

**New Milford Board of Education
 Operations Sub-Committee Minutes
 December 8, 2020
 Via Zoom Virtual Meeting**

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 NEW MILFORD, CT

Present: Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson
 Mr. Pete Helmus
 Mrs. Eileen P. Monaghan
 Mr. Brian McCauley, Alternate

Absent: Mrs. Olga I. Rella

Also Present: Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Interim Superintendent
 Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations
 Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services
 Mr. Brandon Rush, Director of Technology
 Mr. Keith Lipinsky, New Milford High School Athletic Director
 Mrs. Sandra Sullivan, Food Services Director

1.	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Operations Sub-Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Faulenbach via Zoom. Mr. McCauley was seated in the absence of Mrs. Rella.</p>	Call to Order
2.	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Sennello said he was live streaming this meeting on Facebook. • Susan Swanson, resident and educator, said CT's COVID positivity rate is rising and surrounding districts have closed in response. She asked the Board to consider actions going forward that will provide protection for all. 	Public Comment
3.	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. DiCorpo said the Exhibit includes almost all winter coaches. She asked Mr. Lipinsky to speak to the upcoming season. • Mr. Lipinsky said the CIAC has set a projected start date of January 19, 2021 for the winter 	Discussion and Possible Action
		A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence

	<p>sports season, but they are waiting on further guidance from DPH and the Governor before making a firm decision. Their next meeting is December 7. With the start date in limbo, there is also no set end date. They are trying not to impact the spring season which already missed last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. DiCorpo asked Mr. Lipinsky to speak to what happens if the district goes to remote learning. Mr. Lipinsky said they will follow the distance learning coaching plan which he has provided to the Board: no on campus activity, no group work, coach provided home activities and follow up.• Mrs. Faulenbach asked if this is similar to what was done in the past and, if so, what feedback Mr. Lipinsky had received.• Mr. Lipinsky said it is similar and in general overall participation has been great; student athletes are appreciative to have at least some activities to keep engaged.• Mr. Helmus said he understands the reasons but struggles with paying full stipends to full staffs in an environment which limits activities. He said he would like to see participation levels of virtual versus full in.• Mr. Lipinsky said the majority of coaches engage with and support athletes all year long, even when not in season, through planning, meetings and workouts.• Mr. Helmus asked if there is any standardized report card for coaches that might help him quantify the services provided and justify the cost to the public.• Mr. Lipinsky said they take attendance for meetings and check-ins. Mr. Helmus asked to see that data.• Mrs. Faulenbach said that she would like further information provided too. The Board has reviewed activities this year to try and hold on to them and modify them where they can. She understands the money is significant but feels that it is important for student	
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	<p>engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Monaghan said she agrees with both points. Engagement is important but it is also important to see where the money goes, by viewing participation and dropout rates for example. She recollected that the October coach approvals totaled \$107,000 and that is a lot of money. She'd like to see numbers to back it up.• Mrs. Faulenbach said she is not sure the \$107,000 total is accurate but she will get a clarification on that. She said that Mrs. Monaghan had said previously that the Board approved winter coaches in October. That was not the case; winter coaches are up for approval this month. <p>Mr. Helmus moved to bring Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence to the full Board for approval.</p> <p>Motion seconded by Mrs. Monaghan.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Budget Position dated November 30, 20202. Purchase Resolution D-7413. Request for Budget Transfers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Helmus noted the expected losses in revenue. He asked if this was trouble for the overall budget. Mr. Giovannone said the losses would not put the overall budget in jeopardy. He said the current hybrid model was cutting down on some anticipated expenses.• Regarding the purchase resolution, Mr. Giovannone said the COVID expenditures would get the district through February when the Board will hold its next regular monthly meeting. The uniforms noted on the report, funded through the Town, represent 57% of the total allocation.• Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the balance is time	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence to the full Board for approval.</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Budget Position dated November 30, 20202. Purchase Resolution D-7413. Request for Budget Transfers
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	<p>sensitive. Mr. Lipinsky said they are waiting until after January 1 to order the rest, due to anticipated style changes etc. He said they are in good shape with 10/12 teams done and another 7/8 to go.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Helmus said he finds Mr. Giovannone's "bucketing" format very helpful. <p>Mr. Helmus moved to bring the monthly reports: Budget Position November 30, 2020, Purchase Resolution D-741 and Request for Budget Transfers to the full Board for approval.</p> <p>Motion seconded by Mrs. Monaghan.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>C. Grant 1. No Kid Hungry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. DiCorpo said she met with Mr. Giovannone and Mrs. Sullivan this morning to review a conversation Mrs. Sullivan had yesterday regarding the grant specifications. This is the first time the district has submitted this grant and the grantor is suggesting some rewrites in the area of connection to community organizations. It will not change the overall amount requested but may change individual allocations. She said they will make the adjustments and bring a revision to the full Board for consideration. She said the funding is not guaranteed.• Mrs. Faulenbach asked when the district would find out if funds are awarded. Ms. DiCorpo said it was supposed to have happened already, and she will check to see what the new date is.• Ms. DiCorpo said the Perkins grant was not ready in time for the Operations timeline but will be brought to the full Board next week.• Mrs. Faulenbach said, in light of the rewrite that is needed, she is recommending the motion be for discussion and possible action.	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the monthly reports: Budget Position dated November 30, 2020, Purchase Resolution D-741, and Request for Budget Transfers to the full Board for approval.</p> <p>C. Grant 1. No Kid Hungry</p>
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	<p>Mr. Helmus moved to bring the No Kid Hungry grant to the full Board for discussion and possible action.</p> <p>Motion seconded by Mr. McCauley.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the No Kid Hungry grant to the full Board for discussion and possible action.</p>
<p>4.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Item of Information</p> <p>Temporary Suspension of Waiver Request Process for Substitutes without a Bachelor’s Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. DiCorpo said the state has moved to temporarily suspend the waiver requirement when hiring substitute teachers without a bachelor degree. Since this is a change to Board policy, she is bringing it to the Board for review and permission to move forward with this. She said this will hopefully increase the sub pool to help keep schools open. • Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the suspension runs parallel with the COVID environment and Ms. DiCorpo said it does. • Mr. Helmus wondered if the request should have been brought to the Policy Subcommittee. Ms. DiCorpo said there was no Policy meeting this month and so she brought it to Operations to enable discussion. • Mrs. Faulenbach said since this was statewide she assumes other districts are looking to do the same. She suggested legal be consulted to see if the override is acceptable and that the topic be added to the full Board agenda for next week for an update. 	<p>Item of Information</p> <p>A. Temporary Suspension of Waiver Request Process for Substitutes without a Bachelor’s Degree</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board attempted multiple times to recognize Mrs. Patella for public comment but Mrs. Patella could not be heard. 	<p>Public Comment</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Mrs. Monaghan moved to adjourn the meeting at</p>	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Motion made and passed</p>

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	8:20 p.m. seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously.	unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted:



Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson
Operations Sub-Committee