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

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

# DATE:December 11, 2013TIME:7:30 P.M.PLACE:Sarah Noble Intermediate School – Library Media Center

# 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. <u>RECOGNITION</u>

NMHS students who achieved Advanced level on all four sections of CAPT: Serina Ahmed, Bethany Balstad, Emma Bergman, Chelsea Buddle, Kevin Bun, Charlotte Chauvin, Emily Chauvin, Meredith Cowan, Anthony D'Andrea, Carly Drost, Giovanna Fusco, Marta Gryb, Christine Habjan, Abigail Hambidge, Gregory Hansell, Rachel Harbert, Teresa Harkin, Robert Holub, Melanie Horkan, Jedidiah Kang, Stephen Kipp, Carly KleinStern, Sean Kunic, Kathleen Lewis, Zachary Polley, Charles Price, Timothy Rehm, Annie Robbins, Tatiana Rodriguez, Emilyn Tuomala, Sara Wilton, and Duo Zheng

#### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board welcomes Public Participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to three minutes. Speakers may offer objective comments of items on this agenda. The Board will not permit any expression of personal complaints or defamatory comments about Board of Education personnel and students, nor against any person connected with the New Milford Public School System.

#### 4. PTO REPORT

## 5. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

#### 6. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>

A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes
 1. Regular Meeting November 12, 2013

## 7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

#### 8. BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Policy Sub-Committee Mrs. Faulenbach
- B. Committee on Learning Mr. Lawson
- C. Negotiations Committee Mrs. Faulenbach



#### 10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. Exhibit A: Personnel Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 10, 2013
- B. Monthly Reports
  - 1. Purchase Resolution D-660
  - 2. Budget Position as of November 30, 2013
  - 3. Request for Budget Transfers
- C. Gifts & Donations
  - 1. PTO Exhibit B
  - 2. Special Olympics CT, Inc. Exhibit C
- D. Approval of the Following Curricula
  - 1. Creative Writing
  - 2. Diverse Voices
- E. Policy for Approval
  - 1. 3541 Transportation Services
- F. Policies for Second Review
  - 1. 1250 Visits to the Schools
  - 2. 5131.111 Conduct: Camera Surveillance
- G. Request for New Program or Course
  - 1. Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA)
  - 2. AP Calculus BC
- H. Five Year Curriculum Plan (2013-2018)

## 11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

- A. Field Trip Report
- B. Technology Grant Update
- C. 2013 School Security Grant Program Update
- D. CT Community Foundation LitLinks Grant Update
- E. Minimum Wage Increase

## 12. ADJOURN

## **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

Committee on Learning Minutes - November 19, 2013

New Milford Board of Education	New Milford Board of Education
Budget Hearing	Budget Hearing
January 21, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.	January 28, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Noble Intermediate School, LMC	Sarah Noble Intermediate School, LMC
New Milford Board of Education	New Milford Board of Education
Budget Hearing	Budget Adoption
January 22, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.	January 29, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Noble Intermediate School, LMC	Sarah Noble Intermediate School, LMC
Please hold January 23 and 30, 2014 as possible	
dates for rescheduling due to weather related issues.	

### New Milford Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

Present:	Mrs. Angela C. Chastain
	Mr. Robert Coppola
	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach
	Mr. David A. Lawson
	Mr. Dave Littlefield
	Mr. David R. Shaffer
	Mrs. Daniele Shook
	Mr. John Spatola
	Mrs. Theresa Volinski

Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools
	Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources
	Mr. Gregg Miller, Director of Fiscal Services
	Ms. Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology
	Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager
	Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal, New Milford High School

1.	Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance The special meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance
2.	RecognitionNMHS Students who achieved Advanced level on all four sections of CAPT:Serina Ahmed, Bethany Balstad, Emma Bergman, Chelsea Buddle, Kevin Bun, Charlotte Chauvin, Emily Chauvin, Meredith Cowan, Anthony D'Andrea, Carly Drost, Giovanna Fusco, Marta Gryb, Christine Habjan, Abigail Hambidge, Gregory Hansell, Rachel Harbert, Teresa Harkin, Robert Holub, Melanie Horkan, Jedidiah Kang, Stephen Kipp, Carly KleinStern, Sean Kunic, Kathleen Lewis, Zachary Polley, Charles Price, Timothy Rehm, Annie Robbins, Tatiana Rodriguez, Emilyn Tuomala, Sara Wilton, and Duo Zheng• Dr. Paddyfote read parts of a letter sent to the students from Commissioner of Education	Recognition GEORGE C. BUCKBEE TOEN CLERK BEC 19 A 8: 56 2013 DEC 16 A 8: 56 REW FILFORD CT

