

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Regular Meeting Minutes  
 September 11, 2007  
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Board Chairperson Mr. Joseph Failla Mr. William McLachlan Mrs. Julie Turk Mr. Robin Ruggerio Mr. Joseph Vita Mr. Thomas McSherry Mrs. Dian Marandola Mrs. Elizabeth Finney Dr. Lawrence Stillman Dr. Lisa Diamond Mr. David Lawson
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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Thomas Corbett, Director of Operations Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager Mr. David Elmore, Director of Technology
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<b>1.</b>	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order. A moment of silence on behalf of 9/11/2001 was held after the Pledge.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance
<b>2.</b>	Chairwoman Faulenbach, on behalf of the Board of Education, recognized Mr. Thomas Corbett on his retirement after 37 years of service to the Board of Education and the Town of New Milford.  Mr. Corbett thanked the Board and the community of New Milford. He introduced his wife Peggy who was a teacher in the New Milford school system. He reminded all present that the reason for being here is to serve the young people of New Milford.	Staff Recognition
	A short break from 7:37 pm until 7:57 pm was held for refreshments in honor of Mr. Corbett's retirement.	
<b>3.</b>	There was no public comment	Public Comment
<b>4.</b>	Report presented by member of the PTO	PTO Report
<b>5.</b>	Student representatives report	Student Report

<p>Mr. Failla raised a point of order that item 10E. Central Office Vacancy; 1. Director of Human Resources Position was illegally placed on the agenda according to Robert's Rules of Order.</p> <p>Chairwoman Faulenbach said the item had been brought to the Operations Committee of the Board as the position needed to be reexamined. It was then unanimously approved to be sent back to the Board.</p> <p>Mr. Failla said the motion being the same, it is a violation of Robert's Rules of Order.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson, as parliamentarian, said the Operations Committee voted unanimously to bring the issue back to the full Board.</p> <p>Chairwoman Faulenbach said it was the chair's call to put the item on the agenda.</p> <p>Mr. McLachlan said he had previously requested two items be reconsidered and he was not allowed to do so.</p> <p>Chairwoman Faulenbach said the issue was brought to the Operations Committee with new information on the progress of job replacement. It was the Operations Committee's unanimous vote to bring the item to the Board for discussion and possible action.</p> <p>Mr. Failla moved to appeal the decision of the chair which was seconded by Mr. McLachlan.</p> <p>Mr. Ruggerio stated that the Chair stressed the importance of attending the August meeting and it is disrespectful to those who attended to rediscuss this issue.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk noted that the Board called the meeting in August. Ten members showed up, ten opinions were expressed and a vote was taken. It is disrespectful to these members time and attention to rediscuss this issue.</p>	<p>Point of Order Motion Made and Not Approved to Appeal Board Chair's Decision to Place Item on the Agenda for Discussion</p>
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Mr. McLachlan said he was at the August meeting and he said Board members did not say there should not be a Director of Personnel, they were concerned with the title and the salary and now the exact same item with the same salary is being rediscussed.

Dr. Diamond said that the Board is not getting appropriate candidates for the position and she supports the item being placed back on the agenda.

Mrs. Marandola said this is not a revisit of the issue it is moving forward with additional information. After the item did not pass at the August meeting, Superintendent Paddyfote brought the issue back to the Operations Committee which voted unanimously to bring the issue back to the Board.

Mrs. Turk noted that it takes longer than 2-4 weeks to fill a position and perhaps there was no legitimate effort made.

Mr. Ruggiero said he did not feel the position merited a director level nor the commensurate salary. He did think the position was a management level position.

Chairwoman Faulenbach said the point of order was whether the item should be on the agenda or not. A yes vote meant the item should be eliminated from the agenda, a no vote meant the item should stay.

Motion failed: 5-7

Aye: Mr. Failla, Mr. McLachlan, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Vita

No: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Marandola, Mrs. Finney, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Mc Sherry

<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p>Superintendent's report presented.          Dr. Paddyfote reported that the schools have been in session for 9 days. The buses seem to be running on normal times now. An enrollment report was distributed and the Superintendent compared the actual enrollment of 9-05-07 to the projected 2007 enrollment. Several appointments are being recommended including Athletic Director at the high school, and a guidance counselor at Schaghticoke Middle School. The MVP/SOS dinner was held Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> with 350 people in attendance. This organization has donated over \$75,000 to the schools to date.</p>	<p>Superintendent's Report</p>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p>Minutes of August 28, 2007 approved by motion of Dr. Stillman, seconded by Mrs. Finney.           Mr. McLachlan noted that the June 26<sup>th</sup> minutes should reflect his attendance.           Approved unanimously</p>	<p>Motion made and passed to approve regular meeting minutes for August 28, 2007</p>
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p>Board Chairman's report.          Chairwoman Faulenbach announced that Board members would be receiving their own e-mail addresses and information on how to access them at the next meeting.           Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Turk and Dr. Paddyfote met with Mayor Murphy today at the Mayor's request. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibility of combining the town and school finance departments.           Mr. Lawson asked why this issue was not brought to the Operations Committee. Mrs. Faulenbach said she was not notified until today about the meeting. Mrs. Marandola noted that this seemed to be manipulative on the part of the Mayor in light of the upcoming Mayoral election.</p>	<p>Board Chairman's Report</p>
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p>Committee Reports           Facilities: There was no meeting this month.          Operations: Dr. Diamond noted the meeting minutes had been disbursed.</p>	<p>Committee Reports</p>

