

**New Milford Board of Education  
New Milford, Connecticut 06776**

**AGENDA  
2009 – 2010  
BUDGET HEARINGS**

**Dates: January 20, 21, 27, and 28, 2009**

**Place: Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

**Time: 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

**TUESDAY – January 20, 2009\***

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Presentation by Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote of the 2009-2010 School Budget
3. Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget including, but not limited to, Elementary Schools.
4. Opportunity for the Public to be heard
5. Recessed to Wednesday, January 21, 2009

**WEDNESDAY – January 21, 2009 \***

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget including, but not limited to, Middle School, High School and the Department of Instruction.
3. Opportunity for the Public to be heard
4. Recessed to Tuesday, January 27, 2009

**TUESDAY – January 27, 2009\***

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget including, but not limited to, Pupil Personnel/Special Education, Department of Maintenance, Utilities, Department of General Administration and Capital.
3. Opportunity for the Public to be heard
4. Recessed to Wednesday, January 28, 2009

**WEDNESDAY – January 28, 2009\*\***

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Opportunity for the Public to be heard
3. Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget, including but not limited to, the wrap-up issues and questions.
4. Vote on Adoption of the 2009-2010 School Budget.

**\*If any evening is cancelled, the schedule for that evening will be moved to the next meeting date.**

**\*\*If the January 28, 2009 meeting is cancelled, the meeting will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2009.**

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Present:	Dr. Lisa Diamond, Chairperson Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mrs. Elizabeth Finney Mr. David Lawson Mrs. Amy Llerena Mr. Thomas McSherry Ms. Alexandra Thomas Mrs. Julie Turk Mr. William Wellman
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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager Mr. David Elmore, Director of Information Technology Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal, New Milford High School Dr. Sandra Nadeau, Principal, Hill & Plain School Mr. Thomas Atticks, Principal, Northville Elementary School Mrs. Paula Kelleher, Principal, John Pettibone School Mr. Les Weintraub, Principal, Sarah Noble Intermediate School
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1.	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance
2.	<p>Presentation by Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote of the 2009-2010 School Budget</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote presented her proposed 2009-2010 school budget and noted that the budget process uses a centralized approach with targets given to administrators. The budget is aligned with the Strategic Plan which is available on the website. 77.3% of the budget is salaries and employee benefits. There has been a coordination of efforts with the Town's Finance Department in terms of medical insurance, liability insurance, #2 fuel oil, diesel and other areas where there can be collaboration.</p> <p>The Mission of the New Milford Public Schools was presented and read by the audience as a whole.</p>	Budget Presentation

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	<p>The alignment of this budget with the district's Strategic Plan included: communication with collaborative partners; integrating character attributes into the curriculum review cycle; implement personalized learning plans for high school students and the development of goal setting portfolios for grades K-8; integrate technology throughout the school district; improve the analysis of assessment data and allow teachers to collaborate to maximize effective teaching practices; provide professional development programs; identify and utilize the support and resources available within the community to enable all students to achieve mission and strategic objectives.</p> <p>The foundation costs for this budget include salaries, certified and non-certified, which comprise 77.3% of this budget; employee benefits; student transportation; utilities; and mandated programs which are just under 3% of the budget.</p> <p>Cost containment and cost avoidance initiatives have been instituted including energy education; medical costs containment including employee contributions; redeployment of staff; reductions in staffing across all schools, the central office and all bargaining and non-bargaining units; and a pay to participate program. The pay to participate program will be a one time flat fee of \$100 for New Milford High School and \$50 for Schaghticoke Middle School. Other cost containment or avoidance initiatives include postponing summer school for one year; reduction of two buses as the bus contractor will be replacing 29 passenger buses with more efficient 47 passenger buses. The district actively pursues grants including Medicaid reimbursements; excess cost reimbursements which while are supposed to be 100% reimbursable, anticipated state cuts will potentially cut that back to 70%. Other grants include school security; e-rate; immigrant children and youth grant; and adult education grant for personal finance.</p> <p>The staffing reductions and redeployment of staff include:</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Milford High School Eliminate 2 teaching positions – English and World Language based on enrollment Eliminate one custodian</li> <li>• Schaghticoke Eliminate Basic Skills Program as a separate entity and place on a team reducing two teaching positions – English, Math</li> <li>• Sarah Noble Eliminate 2.45 teaching positions – one fifth grade class, one sixth grade class and .45 music position Reduce school nursing position by .4 full time equivalent and redeploy nurse to Faith Academy Reduce custodian by .5 full time equivalent Eliminate one instructional para-educator</li> <li>• Hill and Plain School Elimination of two classroom positions – one second grade and one third grade Reduce teacher clerk position by .34 full time equivalent Eliminate one instructional para-educator</li> <li>• John Pettibone School Reduce teacher clerk position by .33 full time equivalent (this will in effect eliminate one teacher clerk position across all 3 schools) Suspend all day kindergarten pilot Eliminate one instructional para-educator</li> <li>• Northville Elementary School Eliminate two third grade positions Reduce teacher clerk position by .33 full time equivalent Eliminate one instructional para-educator</li> <li>• District-wide Eliminate talented and gifted program K-8 Eliminate temporary and .5 clerical assistance – high school and central office Reduce assistant principal at the elementary</li> </ul>	
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	<p>level .51 full time equivalent – school to be determined          Eliminate .5 full time equivalent groundskeeper</p> <p>The highlights of the budget include providing a full range of curricular offerings for students; support of the Five-Year Curriculum Plan; continued support of curriculum development, implementation and articulation at each level; continued support of data driven decision making teams to assess and inform instruction; professional development funds in accordance with the Strategic Plan; maintains guidance and other support staff; and provides a capital budget for facilities and technology.</p> <p>The total operating and capital budget request is \$58,014,457 or a 1.876% increase over the 2008-2009 budget.</p>	
3.	<p>Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget – Elementary Schools</p> <p><u>Hill &amp; Plain School</u></p> <p>Dr. Nadeau thanked the Board for their hard work, thanked the staff for their hard work and thanked Tom Atticks who will be retiring from the school district shortly. She said the children watched the inauguration today and said it was amazing for them to be part of history. The test scores at Hill and Plain were just above 80% in math and 68% in reading.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked Dr. Nadeau to discuss the decrease in enrollment in 2009-2010 and the increase in the budget. Dr. Nadeau said there are additional costs including salaries and classroom library and supplies. Mr. Turk said the staff increase is 1.6% but the bottom line increase is only 1.3% due to utilities savings.</li> <li>• Mrs. Llerena asked for a job description of the teacher clerk. Dr. Nadeau said the clerk did a variety of tasks including copying, laminating, attendance, organizing notes, any job needed to be done.</li> <li>• Mrs. Llerena asked if the intention was to cut 1 clerk between the 3 schools to which Dr.</li> </ul>	School Budget – Elementary Schools

