

New Milford Board of Education
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 October 9, 2007
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

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| Present: | Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Board Chairperson Mr. Joseph Failla Mr. William McLachlan Mrs. Julie Turk Mr. Joseph Vita Mr. Thomas McSherry Mrs. Dian Marandola Mrs. Elizabeth Finney Dr. Lawrence Stillman Mr. David Lawson |
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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. Leo Rogoza, Assistant Facilities Manager Mr. David Elmore, Director of Technology |
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| 1. | The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order. | Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance |
| 2. A & B | Superintendent Paddyfote began the meeting by honoring 29 students for outstanding achievement on all four subtexts of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test. Superintendent Paddyfote acknowledged Gregory Holmes as New Milford's 2008 Teacher of the Year. | Staff & Student Recognition |
| | A short break from 7:41 pm until 8:02 pm was held for refreshments in honor of the students, their families and Mr. Holmes. | |
| 3. | Public Comment Jeff Winter, 22 Morey Road, addressed the walkout at the September 11, 2007 Board meeting and said it did not set a good example for the students in the New Milford Schools. | Public Comment |

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| | <p>Alexandra Thomas, 187 Aspetuck Ridge Road, noted she served on the Board for 12 years and said the debate regarding the personnel director position was important and more communication needs to happen.</p> <p>Lisa Terlizzi, 11 Erickson Road, said she was appalled by the actions of some Board members who walked out of the September meeting.</p> <p>April Miolla, 22 Greenwood Road, asked the Board to consider voting for the Academy of International Studies magnet school for grades 6 - 8.</p> <p>Public Comment was closed at 8:12 pm.</p> | |
| 4. | Report presented by member of the PTO | PTO Report |
| 5. | Student representatives report | Student Report |
| 6. | <p>Minutes of September 11, 2007 approved by motion of Mr. McSherry, seconded by Dr. Stillman.</p> <p>Aye: Chairwoman Faulenbach, Mr. Failla, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. Vita, Mr. McSherry, Mrs. Finney, Mrs. Marandola, Dr. Stillman, Mr. Lawson. Abstain: Mrs. Turk</p> <p>Motion Passed 9-0-1</p> | Motion made and passed to approve regular meeting minutes for September 11, 2007 |
| 7. | <p>Superintendent's report presented.</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote released the unaudited enrollment report for the schools. There was a need to increase tutoring hours at Northville due to a higher number of students in the second grade. The State Department of Education released a report on the PJ Case that included 4 commendations for New Milford Schools but also some recommendations of work still to be done. Dr. Paddyfote congratulated the New Milford High School Math Team for receiving a perfect score in a recent competition and placing first overall.</p> | Superintendent's Report |

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| 8. | <p>Board Chairman's report. Chairwoman Faulenbach said she received two pieces of correspondence; one from Peter Eng, Chair of the Planning Commission, inviting Board members to October 30th meeting at 6 pm; second from Mayor Murphy rescheduling meeting from 9/27 to 10/19/2007. Chairwoman Faulenbach noted that the November meeting would be the last for this group as it currently stands and at that meeting accomplishments for the year are highlighted for the Board as well as the public.</p> | Board Chairman's Report |
| 9. | <p>Committee Reports</p> <p>9A. Facilities: Mr. McSherry said at the recent meeting they discussed all the summer projects updates including the generator installed at Sarah Noble. There are still some questions about ongoing maintenance of the generator. The school security grant will require some discussion about the level of security and how much money will be spent for that security. The JMOA update will be coming in November - this is the 5-year facilities master plan.</p> <p>9B. Operations: Chairwoman Faulenbach chaired the committee on behalf of Dr. Lisa Diamond, she said they received a transportation update and then went into an Executive Session on the Food Service bargaining.</p> <p>9C. Policy Committee: Mrs. Marandola said the next meeting is Tuesday, 10/16.</p> <p>9D. Committee on Learning: Mr. McLachlan said the committee discussed the instrumental curriculum; Windows on New Milford; and reading including encouraging people in town to read and have their children read more as well.</p> | Committee Reports |

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| | <p>Motion made by Mrs. Marandola and seconded by Dr. Stillman to amend the agenda to add 3 items for Discussion and Possible Action concerning the award of the data equipment bid, award of the computer bid and the consolidated grants application. Added as items 10. G.1., 2. & 3.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Motion to amend agenda made and approved.</p> |
| 10A. | <p>Discussion and possible action on revised Exhibit A Personnel as recommended by the Superintendent. Mr. McSherry moved to approve revised Exhibit A, seconded by Dr. Stillman.</p> <p>Mr. Vita noted that the Physical Education Teacher with Cross Country coaching skills was a good acquisition.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved unanimously on revised Exhibit A personnel as recommended by the Superintendent.</p> |
| 10B. | <p>Monthly reports Mrs. Marandola moved to approve the monthly budget reports: request for budget transfer, purchase resolution D-603, and the budget position as of 9/30/07, seconded by Mr. McSherry and unanimously approved.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved on the monthly budget reports: request for budget transfer, purchase resolution D-603, and the budget position as of 9/30/07.</p> |
| 10C. | <p>Exhibit B: Gifts & Donations Mr. McSherry moved to approve Exhibit B, a donation from Thera-Kids, LLC seconded by Mrs. Marandola.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson noted that these were remarkable pieces for the special education department.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to approve Exhibit B, Gifts & Donations.</p> |