## New Milford Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

6. A.	Approval of Minutes Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes 1. Regular Meeting November 12, 2013	Approval of Minutes A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes 1. Regular Meeting November 12, 2013
3.	<ul> <li>The Spanish Honor Society talent show was November 22<sup>nd</sup>.</li> <li>Parent conferences were November 19<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>There will be an instrumental concert at the high school on December 12<sup>th</sup> and a choral concert on December 15<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>The Art Show will be December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>The NAMES program took place on December 5<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>Winter athletics have started.</li> <li>An incoming freshman orientation will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>	Student Representatives Report
4.	<ul> <li>PTO Report</li> <li>Mrs. Romaniello congratulated the new officers and new Board members.</li> <li>The PTO is working with businesses to increase the group's fundraising.</li> </ul> Student Representatives' Report	PTO Report Student Representatives' Report
3.	<ul> <li>Denise Bard, a New Milford resident with students at John Pettibone School, said she was concerned about the common core standards. She said she felt they will be detrimental to students. She noted one of the people responsible for writing the standards acknowledged that they are designed to get students into a non-competitive two year community college.</li> </ul>	Public Comment
2	Stefan Pryor acknowledging their achievement. The meeting recessed at 7:38 p.m. for a brief reception and reconvened at 7:52 p.m.	Public Comment

	Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting minutes of November 12, 2013, seconded by Mr. Lawson and passed 6-0-3. Aye: Mrs. Chastain, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Shaffer, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Spatola Abstain: Mr. Coppola, Mr. Littlefield, Mrs. Volinski	Motion made and passed to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting minutes of November 12, 2013
7.	Superintendent's Report	Superintendent's Report
	<ul> <li>Dr. Paddyfote noted there are three grant updates under Items of Information including the technology grant, the school security grant, and the LitLinks grant from the Connecticut Community Foundation. She thanked those who worked on these grants.</li> <li>She noted that winter break will start after a full day of school on December 20<sup>th</sup> and school will resume on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.</li> </ul>	
8.	<ul> <li>Board Chairman's Report</li> <li>Mrs. Shook asked Board members to give her their sub-committee requests so that she can reassign members. The sub-committees include grievance, Education Connection, CABE, negotiations, and magnet school liaison as well as the regular Operations, Facilities, Policy and Committee on Learning.</li> <li>The next Board meeting will be the budget presentation in January.</li> <li>Mrs. Shook appointed Mrs. Faulenbach as parliamentarian for the Board.</li> </ul>	Board Chairman's Report
9.	Committee Reports	Committee Reports
А.	<ul> <li>Policy Sub-Committee</li> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach said there is one policy on the agenda for approval and two for second review. The policies for second review will come back to this Board one more time for approval.</li> </ul>	Policy Sub-Committee

B.	Committee on Learning	Committee on Learning
	<ul> <li>Mr. Lawson said there are two curricula on the agenda for approval and two requests for approval of new courses. The Sub-committee discussed the five year curriculum plan as well as declining SAT scores and SAT prep classes.</li> <li>The Wellness Committee gave a report on the concerns they have for Schaghticoke Middle School physical activity.</li> </ul>	
C.	Negotiations Committee	Negotiations Committee
	<ul> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach said the Administrators' award has been received through arbitration.</li> <li>The paraeducators union has gone through mediation and ratification of the contract is expected December 19<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>Mr. Spatola asked if he could raise a question about comments Mr. Lawson and Mr. Shaffer made at a sub-committee meeting.</li> <li>Mr. Lawson asked to amend his report to say they also heard a presentation on the AP Economics course but had concerns with the way it was presented.</li> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach noted the sub-committee reports are for reporting information only and not discussion. If someone had a comment they should speak to the Chair so they can address it at the sub-committee level.</li> </ul>	
10.	Discussion and Possible Action	Discussion and Possible Action
А.	Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 10, 2013	A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 10, 2013
	Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non-Certified, Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 10, 2013, seconded by Mr. Lawson.	Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non- Certified, Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence
	<ul> <li>Mr. Lawson said he was concerned about the mid-year resignations of coaches and asked if</li> </ul>	dated December 10, 2013

there was anything that the Board should be aware of. Ms. Baldelli said the coaches left for personal reasons.

