

**NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**North Country Career Center, Room 380**  
**March 17, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.**

**Present**

***Board Members:***

Richard Cartee, Newport City  
Corey Therrien, Newport City  
Scott Boskind, Derby  
Maggie Griffith, Newport City  
George Swanson, Lowell  
Peter Moskovites, Charleston  
Dave Yasharian, Brighton  
Le-Ann Tetrault, Jay  
Kristin Mason, Morgan  
Rose Mary Mayhew, Troy

***Staff:***

John Castle, NCSU Superintendent  
Bill Rivard, NCUHS Principal  
Eileen Illuzzi, NCCC Director  
Kathy Nolan, NCSU CAI Director  
Glenn Hankinson, NCSU Business Director

***Students:***

Erica Tweed

***Public:***

Jackie Young

***Media:***

Ed Barber, Newport Daily Express

I. **The meeting was called to order** at 6:36 by Board member Richard Cartee, as this was the reorganization meeting.

**Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda:** Move the recognition of our State Champion athletes to the front of the meeting.

A. **VT State Champion Girls Hockey Team:** Isabelle Matos, Sydney Nelson, Adrianna Fournier, Aimie Morse, Emilie Paul, Hayley Young, Sierra Daigle, Haley Allen, Anyas Morin, Savannah Alberghini-Girioux, Whitney Bernier, Cassidy Webster and Mikaella Doran. Mr. Rivard gave high praise to the athletes and their coaches for an amazing season. Head Coach Claude Paul spoke of the contributions that all of the girls made, whether they had been playing hockey for years or were in their first game. Coach Paul shared that, "It was priceless to see their faces in the locker room after the championship game." He also stated that he and the other two coaches, Tracy Muzerall and Tom Bernier had worked very well together. Coach introduced those members of the team who were present, and shared that Whitney Bernier had been named the league's Player of the Year. Emilie Paul and Mikaella Doran were named to the Division II 1<sup>st</sup> team and Anyas Morin was named to the 2<sup>nd</sup> team. Whitney Bernier, Adrianna Fournier and Emily Paul will be attending the Senior Rotary Game.

B. Mr. Rivard then introduced **Nordic Cross-Country Skiing VT State Champion Callie Young**, who had just returned from competing in the Junior Olympics in California, and will be participating in the New England Championship this weekend.

C. **Indoor Track and Field 3,200 Meter VT State Champion Sam Brunette** was introduced to the Board for the second time this year, as he is also the Division I Cross Country State Champion. Mr. Rivard pointed out that Sam also volunteers his time on weekends to Special Olympics.

## II. Reorganization of the Board

- A. Elect Chairperson: Rose Mary Mayhew was nominated as Chair by Richard Cartee, seconded by George Swanson. There were two more calls for nominations. There being none, Richard Cartee moved that one ballot be cast for Rose Mary Mayhew. **APPROVED**
- B. Elect Vice Chairperson: Peter Moskovites was nominated by Richard Cartee, seconded by Scott Boskind. There were two more calls for nominations. There being none, Richard Cartee moved that one ballot be cast for Peter Moskovites. **APPROVED**
- C. Elect Clerk: David Ghelli was nominated by Richard Cartee and Scott Boskind. Mr. Ghelli was not present but had indicated his willingness to serve. There were two more calls for nominations. There being none, Richard Cartee moved that one ballot be cast for David Ghelli. **APPROVED**.
- E. Elect two (2) NCSU Full Board Representatives: **Motion** that the chair and vice chair of the NCUHS Board serve as the Full Board members. **MOSKOVITES/CARTEE. APPROVED**
- F. Elect an alternate member for the NCSU Full Board: David Ghelli was nominated by Scott Boskind, seconded by George Swanson. **APPROVED**
- G. Appoint one (1) NCSU Executive Committee member: Richard moved that the Chair of the NCUHS Board be appointed as the Executive Committee member, seconded by Peter Moskovites. John Castle clarified that the Vice Chair of the NCUHS Board or the NCUHS Full Board alternate can fill in as an alternate at the Executive Committee. **APPROVED**
- H. Distribute Committee Assignment Worksheet: Rose Mary passed out paper for Board members to indicate which committees they would be willing to serve on: Human Resources, Curriculum & Instruction, Business and Operations, NCSU Regional Advisory Board (RAB), NCSU Policy Committee and NCSU Negotiations Committee. Chair Mayhew will make the committee assignments.
- J. Designate an official newspaper: Motion that the Newport Daily Express, the Chronicle and the Orleans County Record be designated as the official newspapers. **CARTEE/BOSKIND APPROVED**
- K. Establish regular meeting dates and times (including joint NCUJHS meetings): The Junior High Board has agreed to four joint meetings in the next year. The NCUHS Board agreed to have John Castle, Bill Rivard and Nicole Corbett determine which meetings will be joint meetings. John recommends July, October, January and April.  
The Board agreed to keep the same date & time as this past year for their monthly meetings, with the possible exception of the four joint meetings.
- L. **Review and approve Board Code of Ethics** (*Attachment CoE*) Rose Mary asked that Board members sign and turn in the Code of Ethics form that was distributed in the Board Packet. Those present submitted their signed forms.

