

NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
New Milford Public Schools
50 East Street
New Milford, Connecticut 06776

COMMITTEE ON LEARNING
MEETING NOTICE

DATE:	May 17, 2016
TIME:	7:30 P.M.
PLACE:	Lillis Administration Building – Room 2

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
2016 MAY 13 P 12: 54
NEW MILFORD, CT

AGENDA

New Milford Public Schools Mission Statement

The mission of the New Milford Public Schools, a collaborative partnership of students, educators, family, and community is to prepare each and every student to compete and excel in an ever-changing world, embrace challenges with vigor, respect and appreciate the worth of every human being, and contribute to society by providing effective instruction and dynamic curriculum, offering a wide range of valuable experiences, and inspiring students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

An individual may address the Board concerning any item on the agenda for the meeting subject to the following provisions:

- A. A three-minute time limit may be allocated to each speaker with a maximum of twenty minutes being set aside per meeting. The Board may, by a majority vote, cancel or adjust these time limits.
- B. If a member of the public comments about the performance of an employee or a Board member, whether positive, negative, or neutral, and whether named or not, the Board shall not respond to such comments unless the topic is an explicit item on the agenda and the employee or the Board member has been provided with the requisite notice and due process required by law. Similarly, in accordance with federal law pertaining to student confidentiality, the Board shall not respond to or otherwise discuss any comments that might be made pertaining to students.

3. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Review and Approval of Curriculum

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Developmental Guidance K-2 | Genie Slone, Acting Assistant Superintendent |
| 2. Accounting II College Level | Eric Williams, NMHS Assistant Principal |
| 3. Business Law | Eric Williams, NMHS Assistant Principal |
| 4. Introduction to Web Design | Eric Williams, NMHS Assistant Principal |
| 5. Biology Honors | Sara Del Mastro, NMHS Science Dept. Chair |
| 6. Chemistry Honors | Sara Del Mastro, NMHS Science Dept. Chair |
| 7. Astronomy College Level | Sara Del Mastro, NMHS Science Dept. Chair |

4. Items of Information

A. Using Math Data to Inform Math Teaching and Learning in the District

Corby Kennison, K-3 Math Coach
Cortni Muir, Grades 4-7 Math Coach
Michael Clyne, Data Coach

**B. SMS Daily Schedule Revisions for 2016-2017:
A Preliminary Look**

SMS Administrators

**C. Middle School Coaches for 2016-17:
A Proposal**

Genie Slone, Acting Assistant Superintendent

D. "Word Study" in the K-5 Academic Program

Genie Slone, Acting Assistant Superintendent

**E. Current Enrollment for 2016-17 NMHS
Elective Courses**

Genie Slone, Acting Assistant Superintendent

5. Public Comment

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6. Adjourn

**Sub-Committee Members: Bill Dahl, Chairperson
Dave Littlefield
Brian McCauley
Tammy McInerney**

**Alternates: J.T. Schemm
David A. Lawson**

The Committee on Learning curriculum
can be previewed in the
Office of the
Acting Assistant Superintendent

Lillis Administration Building – Room #6

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Configuration of Coaches in the District: a proposal

Grade	2015-2016		Grade	2016-2017	
1	K-3 Math	K-2 Literacy	1	K-2 Math	K-2 Literacy
2			2		
3		3-5 Literacy	3		
4	4				
5	4-7 Math	6-8 Literacy	5	6-8 Math/ Science	6-8 Literacy/ Social Studies
6			6		
7			7		
8			8		

Committee on Learning: May 17, 2016



NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Assistant Superintendent
50 East Street
New Milford, Connecticut 06776
(860) 354-3235 FAX (860) 210-2643

Genie Slone
Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools

April 29, 2016

TO: Josh Smith, Superintendent-Elect
From: Genie Slone, Interim Assistant Superintendent
CC: Committee on Learning, SMS Administration

RE: Requesting a third math coach, as discussed during the 2016-2017 budget deliberations

Josh:

I applaud the interest and commitment by the members of the New Milford Board of Education, when during the 2016-2017 budget deliberation, adding a third math coach was discussed. The purpose of this note is to suggest a reconfiguration for middle school coaches, given the unique needs and program requirements of the middle school, which is very different from the K-5 academic program. Teachers at the middle school are content specific, while elementary teachers are more generalists.