- Mr. Coppola said he did not realize that coaches needed permits and asked what was needed to act as a coach and Ms. Baldelli said the permit is issued by the State Department of Education and coaches must take a 45 hour course offered through the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. They must receive first aid and CPR certification and take a separate head concussion course. Mr. Coppola asked how ability was shown and Ms. Baldelli said that was determined during the interview process.
- B. The motion passed unanimously.

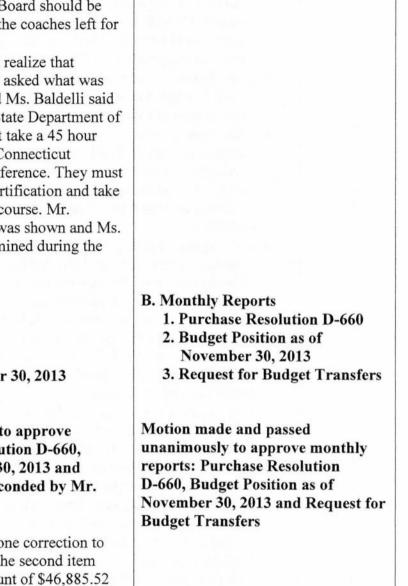
#### **Monthly Reports**

1. Purchase Resolution D-660

- 2. Budget Position as of November 30, 2013
- 3. Request for Budget Transfers

Mrs. Faulenbach made a motion to approve monthly reports: Purchase Resolution D-660, Budget Position as of November 30, 2013 and Request for Budget Transfers, seconded by Mr. Lawson.

- Mr. Miller noted there was one correction to the purchase resolution for the second item from the bottom in the amount of \$46,885.52 and said due to the size of the purchase it requires a bid. This will come back before the Board in January.
- Mr. Spatola had several questions including the Omni Data Mobility Access Switches, the tuition per mediation agreement, the retainer for Pullman and Comley, and the amounts paid to Attorneys Meredith and Ledick. He was concerned that the legal account was 100% encumbered and wondered how much more might be needed throughout the year.
- Mr. Miller said the legal fees are not proportionately distributed equally in that three



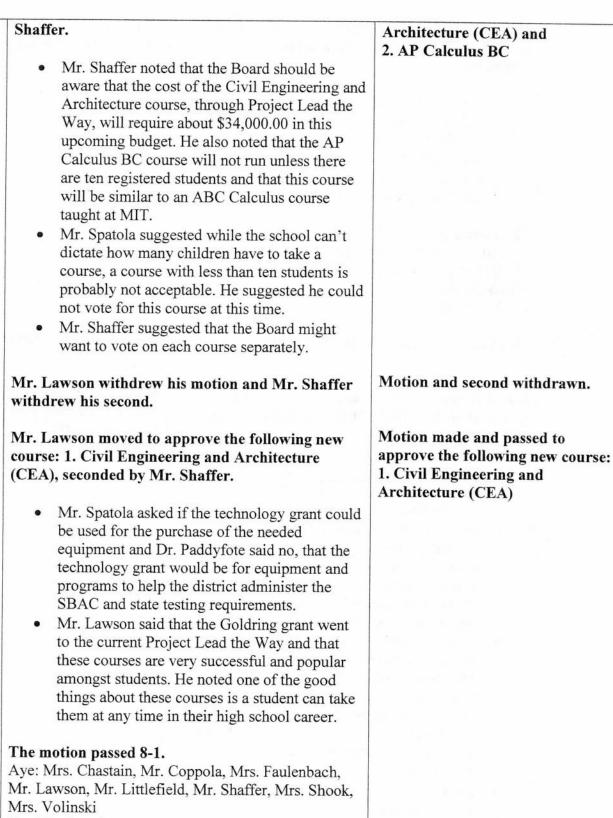
of the four bargaining units' charges were front loaded. He said he had no firm prediction as to what would be needed to get to the end of the year but suggested \$75,000.00