## III. Motion to approve the minutes of February 17, 2015 (*Attachment A*)

**CARTEE/TETRAULT APPROVED**

IV. **Student Reports:** Erica Tweed shared that spring sports teams are trying to organize and practice, but that the weather is an issue. She shared information on some upcoming events, including a concert next week.

V. **Public Comments, Communication with Parents/Staff/Citizens:** None.

VI. **Financial Report:** There were no Financial Reports presented.

## VII. Committee Reports

A. **Business Operations** (*Attachment B*) Peter confirmed that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the Board Packet. He shared that there was some discussion at the meeting of next year's budget, and pointed out that the HS and JHS had a similar amount of affirmative votes on the Town Meeting ballots. Richard Cartee would like a group of Board members to visit the Mayor of Newport to explain that the NCUHS budget does not drive taxes in Newport.

**B. Curriculum & Instruction** (*Attachment C*): Chair Ghelli was not in attendance, but the minutes of the last meeting were included in the Board Packet.

**C. Policy and Special Programs:** Did not meet

**D. Human Resources:** Did not meet. Scott Boskind asked that an April meeting be scheduled so that the HR Committee can begin to gear up for the busy hiring season.

**E. Negotiations:** Mr. Castle gave a brief update, stating that Negotiations are moving very slowly and that the next scheduled date for Teacher Negotiations is April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. NCUHS Principal's Report** – (*Attachment D*) Mr. Rivard reviewed his report and distributed copies of the new Core Values & Beliefs document.

**IX. NCCC Director's Report** – (*Attachment E*) Ms. Illuzzi reviewed her report with the Board.

**X. Superintendent's Report:** John reminded the Board that the **NCSU Annual Meeting** will take place on Thursday evening, and thanked Liz for her efforts in producing the **NCSU Annual Report**.

John reported that the **Legislator/School Board Education Summit** held on Monday night was a great success and was well attended. Scott commented on the Small Schools discussion, relative to a Legislator's comment that there are now so many cars in school parking lots compared to years ago. Scott pointed out that it is a necessity to have more staff in schools now because of today's family dynamic. He stressed that personal contact and relationships are vital for these children.

John shared that he had testified at the state **Board of Education** meeting earlier in the day, and that the BOE has crafted a resolution stating that they will not use this year's **SBAC** (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) test results as a baseline. John described this as "a step forward", but with more steps needed. Scott said that John's testimony to the Senate Ed Committee, which has been distributed to all NCSU Board members and the Legislators, was brilliant and of a doctoral thesis quality. Peter and Richard would like to see it published and preserved. John said that he is preparing something for distribution to the press.

#### **XI New and Unfinished Business**

**A. Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction Department Update:** Director Kathy Nolan shared some updates and information from the world of CAI. Today was first day of the window for administering the SBAC. Kathy gave an overview of the SBAC, saying that it is a completely computer based test, that automatically adjusts the ease or difficulty of the questions according to the answers that the student is giving. Kathy spoke about the Teacher Leaders group that was established this year. There are 53 Teacher Leaders taking part, collaborating on teaching strategies, and even sharing videos of themselves teaching. Kathy said it is an exciting dynamic, and praised the teachers for their commitment.

Kathy next spoke of the Learning Design Council, "Something that John brought with him from RNESU." She said it is a group of teachers from all over SU, from PreK -12, who meet monthly, "looking around the corner, with John's vision." The LDC is striving to build a common understanding of project based learning and student centered learning. Kathy and John invited Board members to come to an LDC meeting, which are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month in the Central Office Conference Room, from 3:30 to 5:00.

**B. Board Retreat:** Rose Mary reminded the Board that they had expressed interest in planning one or more retreats each year. There was consensus that there should be a retreat this spring, in the middle to end of May. John will reach out to Harry Frank to facilitate, and it was suggested that the Retreat take place on a Tuesday when neither the HS or Junior High Boards are meeting.

**C. Board Member Attendance at Graduation:** Rose Mary shared that the High School is beginning to prepare for Graduation, which will take place on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, and said that the office will want to know which Board members will be attending. Scott, Corey, Kristin and Le-Ann confirmed that they will attend, and others said they would know by the next meeting.

## **XII. Other Business**

- A. Motion** to adopt the following three policies (*Attachment P-A*) **TERRIEN/GRIFFITH APPROVED**  
A.01 Policy Development, Dissemination and Administration (*Revised and Renamed*)  
D.10 Public Complaints about Personnel  
G.11 Responsible Computer, Network and Internet Use
- B. Motion** to rescind the following three policies (*Attachment P-B*): **TERRIEN/TETRAULT APPROVED**  
A.02 Policy Adoption  
A.03 Policy Dissemination Administration and Review  
F.47 Portable Electronic Communication Devices
- C. Motion** to adopt Policy: A.04 Administrative Procedure Development. (*Attachment P-C*)  
Liz distributed a corrected version of the policy.  
**TERRIEN/BOSKIND APPROVED**

**IX. Executive Session:** The Chair moved the Board to Executive Session at 8:20 p.m., to discuss personnel issues. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:46 p.m.

*Action:* **Motion** to grant Prett Marsh up to 20 days of unpaid leave for the remainder of the school year and to continue her health insurance benefit during that time. **BOSKIND/SWANSON APPROVED**

**X. Motion to Adjourn 8:48 TERRIEN/BOSKIND APPROVED**

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Butterfield  
Recording Secretary