	September 22	6:15 p.m.	NCUJHS Library
<i>NCUHS/NCUJHS Retreat</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>September 30</i>	<i>5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>The East Side</i>
NCSU Policy Committee	Thursday	October 15	5:30 p.m.	NCSU A219
NCSU Executive Committee	Thursday	October 15	6:30 p.m.	NCSU A209
NCUHS Curriculum Committee	Tuesday	October 6	5:30 p.m.	NCCC Room 316
NCUHS Business & Ops. Comm.	Tuesday	October 12	5:00 p.m.	NCCC Room 316
NCUHS & NCUJHS Joint Meeting	Tuesday	October 20	6:30 p.m.	NCCC Room 380
NCUHS HR Committee	As needed			
Negotiations	TBD			