## New Milford Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes June 12, 2007 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

Present:	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Board Chairperson
	Dr. Lisa Diamond
	Mr. Joseph Failla
	Mrs. Elizabeth Finney
	Mr. David A. Lawson
	Mrs. Dian Traisci-Marandola
	Mr. William McLachlan
	Mr. Thomas McSherry
	Mr. Robin Ruggiero
	Dr. Lawrence Stillman
	Mrs. Julie Turk
	Mr. Joseph Vita

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, Director of Facilities
	Mr. David Elmore, Director of Technology

1.	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education	Call to Order
	was Called to Order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of	Pledge of Allegiance
	Allegiance immediately followed the Call to Order.	
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2.	Public Comment	Public Comment
	The following individuals addressed the Board:	
	Joseph Failla, Mary Boland, and Joan Kick	
3.	PTO Report	PTO Report
		_
	No report was given, as no representative was present.	
4.	Amy Holland and Danielle Pelillo reported to the	Student Representatives'
	Board:	Report
	Amy introduced new representative Amy Donahue who	_
	will be replacing graduating senior Danielle. She	
	reported that final exams were taking place currently.	
	The sophomore ring ceremony was held on June 5 <sup>th</sup> .	
	NAMES is already planning for next year with June	
	18 <sup>th</sup> the first training session. The Band was recently	

	back from a competition in Cleveland where they received "excellent and superior" ratings. The Band performed at the Mets game on May 31 <sup>st</sup> .  Danielle thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as the student rep for two years. She reported that the senior banquet was held June 7 <sup>th</sup> . Yearbooks were distributed at the event and Danielle, as editor in chief, was proud to report that this was the first all color yearbook in the school and state. June 8 <sup>th</sup> was the senior trip. June 23 <sup>rd</sup> will be graduation at 4:00 p.m. at the O'Neill Center at WCSU.  Mrs. Faulenbach thanked Danielle and wished her luck in the future.	
5.	Motion by Mr. McSherry that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve the minutes of its Regular Meeting held May 8, 2007 and the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held May 12, 2007. Seconded by: Dr. Stillman  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:  Motion passed – Unanimously	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve the minutes of its Regular Meeting held May 8, 2007 and the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held May 12, 2007
6.	<ul> <li>Superintendent's Report</li> <li>The new website is live and the web address is <a href="www.newmilfordps.org">www.newmilfordps.org</a></li> <li>Individual mailboxes for Board members are ready to be launched and members will need to give password information to Mr. Elmore.</li> <li>The promotion ceremonies at SMS will take place on Friday at 8:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.</li> <li>NMHS graduation is June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please rsvp if you are planning to attend and haven't already.</li> </ul>	Superintendent's Report
7.	Board Chairman's Report     E-mails are ready to go, please let the Chair know if there are any concerns.	Board Chairman's Report

	•	The Chair attended the SMS award ceremonies	
	_	a week ago.  There will be enother board meeting on June	
	•	There will be another board meeting on June 19 <sup>th</sup> due to the large agenda tonight.	
8.	A.	Facilities	Committee Reports
		• Mr. McSherry referred to minutes.	Presented
	B.	Operations	
		<ul> <li>Budget adjustments were noted and brought forward.</li> </ul>	
	C	Policy	
	C.	• The 5000 series of policies is up for approval tonight.	
	D.	Committee on Learning	
		• Mr. McLachlan noted adjustments to the 5 year plan.	
9.	A.	Revised Personnel Exhibit A	
		Maria Maria	
		Motion by Mrs. Marandola:  Move that the New Milford Board of Education	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of
		vote to approve Revised Exhibit A as	Education vote to approve
		recommended by the Superintendent.	Revised Exhibit A as
		Seconded by: Dr. Diamond	recommended by the Superintendent.
		Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr.	
		Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mrs. Marandola, Mr.	
		McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr.	
		Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita	
		Nay:	
		Abstain:	
		Mr. Lawson recused himself from the vote.	
		Motion Passed: 11-0-0	
	B.	Monthly Reports	
		1. Request for Budget Transfers	
		2. Purchase Resolution D-601	
		3. Budget Position as of 5/31/07	
		Motion by Mr. Lawson: Move that the New	Motion made and passed that
		Milford Board of Education vote to approve the	the New Milford Board of
		monthly reports.	Education vote to approve
		Seconded by: Dr. Stillman	the monthly reports
		Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond,	

	Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:  Motion Passed – Unanimously Grants Mrs. Faulenbach asked that the grants be considered all in one.  Motion made by Dr. Diamond to approve the following grants all in one: Carl D. Perkins Adult Education Competitive Grant Adult Education Initiative Grant Technology Infrastructure Grant Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant New Milford Adult Education Grant English Language Acquisition/Civics Education Grant Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Grant Seconded by: Mrs. Marandola  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve the grants as listed. Carl D. Perkins Adult Ed Competitive Grant Adult Ed Initiative Grant Technology Infrastructure Grant IDEA Grant New Milford Adult Ed Grant English Language Acquisition/Civics Ed Grant Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Grant
	Exhibit B: PTO	
D.	Motion by Dr. Diamond: Move that the New Milford Board of Education vote to accept Exhibit B: PTO Gifts and Donations. Seconded by: Mrs. Marandola  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Ms. Finney, Mr. Lawson,	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to accept Exhibit B: PTO Gifts and Donations

	Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan,	
	Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman,	
	Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita	
	Nay:	
	Abstain:	
Motion	n Passed – Unanimously	
E.	Approval of curriculum	
	Mrs. Faulenbach asked that the curriculum be	
	considered all in one.	
	Motion by Mr. McLachlan: Move that the New	Motion made and passed that
	Milford Board of Education vote to approve the	the New Milford Board of
	following curriculum all in one:	Education vote to approve
	Journalism I and II	the curriculum listed.
	English IV	Journalism I and II
	Short Fiction	English IV
		Short Fiction
	Writing Workshop	
	Application Math	Writing Workshop
	Consumer Math	Application Math
	Elementary Algebra	Consumer Math
	Seconded by: Dr. Diamond	Elementary Algebra
	Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond,	
	Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson,	
	Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr.	
	McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman,	
	Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita	
	Nay:	
	Abstain:	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
F.	Bid for Security and Vulnerability	
	Motion by Mr. Ruggiero: Move that the New	Motion made and passed that
	Milford Board of Education vote to award the	the New Milford Board of
	bid for Security and Vulnerability to	Education vote to award the
	SafirRosetti	bid for Security and
	Seconded by: Dr. Stillman	Vulnerability to SafirRosetti.
	Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond,	
	Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson,	
	Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan,	
	Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman,	
	Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita	

	N	
	Nay:	
	Abstain:	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
	Wildion Lassed Chammousty	
	. Bid for Larson House	
	Motion by Mr. Lawson: Move that the New	Motion made and passed that
	Milford Board of Education vote to award the	the New Milford Board of
	bid for Larson House to Liquacoat	Education vote to award the
	Seconded by: Mr. McSherry	bid for Larson House to
		Liquacoat.
	Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond,	•
	Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson,	
	Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan,	
	Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman,	
	Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita	
	Nay:	
	Abstain:	
	Austain.	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
H	. Exhibit C: Strategic Plan 2007-2012	
	. Exhibit C. Strategie I ian 2007 2012	
	Maria Maria Maria Maria Maria	36.0
	Motion by Mr. Lawson: Move that the New	Motion made and passed that
	Milford Board of Education vote to approve	the New Milford Board of
	Exhibit C: Strategic Plan 2007-2012. Seconded	Education vote to approve
	by: Mr. McSherry	Exhibit C: Strategic Plan
	by. Ivil. Iviositorry	2007-2012
		2007-2012
	Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond,	
	Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson,	
	Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan,	
	Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman,	
	Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita	
	Nay:	
	Abstain:	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
	Mrs. Marandala reason: 1 d 120	
	Mrs. Marandola recognized the over 130 people	
	who participated hours and hours to put together	
	this plan, a legacy of the Board, objectives to be	
	achieved over 5 years. She spoke on behalf of	
	the Board, thanking the members for their effort	
	and collaboration.	

I.	Exhibit D: Standard to Determine Indigence	
	Motion by Mr. McSherry: Move that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve Exhibit C: Strategic Plan 2007-2012. Exhibit D: Standard to Determine Indigence Seconded by: Dr. Diamond	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve Exhibit D: Strategic Plan 2007-2012 Standard to Determine Indigence
	Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
J.	Suspend Policy 9311 to approve Policy Series 5000: Students	
	Motion by Dr. Stillman: Move that the New Milford Board of Education vote to suspend policy 9311 to approve Policy Series 5000: Students. Seconded by: Mr. McSherry	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to suspend policy 9311 to approve Policy Series 5000: Students.
	Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
K.	Motion by Dr. Stillman to approve Policy Series 5000: Students, with revisions, as recommended by the Policy Sub-Committee Seconded by: Mrs. Marandola Discussion: Policy 5131.81 Out of School Misconduct	Motion made to approve Policy Series 5000: Students, with revisions, as recommended by the Policy Sub-Committee
	Electronic devices (5131.81) was distributed to all members. Mrs. Marandola stated that there had been an important discussion about this	

policy and the intent of the revision was to be consistent, even-handed, and building based implementation under the principal's administration.

