

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

DATE:	November 16, 2016
TIME:	6:30 P.M.
PLACE:	Lillis Administration Building - Board Room

BOARD WORKSHOP 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

A. Pledge of Allegiance

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

A. CABE Senior Staff Associate for Field Service Nick Caruso will facilitate discussion regarding Board roles, responsibilities and goal setting.

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Connecticut Lighthouse Project The Role of the Board for Improving Student Learning

1. Set clear expectations

- a. Get clear about the greatest student learning needs – the most important content area to improve first
- b. Believe more is possible and communicate high expectations
- c. Establish a clear and narrow focus for improvement – clarify improvement goals and specific targets
- d. Focus on student learning and teaching (Improving teaching as the key strategy for improving learning)
- e. Ensure that your policy manual reflects your expectations

2. Create conditions for success

- a. Demonstrate commitment to the improvement focus through board actions and decisions
- b. Support quality professional development
- c. Stay the course
- d. Support & connect with districtwide leadership
- e. Develop and nurture the board/superintendent team leadership
- f. Ensure all parts of the system are aligned around the learning needs of students (curriculum, instruction, assessment; goals, actions, resource allocation; etc.).
- g. Align your district policy manual to support these conditions

3. Hold the system accountable to the expectations

- a. Use data extensively
- b. Determine what you will accept as evidence of progress/success
- c. Monitor progress regularly
- d. Apply pressure for accountability
- e. Ensure that policies articulate expectations of the board and district

4. Build public will

- a. Create awareness of the need
- b. Create urgency around the moral purpose of improvement
- c. Instill hope that it's possible to change
- d. Connect with the community
- e. Ensure that the board has policies related to communications and community involvement

5. Learn together as a board team

- a. Establish board learning time
- b. Learn together
- c. Talk to each other – extensive board conversations
- d. Develop a willingness and readiness to lead and allow others to lead
- e. Build commitment to the improvement focus through shared information and discussion
- f. Establish board policies that encourage board development
- g. Engage in deliberative policy development – lead through your policies



Area Being Discussed: _____

<p>Set Clear Expectations What are our greatest hopes for the district in this area?</p>	<p>Create Conditions For Success What are we willing to support to ensure the expectations can be met?</p>	<p>Hold The System Accountable What will we accept as evidence of progress toward expected outcomes?</p>	<p>Build Public Will What will we need to do to gain community support for this work?</p>	<p>Learn Together as a Board Team What information does the board need to ensure the right decisions are made?</p>