	<p>Policy Committee: Mrs. Marandola noted the meeting would be held Tuesday, 9/18, items to be discussed include ongoing improvements of allergy response plan and safety plans.</p> <p>Committee on Learning: Mr. McLachlan said the meetings will be 9/25 and 10/23, items to be discussed include Windows on New Milford, curriculum items, and information on required reading</p>	
<b>10A.</b>	<p>Discussion and possible action on revised Exhibit A. Personnel as recommended by the Superintendent. Mr. McSherry moved to approve revised Exhibit A, seconded by Dr. Stillman. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion made and approved unanimously on revised Exhibit A personnel as recommended by the Superintendent</p>
<b>10B.</b>	<p>Monthly reports          Mrs. Marandola moved to approve the monthly budget reports: request for budget transfer, purchase resolution D-602, and the budget position as of 8/31/07, seconded by Mr. McSherry and unanimously approved.</p>	<p>Motion made and approved on the monthly budget reports: request for budget transfer, purchase resolution D-602, and the budget position as of 8/31/07.</p>
<b>10C.</b>	<p>Authorization to add signatory to ED-099 Agreement          Mr. McSherry moved to authorize adding Mr. Turk as a signatory on the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs, seconded by Dr. Stillman and unanimously approved.</p>	<p>Motion made and approved to authorize adding Mr. Turk as a signatory on the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs.</p>
<b>10D.</b>	<p>Exhibit B, Gifts &amp; Donations          Mr. McLachlan moved to approve Exhibit B, Gifts and Donations, seconded by Mrs. Marandola.</p> <p>Dr. Stillman said he knew Mr. Fernandes, he was a special person.</p> <p>Motion was unanimously approved.</p>	<p>Motion made and approved to approve Exhibit B, Gifts and Donations.</p>
	<p>Mr. Failla, Mr. McLachlan, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Ruggerio, and Mr. Vita left the meeting at 8:37 pm.</p>	
<b>10E.</b>	<p>Central Office Vacancy-Director of Human Resources Position          Mrs. Marandola moved to approve the job description for a Director of Human Resources and to authorize the Superintendent to fill the vacancy, seconded by Dr. Diamond.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson noted that the job description was revised upon which Dr. Diamond withdrew her second and</p>	<p>Motion made and approved to approve the revised job description for a Director of Human Resources and to authorize the Superintendent to fill the vacancy.</p>

	<p>Mrs. Marandola withdrew her motion to approve.</p> <p>Mrs. Marandola moved to approve the revised job description for a Director of Human Resources and to authorize the Superintendent to fill the vacancy, seconded by Dr. Diamond.</p> <p>Mr. McSherry said the previous vote being a 5-5 tie did not suggest a clear direction of what the Board wanted to do despite some previous comments made that a discussion should be held to provide clear direction.</p> <p>Chairwoman Faulenbach said she was not a fan of the walkout and noted it was unfortunate.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson suggested if the Board had everybody in attendance, they could actually discuss the Board's business and make a decision.</p> <p>Dr. Stillman said he did not like debating empty chairs and felt a healthy debate would be more important. He said this position requires someone with experience. He also felt that the walkout was the ultimate disrespect to the Board and the voters.</p> <p>Mrs. Finney said she was disappointed because the members who walked out had points they wanted to express and by walking out they did not express them.</p> <p>Mrs. Marandola said she was strongly behind the position and had been since the budget process. She noted that a high level of professionals was necessary to run a school system.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<b>10F.</b>	<p>Textbook approvals          Dr. Diamond moved to approve textbooks for grades 1, 2, 3, and 11, seconded by Dr. Stillman and approved unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion made and approved to approve textbooks for grades 1, 2, 3 and 11.</p>
<b>11A.</b>	<p>Items for discussion</p>	<p>Items for discussion</p>

	There was no discussion	
<b>12.</b>	Adjournment Dr. Stillman moved to adjourn at 8:47 pm, seconded by Mr. McSherry and approved unanimously.	Motion to adjourn made and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dian Traisci-Marandola, Secretary  
New Milford Board of Education