	<p>Paddyfote replied it was.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked if the summer school was to be continued for special education students to which Dr. Paddyfote said the cut in summer school was for non-special education students as the extended programs for special education is a mandated program.</li> </ul> <p><u>Northville Elementary School</u></p> <p>Mr. Atticks noted that this was his 28<sup>th</sup> budget hearing and this one was hard to swallow but he recognized this was a hard situation for all of us to be in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wellman said there was no change in enrollment at Northville and yet there was a decrease in staffing and asked how this would be accomplished. Mr. Atticks said it is accomplished with the heroism of the teachers who will get the job done.</li> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked if there were other areas that could be cut instead of classroom personnel. Mr. Atticks said people who see the larger picture made the decision about cuts but his classroom size is still under 22 per class.</li> <li>• Mr. Wellman said all the schools were involved in the data projector/ceiling mount/printer project which cost about \$4,000 and wondered what equipment would be purchased. Mr. Elmore said based on experience putting the pieces together they can cost several thousand dollars. After some review, Mr. Elmore said there are multiple projectors and mimeo boards. The projectors run \$1,500 and the mimeo boards are \$1,300. There are some portable packages as well which run around \$1,260 each. He also said each school has been budgeted an additional printer since teachers will most likely be doing more of their own printing.</li> <li>• Mr. McSherry asked if the savings in the fuel oil was due to the new contract to which Mr. Turk said it was based on a lock in done with the town but the final number was not available at the time the budget was done and there should be another \$12,000 savings.</li> </ul>	
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	<p><u>John Pettibone School</u></p> <p>Mrs. Kelleher said her budget was straight forward and said she was given target amounts based on enrollment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Wellman said there was no appreciable increase in enrollment but the budget was increasing 4.15%. Mr. Turk said there is a \$30,000 capital request, \$12,000 in supplies and an increase in electricity of \$4,500. Mr. Wellman asked how one school's enrollment could be increasing but the budget is decreasing and the other school's enrollment is the same but the budget is increasing. Mr. Turk said there is little capital in the Northville request. Mr. Calhoun noted there is also a \$53,000 fuel oil savings at Northville and John Pettibone is on natural gas which is realizing no significant savings.</li></ul> <p><u>Sarah Noble Intermediate School</u></p> <p>Mr. Weintraub said this was his first budget presentation in New Milford and thanked all those who helped him develop it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Wellman said the enrollment is down and teachers are being cut but asked if that was really the place to be cut. Mr. Weintraub said his budget was inline with providing a solid education for the students.</li><li>• Mr. Lawson noted the cut in the music position and wondered what the ratio would be of teacher to students. Mr. Weintraub said the cut may mean less time for music lessons, larger groups for grades 4, 5 and 6 or less frequency of lessons. Mr. Lawson asked how much would be saved by this cut to which Ms. Baldelli responded this position's salary was \$20,729. Mr. Lawson asked how many students were involved to which Mr. Weintraub said approximately 600 students including choral students.</li><li>• Mr. Wellman noted there was a cost in the current budget for planners at about \$8 each and wondered how they differed from</li></ul>	
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	<p>calendars. Mr. Weintraub said the planners include a space for teacher’s comments, parent’s comments, homework, subject areas and reference materials. He said when students use the planners they achieve more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. McSherry noted there was an increase in line 611 and asked if that was in response to the elimination of the long lists of supplies students supplied at the beginning of school to which Mr. Weintraub responded it was.</li> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach said the planners were a great communication tool so that each parent knows the assignments and there are lots of resources in the planner. She also noted a postage increase at some schools and wondered if e-mail was not being used more. Mr. Mulvihill said the postage increase is due to the need to send home reports and report cards which sometimes do not seem to make it home.</li> <li>• Mrs. Thomas said this was her 14<sup>th</sup> budget and she was impressed with the method used and that each school took different ways to save money. She commended everyone on the budget preparation and did not want to minimize the work of each administrator so she was not asking questions. She did comment that this budget would impact every child’s year at school.</li> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked if there was any way to make effective cost savings by working cooperatively with the town to which Mr. Calhoun said a study had been done by New Milford Public Works several years ago which stated that they would need at least the manpower that the schools currently had to do the same job.</li> <li>• Mr. Wellman said he was aware of the unprecedented economic times but his first choice was not to cut teachers, he asked if any thought had been given to approaching the unions about givebacks in an effort to maintain the positions. Dr. Paddyfote said the union presidents had been approached and had sent letters with options within the purview of the</li> </ul>	
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	contracts. Mr. Wellman said he was aware that what he was asking was outside the contracts. Mr. Lawson said the contracts were negotiated in good faith and should be kept in good faith. Mrs. Turk said she would like a record of the issue being raised and answered by the unions. Mr. Lawson, as parliamentarian, said these meetings were hearings and this issue would fall outside of the hearing. Mr. Wellman said if the Board waited until the decision making meeting, it would be too late for an answer.	
4.	Public Participation There was none.	Public Participation
	The meeting was recessed at 8:15 pm until Wednesday, January 21 <sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.	Recessed

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Lawson, Secretary  
 New Milford Board of Education

