

**New Milford Board of Education
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 November 17, 2020
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

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NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Angela C. Chastain Mr. Joseph Failla Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Pete Helmus Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mrs. Eileen P. Monaghan (via Zoom) Mrs. Cynthia Nabozny Mrs. Olga I. Rella
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Also Present:	Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Interim Superintendent of Schools Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Operations and Fiscal Services Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Mr. Kevin Munrett, Director of Facilities Mr. Nestor Aparicio, Assistant Director of Facilities Mr. Brandon Rush, Director of Technology Mrs. Anne Bilko, Sarah Noble Intermediate School Principal Mr. Kevin Best, New Milford High School Assistant Principal Mr. Keith Lipinsky, New Milford High School Athletic Director Mrs. Sandra Sullivan, Food and Nutrition Services Director
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1.	Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance The regular meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Chastain. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.	Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance
2.	Recognition A. NMPS Retiree: Mrs. Patricia Shanahan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. DiCorpo said Mrs. Shanahan is retiring after 13 years as a paraeducator at Sarah Noble Intermediate School. • Mrs. Bilko said Mrs. Shanahan is truly a consummate professional who treated all with kindness and care. She wished her well in retirement. 	Recognition A. NMPS Retiree: Mrs. Patricia Shanahan

<p>3.</p>	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Mosey, SMS teacher, said the COVID pandemic and rising cases are causing tremendous stress on teachers, both physically and emotionally. She asked for help. 	<p>Public Comment</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>PTO Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandi MacDonald said all K-8 PTOs held virtual book fairs last month. As with all new things this year, it was not without hiccups, but the fairs did well. • All the PTOs are looking for fun and creative ideas to keep families engaged and to try to give the students some experiences that do not involve using a computer. SNIS PTO is looking to hold a snowman building contest. The HS PTO is working on the possibility of pairing each grade with a local restaurant for a little friendly competition. NES is going to be hosting an outdoor holiday shop. HPS will be having a holiday photo booth with Barkley and outdoor holiday grab bag shop. • Discount cards are on sale. There are many great discounts for local businesses including some of our favorite restaurants and all discounts are valid until next August. They make a great gift! 	<p>PTO Report</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:</p> <p>1. Special Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:</p> <p>1. Special Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020.</p>

