



Room 545 Sibley Hall
SUNY Plattsburgh
Plattsburgh, New York 12901
518-564-5000
518-564-5001 (FAX)
HYPERLINK
"https://northcountrytrc.wixsite.com/education"
<https://northcountrytrc.wixsite.com/education>

Minutes
Policy Board Meeting
October 1, 2025

Cynthia McCarty, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:16 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

-Motion to accept the minutes from May 2025 – H. Walsh and second B. Fregeau:
Motion carried, unanimous.

2. Fiscal Report

Denise submitted a monthly report of the current status of NCTRC

- -Motion to accept the fiscal report dated October 2025 – T. Figoni and second J. Stapley: Motion carried, unanimous.

3. Reports and Communications

Director's report attached

5. New Business

- Motion to elect Cynthia McCarty as Chairperson and Vicki Washburn as Vice-Chairperson for the 2025 - 2026 grant year: B. Fregeau 2nd J. Stapley: Motion carried, unanimous

We have 2 new board members attending: Kayla Taylor from AuSable and Megan McCarty from Beekmantown. We welcome them and look forward to working with them.

We have applications for new instructors.

-Motion to approve Debbie Frederick as an instructor/facilitator at the NCTRC B. Fregeau 2nd J. Stapley: Motion carried, unanimous

-Motion to deny approval to Michael DeMario as an instructor as he is not from our consortium. M. Niquette 2nd V. Washburn Motion carried, unanimous

While Denise was meeting with the Teacher Center SLT (State Leadership Team) in the summer, the discussion about how much to pay instructors/facilitators hourly came up. The North Country was the lowest in the room. We have not had a pay increase in over a decade (before Denise came onboard). Other consortiums in upstate NY pay more and we should think about increasing the amount to stay current and competitive. In the same subject, with a new director starting next year and no increases since 2017, we might want to consider paying the director more per hour.

-Motion to approve instructor pay hourly rate from \$50/hour to \$75/hour beginning Jan. 1, 2026 M. Niquette 2nd J. Stapley Motion carried, unanimous

-Motion to approve increasing director summer pay from \$45/hour to \$55/hour starting July 1, 2026 M. Niquette 2nd J. Stapley, motion carried, unanimous

Denise shared the new director search has failed. Anyone on the policy board who would like to be considered will need to email Denise by October 8. At that point, the personnel team will decide how to move forward.

The New Teacher's Night Out events for this year will start on October 22. The subjects will be similar to last year, but will have speakers and a little different format depending on the month. There will be 4 workshops total (October, January, March, and May).

The ADK Experience is looking for help making connections with schools in our consortium. The following schools will be given information and encouraged to reach out to the museum: Beekmantown, Plattsburgh, NAC, NCCS, Boquet Valley and Willsboro. They are an amazing group of people that will come to your classroom and present for free. Anyone who has invited them in has raved about the experience.

NYSUT Report:

- NYSUT is participating in a Tax the Rich event to protect school funding. They have also filed suit as well. They are planning on mass mobilization in order to win in the court of public opinion. One event in this plan is a rally on March 8 at the Albany Times Union. Buses will run throughout the state to transport members. This will be right before Committee of 100, which will be March 9 - 10, 2026
- NYSUT also continues to watch the Blue Ribbon Commission: Portrait of a Graduate. Right now there is not a lot of information about how this will be accomplished, there are many questions and not a lot of buy-in from members.
- Don't be in a hurry to fix your APPR. The early schools are getting some pushback and questions.
- NYSUT is participating in the 30th year of Making Strides. We are #1 in donations. Jeanette continues to donate baskets, and if you know someone who is in need, email Jeanette for information about Horizon Hope baskets. Jeanette is also working on an Alzheimer fund raiser for the March meetings.
- Randy Weingarten has released a book entitled "Why Fascists Hate Teachers."
- NYSUT is also supporting the local race for the assembly seat vacated by Billy Jones. They plan to support Michael Cashman.

Review Timeline/Upcoming Events

- NCTRC Monthly Meeting Dates 2025-2026
 - January 7, 2026
 - March 4, 2026
 - May 6, 2026
- ✓ Motion to adjourn, made by T. Figoni at 5:23 p.m.; seconded by H. Walsh-Motion carried. unanimous

Next meeting will be January 7, 2026 starting at 4:15 p.m. @ NCTRC.

**Attendance Records
October 1, 2025
Policy Board Meeting
Quorum Present**

Present:

Amanda Trombley

Northern Adirondack CSD

Vicki Washburn
Heather Walsh
Tammi Kreckel
Bailey Fregeau
Theresa Figoni
Jeanette Stapley
Steven Patnode
Melissa Niquette
Jennifer Kowalczyk
Cynthia McCarty
Kathleen Morse
Kayla Taylor
Megan McCarty

Retired Teacher, Clinton County
Willsboro
Moriah Central School
LEA Representative
Saranac Central School
Retired Teacher, Essex
Chazy Central School
Bouquet Valley School
Business Person, Mountain Lake PBS
Chairperson, SUNY Plattsburgh
Keene CSD
AuSable Valley Central School
Beekmantown

Also Attending:

Denise Sypek
Amanda Bokus

NCTRC Director
Saranac Central School

Absent:

Catherine Butts
Angie Waldron
Bethany LeClair
April Myers-Lautenschuetz
Kaitlyn Jubert
Kyle Lang
Laura Corey

Peru Central School
CVES
Plattsburgh City Schools
Parent representative
Northeastern Clinton Central School
Ticonderoga Central School
Schroon Lake Central School

Minutes Submitted by Denise Sypek, Director 10/2/2025