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Present:	Dr. Lisa Diamond, Chairperson Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mrs. Elizabeth Finney Mr. David Lawson Mrs. Amy Llerena Mr. Thomas McSherry Ms. Alexandra Thomas Mrs. Julie Turk Mr. William Wellman
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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager Mr. David Elmore, Director of Information Technology Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal, New Milford High School Mrs. Dana Ford, Principal, Schaghticoke Middle School
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1.	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was reconvened at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance
2.	Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget – Middle School, High School and Department of Instruction  <u>Schaghticoke Middle School</u> Mrs. Ford presented her budget for 2009-2010 by thanking the Board for instituting the department heads. As a result of this, the 7 <sup>th</sup> grade teachers have met with the 6 <sup>th</sup> grade teachers to help with the transition to 7 <sup>th</sup> grade. She said she is also working with Mr. Shugrue at New Milford High School because the middle school is a pivotal agent between Sarah Noble and the high school. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Thomas asked how the basic skills students will be served. Mrs. Ford said there are teams at SMS and they will create a section on basic skills in the team. This is good for the students because they will not have to be off team for the basic skills education.</li> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked why the basic skills were separate to begin with. Mrs. Ford said it had been done that way before because many students needed extra help. Over the years,</li> </ul>	Budget Presentation

	<p>the school has helped students with the transition and therefore the school has changed the way they do business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Wellman asked how the 2 teacher positions being cut will impact the teams. Mrs. Ford said the there are 4 teachers to a team and the class sizes will be larger in English and Math.</li><li>• Mr. Wellman asked about the elimination of the Gifted and Talented program. Mr. Mulvihill said the elimination was not a choice made easily. He said the plan is to accommodate these students through differentiation of instruction in the classroom. The teachers will have to provide lessons or work that is challenging to all levels of students.</li><li>• Mr. Wellman asked how the teachers would be able to individualize the teaching with an increase in the class sizes. Mr. Mulvihill said this was not new and that workshops on this would be offered throughout the year.</li><li>• Dr. Diamond asked if the students in the basic skills program currently have a separate room and would now be incorporated into the teams. Mrs. Ford said these students currently do not have an English team teacher.</li><li>• Mrs. Finney asked how many more students would be on a team now. Mrs. Ford said it could be as many as 4 or 5 but not in every class.</li><li>• Mrs. Thomas asked about the English Language Learners population and how it was served at SMS. Mrs. Ford said there is a teacher in the school who meets with the students and pairs them with another student who speaks the dialect closest to theirs. Mr. Mulvihill said there are about 40 of these ELL students at Hill &amp; Plain; a fair amount of John Pettibone and smaller amounts at SMS and Northville. New Milford High has a teacher at the school 4 out of 5 days.</li><li>• Mrs. Thomas asked if the ELL population was still growing in town, to which Mr. Mulvihill responded that it was but much slower than in previous years. An issue is that the State has raised the standards for ELL student learning and therefore it is harder to release them from the program.</li><li>• Mr. Wellman asked if it was possible to share portable technology versus buying several individual units. Mrs. Ford said they are trying to situate the technology throughout the school. She said the Mimio is less expensive than a Smartboard and it changes the way in which students</li></ul>	
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	<p>are learning as they become more interactive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked how many Mimio's were at SMS and the high school. Mrs. Ford said SMS had 4 or 5; Mr. Shugrue said the high school had one Mimio and one Smartboard.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson noted that in order to have differentiated learning the teachers needed the tools.</li> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach asked how many classroom support personnel, para educators, had been cut from this budget. Dr. Paddyfote noted that in Appendix C-1 there are 99.5 para educators district wide. The para educators support what is happening in the classroom working with individuals or small groups.</li> <li>• Mrs. Thomas asked how much each science textbook cost to which Mrs. Ford responded they were approximately \$85 plus the teacher resources that go with the book. Last year the science department did not ask for books because of the budget issues at that time. Mr. Mulvihill noted that the books had been selected and would be brought to the Board for approval before being purchased.</li> <li>• Mrs. Thomas noted that the textbooks are available to members of the public in Mr. Mulvihill's office for a period of time before being purchased.</li> </ul> <p><u>New Milford High School</u></p> <p>Mr. Shugrue said this budget really funds the needs versus the wants. The High School still needs to be sure that students read correctly, can do math and science concepts, and write and express thoughts. He noted that in lines 611 and 612 that supplies had been cut last year and were less than the year previous, however, supplies are needed. There is a 3.3% contractual salary increase in the high school budget but the overall NMHS budget is up 2.2% and most object codes had sustained cuts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked how the decision was made to cut English and World Language teacher positions. Mr. Shugrue said the decision was discussed at the central office and was based on enrollments in schools and disciplines.</li> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked if a particular world language was being cut to which Mr. Shugrue responded that the high school was still offering the full array of languages.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked how the pay to play program will work in this proposed budget. Mrs. Ford said it was her understanding that whether a child played 3 sports or 1, they</li> </ul>	
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	<p>would pay a flat fee of \$50. Mr. Shugrue said it was his understanding as well that the fee for NMHS would be a flat fee of \$100. He said there are 751 “unique” athletes at the high school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs. Llerena asked if the pay to play savings were 17.23% at SMS and about 12% at NMHS. She said she did not have the costs for refs and transportation that the high school did.</li><li>• Mr. Mulvihill said they knew the pay to play would be controversial but if it could save a position or two in a budget where 20 are being cut, they had to consider it. Parents also said they would pay the money to keep their sports program intact.</li><li>• Dr. Paddyfote said the central office personnel spent about 30 hours debating the issue of pay to play and looked at options including limiting sports, eliminating interscholastics at SMS, or reducing programs with high rental fees such as ice hockey and swimming. She said a lot was learned in 2002 where parents said they would rather pay to keep sports in tact. She said she felt this was the fairest way by implementing a \$100 flat fee at NMHS and a \$50 flat fee at SMS.</li><li>• Mr. Mulvihill said that MVP/SOS which is a group that has formed in the last few years may offer scholarships to those in need.</li><li>• Mrs. Faulenbach noted that in regards to pay to play, parents did say they did not want sports taken away. She said she did not want to see it come back, but every area needs to be looked at for this budget year.</li><li>• Mrs. Thomas asked about the new permits for coaches and who pays for that cost to which Mr. Shugrue said all coaches need to be certified by the State of Connecticut and those costs can run around \$400.</li><li>• Mrs. Thomas asked how many hours a coach put in for a season to which Mr. Shugrue responded it depended on the sport. The football coach, having been in attendance, said he puts in 30 hours a week during the season. The stipend for football coach is \$5,200. Mrs. Thomas said she appreciated the commitment on the part of these coaches.</li><li>• Mr. Wellman asked about the Drivers Education stipend saying he thought it was self sustaining to which Mr. Mulvihill said the stipend is funded by the receipts from the program.</li></ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs. Thomas asked about the cost of textbooks for the high school. Mr. Shugrue said they range from \$60 – 90 plus teacher resources and the request was for courses such as Chinese Studies.</li> </ul> <p><u>Department of Instruction</u></p> <p>Mr. Mulvihill noted that the goal in the long term is to try to insure that 85% or more of the students are at goal on Mastery and CAPT tests. He said there is a way to go with a need to get 1 in 5 students to make that goal that have not been making it before. 7<sup>th</sup> graders have managed to hit the goal in reading. The test results at the high school are highly competitive among towns like New Milford in the state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach asked how many students will be impacted by the elimination of summer school which shows a savings of \$39,000. Mr. Mulvihill said there were about 130 students this summer but there was an ELL grant which covered about 30 of those students.</li> <li>Mrs. Turk asked what was being included in the non-instructional new equipment line. Mr. Elmore said it was the computer leases which had been moved to this line in the budget from capital last year. This year’s payment was funded by capital reserve. There are 369 computers covered by this lease.</li> <li>Mrs. Turk asked about line 339 – purchased services. Mr. Mulvihill said 2211 included \$16,000 for mentors which is required for new staff; 1129 includes \$18,000 for substitutes in the schools; and 1119 includes \$20,000 for third party computer technical support for the network and servers.</li> <li>Dr. Diamond asked how many substitutes might be in the school at any given time. Ms. Baldelli said on any given day each school could have 4 or 5 for illness, professional development or personal days.</li> </ul>	
3.	<p>Public Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sue Viola, a parent of a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, said she is concerned how these cuts may impact her daughter’s future. She was concerned that strategy 6 to continue to attract and retain qualified staff could be in jeopardy. She also felt it was reasonable to have the \$100 pay to play program. Her daughter is a swimmer and to have to cut the program would be devastating to her. She also said the PTO could</li> </ul>	Public Participation