- Mr. Spatola asked when the teacher contract would be negotiated and Dr. Paddyfote said that is typically not done until the summer.
- Mr. Spatola asked about the attorney fees for arbitration and Dr. Paddyfote noted that during arbitration, a neutral party is brought in for which each side pays half, the Board hires an attorney and the bargaining unit hires their own attorney.
- Mr. Spatola asked about the tuition per mediation agreement and Dr. Paddyfote said special education due process provides mediation between the parties and often a settlement is reached prior to a full due process hearing. The parent in this case was looking for compensation over \$100,000.00 but eventually a settlement was reached for significantly less than the settlement amount.
- Mr. Spatola was concerned that the substitute teacher line is 31% at budget with only 20% of the year gone by. Mr. Miller said the account is tracking at an unfavorable pace right now as compared to the same time last year at this point. Ms. Baldelli said there is a larger than usual number of staff out on leave, including child rearing requests, but there are also some teachers on sick leave. She noted that some are on paid leave which means that funds come from the substitute account and there are some who are on unpaid leave.
- Mr. Spatola asked what the 1215 Transition 18 to 21 program was and Dr. Paddyfote said this was part of the prior Education for All Handicapped Children Act, now IDEA, which said the schools are responsible for special education students to age 21.
- Mr. Miller noted that the office budgeted for three tuition students in this program but currently only one is enrolled so this line is short \$35,000.00
- Mr. Spatola asked in the future that these

Page 6

requests include the account number, account name and how much was left in the account. Mr. Miller said there will be other transfers coming forward since the budget was put together a year ago and numbers have changed. Mr. Lawson asked how the energy costs were looking and Mr. Miller said the electricity and natural gas were on track but that a delivery of #2 fuel oil had just been received at Schaghticoke which was 26 days earlier than last year but for budgetary purposes the district should be okay as 113,000 gallons of fuel oil were requested in the budget. The motion passed unanimously. The motion passed unanimously. C. Gifts and Donations C. **Gifts and Donations** 1. PTO – Exhibit B 1. PTO – Exhibit B 2. Special Olympics CT, Inc. -2. Special Olympics CT, Inc. – Exhibit C Exhibit C Motion made and passed to accept Mr. Coppola moved to accept Gifts and Donations: Gifts and Donations: PTO - Exhibit PTO - Exhibit B in the amount of \$2,910.00 and B in the amount of \$2,910.00 and Special Olympics CT, Inc. - Exhibit C in the Special Olympics CT, Inc. - Exhibit amount of \$1,500.00, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach, C in the amount of \$1,500.00 Mr. Coppola and Mr. Lawson thanked both groups for their contributions. The motion passed 8 - 0 - 1. Aye: Mr. Coppola, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Shaffer, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Spatola, Mrs. Volinski Abstain: Mrs. Chastain **D.** Approval of the Following D. Approval of the Following Curricula Curricula 1. Creative Writing 1. Creative Writing 2. Diverse Voices 2. Diverse Voices Motion made and passed Mr. Lawson moved to approve the following unanimously to approve the Curricula: 1. Creative Writing and 2. Diverse following Curricula: 1. Creative Voices, seconded by Mr. Shaffer. Writing and 2. Diverse Voices Mr. Spatola noted the plot overview in Beloved

was an interesting topic and the course was well written. He felt the Diverse Voices course provided rigor. He wondered, however, why the Creative Writing course was not offered to 11<sup>th</sup> graders for college essay assistance. Mr. Lawson said the English classes addressed the composition of the college essay early enough in the year for early admission if necessary. The motion passed unanimously. E. Policy for Approval E. **Policy for Approval** 1. 3541 Transportation Services 1. 3541 Transportation Services Motion made and passed Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve the following unanimously to approve the policy: 3541 Transportation Services, seconded by following policy: 3541 Mr. Lawson and passed unanimously. **Transportation Services** F. Policies for Second Review F. **Policies for Second Review** 1. 1250 Visits to the Schools 1. 1250 Visits to the Schools 2. 5131.111 Conduct: Camera 2. 5131.111 Conduct: Camera Surveillance Surveillance Mrs. Shook noted these policies are not up for adoption this evening; this is only the second review. Mr. Coppola said he had a problem with the language in policy 1250 in that it seemed less welcoming to volunteers. He felt the schools wanted volunteers and parents to visit and feel welcome doing so. Mrs. Chastain said she felt the wording was not welcoming to parents visiting. Mrs. Faulenbach said the Policy Sub-committee will look to see if they can make the wording more welcoming. G. Request for New Program or G. **Request for New Program or Course** Course 1. Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA) 1. Civil Engineering and 2. AP Calculus BC Architecture (CEA) 2. AP Calculus BC Motion made and withdrawn to Mr. Lawson moved to approve the following new courses: 1. Civil Engineering and Architecture approve the following new courses: (CEA) and 2. AP Calculus BC, seconded by Mr. 1. Civil Engineering and



No: Mr. Spatola

stay on top of the curriculum.

Mr. Lawson moved to approve the following new Motion made and passed to course: AP Calculus BC, seconded by Mr. approve the following new course: Littlefield. **AP** Calculus BC Mrs. Chastain said this course did provide rigor and that children at the top often feel left out. She felt this course should be offered regardless of a ten student enrollment or not. Mr. Littlefield and Mrs. Faulenbach both felt this course needed to be offered The motion passed 8-1. Ave: Mrs. Chastain, Mr. Coppola, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Littlefield, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Spatola, Mrs. Volinski No: Mr. Shaffer H. Five Year Curriculum Plan H. Five Year Curriculum Plan (2013 – 2018) (2013 - 2018)Motion made and passed to Mrs. Chastain moved to approve the Five Year approve the Five Year Curriculum Curriculum Plan (2013-2018), seconded by Mrs. Plan (2013-2018) Faulenbach. Mr. Coppola was concerned that the math program will be completely different and all new materials will be needed. Mr. Lawson said presently the math coaches are making this program work. There might be a need for professional development for the future for teachers. He said the committee has not been satisfied with the materials being promoted by the large publishers. • Dr. Paddyfote said there will be placeholder materials in the K-6 budget. Mr. Coppola asked if this plan was set in stone or a work in progress and Dr. Paddyfote said this is a concept which changes as new things are brought to the attention of the teachers and administrators including changes in common core standards. Mr. Lawson said due to budget cuts curriculum writing has taken hits over the years. This is now in a five year review so that the Board can

## New Milford Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

	<ul> <li>He did not think he could vote for this \$110,000.00 expenditure.</li> <li>Mr. Lawson noted that as a teacher, he leans on curriculum, especially in changing times. He also said the New Milford curriculum has some unique features including character education built into each one.</li> <li>Mr. Coppola said he did not feel this was a clear road map and so he would not support it.</li> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach said that this is not an actual vote to spend the money, that everything is on the table during budget time, but this provides a concept, an idea of where the district is heading.</li> <li>The motion passed 7-2.</li> <li>Aye: Mrs. Chastain, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Shaffer, Mrs. Shook, Mrs. Volinski No: Mr. Coppola, Mr. Spatola</li> </ul>	The motion passed 7-2.
11. A.	Items for Information and Discussion Field Trip Report	Items for Information and Discussion A. Field Trip Report

B.	Technology Grant Update	B. Technology Grant Update
	• Mr. Coppola asked if there was a match required on these grants and Dr. Paddyfote said there was not on the technology grant but there was on the security grant which includes money already spent to upgrade school security.	
C.	2013 School Security Grant Program Update	C. 2013 School Security Grant Program Update
D.	CT Community Foundation LitLinks Grant Update	D. CT Community Foundation LitLinks Grant Update
E.	Minimum Wage Increase	E. Minimum Wage Increase
12.	Adjourn	Adjourn
	Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m., seconded by Mr. Littlefield and passed unanimously.	Motion made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Agela C. Chastain

Angela C. Chastain Secretary New Milford Board of Education