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| 10D. | <p>Approval of Instrumental Curriculum Grades 4 - 12 Mr. McSherry moved to approve the instrumental curriculum for grades 4 – 12, seconded by Mr. McLachlan.</p> <p>Mrs. Marandola noted that the curriculum would require additional staff to go along with the expansion. She reminded board members, specifically Mr. Failla that he asked for support to cut \$1.5 million from this current year’s budget. The question she posed was how would he reconcile some cuts and not others?</p> <p>Chairwoman Faulenbach said that more support staff would be needed and the minutes would reflect that.</p> <p>Mr. Failla said the request he made for cuts were not in academic areas, as he fully supports advancement in academic areas.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson said the board could approve the curriculum tonight and during the budget season the need for extra staff could be addressed.</p> <p>Mr. McLachlan said the committee did not want to start students on the instrumental curriculum later than 4th grade as students do better in academics if they are involved in something like music.</p> <p>Dr. Stillman said the board will have to fund any extra support positions during budget time.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to accept Instrumental Curriculum for grades 4-12.</p> |
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| <p>10E.</p> | <p>Transportation Update Dr. Paddyfote said there are three issues around transportation that include routes, loads and length of travel. There have been 25 concerns presented this school year. The Nonnewaug situation did require an extra bus in the morning and that was resolved at the bus company's expense. To alleviate length of bus trips additional buses would be needed. Mr. Mulvihill noted that each bus costs around \$40,000 and these concerns are not safety concerns they are convenience concerns. Mr. McLachlan asked if the capacity issue is more than just the students on the buses as they carry backpacks and instruments and perhaps the bus company is not accounting for all those items. Mr. Mulvihill noted that it is the nature of the road system in New Milford that bus travel will take time, especially with the construction on route 7.</p> <p>Mrs. Turk said she understood the complexities of the bus system at the beginning of the year but she said parent complaints were not being responded to and that was not acceptable.</p> <p>Chairwoman Faulenbach noted that the Town is growing and the Board may need to consider adding buses to the fleet.</p> <p>Mr. Corbett offered that there were significantly fewer problems this year than in the past.</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote reviewed the procedure for parents to voice concerns about transportation and said, "All complaints and concerns are responded to in a timely manner and no bus occupancy is over capacity."</p> | <p>Transportation Update</p> |
| <p>10F.</p> | <p>Graduation Date for the Class of 2008 Mr. McSherry moved to set the graduation date for the Class of 2008 as June 21, 2008, seconded by Mrs. Marandola. Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to set graduation date for Class of 2008 as June 21, 2008.</p> |

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| 10G.1. | <p>Data Equipment Bid</p> <p>Mr. McSherry moved to award the data equipment bid to The Ergonomics Group, seconded by Mrs. Marandola.</p> <p>Mr. McLachlan asked if this was the same information as in the operations packet and was told that it was.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to award data equipment bid to The Ergonomics Group.</p> |
| 10G.2. | <p>Computer Bid</p> <p>Mr. McSherry moved to award the computer bid to PC Net, Inc., seconded by Dr. Stillman and unanimously approved.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to award computer bid to PC Net, Inc.</p> |
| 10G.3. | <p>Consolidated Grant Application</p> <p>Mr. Lawson moved to approve the Consolidated Grant Application, seconded by Mrs. Marandola and unanimously approved.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to approve the Consolidated Grant Application.</p> |
| 10G.4. | <p>Textbook Approvals</p> <p>Mr. McSherry moved to approve the textbook for Grade 12, seconded by Mrs. Finney and unanimously approved.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to approve the textbook for Grade 12.</p> |
| 10H. | <p>Status of Negotiations – Food Services Collective Bargaining Agreement</p> <p>Mr. McSherry moved to go into Executive Session at 9:03 pm to discuss the status of negotiations concerning the Food Services Collective Bargaining Agreement and to invite into Executive Session the Superintendent, Tom Corbett, and Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Stillman and unanimously approved.</p> | <p>Motion made and approved to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the Food Services Collective Bargaining Agreement.</p> |

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| | The Board returned to Public Session at 9:17 pm. | |
| | Mr. McSherry moved to approve the contract between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford Cafeteria Employee Association from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 seconded by Mrs. Finney. Motion passed unanimously. | Motion made and approved to approve the contract between the NM Board of Ed and the NM Cafeteria Employee Association. |
| 11. | Items for Information | Items for Information |
| 11A. | Textbook Previews. No comments. | Textbook Preview |
| 11B. | Field Trips – October 2007 There was a discussion about the trip to France and creating a framework to provide access for all students. The trip was designed for the humanities class. | Field Trips |
| 12. | Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Stillman, seconded by Mr. McSherry and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm. | Motion made and approved to adjourn the meeting. |

Respectfully submitted,

Dian Traisci-Marandola
 Board Secretary