	<p>help students who could not afford the \$100.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christine Zolna said the elimination of positions at Northville Elementary School was unacceptable. She suggested the Board look at creative ways to finance supplies, books and technology.</li><li>• Jennifer Morris, a parent of a 1<sup>st</sup> grader who is a member of TAG (Talented and Gifted program) said the value of the program cannot be underestimated. She said Dr. Cooper trains teachers to differentiate as well as running the TAG program. She said differentiation is not enough and her child has the right to an appropriate education in New Milford.</li><li>• Tim Harkin thanked the Board and administration for their work in the budget and also spoke about the TAG program. He is the parent of a 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> grader – two of whom participate in TAG. He said the school district is required to determine if a child is talented and gifted but they are not required to do anything about it. He said the cost of \$106,000 for the program is less than 2/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% of the budget.</li><li>• Maggie Heaton, a member of the swim team, said extracurricular activities are important.</li><li>• Deborah Sowerby, parent of a 6<sup>th</sup> grade TAG student, said the TAG program should not be destroyed and asked that the Board justify its reason for cutting it if they do.</li></ul> <p>Dr. Diamond asked each Board member if they had any comments or questions to this point.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs. Faulenbach said after hearing the individuals speak tonight, she said the cuts presented by the Superintendent of 19 positions were only a \$600-700,000 cut. The Mayor has asked for each department to come in with a 10% cut which would be about \$5.5 million. She said the Board needs to hear from people before the budget is done not after.</li><li>• Mr. McSherry said the current request is \$58 million but the proposed 10% cut would require the budget to be cut by \$6.7 million and he said TAG and summer school might only be the tip of the iceberg if the 10% cut is required.</li><li>• Dr. Diamond said she was impressed by how sensitive people were to where the Town is economically and is impressed with the work done.</li><li>• Mr. Lawson said he welcomes the comments from the public and suggested they let other town officials hear the</li></ul>	
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	<p>same thing. He said he hoped the current economic crisis does not cloud the Board members' judgment for the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Thomas said the request from town hall is unmanageable and would destroy the system. She suggested parents be vocal and write letters to the newspaper. She said Board members are accused of being self-serving so the message must come from the parents.</li> <li>• Mrs. Finney said she was cringing looking at the cuts and appreciates the comments from the public.</li> <li>• Mrs. Llerena said the Mayor wants a 10% cut but she was amazed that the budget had come in at only a 1.88% increase with 77% of the budget based on contractual agreements. She thanked the public for speaking.</li> </ul>	
	<p>The meeting was recessed at 8:23 p.m. until Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Lawson, Secretary  
 New Milford Board of Education



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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager Mr. David Elmore, Director of Information Technology Mrs. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal, New Milford High School Mrs. Adele Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Services Mrs. Maryann Ness, Supervisor of Special Education, NMHS
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1.	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was reconvened at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance
2.	<p>Discussion of the 2009-2010 School Budget – Pupil Personnel/Special Education, Department of Maintenance, Utilities, Department of General Administration, Capital</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil Personnel/Special Education</li> </ul> <p>Mrs. Johnson presented her budget by saying good things have happened over the past year and she wanted to share them. She noted there are mandates passed down from the federal and state levels, but she believes all children can learn and we need to determine what to do to make that happen – to develop that internal capacity.</p> <p>She said she relies on her own staff for technology. She has a person who works with the teams for inclusion and strategizing. Social workers were able to bring 3 students back into district which saves</p>	<p>Budget Presentation</p> <p>Pupil Personnel/ Special Education</p>