- The policy does not take into account use of Ipods during the day.
- Revision referenced a ban on all electronic devices during the instructional day.
- Concern about the ability to enforce the policy when the ability to carry electronic devices is considered a safety factor for many parents and students.
- Some of the language maybe confusing.
- Should policy be broadened to include a ban on camera and videophones on school property and at school events as these may be used inappropriately in bathrooms or locker rooms?
- Need to revisit the policy annually as technology advances rapidly.
- Primary concern was to have the devices turned off during the instructional day so as to have an environment conducive to learning. The language in the policy that talked about possession and use of laser pointers mirrors the statute.
- Ethical use of the internet and technological devices had been part of the strategic plan discussion.
- Enforcement would be clarified through the regulation written by the superintendent and administration and spelled out in handbooks. Likened this policy to that of the dress code the previous year. The dress code policy was kept simple, short, and clear, then flushed out in regulation and handbook.
- Important to regulate the devices during class time.
- Clarification was given to Board members that if they did not approve the policy tonight then the old policy would stay in effect.

- Electronic devices are a way of life and impossible to remove completely and the Board needs to find an enforcement policy that is attainable.
- The goal of the policy is to make enforcement successful.
- Parents would have issues if the Board put on too much restriction.
- A key point was whether the policy was an improvement over the old one.
- Policies of other high schools had been considered during the development of the electronic device policy.
- Evaluation/monitoring report from the Superintendent will be forthcoming in November, 2007.

Discussion: Policy 4145.123 – Search and Seizure

- It addresses reasonable suspicion and probable cause when police officers become involved.
- Is policy constitutional regarding search by policy
- Need to define reasonable suspicion vs. probable cause, though administration had handled this well in the past.
- Clarification of lockers as Board of Ed property and therefore okay to search.
- Mrs. Marandola clarified that this policy was being reviewed not revised.
- Mr. McKeon, Board counsel, was requested to participate and stated that this is essentially a CT practice; school officials are held to a lower standard and that law enforcement officials acting in an "investigatory" noncriminal capacity at the behest of administration can also use the lower standard. If official finds evidence of criminal action, then the higher standard comes in to play. It was suggested that the language be modified to include "acting at behest of school officials" where needed.

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Discussion: Policy 5131.8 - Out of School Misconduct.  • Need to address egregious conduct.  • Is policy confusing? Mr. McKeon stated that he had the policy mirrored statute, but that he had reviewed Mr. Failla's suggestions and thought they were in line with the statute language.  Mr. Failla stated that his intent was to make the policy stronger going forward for future enforcement to be presented with these changes to the Board at the June 19 <sup>th</sup> meeting.	
Discussion: Policy 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments  Nowhere did the policy differentiate legal vs. illegal firearms.  The Board was only concerns had already been identified regarding off campus.  Mr. McKeon stated that in this case the statute language was mandatory and could not be changed.  Mrs. Faulenbach suggested that the policy adoption go forward with the exception of Policy 5131.81 - Out of School Misconduct, which would be moved to June 19 <sup>th</sup> for consideration after revisions were added.	
Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Ms. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Mr. McLachlan Abstain:  Motion Passed – 11-1-0	Motion passed to approve Policy Series 5000: Students, with revisions, as recommended by the Policy Sub-Committee
L. Textbook approvals for Grades 1 & 2	Motion made and massed
Motion by Mr. McLachlan: Move that the New	Motion made and passed

	Milford Board of Education vote to approve textbooks for Grades 1 & 2. Seconded by: Mr. Vita  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:  Mrs. Turk (left room at 9:08 p.m.)  Motion Passed – Unanimously	that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve textbooks for Grades 1 & 2.
	Motion by Mr. Ruggiero: Move that the New Milford Board of Education vote to authorize the Superintendent to accept resignations and make appointments from June 13, 2007 through August 29, 2007. Seconded by: Dr. Diamond  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain: Motion Passed – Unanimously	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to authorize the Superintendent to accept resignations and make appointments from June 13, 2007 through August 29, 2007.
N.	Motion by Dr. Stillman: Move that the New Milford Board of Education vote to authorize the Superintendent to purchase budgeted instructional materials and other supplies, equipment and services from June 13, 2007 through August 29, 2007. Seconded by: Dr. Diamond  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, (returned 9:09 p.m.), Mr. Vita Nay:	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to purchase budgeted instructional materials and other supplies, equipment and services from June 13, 2007 through August 29, 2007.

