

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

COMMITTEE ON LEARNING  
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

<b>DATE:</b>	April 24, 2012
<b>TIME:</b>	6:00 PM
<b>PLACE:</b>	Lillis Administration Building – Room 2

GEORGE C. BUCKBEE  
TOWN CLERK

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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

The Board welcomes public participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to three minutes. Speakers may offer objective comments of school operations and programs that concern them. The Board will not permit any expression of personal complaints or defamatory comments about Board of Educations personnel and students, nor against any person connected with the New Milford Public School System.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Review and approval of curriculum:

- |                                   |                                          |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. Basic Auto Cad                 | Mr. Joseph Neff                          |
| 2. Business Computer Applications | Mr. Daryl Daniels / Mr. Joe Tarantello   |
| 3. Grade 7 General Music          | Mrs. Diana Beddows / Ms. Diane Taylor    |
| 4. Grade 8 Art                    | Mrs. Trudy Cox                           |
| 5. Physical Education I           | Mr. Jason Arnauckas / Mr. Keith Lipinsky |
| 6. Physical Education II          | Mr. Jason Arnauckas / Mr. Keith Lipinsky |

4. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- A. Moodle Presentation Mr. Daniel Divito

5. ADJOURN

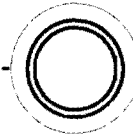
**Sub-Committee Members:** Mr. David Lawson, Chairperson  
Mr. Thomas Brant  
Mr. David Shaffer  
Mrs. Daniele Shook

**Alternates:** Mrs. Lynette Celli Rigdon  
Mr. William Wellman

The Committee on Learning curriculum  
can be previewed in the  
Office of the Assistant Superintendent  
Lillis Administration Building – Room #6

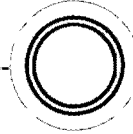
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

# Moodle



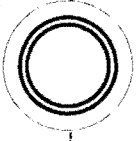
**MOODLE IS A COURSE MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM (CMS), ALSO KNOWN AS A  
LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) OR  
A VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (VLE).  
IT IS A FREE WEB APPLICATION THAT  
EDUCATORS CAN USE TO CREATE EFFECTIVE  
ONLINE LEARNING SITES.**

# Features



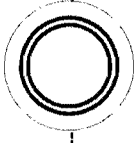
- **Blog:** a journal written on-line and accessible to users of the internet.
- **Wiki:** a web application that allows anyone visiting a website to edit content on it.
- **Forum:** A forum functions much like a bulletin board; users submit postings for all to read and discussion ensues.
- **Chat:** Any system that allows any number of logged-in users to have a typed, real-time, on-line conversation.
- **Messaging:** a system or process of transmitting messages, esp. electronically, by computer.

# Blog



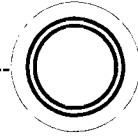
- Peer editing
- Prompt responses
- Class updates

**Wiki**



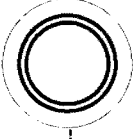
- **Collaboration**
- **Peer editing**

# Forum



- Q & A sessions for problem solving
- Peer assessment
- Interviews
- Debates
- Frequently asked questions
- Role-playing and storytelling
- Study groups
- Social forum
- Feedback
- Prompt responses
- Professional development

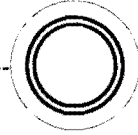
# Chat



- Exam prep
- Chat room for group work

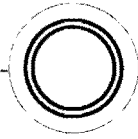


# Messaging



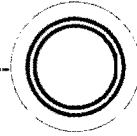
- Online tutorial
- Encouraging participation
  - Can filter based on activity
- Communication
  - Student-teacher
  - Student-student

# Other capabilities



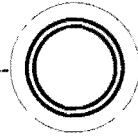
- **Online quizzes:**
  - Instant feedback: Teacher can also put instant feedback for wrong answers.
  - Teacher can set parameters and open and close times.
  - Can select individual extended time for accomadations
  - Item analysis
- **Assignments**
  - Online
  - Advanced
  - Off-line