<p>money for the district. She acknowledged that her department is doing a lot of co-teaching. She said the department is working with consultants to build programs that work for the students. There is an online tutoring program which students can use to finish their diplomas and then go to college. The goal is to keep students at home in this community.</p> <p>Some of the programs for pupil personnel and special education have related revenues, however, Mrs. Johnson is expecting some cuts from the state level. There is an \$86,000 cut in revenue as a result of these potential losses. The Medicaid revenue account has been reduced by \$5,000 because the trend is that Medicaid reimbursements are going down. She said there is no new staffing rather a shifting of staffing to meet the needs of the children as they move through the system.</p> <p>Cost Center 11 is up 3.28% due to contractual obligations or salary obligations. There is an increase in the mileage account for social workers so they can go from school to school as necessary because one on one meetings are very important.</p> <p>Cost Center 12 is where the \$86,000 reduction in revenue occurs and there is a \$14,000 increase in contractual salaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs. Ness said she is proud of what the high school staff is doing with respect to inclusion. She said in the 2 ½ years she has been at this school, they have only had to place one student in a more therapeutic setting. There is a in school and out of school work exploration program. The staff works on time management skills, appropriate dress, and problem solving. The goal is for the seniors to be able to do what they need to do upon graduation. Some students have more disabilities and the PPT calls for more transitional programming in an effort to transition the student from high school out to the community.</li><li>• Mrs. Johnson continued that while we have to be concerned with New Milford's budget, a better way to look at the dollars spent is globally. If students can be provided with the skills to be more independent and successful then there is less court time, less jail time, and students can do more individually. There are 302 regular education and special education students who have received mental health services since September. 58 were DCF referrals; 119 required PPT's</li></ul>	
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	<p>or 504 meetings; 15 groups including 102 students have taken self esteem, anger management or grief counseling sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Turk asked what was included in the health services substitutes line to which Mrs. Johnson said that included .40 FTE for the nurse at Faith Academy; extra days for nurses per the contract; sub days for nurses; and summer services.</li> <li>• Mrs. Turk asked for information on what would be in the purchased services line to which Mrs. Johnson replied that the school contracts with the American School for the Deaf for supervision, transportation and materials for a teacher and a person who does sign interpretation. She also has to hire someone to do signing at night meetings and graduation but this line is an excess cost code which means it drives revenue as well.</li> <li>• Mrs. Llerena said this section of the budget is the most difficult because there are so many unknowns – state grants, reimbursements, etc. She felt the department did a good job in putting this budget together and she said social workers are important during these tough economic times.</li> <li>• Mr. McSherry asked if the \$86,000 reduction in grant money was realistic to which Mr. Turk said the consensus among the consortium was to use 70% and he used 68%.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Maintenance</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Calhoun said this department request is a 3.05% reduction from this year. He said they are doing a better job of maintaining the equipment so as to increase the life of it. They will continue to introduce green cleaning and will increase recycling efforts to reduce hauling fees. Preventative maintenance contracts have been restructured and money will be saved on energy costs by installing motion sensors, timers and water savers. He said several years ago a study had been conducted to determine if there would be any cost savings by combining town maintenance with school maintenance and it was determined that there would be no savings because equipment and manpower would at the very least, remain the same. The Siemens performance contract will help purchase the larger capital items by savings in energy and his goal is to become the first school in the State of Connecticut with an energy star rating.</p>	<p>Department of Maintenance</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Turk asked in the maintenance and repair account 2620 what the original budget amount was since the \$750,000 for this year was adjusted to which Mr. Calhoun replied that the number should not be that far off since this is a non-certified salary line and they were not adjusted much to accommodate budget cuts.</li> <li>• Mrs. Thomas said she is amazed at how much has been done towards savings dollars and asked what the important capital items were in this budget. Mr. Calhoun said they are hoping to purchase a bucket truck to repair light bulbs, etc. A bucket truck would help the town save money in the long run since rental costs for these trucks are becoming quite high. He is also hoping to purchase custodial equipment such as HEPA vacuums, wet dry vacuums, and carpet runners for entryways for all schools.</li> <li>• Mrs. Thomas asked what capital items might be on hold to get this budget so low to which Mr. Calhoun said some of the bigger ticket items may qualify through the Siemens program.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked if the bucket truck could be shared with the town to which Mr. Calhoun said it is an item that could be used cooperatively with the town.</li> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach asked what the cost would be for a bucket truck. Mr. Calhoun responded that he has seen them range from \$10,000 to \$40,000. He said a CL&amp;P van with a lift on it is really all the school needs.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilities</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Turk said the natural gas contract has been locked in until September 30, 2009 with the rate staying the same as current year. 3 schools are on natural gas. The fuel oil purchase is partnered with the town and the price was locked in at \$2.07. Three schools are on fuel oil. The diesel fuel is also partnered with the town and the locked in price is \$2.22. The electric is still being negotiated because Kimberly Clark has yet to go online with their energy plant which the school thought it might be able to benefit from. Mr. Turk is still negotiating but has budgeted a 5% increase. He said he is nervous about all these numbers, especially the electric and the fuel oil since they only budget for 150,000 gallons and the degree days, currently, are 10 degrees ahead of a year ago. He said the school district has been able to network with Yankee Gas and Northeast Utilities and so therefore there are excellent relations between the schools and the companies.