New Science & Social Studies Standards:

Within the last year or so, the Connecticut State Board of Education has approved new standards for science, NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) and new standards for social studies. Our curricula in both of these content areas are in need of being re-written. However, first our middle school science and social studies teachers need to become familiar with these new standards via on-going professional development in "unpacking" the standards. This work has begun, but much more concentrated efforts need to be made before we can revise our program to align with these new standards. Once the curriculum is revised in these two areas, hopefully during the summer of 2017, instruction will need to change to a more inquiry/student centered approach.

Reconfiguration of Middle School Coaches:

In order to continue the good work the district has begun in middle school ELA (English & Language Arts) 6-8 and in Math 6 & 7, and to provide middle school leadership for science and social studies to align to the new state standards in these areas, I am proposing to reconfigure our middle school coaches. There would be one coach for ELA and Social Studies and one new coach for Math and Science. The impact of this change to the K-5 program would result in one math coach K-2 working with both NES and HPS and one math coach working with grades 3-5 at SNIS. This model K-5 math is in alignment with what we currently have in K-5 ELA. From the Assistant Superintendent's Assessment Report last fall, the SBAC math scores are lower than your ELA scores. This additional math coaching support time for our K-5 program is warranted.

Cost-Neutral Budget Allocation for 2016-2017:

ELS/Social Studies: The middle school ELA coaches already works closely with the SMS social studies department and has provided some support to that content area during this school year. It would be a very smooth transition to include social studies in this position.

Math/Science: With the revision of the Schaghticoke Middle School schedule, as will be discussed at the May COL meeting, there will be an opportunity to post and re-assigned a middle school teacher to this coaching position. The intent is to look for a staff member that has the skill-set required for such a coaching position.

This proposed concept will be discussed at our May COL committee meeting and if the COL approves this proposal, it is hopeful that it can be presented to the BOE at their June meeting. This reconfiguration of the middle school coaches and the revision of assignments for the K-5 math coaches will provide much needed support to our classroom teachers by improving what and how we teach these content areas to our students.



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Genie Slone
Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools

April 29, 2016

TO: Josh Smith, Superintendent-Elect
From: Genie Slone, Interim Assistant Superintendent
CC: Committee on Learning

RE: "Word Study" in the K-5 daily schedules for the 2016-2017 school year

Josh:

Currently, the K-5 schools are reviewing their daily schedule implementing some minor revisions to their academic day. One of the changes is that the ELA (English Language Arts) block will be refined K-2 to explicitly include thirty (30) minutes of word study and 15-20 minutes of "read aloud" time. The SNIS schedule will also designate thirty (30) minutes of word study.

The district uses this word study time for grammar, punctuation, spelling and some vocabulary development. The district has a program already in place for word study. However, with word study rolled into the ELA block, it was difficult to guarantee that it was taught every day in every classroom.

With this schedule revision, the district has made the teaching of word study a priority to help improve the student achievement results in this area. Our ELA coaches will also provide additional support and professional development to teachers in this area. As already planned, author and expert Jeff Anderson is scheduled to participate in the district's November 2016 professional development day. Mr. Anderson authored the book *Mechanically Inclined: Building Grammar, Usage, and Style into Writer's Workshop*.

I applaud the efforts of our staff to address the priority of "word study" in our K-5 program next year.



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Genie Slone
Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools

May 13, 2016

TO: Josh Smith, Superintendent-Elect
From: Genie Slone, Interim Assistant Superintendent
CC: Committee on Learning, NMHS Principal Greg Shurgue
RE: 2016-2017 New Milford High School Master Course Enrollment Tallies

Josh:

Attached are the enrollment tallies for high school courses for the 2016-2017 school year, at this point in time. Certainly, enrollments will change between now and the start of the new school year. I applaud your move to annually provide BOE members with a "K-12 Class Size Report" in the fall, once enrollment for the new year settles-out.

Please note on the attached summary report that courses highlighted in yellow have been eliminated from 2016-2017 schedule due to lack of enrollment. The green highlighted courses have been merged together due to low enrollment. This is really a compromise solution to still provide opportunities for students although the class time is shared with students enrolled in typically another level of the same course. These shared courses include upper levels of French, German, art courses and an English senior elective. It is worth noting that the high school staff continues to find ways to allow these courses to run.