# Glossary



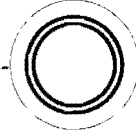
- **Formats (Nelson Mandela)**
  - Glossary
  - FAQ
  - Dictionary
  - Encyclopedia
  - Full
  - Entry list

# More features



- Capable of grouping students
- Tracking individual activity
- Creating surveys and lessons like problem solving and webquests
- Current events
- Plug-ins (Current event map)
- RSS feeds
- Video embedding

# From a pedagogical perspective



- **Accountability:** Can check activity reports
- **Differentiation:** Can create groups
- **Collaboration:** Can create groups
- **Block scheduling:**
  - Use blog as a recap
  - Discussion based on student's previously created materials
  - Mobile lab?
    - ✦ Prompts

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Committee on Learning Special Meeting Minutes  
 April 24, 2012  
 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

GEORGE C. BUCKBEE  
 TOWN CLERK

2012 APR 27 P 11

NEW MILFORD, CT

**Present:** Mr. David Lawson, Chairperson  
 Mr. Thomas Brant  
 Mr. David Shaffer  
 Mrs. Daniele Shook

**Also Present:** Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools  
 Dr. Maureen McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
 Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Board of Education Chair  
 Mr. William Wellman  
 Mr. Daniel DiVito, Director of Technology  
 Mr. Joseph Neff, Teacher  
 Mrs. Trudy Cox, Teacher  
 Mr. Josh Elliott, Teacher  
 Mr. Keith Lipinsky, Teacher

1.	<b>Call to Order</b> The special meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Lawson.	<b>Call to Order</b>
2.	<b>Public Comment</b> None	<b>Public Comment</b>
3.  A.	<b>Discussion and Possible Action</b>  <b>Review and Approval of curriculum:</b>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Basic AutoCAD</b></li> <li>2. <b>Business Computer Applications</b></li> <li>3. <b>Grade 8 Art</b></li> <li>4. <b>Grade 7 General Music</b></li> <li>5. <b>Physical Education I</b></li> <li>6. <b>Physical Education II</b></li> </ol> <p>With no objections from the committee, Mr. Lawson allowed presenters to choose their order and invited them to share highlights of the revised curriculum.</p> <p><b>Grade 8 Art</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Trudy Cox presented Grade 8 Art which she aligned with the CT Arts Curriculum from the State Department of Education for</li> </ul>	<b>Discussion and Possible Action</b>  <b>Review and Approval of curriculum:</b>  <b>Basic AutoCAD</b> <b>Business Computer Applications</b> <b>Grade 8 Art</b> <b>Grade 7 General Music</b> <b>Physical Education I</b> <b>Physical Education II</b>   <b>Grade 8 Art</b>

	<p>expectations. Designed for a half year, the course begins with a segment on core expectations, then proceeds to a beginning drawing project, elements and principles, and art history projects. Mrs. Cox said the course is designed to allow any style of learner/artist to succeed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs. Shook stated that she thought the curriculum was wonderfully creative.</li><li>• Mr. Shaffer said he wished there had been a course like this when he was in school.</li></ul> <p><b>Basic AutoCAD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Joseph Neff presented Basic AutoCAD. He stated that it is a half-year course. It is taught using the basic autoCAD software. The district gets free upgrades every year, so it stays current. Students can continue onto advanced levels if they so choose.</li><li>• Mrs. Shook asked what CAD stood for and Mr. Neff said it is Computer Aided Drafting.</li><li>• Mr. Shaffer asked about the number of students and if there was a waiting list. Mr. Neff said he has 16 computers so that is the number of students he can take. He teaches two sessions in the fall and one in the spring. At course selection time, over 250 students signed up.</li><li>• Mr. Lawson asked if all students finished every unit. Mr. Neff said they work at their own pace. He has 50 drawings available and no student has ever finished all 50.</li></ul> <p><b>Business Computer Applications Grade 7 General Music</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. McLaughlin said presenters for Business Computer Applications and Grade 7 General Music were unable to attend. Mr. Lawson asked if the committee had any fundamental concerns on either curriculum.</li><li>• Mr. Shaffer said the summary paragraph usually found on page four of the document was missing from Business Computer Applications. Dr. McLaughlin will have that corrected.</li></ul>	<p><b>Basic AutoCAD</b></p> <p><b>Business Computer Applications Grade 7 General Music</b></p>
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- Mr. Shaffer asked if it was a half-year or full-year course. Dr. McLaughlin will check.
- Mrs. Shook commented on how impressed she was with the ambitious grade 7 General Music curriculum.
- Mr. Shaffer said it was a course he would love to take.
- Mr. Lawson said he was pleased to see that all the curricula were using the rubrics.