</p>	<p>Utilities</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of General Administration</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Turk said the DOGA increase is approximately \$400,000 which includes \$25,000 in non certified salary increases by contract; an increase in fringe benefits by 3.5%; an increase in program improvement of \$22,000; and a small increase in property casualty insurance. These increases are offset by a decrease in pupil transportation of \$190,000 due to savings on diesel fuel, fuel oil savings, new buses, and the errors and omissions insurance being removed because it is apparently covered in the general insurance according to Ray Jankowski, Director of Finance for the town.</p> <p>Mr. Elmore said the DOGA also includes the computers which are crucial to the students and staff for managing the districts. He said it is important to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century tools and computers are part of the change in education today. Part of the DOGA includes the lease and outright purchase started in 2006 where 715 computers were replaced. There are still another 500 to replace at this point. The idea is to make technology more useable in the classrooms and that is why there is an increase in data projectors and electronic whiteboards. With grant money and capital reserve money all the data switches were replaced in all the schools except New Milford High School and there is money in this budget to replace those switches. Outdated computers and inefficient and newer computers are more energy efficient including LCD monitors instead of the old CRT monitors.</p> <p>Mr. Mulvihill said \$22,000 is budgeted to support the update of the district's five year strategic plan. 85% of this figure would pay for Dr. Feddema, a facilitator from the Cambridge Group, to come to New Milford and provide four days of facilitation to the original team that developed the plan. The team of 26 members would work with the facilitator to review the progress made to date, update and modify components of the plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked Mr. Elmore to quantify the computer purchases as well as new equipment. Mr. Elmore said this budget allows for 116 computers at \$98,500 and 4 servers at \$26,000. It also includes the data projector packages with and without electronic whiteboards. There is also a Viernier Logger Pro for New Milford High School for testing which is approximately \$5,000.</li> <li>• Mr. McSherry asked if even with the 115 newly purchased computers were there still 200 nearly 10 year old computers left and wondered if they were still functional. Mr. Elmore</li> </ul>	<p>Department of General Administration</p>
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	<p>said the school has spent money to upgrade these computers so they do work but they are not efficient. He said he was originally budgeting to replace 250 computers this year and 250 next year but did not want to add another big lease payment to the budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. McSherry said he would rather see a lease because it goes into operating where he felt computers should be.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson was also supportive of the leasing approach.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked if the reading tables and gymnasium mats were included for safety reasons to which Mr. Calhoun said the mats were for safety reasons and the current mats are worn. Mr. Mulvihill said that Hill &amp; Plain’s conference chairs are falling apart; that John Pettibone needs folding tables for the cafeteria because they are in disrepair. Mr. Elmore said the John Pettibone computer lab chairs are a safety issue as the pneumatic lifts no longer raise or lower the chairs and the backs are falling off. Mr. Mulvihill also noted that New Milford High School had asked for tables and chairs for the cafeteria last year.</li> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach asked how many phases it would take to replace the windows at the central office to which Mr. Calhoun said he would do it over 2 years – front in year one and back in year two. Mrs. Faulenbach asked the age of the windows and Mr. Calhoun indicated they were 70+ years old. Mr. McSherry asked if these windows were only in the Board of Education budget and Mr. Calhoun said they were. Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the replacement was a safety issue and Mr. Calhoun said it was that they were difficult to keep locked and there is air and moisture intruding in the windows.</li> <li>• Mrs. Turk asked why the cost of teacher benefits had increased. Mr. Turk said it was basically medical which was up 4.3% which is actually better than the normal 10% increases in past years. Dr. Paddyfote said that number was for all employees which is approximately 600.</li> <li>• Mrs. Turk asked for the total cost of providing the TAG program and Mrs. Faulenbach asked how many students were impacted. Dr. Eileen Cooper, said there are 105 formally identified students and 195 others that benefit for a total cost of \$106,600.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Capital</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wellman asked how long the school year is currently. Dr. Paddyfote said the students attend 180 days which is the state requirement, and that teachers work 185 days. Mr. Lawson noted that 2 years ago 2 days were taken off the schedule to save transportation costs.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked Mr. Turk what the impact would be per taxpayer of a 1.88% increase in the school budget – he thought it would be around \$8 per month. Mr. Turk said that would be the case if the school budget was 100% of the overall budget but it is only 61% and therefore the cost is about \$4.50 per month on an assessed house of \$300,000 using the 70% evaluation and the 22.22 mill rate which is the current mill rate.</li> </ul>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Public Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regina Scillitoe, a parent of 2 children, one at Sarah Noble and one at New Milford High said she was special education teacher for 15 years before becoming a mom. She said she has volunteered for the TAG program with Dr. Cooper and with her children’s classroom teachers. She said the children in the TAG program act, think, and talk differently but look the same as everyone else – often, however, they have poor social skills. She said the academically gifted are often pilloried but the athletically gifted are fawned over.</li> <li>• Beth Falder said her daughter recently got into the TAG program. She said she grew up in a gifted program and these children have special needs. They get bored, frustrated and lose interest. The students in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in testing did not benefit from the No Child Left Behind laws. 5% of the high school gifted students drop out of high school</li> <li>• Xiang Li, born in China, became an American citizen in 2002 wanted to speak on behalf of the TAG program. He said the special education program is large, \$5.7 million serving 700 students. He said the young, talented children have their own special needs and TAG is not a luxury, it is our commitment. He said the \$106,000 is about \$350 per student or less than 1/5 of 1% of the total budget.</li> <li>• Cynthia Nabozny has a 6<sup>th</sup> grader and a 10<sup>th</sup> grader. She thanked the Board for working on the budget and said the 1.88% increase may seem like a lot to some in the community with the current economic crisis. She said do not make the easy cuts, she asked for the technology to remain intact and that sports program remain intact as well. She said she felt the pay to play was fair and thought the system to</li> </ul>	<p>Public Participation</p>