	Abstain:	
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
C	Motion by Dr. Stillman: Move that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve the amended 2007-2008 school budget as recommended by the Superintendent in the amount of \$56,352,177.  Seconded by: Mrs. Finney  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Mr. Vita Nay: Abstain:  Motion Passed – Unanimously	Motion made and passed that the New Milford Board of Education vote to approve the amended 2007-2008 school budget as recommended by the Superintendent in the amount of \$56,352,177.
10. Items	for Discussion	Items for Discussion
В	<ul> <li>A copy of one of the books was requested.</li> <li>Field Trip Report-June 2007</li> <li>Incorrect date on the top of the Field Trip form, however, all field trip dates were correct.</li> <li>Ad Hoc Committee Meeting</li> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach said the Chair was asked to consider the formation of this committee to address a number of issues in the Board/staff communication guise.</li> <li>Mr. Failla stated that he was a big advocate for this idea which he feels will open up communication, on the heels of a hearing by the Board that raised significant issues with the teacher evaluation process, the implementation of student discipline and the implementation of policies in a fair and across the board manner. He thought this committee would be valuable to gather information from the community on the "front line", the teachers,</li> </ul>	

- administrators, and students, in an open, constructive format.
- Mr. Lawson said that the Strategic Plan, specifically numbers 1, 5, 6, and 7, addressed these questions and that any ad hoc committee should keep the strategic plan in mind.
- Dr. Stillman stated that input from the main line is essential.
- Mr. McSherry stated that the ad hoc committee could highlight a lot of the strategic plan issues and thought it was a good idea.
- Mrs. Marandola said these issues had already been addressed by the addition of an agenda item at the last meeting, validating follow up with teachers, parents, students, and administrators who came forward at last meeting. She understood that the intent was to follow up the issues at committee meetings already in place. She questioned the need for an ad hoc committee when there is already a framework for the work to be done.
- Mrs. Faulenbach also expressed concern with going outside of the framework but understood what brought the idea forward.
- Mr. McSherry thinks the ad hoc committee presents a better forum for unstructured conversation on a more personal level. He feels that out of the ad hoc committee, individual issues raised can then be brought to the appropriate committee.
- Mr. McLachlan stated that he hoped the ad hoc committee might bring in a greater scope of people.
- Mr. Ruggiero said he was very much in favor of the committee and offered to serve on it, that "we are all professional" committed to enhancing the system.
- Mrs. Turk said it was clear that there were some unusual issues that had

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	surfaced that do not fit neatly in a general committee.  • Mrs. Marandola asked what the structure of the ad hoc committee would be for without structure it could become a free fall, damaging the integrity of administrative structure.  • Mrs. Marandola expressed concern that they would be moving into the bargaining unit/negotiation process area if discussion took place on evaluation process; that without structure, the Board is heading down a slippery slope, creating a tool that they have never had before.  • Mrs. Faulenbach stated that she understood all the concerns and stated that she would ensure that there was structure to the committee, people in place, and an agenda posted.  • The meeting will be scheduled for June 14 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Lillis Boardroom.	
12.	Motion by Mr. McSherry: Move that the Board of Education enter into executive session to discuss a pending lawsuit against All Star Transportation and Teamsters, inviting Dr. Paddyfote and Board Counsel, Mike McKeon to join executive session. Seconded by: Dr. Stillman  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Dr. Diamond, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk Nay: Abstain:  Mr. Vita recused himself  Motion Passed – Unanimously  Dr. Lisa Diamond left the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Mr. Bill McLachlan left the meeting at 9:35 p.m.	Motion made and passed that the Board of Education enter into executive session to discuss a pending lawsuit against All Star Transportation and Teamsters, inviting Dr. Paddyfote and Board Counsel, Mike McKeon to join executive session

	The Board entered into executive session at 9:40 p.m.	
13.	Motion by Mr. McSherry: Move that the Board authorize the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Board's legal counsel to sign and/or file on behalf of the Board the documents necessary to resolve the Board's lawsuit against All-Star Transportation, LLC and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 677 that is currently pending in the Connecticut Superior Court on the terms recommended by the Board's counsel in executive session. Seconded by: Mrs. Marandola  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Nay: Abstain:	Motion made and passed that the Board authorize the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Board's legal counsel to sign and/or file on behalf of the Board the documents necessary to resolve the Board's lawsuit against All-Star Transportation, LLC and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 677 that is currently pending in the Connecticut Superior Court on the terms recommended by the Board's counsel in executive session.
	Motion Passed – Unanimously	
14.	Motion by Dr. Stillman: Move that the Board of Education meeting adjourn. Seconded by: Mrs. Turk  Aye: Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Finney, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Marandola, Mr. McSherry, Mr. Ruggiero, Dr. Stillman, Mrs. Turk, Nay: Abstain:	Motion made and passed that that the Board of Education meeting adjourn.
	Motion Passed – Unanimously  The New Milford Board of Education Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.	
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Respectfully submitted,

Dian Traisci-Marandola, Board Secretary