The presenter for Physical Education I and II had not arrived yet, so the committee moved upstairs to the Lillis Board Room to view the Moodle Presentation which is referenced in **#4 Items of Information** below. The move of the meeting to the Lillis Board Room was posted on the door.

After the Moodle presentation was completed, the committee returned to Meeting Room 2 to hear the presentation on Physical Education I and II.

#### **Physical Education I and II**

- Mr. Keith Lipinsky presented Physical Education I and II. Physical Education I is a freshman class. It is broken down into units which include individual life sports, team sports, fitness, and weight training. All units involve a pre-assessment at the beginning and a post test at the end. Success is measured cognitively and through skill and affective assessments. Physical Education II is a sophomore class. Emphasis is placed on preparation for the State Fitness Test. Additional individual life sports and team sports are taught.
- Mr. Shaffer complimented Mr. Lipinsky on the curriculum summary and asked about the number of students in a class. Mr. Lipinsky said it averages around 25. For larger classes, station rotation is used for class management and safety. Mr. Shaffer asked if there was any problem with students refusing to participate. Mr. Lipinsky said the number was extremely minimal and usually a call home solved the

#### **Physical Education I and II**



	<p>problem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Lawson asked if Physical Education III and IV tie in with these two curricula, and Mr. Lipinsky said yes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Brant moved to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval: Basic AutoCAD, Business Computer Applications, Grade 8 Art, Grade 7 General Music, Physical Education I, and Physical Education II, seconded by Mrs. Shook and passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval: Basic AutoCAD, Business Computer Applications, Grade 8 Art, Grade 7 General Music, Physical Education I, and Physical Education II.</b></p>
<p>4.  A.</p>	<p><b>Items of Information</b></p> <p><b>Moodle Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Dan DiVito and Mr. Josh Elliott gave a general overview of Moodle, which they described as an on-line course management system. It is open source so free of charge. Initial use was by NMHS teachers. This year it has been opened up to all teachers at NMHS and SMS. It can be accessed from the district website.</li> <li>Mr. Elliott said the beauty of Moodle is that teachers can make it what they want it to be. It has many features available which include the following: a calendar; posting of files, articles and links; blogs; forums; polls; discussion groups; automatic news feeds, and wikis. Assignments for different classes are all on the same page.</li> <li>Mr. DiVito and Mr. Elliott both talked about the professional development piece of Moodle. An Educational Resources page has been created. Teachers can submit link and resource ideas to foster collaboration. The resources are broken down by topic, grade level etc. Over 400 links have been added so far.</li> <li>Mr. Lawson asked if the Moodle development was an on-going process and was told that it is evolving constantly. Mr. Elliott said they are</li> </ul>	<p><b>Items of Information</b></p> <p><b>Moodle Presentation</b></p>

	looking at other districts for ideas for usage as well.	
5.	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mr. Lawson said that the May committee meeting will have several curricula to review. It will also include a report on full-day kindergarten.</li></ul> <p><b>Mrs. Shook moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. seconded by Mr. Shaffer and passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.</b></p>

Respectfully submitted:



David Lawson, Chairperson  
Committee on Learning