	<p>donate to those who cannot afford it would be useful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joseph Redington, who has a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader at John Pettibone who is in the TAG program and who is a higher education administrator said students who go to schools without TAG programs are at a competitive disadvantage to getting into colleges than those who have a TAG program. He said the TAG program is vital to meeting the schools stated mission. He said people looking for a good quality public education may not look at New Milford if the TAG program is taken away which would detract from the quality of New Milford.</li> <li>• Dennis Dolan, Assistant Principal of Schaghticoke and the President of the New Milford School Administrators' Association wanted to express concern over the potential loss of all the district's positions but most especially the .5 assistant principal proposed cut. He said the projected enrollments at the elementary levels are not much different between the 3 schools. Children deserve an administrator who has time to monitor classrooms, cafeterias, gymnasiums, etc. according to Mr. Dolan.</li> <li>• Susan Trujillo said she wanted the Board to understand what a paraeducator does and the impact they have on students. She said they are committed to improving the academic standings of students. They work one on one with special needs students. They are collaborative partners with the teachers and they are often a missing link with upcoming homework, special projects, etc.</li> </ul>	
4.	The meeting was recessed at 8:43 pm until Thursday, January 29 <sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.	<b>Recess</b>

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Lawson, Secretary  
 New Milford Board of Education



**New Milford Board of Education  
Special Meeting  
January 29, 2009  
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library/Media Center**

Present:	Dr. Lisa Diamond, Chairperson
	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach
	Mrs. Elizabeth Finney
	Mr. David Lawson
	Mrs. Amy Llerena
	Mr. Thomas McSherry
	Mrs. Alexandra Thomas
	Mrs. Julie Turk
	Mr. William Wellman

Also Present	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools
	Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
	Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager
	Mr. Leo Rogoza, Assistant Facilities Manager
	Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services
	Mr. David Elmore, Director of Information Technology
	Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources

1	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Dr. Diamond. The Pledge Allegiance immediately followed.	Call to Order. Pledge of Allegiance.
2	Public participation:  Maureen Berke read an original poem in support of TAG.  Kim Patella representing the NMEA relinquished her time to Brock Putnam also representing NMEA, who discussed the spare budget proposed for New Milford education and compared it to the budget for Torrington, a similar size system.  Susan Steinberg, Sarah Noble special education teacher, expressed concern at the loss of paras particularly in special education department.  Norman Berke, father of a TAG student, expressed concern about cutting TAG from the budget.  Beth Falder, discussed the improper balance in the budget with \$500,000 for repairs and the cut of \$107,000 for the TAG program, summer school, full	Public Participation

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	<p>day kindergarten. She suggested local businesses might be approached for donations to defray budgeted costs.</p> <p>Mary Dunnett works with children in the mental health field and the importance of meeting the differences with children which TAG program does.</p> <p>Lucinda Sowerby urged keeping the TAG program in the budget to accommodate the 2% population with IQ of 140 or better.</p> <p>Elaine Sowerby read Melanie McKiever's request for the TAG program noting the talented and gifted children's program is not mandated as are programs for other students.</p> <p>Sarah Coschal discussed the learning experienced from the TAG program.</p> <p>Barbara Adams, representing the secretary's association emphasized the varied jobs handled by the secretarial staff.</p> <p>Michael Fitzgerald, discussed the loss of the .45 instrumental position which allowed the 435 students at Sarah Noble to be appropriately grouped.</p> <p>There being no other public participation Dr. Diamond closed public participation.</p>	
3.	<p>Discussion and possible action Exhibit A. Mr. McSherry moved approval of Exhibit A, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion passed unanimously to approve Exhibit A</p>
4	<p>Discussion and possible action on the 2009-10 budget. Mr. McSherry moved to adopt the Superintendent's proposed budget in the amount of \$58, 014,457 for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion seconded by Mr. Lawson</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach asked Mr. Turk to verify the cost of the TAG program. Mr. Turk replied current budget is \$106,000. To add back TAG increment</p>	<p>Discussion and possible action on 2009-10 budget.</p> <p>Motion made and seconded to adopt the Superintendent's proposed budget in the amount of \$58,014,457 for the 2009-2010 school year.</p>

