

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Committee on Learning Minutes  
 February 5, 2019  
 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

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 2019 FEB -7 P 12: 26  
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 NEW MILFORD. CT

**Present:** Mr. J.T. Schemm, Chairperson  
 Mrs. Angela C. Chastain  
 Mr. Bill Dahl  
 Mrs. Tammy McInerney

**Also Present:** Dr. Stephen Tracy, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
 Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
 Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Operations and Fiscal Services  
 Mrs. Denise Duggan, Health Department Chair, New Milford High School  
 Mrs. Christine Benson, Teacher, New Milford High School

<p><b>1.</b></p>	<p><b>Call to Order</b></p> <p>The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mr. Schemm.</p>	<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>
<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was none.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion and Possible Action</b></p> <p><b>A. Review and Approval of Curriculum</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Health 1</b></li> <li><b>2. Sports Medicine</b></li> <li><b>3. Allied Health</b></li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Dahl asked if all three courses count towards credit for graduation. Ms. DiCorpo said yes.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Health 1</b></li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Duggan said Health 1 is a revision to a half year, half credit course taken by mainly freshmen students. The revision incorporates SMART goals at the end of each unit to continue with wellness initiatives. It also instructs on resources available to students who need assistance. Emphasis has been added for mental health issues, specifically depression, and vaping. A Mental Health first aid</li> </ul>	<p><b>Discussion and Possible Action</b></p> <p><b>A. Review and Approval of Curriculum</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Health 1</b></li> <li><b>2. Sports Medicine</b></li> <li><b>3. Allied Health</b></li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Health 1</b></li> </ol>

	<p>course is offered through the Youth Agency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Dahl asked if there is a textbook. Mrs. Duggan said there is, but it is dated, so they emphasize Chromebook use instead to obtain material from other more current sources.</li><li>• Mrs. Chastain asked if this is a required class. Mrs. Duggan said not specifically, but students do need a half credit in Health to graduate. Mrs. Chastain suggested that the school should work to communicate that fact more clearly to students and parents, so that they know there are other choices if they can't fit Health 1 into their schedules freshman year.</li><li>• Ms. DiCorpo said, right now, Health 1 is the only general Health course offered. The other courses are very specific. She is working to revise Health 2 to add another general offering, especially in light of the new graduation requirement for a full credit in Health.</li><li>• Mr. Dahl said he likes the broad base of Health 1 and thinks it is good for all students to take.</li><li>• Mrs. Chastain asked if any students had been turned away from Sports Medicine due to over enrollment. Mrs. Benson said not during the time she has taught it.</li><li>• Dr. Tracy said he liked the attention to the problem of dating violence in the curriculum. He asked if it is an issue at the high school. Mrs. Duggan said it can be an issue at this age. She said February is Healthy Relationship Month and they are doing some special events to highlight it.</li></ul> <p><b>2. Sports Medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs. Benson said this is a revision to Sports Medicine, which is a half year, half credit course for juniors and seniors. The course exposes students to special careers in the field and includes guest speakers and job outreach. It is a career pathways course.</li><li>• Ms. DiCorpo said the course incorporates real life performance tasks that mimic the job site. It is designed to be very hands-on to give students the</li></ul>	<p><b>2. Sports Medicine</b></p>
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chance to see if they are truly interested in these types of careers.

- Mrs. Chastain said she thinks this is a great offering but wishes it could be tied into the internship program to give students opportunities to get out into the community for experience. Mrs. Benson said it is difficult to get enough community partners, especially for a half-year course.

### 3. Allied Health

- Mrs. Benson said Allied Health is a full year, full credit course with a required job shadow component. She said students are instructed in HIPAA and OSHA compliance. The revision also adds discussion of Eastern Medicine. Mrs. Benson said they also participate in the Regional Healthcare Job Shadowing Program through EdAdvance. Six students participate in two eight week placements through that program. This is the course with significant community partners.
- Mrs. McInerney asked if the class makes use of mentors in the community too. Mrs. Benson said they do.
- Mr. Schemm mentioned the CNA and EMT classes, saying students can use those classes to move right into employment after graduation. Mrs. Duggan said that is correct, the classes provide certification.
- Mr. Schemm asked if there is grant funding for the classes. Mrs. Duggan said they are able to utilize the Perkins grant because she is a certified instructor.
- Mrs. Duggan said they also participate in the EMT Olympics in the spring, which provides a real world simulation of an accident that students are required to triage.

