

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Committee on Learning Meeting Minutes  
 Lillis Administration Bldg., Rm. 2  
 May 22, 2007**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Board Chairperson</b>
	<b>*Mr. Bill McLachlan, Committee Chairman</b>
	<b>*Dr. Lisa Diamond</b>
	<b>*Mr. David A. Lawson</b>
	<b>*Dr. Lawrence Stillman</b>
	<b>*Julie Turk</b>
	<b>Mr. Joseph Failla</b>
	<b>Mr. Tom McSherry</b>

<b>Also Present:</b>	<b>Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent</b>
	<b>Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Asst. Superintendent</b>
	<b>Dr. Kathy Delmonico, English Department Chair</b>
	<b>Mr. Dave Schaffer, Math Department Chair</b>

<b>1.</b>	<b>Mr. McLachlan called to order the Committee on Learning meeting at 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>There was no public comment.</b>	<b>Public Comment</b>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>A. Approval of the following curriculum:</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Delmonico gave a brief overview of Journalism I and II, English IV, Short Fiction and the Writing Workshop curricula. These are elective courses chosen by the student.</b></p> <p><b>1. Journalism I and II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>This course is offered both semesters.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>The course is geared toward the academic student.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>This course includes media involvement.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>There is a great deal of writing and on-line work with this course.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Students taking this course may also write for the school newspaper as a result of their participation in this course.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>The students participate in a complete news show; writing, critiquing, filming, etc.</b></li> </ul>	<b>Discussion and Possible Action</b>
	<p><b>2. English IV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>This is a one-semester course.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>This course contains a great deal of reading, writing and oral presentations.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>This course assists students in their continued education at a community college, technical</b></li> </ul>	

	school, etc.	
	<b>3. Short Fiction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This course covers the academic to college level.</li> <li>➤ Improving reading skills and analysis is one of the goals of this course.</li> </ul>	
	<b>4. Writing Workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 75-80% of the students enrolled in this course are college bound.</li> <li>➤ There is a concentration on writing a college essay in this course and finding out “who they are” in their writing.</li> <li>➤ This course is offered both in the spring and fall.</li> <li>➤ Practice for the SAT is also included in this course.</li> </ul>	
	<p>Mr. David Shaffer gave a brief overview of the Applications Math, Consumer Math and Elementary Algebra curricula.</p> <b>5. Applications Math</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This is the second year the course has been offered in this format.</li> <li>➤ It is a one-semester course.</li> <li>➤ This is a general level course, usually taken by freshman and sophomores.</li> <li>➤ The course follows the state curriculum standards</li> <li>➤ A workbook is used for this course and usually has small class sizes (12-16).</li> </ul>	
	<b>6. Consumer Math</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This course is offered both semesters.</li> <li>➤ When a student passes this course, they have met the math standard set on CAPT..</li> </ul> <p><b>Question: Could this course become mandatory for all students? Not likely as a mandatory course; the Personal Finance course, which is going to be offered, will be similar to this course and offered as an elective.</b></p>	
	<b>7. Elementary Algebra</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This course can be difficult to teach due to the make-up of the class.</li> <li>➤ There are currently seven sections offered with approximately two thirds of the student population being successful. The other one</li> </ul>	

	<p>third of students have difficulty often because of disengagement from school and poor study skills rather than the course per se.</p> <p><b>Question:</b> Could another person other than the current staff member teach this course if needed, is it a teacher friendly curriculum?  <b>Yes,</b> there is a course description and timeline.</p> <p><b>Motion by Dr. Diamond:</b> Move that the Committee on Learning bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Journalism I &amp; II</li> <li>2. English IV</li> <li>3. Short Fiction</li> <li>4. Writing Workshop</li> <li>5. Application Math</li> <li>6. Consumer Math</li> <li>7. Elementary Algebra</li> </ol> <p><b>Seconded by:</b> Dr. Stillman</p> <p><b>Aye:</b> Mr. McLachlan, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Lawson, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk,  <b>Nay:</b>  <b>Abstain:</b></p> <p><b>Motion Passed – Unanimously</b></p>	<p><b>Motion made and passed to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Journalism I &amp; II</li> <li>2. English IV</li> <li>3. Short Fiction</li> <li>4. Writing Workshop</li> <li>5. Application Math</li> <li>6. Consumer Math</li> <li>7. Elementary Algebra</li> </ol>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Motion by Dr. Stillman:</b> Move that the Committee on Learning meeting adjourn.  <b>Seconded by:</b> Mr. Lawson</p> <p><b>Aye:</b> Mr. McLachlan, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Lawson, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk,  <b>Nay:</b>  <b>Abstain:</b></p> <p><b>Motion Passed – Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>The Committee on Learning adjourned at 7:49 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Bill McLachlan,  
 Committee Chairman