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	<p>between one teacher and proposed replacement that would be \$41,730; benefits of 28% would be approximately \$11,700; operating expenses, holding the same, would be \$22,660 totaling \$76,100.00</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach in an effort to have funding available for the TAG program, moved to remove \$113,500 from the budget from object 720, windows for the central office. Motion seconded by Mrs. Turk.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond acknowledging that TAG is an incredible program noted the age of the windows at central office. She also commented on the loss of other programs of equal importance. Dr. Diamond expressed wanting to see the budget approved as proposed.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson commented that everything being cut cannot be put back into the budget; he would not be opposed to a request for funds from the capital reserve for the windows. He would support the motion for the TAG program.</p> <p>Mr. McSherry is not in favor of increasing the budget; this is not the end of the line for the budget. He would rather see the window account reduced by only the amount needed to reinstate the TAG program.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach noted that other Board members might wish to put back in another program so she proposes eliminating the window account.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond asked Mr. Calhoun to comment on the elimination or reduction of the window funding. Mr. Calhoun noted the windows could be replaced in phases.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson commented it is his intent to reinstate the summer school program with the funds left from the window account after the TAG program.</p>	<p>Motion made and seconded to remove \$113,500 from the budget, object 720, windows for the Central Office.</p>
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	<p>Mrs. Llerena felt that of the items being cut, one is not any more important than others.</p> <p>Vote on motion to eliminate windows in the facilities capital account, object 720.  Yeah: Faulenbach, Turk, Wellman, Lawson, Thomas, Finney, McSherry;  Nay: Llerena, Diamond.  Motion carried.</p> <p>The amended budget total: \$57,900,957.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to add \$76,100 instituting the TAG program 1210, back into the budget. Motion seconded by Mr. Lawson. Vote on motion unanimous.  Amended budget total \$57,977,057.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson moved to add \$37,400 to support the summer school program. Mrs. Llerena seconded the motion.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond asked how that sum would affect the summer school program. Mr. Mulvihill replied the program could be similar to last year; no teaching training to be included. Last year’s budget was \$46,232 serving 100 students.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk asked if the program could serve 100 students this year.</p> <p>Mr. Mulvihill commented ‘they would do their best with that amount of money.’</p> <p>Vote on motion to reinstate summer school:  Yeah: Faulenbach, McSherry, Lawson, Wellman, Thomas, Finney, Llerena, Diamond.  Nay: Turk.  Motion passed.</p> <p>Budget amount: \$58,014,457.</p>	<p>Motion to eliminate windows in the facilities capital budget passed: 7-2.</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to add \$76,100 to Program 1210—TAG program.</p> <p>Motion made and seconded to add \$37,400 to support the summer school program.</p> <p>Motion to support summer school by adding \$37,400 to the budget passed: 8-1.</p>
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<p>Mr. Wellman moved the attached “Proposal to Modify Budget and Exhibit A” into the record which proposed reducing Object Code 111 by \$1,402,694.representing a salary decrease from the proposed budget of 10% for non-union administrators and employees earning more than \$60,000/year and 5% for teachers, administrators and non-union bargaining employees earning more than \$50,000/year.. Exhibit A listed specific positions. Mrs. Turk seconded the motion.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk expressed the need to approach the unions and ask what if anything they are willing to do. Mrs. Turk reviewed staff and enrollment data – ratio between population and teaching staff, i.e. there are 8 students for every staff member; 13 for every teacher.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson could not support the motion; teachers and administrators have been heard from; they have made concessions; co-pays increased. Last year the budget was augmented from internal service fund for 1 million dollars which went into tax relief.</p> <p>Mr. Wellman agreed the Board has heard from groups associated with the school system, but they have not been faced with the question being proposed. It is not unusual for institutions to be asking for relief for the coming year.</p> <p>Mrs. Finney did not know how much could be continuously taken away; we appreciate the cuts that have been made.</p> <p>Mr. McSherry noted that the teachers at the top of the pay scale gave back so teachers at the low end would get raises.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond feels this is a dangerous way to go to hope they can go along with the cut of 1.4 million dollars.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk noted there is room in the budget for reduction. If we vote on the 1.4 million and the union does not agree, there could be 20 teachers lost.</p>	<p>Motion made and seconded to modify the budget and Exhibit A by reducing object 111 by \$1,402,604.</p>
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<p>Mrs. Turk has looked at class sizes which are quite low particularly at the high school, i.e. there are 11 history classes with 15 or fewer students; there is room for consolidation, better scheduling.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach has served on teacher negotiation committees; the latest contract was extremely well done. She would like union input.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson called the question, seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Vote on calling the question passed unanimously.</p> <p>Vote on modifying the budget by \$1,402,604 in object 111 as proposed by the motion of Mr. Wellman.        Yeah: Wellman        Nay: Turk, Faulenbach, McSherry, Diamond, Lawson, Thomas, Finney, Llerena.        Motion failed.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk moved to approach each of the unions in light of recent events and ask what if anything might be done to help out with the 2009-2010 school year budget. Mrs. Faulenbach seconded the motion.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson asked if the intent of the motion was for information only or collaboration of ideas.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach commented she would like union input.</p> <p>Mr. Wellman asked if non bargaining units would be approached.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk replied they don't need to be asked.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson – point of information – the discussion is for the 2009-2010 budget.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond noted the role tonight is to adopt a budget. If the budget is cut by the Town Council and Board of Finance, the budget will come back to the Board to be adjusted.</p>	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously to call the question.</p> <p>Motion to modify the budget by cutting \$1,402,604 from object 111, failed: 1-8.</p> <p>Motion made and seconded to approach each of the unions and ask what if anything could be done to help out with the 2009-2010 budget.</p>
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<p>Mr. Lawson advised the chair to speak to items on the agenda.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond noted this motion could be included on future agendas.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach noted the motion is in direct correlation to the budget on the agenda.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk and Mrs. Faulenbach withdrew their motion and second.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk moved to reduce line item 339, purchased services by \$80,000 which is a small percentage of the amount budgeted. Mrs. Faulenbach seconded the motion.</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote noted that purchased services goes into every program and inquired as to what items would be reduced.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk would leave the decision to administrators who are more capable of allocating where the reduction would be.</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote also noted the current budget level is below last year.</p> <p>Dr. Diamond would not support the motion; it is too vague, therefore, the impact would not be known.</p> <p>Vote on motion to reduce purchased services, object 339, by \$80,000:  Yeah: Turk; Wellman;  Nay: Faulenbach, McSherry, Diamond, Lawson, Thomas, Finney, Llerena.  Motion failed.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to reduce the legal account by \$15,000. Mrs. Turk seconded the motion.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson felt the motion is rather vague; he feels the legal account is a reasonable estimate.</p>	<p>Motion and second withdrawn.</p> <p>Motion made and seconded to reduce object 339, Purchased Services by \$80,000.</p> <p>Motion to reduce purchased services, object 339 by \$80,000 failed 2-7.</p> <p>Motion made and seconded to reduce the legal account by \$15,000.</p>
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<p>Mrs. Faulenbach noted there are no major negotiations anticipated.</p> <p>Mr. Wellman asked how the legal budget item was developed.</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote noted the account was reduced in this budget; in 07-08 there were 13 expulsion hearings, there is no way to know how many hearings might be held.</p> <p>Vote on motion to reduce the legal account:        Yeah: Faulenbach, Turk, Wellman;        Nay: McSherry, Diamond, Lawson, Thomas, Finney, Llerena.        Motion failed.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach would like to eliminate pay to play, but will not spend time at this meeting to determine how it could be done.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson moved to adopt the Superintendent's Proposed Budget in the amount of \$58,014,457 as amended by eliminating windows for central office for \$113,500 and reinstating TAG program for \$76,100 and summer school for \$37,400 for the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. McSherry seconded the motion.</p> <p>Mrs. Thomas expressed how difficult it is for her to support this budget; she would like to put back all the programs, would like to have creative way to make it work, but dollars can't be put back in. Mrs. Thomas congratulated all on the hard work with the budget; she expressed respect for Dr. Paddyfote. She urged Town's people to fill the town hall for the budget vote.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson noted the national and state economy has brought us to this point; he will support the budget reluctantly.</p> <p>Mr. McSherry expressed a lot of frustration.</p>	<p>Motion to reduce the legal account by \$15,000 failed 3-6.</p>
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	<p>During an emergency in the hall, the meeting recessed from 8:40 to 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>When the meeting resumed, Dr. Diamond called the vote on the motion to adopt the budget as amended.          Yeah: McSherry, Diamond, Lawson, Thomas, Finney, Llerena;          Nay: Turk, Faulenbach, Wellman.          Motion carried.</p>	<p>Motion made and passed to adopt the Superintendent's proposed budget in the amount of \$58,014,457 as amended by eliminating the central office windows for \$113,100 and reinstating the TAG program for \$76,100 and summer school for \$37,100 for the 2009-2010 school year.</p>
5.	<p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. McSherry. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Lawson, Secretary  
 New Milford Board of Education