A number of low enrollment courses are still expected to be in place for the next school year, Typically, some Advanced Placement courses fall into this category. It is important that these students are provided the opportunity for these "college-like" classes; students at this level of work (although fewer in number) need the support of the district to reach their post-secondary goals. These smaller class sizes in AP courses are typical in many high schools across our state.

Currently, there are seven (7) courses, including merged courses as one course, with an enrollment of 10 or below including: Architectural Drafting, Advanced Auto CAD, Engineering Design and Development, French 5 AP, 3 levels of German merged into one class, WebSite 2, and AP Art History merged with Art History Honors.

There are fourteen (14) courses with an enrollment between 11-15 students including some of the following courses: Government AP, Mirco Economics AP, Russian Studies Honors, Civil Engineering Arch, Spanish 5 AP, Accounting 2, and Computer Programming AP. Many of these courses are AP courses or courses that are specifically college and career ready.

A total of 21 courses out of approximately 119 courses (including merged courses) have an enrollment of 15 or below. In order to prepare a diversified student-body, a range of courses needs to be available in our school's role as a comprehensive high school. The Board's support of our high school's varied program is noteworthy.

5/12/2016
NEW MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL
MASTER COURSE TALLIES
2016-2017

MASTER COURSE	TOTAL
Sports Med	30
PE Leader	20
AlliedHlth	77
MediclTech	21
EMT	18
ErlyChldCP	72
Child Devl	28
Mod&ContPt	4
Mod&ContPH	6
Wri&Resear	26
WrldLit&CH	39
ChildLitH	19
Lt&MediaH	23
Int. Vid P	60
Adv Vid Pr	16
TheatrWork	27
DivVocCP	10
DivVocH	17
PubSpk	77
AdCreatWrH	25
ChildLit	53
ScienFict	33
CreatWr	59
Journal2	19
Journl1	73
ForsPsych	114
Govt AP	13
MidEastStH	52
ChineseStH	15
Civics CP	226
MicrEconAP	15
SociologCP	83
EconomicCP	35
IntPsychCP	139
IntelHistH	17
ModrnAmCP	98
Psych AP	62
RussianStH	15
HistFilmCP	52
AstronomyCP	47

ForensicCP	81
AnatPhys1H	50
AnatPhys2H	30
Ecology1CP	15
EcologyIICP	6
PlantSci1	41
Plant Sci2	25
DigElecH	18
CivEngArch	11
IntroIEDH	72
Eng Ds Dev	10
PrinEngnrH	53
PM:AppPerc	17
PM:AppMeas	26
PM:AppProb	29
PM:AppStat	30
French1CP	18
French 2CP	34
French 2H	33
French 3CP	20
French 3H	17
French 4CP	14
French 4H	19
French 5H	2
French5 AP	8
German 1CP	31
German 2CP	14
German 2H	25
German 3CP	7
German 3H	19
German 4CP	3
German 4H	2
German5 AP	3
Spanish1CP	117
Spanish2CP	134
Spanish 2H	98
Spanish3CP	96
Spanish 3H	89
Spanish4CP	56
Spanish 4H	44
Spanish5AP	14
Keybding 1	185
Acctg 1	33
Acctg2/Col	11
MktRetail1	115
MktRetail2	32
WebSite2	9

BusCompApp	48
WebSite1	42
CompProg	38
Bus Law	88
PersFin	413
PersFin2CP	20
CompProgAP	15
SportsEntM	52
IntroBusCP	218
ArchDrft1	60
ArchDrft2	7
BasAutoCAD	34
AdvAutoCAD	5
IntroWoods	97
GenWoodwrk	57
ProjUnlmtD	19
AP ArtHist	3
ArtHistH	1
Ceramics 1	141
Ceramics 2	57
Crafts 1	77
StuArtAP	4
Studio Art	11
DesignFdn	80
DesignFdt2	54
ChorusAdv	31
WindEnsemH	36
Band	41
AdvertArt	12
GrphPubVoc	29
GrphPubArt	28
Sculpture	19
Portfolio	16
Band	32
Chorus HC	81
Mus Apprec	13
Music Thry	14
Orchestra	21
ElecMusTec	21
Hist Jazz	1
HistAmMuTh	18

Not running

Merged