

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION
ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

DATE: December 15, 2020
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: Via Zoom Virtual Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92922315469?pwd=RkxvcEEyQ3F5emZ2V21KRUIyajZEdz09>

Meeting ID: 929 2231 5469

Passcode: 031128

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,92922315469#,,,,,0#,,031128# US (New York)

+13017158592,,92922315469#,,,,,0#,,031128# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/an54fBENB>

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. **RECOMMENDED ACTION**
 - A. Election of Board Officers
 1. Chairperson
 2. Vice Chairperson
 3. Secretary
 4. Assistant Secretary
3. **ADJOURN**

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
2020 DEC 11 A 9:41
NEW MILFORD, CT

Total Estimated Time: 30 Minutes

Bylaws of the Board

Role of the Board and Its Members

Statement of Integrity

The long term health of a representative democracy requires that citizenship and leadership act upon what is right, rather than what is popular. As Board of Education members, our goal is to improve the education of our children and to advocate for them and their best interests. Board members must be working effectively together and with others in the community to successfully reach this goal. A Board of Education that operates with integrity will be a more effective Board. Integrity is first, discerning what is right and what is wrong; second, acting upon what you have discerned even at personal cost; and third, saying openly that you are acting on your understanding of right from wrong. It requires that students, colleagues, constituents, and others in the community be considered in every decision. A Board of Education with a sense of integrity will consider what is right, and what is wrong. This takes discipline and an awareness of one's environment.

To this end, as a Board of Education with integrity, we will:

- Understand that our first and greatest concern is the educational welfare of the students, and that all decisions must be based on this understanding;
- Render all decisions based solely on our judgment of the available facts and not surrender that judgment to individuals, special interests, or our own personal agendas;
- Attend all Board meetings insofar as possible, and be prepared to discuss and/or act upon all agenda items;
- Be responsible for becoming informed on any and all issues coming before the Board;
- Seek to facilitate ongoing communication between the Board and students, staff, parents and all elements of the community;
- Conduct our meetings and foster an environment where all elements of the community can express their ideas;
- Declare a conflict of interest when it arises and excuse ourselves from related discussion and action on that issue;
- Refrain from using our position on the Board for personal or partisan gain;

Bylaws of the Board

Role of the Board and Its Members

Statement of Integrity (continued)

- Insist on regular and impartial evaluation of all staff, and conduct a yearly self-evaluation and set annual goals;
- Fairly assess all non-instructional aspects of the school operation; AND
- Support all decisions by the Board to the community once a decision has been reached.

The New Milford Board of Education is committed to the highest legal and ethical standards essential in governing its school system. It endeavors to encourage growth and support established and innovative educational objectives.

(cf. 9000 - Role of Board and its Members)

(cf. 9271 - Code of Ethics)

Bylaw adopted by the Board: January 9, 2001
Bylaw revised by the Board: November 14, 2006
Bylaw reviewed by the Board: February 4, 2020

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut

Bylaws of the Board

Code of Ethics

As a guide to performing their duties, Board members should:

1. Be an advocate of high quality free public education for all Connecticut children.
2. As an agent of the state, uphold and enforce all laws, rules, regulations and court orders pertaining to public schools, and bring about any needed change only through legal and ethical means.
3. Help create public schools which meet the individual educational needs of all children regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or any other class protected by law.
4. Work to help the community to understand the importance of proper support for public education.
5. Become informed about the nature, value and direction of contemporary education and support needed change in the schools.
6. Serve as a communications link between the community and the schools, working to ensure that the community is fully and accurately informed about the schools, and that the school staff understands the aspirations and desires of the community.
7. Recognize that a Board member's responsibility is not to "run the schools," but to see that they are well-run through effective policies.
8. Confine Board action to policy-making, planning, and appraisal, and consult with those who will be affected by the Board's actions.
9. Arrive at conclusions after fully discussing the issue at an open meeting, and abide by the principle of majority rule.
10. Recognize that authority rests only with the whole Board assembled in a meeting, and make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the Board.
11. Never use the position on the Board for personal gain.
12. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools that, if disclosed, might needlessly injure individuals or the schools.

Bylaws of the Board

Code of Ethics (continued)

13. Ensure that all school business transactions be open and ethical.
14. Ensure that the best personnel available are appointed to all positions in the district.
15. Refer all complaints through the proper "chain of command" within the system, and act on such complaints at public meetings only when administrative solutions fail.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: January 9, 2001
Bylaw revised by the Board: June 12, 2012

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut