

NEW MILFORD, CT

**New Milford Board of Education
Operations Sub-Committee Minutes
September 8, 2020
New Milford High School Library Media Center**

2020 SEP 10 9:06 AM
RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

Present: Mrs. Angela C. Chastain, Acting Chairperson
Mr. Pete Helmus
Mrs. Eileen P. Monaghan
Mrs. Olga I. Rella

Absent: Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson

Also Present: Dr. Paul Smotas, Interim Superintendent
Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations
Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services
Mr. Kevin Munrett, Facilities Director
Mr. Brandon Rush, Director of Technology

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. Chastain, acting as Chair.</p>	<p>Call to Order</p>
2.	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was none. 	<p>Public Comment</p>
3.	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Substitute Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Smotas said he thought it might be time to look at possibly raising the sub rate. He said he had success previously in providing a differential between retired teachers and regular substitutes. He noted that CREC had just increased its daily sub rate to \$175. He said competition is the nature of the game, and that while New Milford's current sub list is good, it could be better. He will bring a proposal to the full Board next week. • Ms. Baldelli said she called neighboring districts and New Milford is in line with New Fairfield, Bethel and Newtown at \$90 per day for teacher substitutes. Brookfield pays \$95 per day. Danbury pays \$95 for the first fifteen days, then \$105 after that. Regarding 	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Substitute Issues</p>

	<p>paraeducator substitutes most, including New Milford, pay minimum wage of \$12 per hour which works out to \$84 per day. Bethel is at \$90 per day. Danbury starts at \$80 per day, then goes to \$85 after 40 days. Brookfield pays \$15.33 per hour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain asked how many of the substitutes on New Milford's list also work for other districts. Ms. Baldelli estimated a quarter. • Ms. Baldelli said the fill rate for New Milford through ESS is decent and hasn't dropped over time. There is a built in base; now we just want to keep it. • Mrs. Rella said she agreed with the plan to pay more to retired staff, including paraeducators. She said she thought that would help bring trained retirees back. 	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Items of Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain said the Board has authorized the Superintendent to approve personnel decisions and purchasing over the summer months so Exhibit A and the Monthly Reports are Items of Information through this month's meeting. <p>A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Baldelli said she would have a revised Exhibit A for the Board meeting next week. <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Position dated August 31, 2020 2. Purchase Resolution D-738 3. Request for Budget Transfers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding the Purchase Resolution, Mrs. Monaghan asked if this is the time of year tuitions are always paid. Mr. Giovannone said yes, usually August into September because runs are finalized close to school opening. • Mr. Giovannone said regarding the Budget 	<p>Items of Information</p> <p>A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Position dated August 31, 2020 2. Purchase Resolution D-738 3. Request for Budget Transfers

	<p>Position, salary lines are still being adjusted across all units. He noted the Capital Reserve amount on page 4, updated for interest only. There is no change to the turf field account. Parking fee revenue will need to be adjusted based on last month's approved waiver.</p> <p>C. Transition Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Olson referred to the memo in the Board packet. She said she had been requesting this position in the last three budget cycles, but it was cut each time prior to reaching Board consideration. This stipend position will provide support to students aged 16-22 as they transition out of the secondary level. She said the need is there and the stipend position will be taken on by one of the current teachers and paid for out of the IDEA grant funding.• Ms. Baldelli noted the actual stipend amount should be \$4,774. Mrs. Olson will provide a revised memo for the Board. <p>D. Coronavirus Relief Funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Giovannone said the attachments included show funding that is separate from the CARES Act and the local COVID account. It is a third "pot" of additional funding which for New Milford is \$189,617. The funds have not been received yet.• Mrs. Chastain asked how the funds were allocated since New Milford's amounts are low in comparison to other districts.• Mr. Giovannone said he did not know the mechanism for this allocation but could research.• Dr. Smotas said other superintendents in the area were aghast at the numbers and CAPSS is looking into it. He believes OPM came out with the numbers independent of the CSDE and the numbers are under review right now due to the number of complaints.• Mr. Helmus asked when the funds would be	<p>C. Transition Coordinator</p> <p>D. Coronavirus Relief Funds</p>
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	<p>received. Mr. Giovannone said he did not know but that they are for PPE use etc. which New Milford has already purchased, so the funds can be used for reimbursement when they arrive. Mr. Giovannone reminded the Board that PPE supplies were only purchased through one marking period, so more will be needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Helmus asked about the transportation side of the funding where New Milford received nothing. He asked if we missed a submittal. • Dr. Smotas said he did not know because it was before he arrived. • Mr. Giovannone said when survey data was sent to the CSDE, transportation funding was not requested, since monitors were not in the plan submitted. He said any transportation funding would have been carved out of the general allocation anyway. 	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was none. 	<p>Public Comment</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Mr. Helmus moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Rella and passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.</p>

Respectfully submitted:



Angela C. Chastain, Chairperson
 New Milford Board of Education