Mr. Dahl moved to bring the curriculum for Health 1, Sports Medicine, and Allied Health to the full Board for approval, seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.

### 3. Allied Health

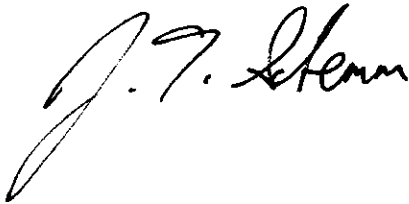
**Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the curriculum for Health 1, Sports Medicine, and Allied Health to the full Board for approval.**

<p><b>B.</b></p>	<p><b>Shepaug Agriscience program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. DiCorpo said this change is being directed by the state. The State Department of Education (SDE) determined that there was a need for an additional Vo-Ag program and that it would be located at Shepaug. The SDE also determined that, beginning in 2019-20, all new New Milford students who wish to enroll in a Vo-Ag program must do so at Shepaug. She said the state decision to add an Agri-Science school to Region 12 means that Nonnewaug students currently enrolled are grandfathered in. There are a total of 134 seats available in the new program.</li><li>• Mr. Dahl said that the new program is different from a traditional vo-ag program. It has a higher emphasis on the science component.</li><li>• Ms. DiCorpo said that currently New Milford has twenty seats budgeted and that we must maintain at least our four year average for both schools (by state law). This year there are fifteen NMPS students and two Sherman students enrolled at Nonnewaug. The average enrollment over last four years=18.25. The twenty seats total for both schools proposed is based on a tentative agreement to move forward with Region 12 and is budgeted at \$6,823 per seat. This would mean no change to the proposed budget. Current acceptance is for grades 9 and 10 by our grades 8 and 9 students. New Milford had thirteen grade 8 students apply. Decisions are made for acceptance in rank order and the process takes 6-8 weeks. Applications were due January 4th. Per All Star, there will be no additional transportation costs even though an additional bus is necessary for the Region 12 run.</li><li>• For the 2019-20 academic year, the proposed agreement means the continued enrollment of twelve students in the Woodbury Nonnewaug program and up to eight students in the Shepaug program. As New Milford students graduate out of Nonnewaug's program, New Milford's participation in the Region 12 program will increase, reaching a proposed enrollment of up to twenty (20) students for 2022-23 and beyond.</li></ul>	<p><b>B. Shepaug Agriscience program</b></p>
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- Ms. DiCorpo said that if New Milford chooses to increase the number of seats in the agreement there will be budget impact. Currently the district can't decrease our number of seats based on the four year average of 18.25 seats (state law).
- Mrs. McInerney asked what happens if we don't send that many students. Ms. DiCorpo said though we budget for the seats, we only pay if they are used by students.
- Mr. Schemm asked if current Nonnewaug students can opt out and apply. Ms. DiCorpo said she did not have that answer yet.
- Mr. Dahl asked if home school students from New Milford can attend. Ms. DiCorpo said not using New Milford seats, because they are not enrolled in New Milford schools.
- Mrs. Chastain said she didn't believe Shepaug could keep home school students from attending. Ms. DiCorpo said that would be for Region 12 to work out.
- Dr. Tracy said the previous agreements did not specify the number of seats. He is going to contact Shepaug about updating the agreement and will report back to the Board. He said it is in New Milford's interest to have a cap so as to properly budget. Mr. Schemm suggested that any new agreement be run by legal as well.
- Mrs. Chastain said this is time sensitive too because not all New Milford students who applied could go based on the cap of twenty.
- Mr. Schemm said New Milford has an obligation to its current Nonnewaug students too. Ms. DiCorpo agreed, saying that was part of the discussion from the start.
- Mrs. McInerney said she hopes this opportunity will be clearly communicated with eighth grade students and parents going forward.
- Mr. Schemm suggested that Shepaug Agriscience enrollment be added as an item of information to the full Board agenda.

4.	<b>Public Comment</b>  • There was none.	<b>Public Comment</b>
5.	<b>Adjourn</b>  Mr. Dahl moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.	<b>Adjourn</b>  <b>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.</b>

Respectfully submitted:



J.T. Schemm, Chairperson  
Committee on Learning