<p>2. Regular Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>3. Special Meeting Minutes October 22, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 22, 2020, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>4. Special Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>5. Special Meeting Minutes October 29, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 29, 2020, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>2. Regular Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes October 20, 2020.</p> <p>3. Special Meeting Minutes October 22, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 22, 2020.</p> <p>4. Special Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020.</p> <p>5. Special Meeting Minutes October 29, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes October 29, 2020.</p>
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	<p>6. Special Meeting Minutes November 4, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes November 4, 2020, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>The motion passed 8-0-1. Mr. Helmus abstained.</p>	<p>6. Special Meeting Minutes November 4, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes November 4, 2020.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Superintendent's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. DiCorpo said for her first Superintendent's Report she wanted to share some information about COVID decisions. She said she is listening to teachers' concerns and has a meeting set with representatives tomorrow. She said she reviews transmission rates daily, along with information Mike Crespan shares from the DPH database. Notifications are made based on that information. She said there have been no transmissions originating in our schools. Mike Crespan is evaluating the Town status today and Ms. DiCorpo has a meeting with him tomorrow at noon to review. She also assesses staffing levels daily to see if there is sufficient coverage for in person learning. Ms. DiCorpo said families are being good about providing notifications. She said the Wednesday full remote day is also helping. Any changes to the schedule will be shared with the Board and community as soon as decisions are made. • Ms. DiCorpo said the enrollment study is moving forward in collaboration with the Town which provided the funding. • The CIAC announced today that they are postponing winter sports until January 19. The winter coaches have been pulled from Exhibit A and will be put on the December 8 Operations Exhibit A instead when we may have more information. • Teachers College staff development is ongoing K-8. 	<p>Superintendent's Report</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. DiCorpo is working with the PTO President to set up Parent Nights around Restorative Practices. • Mr. Munrett did a walk through of the LHTC facility with a Town representative. • Ms. DiCorpo said she wants to remind everyone that the district will be full remote for the week after Thanksgiving until December 7. Staff and families who may be traveling are reminded to complete the Travel Survey. • Yesterday a regional notice was sent to parents with reminders regarding social distancing, prescreening etc. 	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Board Chairman's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain updated that the Superintendent Search is in progress, with resumes being collected. Work will begin the week after Thanksgiving. She said this is her last BOE meeting, as she has resigned effective in December. She said she feels the best way she can serve the New Milford community is through her food insecurity work. She thanked the Board for their work with her over the last nine years and for their commitment to the children of New Milford. • Mr. Failla said it has been an honor to serve with Mrs. Chastain as her Vice Chair. He appreciates her leadership through the current crisis and Superintendent transitions. 	<p>Board Chairman's Report</p>
<p>8.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated November 17, 2020</p> <p>Mrs. Nabozny moved to approve Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence as of November 17, 2020 as revised, seconded by Mrs. Rella.</p>	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated November 17, 2020</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no discussion. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Position dated October 31, 2020 2. Purchase Resolution: D-740 (Revised) 3. Request for Budget Transfers <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve monthly reports: Budget Position dated October 31, 2020; Revised Purchase Resolution D-740; and Request for Budget Transfers, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no discussion. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>C. Approval of Authorized Signatures Change Form for ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the Authorized Signatures Change Form for ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no discussion. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>D. East Street Gym Request</p> <p>Mr. McCauley moved to approve the East Street Gym Request for Camella’s Cupboard, seconded by Mrs. McInerney.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain and Mrs. Faulenbach recused themselves from the vote. 	<p>Leaves of Absence as of November 17, 2020 as revised.</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Position dated October 31, 2020 2. Purchase Resolution: D-740 (Revised) 3. Request for Budget Transfers <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve monthly reports: Budget Position dated October 31, 2020; Revised Purchase Resolution: D-740; and Request for Budget Transfers.</p> <p>C. Approval of Authorized Signatures Change Form for ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the Authorized Signatures Change Form for ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs.</p> <p>D. East Street Gym Request</p> <p>Motion made and passed to approve the East Street Gym Request for Camella’s Cupboard.</p>
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	<p>The motion passed 7-0-2. Mrs. Chastain and Mrs. Faulenbach abstained.</p> <p>E. NMHS Activities Stipends</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved to approve the NMHS Activities Stipends as proposed, seconded by Mrs. Nabozny.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. McNerney asked what criteria is used to determine if an activity runs or not, specifically orchestra and jazz band. She said it is important to keep kids engaged as much as possible.• Mrs. Faulenbach noted the three levels of recommendations: running now, recommended to run, and recommended not to run.• Mr. Best said this memo was prepared in October. At that time, he was asked to propose recommendations. Within the recommended to run category, there are other activities such as jazz band, orchestra, winter guard and winter percussion that are also ready to move forward now if the Board wishes. Emerging Artists and Senior Art Show are spring activities so may be revisited at a later date. The activities not recommended to run are for various reasons including lack of interest, lack of advisor or inability to meet required restrictions.• Mr. McCauley asked how Chorus is working. Mr. Best said a performance piece is required as part of the curriculum so they are modifying virtually as needed. The additional stipend is on hold under the current guidelines prohibiting events.• Board consensus was that all the recommended to run activities should be approved at this time, with Emerging Artists and Senior Art Show to be revisited in the future.• Mr. Helmus recused himself from the vote. <p>The motion passed 8-0-1. Mr. Helmus abstained.</p>	<p>E. NMHS Activities Stipends</p> <p>Motion made and passed to approve the NMHS Activities Stipends as proposed.</p>
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<p>F. COVID Staffing and Funding</p> <p>Mrs. Nabozny moved to approve the COVID Staffing and Funding request for an additional part time COVID Liaison as proposed, seconded by Mrs. McInerney.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no discussion. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>G. Food Service Historical and Projections re: 2019-20 Year End Balance</p> <p>Mrs. McInerney moved to approve reimbursement to the Food Service fund from the 2019-20 Year End Balance in the amount of \$295,172, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Rella asked where the funds were coming from. • Mrs. Faulenbach said the reimbursement will come out of the 2019-20 year end balance which was fully earmarked for COVID relief. She said this use has been approved by the auditors. • Mrs. McInerney noted that this is a self sustaining fund and it is important to make sure it remains solvent. <p>The motion passed 8-1-0. Mrs. Chastain opposed.</p> <p>H. Policy for Second Review:</p> <p>1. 1900/4900/5900/6900 Operations of Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain said this is a voluntary policy and does not need to be adopted. • Mrs. McInerney said she has concerns with adoption because the pandemic situation is so fluid and there are so many changes happening daily. 	<p>F. COVID Staffing and Funding</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the COVID Staffing and Funding request for an additional part time COVID Liaison as proposed.</p> <p>G. Food Service Historical and Projections re: 2019-20 Year End Balance</p> <p>Motion made and passed to approve reimbursement to the Food Service fund from the 2019-20 Year End Balance in the amount of \$295,172.</p> <p>H. Policy for Second Review:</p> <p>1. 1900/4900/5900/6900 Operations of Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Helmus said he would move to abandon it at this time. It is all tied to statutes and executive orders and not specific for New Milford. • Ms. DiCorpo agreed and said she is also concerned with the staffing hours that would be needed for enforcement of some sections. She said it was helpful as a model when she was developing guidance around holiday travel. 	
<p>9.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Items For Information And Discussion</p> <p>Five Year Capital Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Munrett said the plan is fluid and will be changing. The district will be collaborating with the Municipal Building Committee on larger scale projects. The Energy Audit will also affect some categories. • Mrs. Faulenbach noted that some items have also been purchased already as needed through the COVID account. Mr. Giovannone agreed, saying that factor will affect the refresh cycles for some technology items. • Ms. DiCorpo said this was the current plan under this year’s budget and changes will be coming as we begin the next budget cycle. She said the district is in the fact finding phase now. They will offer a BOE workshop regarding capital in the near future. • Mrs. Monaghan said the collaboration with the Town should help with pricing too. • Mr. Failla noted that the current plan calls for approximately \$1.1 million in work for the Lillis Building. He said that provides food for thought regarding moving out instead. He would much rather use that money elsewhere and return the building to the Town. • Ms. DiCorpo said that conversation has been started with the Mayor and they are looking at what options there are. 	<p>Items For Information And Discussion</p> <p>A. Five Year Capital Plan</p>

10.	Adjourn Mrs. Nabozny moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Rella and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:22 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted:



Wendy Faulenbach
Secretary
New Milford Board of Education