

New Milford Board of Education  
 Regular Meeting Minutes  
 February 11, 2014  
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

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NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Daniele Shook, Chairperson Mrs. Angela C. Chastain Mr. Robert Coppola Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. David A. Lawson Mr. Dave Littlefield Mr. David R. Shaffer Mr. John W. Spatola Mrs. Theresa Volinski
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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Gregg Miller, Director of Fiscal Services Mrs. Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager Dr. Len Tomasello, Principal, Sarah Noble Intermediate School Mrs. Dana Ford, Principal, Schaghticoke Middle School
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1.	<b>Call to Order</b> <b>A. Pledge of Allegiance</b> The regular 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.	<b>Call to Order</b> <b>Pledge of Allegiance</b>
2.	<b>Recognition</b>  <b>A. Geography Bee Winners: Louis Chiarito (SNIS), Lee Conlu (SNIS) and Caitlin Leib (SMS)</b>  <b>B. VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Winner: Lukas Kugler (SMS)</b>  <b>C. Peace Poster Contest Winner: Sarah Morris (SNIS)</b>  <b>D. School Bus Safety Poster Contest Winner: Kelsey Stewart (SNIS)</b>	<b>Recognition</b>  <b>A. Geography Bee Winners: Louis Chiarito (SNIS), Lee Conlu (SNIS) and Caitlin Leib (SMS)</b>  <b>B. VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Winner: Lukas Kugler (SMS)</b>  <b>C. Peace Poster Contest Winner: Sarah Morris (SNIS)</b>  <b>D. School Bus Safety Poster Contest Winner: Kelsey Stewart (SNIS)</b>

<p>E.</p>	<p><b>2016 Nutmeg Book Award Intermediate Selection Committee Student Reader: Jackson Zavatsky (SNIS)</b></p> <p>Principals Len Tomasello (SNIS) and Dana Ford (SMS) were present to congratulate their respective students. The meeting recessed at 7:41 p.m. for a brief reception and reconvened at 7:55 p.m.</p>	<p><b>E. 2016 Nutmeg Book Award Intermediate Selection Committee Student Reader: Jackson Zavatsky (SNIS)</b></p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Denise Bard, a New Milford resident, said in her opinion the common core standards will be detrimental to children. It is an unfunded mandate with high stakes testing. She said she is concerned that parents will not have access to the data on their own children. She went online to look at some of the questions on the smarter balanced assessment and found the questions confusing and undermining of parental authority. She said she has opted out of smarter balanced testing for her daughter. She feels the standards are not about education.</li> <li>• Michelle Duffany, a New Milford resident, said she has concerns about the common core. She has had students in New Milford schools for 20 years. Her two oldest children have graduated from college and she has always trusted New Miford's teachers to do what is best for her children. She currently has an 11<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grader. She noted that 15 years ago the Everyday Math was adopted as the new way to raise test scores and now the common core is coming in to replace that. She asked if the common core followed the strategic plan for the schools. She feels that parents have lost a voice in their children's education.</li> <li>• Lisa Jackson, a New Milford resident, asked how the smarter balanced testing would drive classroom instruction in this current academic year. She also asked how this would benefit the students in this academic year and why the students will need to take the time to take a test of a test.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>

4.	<p><b>PTO Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was none.</li> </ul>	PTO Report
5.	<p><b>Student Representatives' Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was none.</li> </ul>	Student Representatives' Report
6.	<p><b>Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p>A. <b>Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Special Annual Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013</b></li> <li>2. <b>Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013</b></li> <li>3. <b>Special Meeting Minutes January 7, 2014</b></li> <li>4. <b>Budget Hearing/Adoption Minutes January 22, 23, 28 and 29, 2014</b></li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked if it was possible in the future to make separate motions to approve minutes and Mrs. Shook said it was.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Coppola moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Annual Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013          Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013          Special Meeting Minutes January 7, 2014          Budget Hearing/Adoption Minutes January 22, 23, 28 and 29, 2014, seconded by Mr. Lawson.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Spatola thanked the secretary for the wonderful job done on the budget minutes.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed 8-0-1.</b></p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Chastain, Mr. Coppola, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Shaffer, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Spatola          Abstain: Mrs. Volinski</p>	<p><b>Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p>A. <b>Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Special Annual Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013</b></li> <li>2. <b>Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013</b></li> <li>3. <b>Special Meeting Minutes January 7, 2014</b></li> <li>4. <b>Budget Hearing/Adoption Minutes January 22, 23, 28 and 29, 2014</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Motion made and passed to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Annual Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013          Special Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013          Special Meeting Minutes January 7, 2014          Budget Hearing/Adoption Minutes January 22, 23, 28 and 29, 2014.</b></p>
7.	<p><b>Superintendent's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Paddyfote said there was a Magnet School Advisory Council meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.</li> </ul>	Superintendent's Report

	<p>Seventeen New Milford students attend the school. They have decided not to raise tuition for next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On February 12<sup>th</sup> the Board of Finance and Town Council will meet to review the Town and Board of Education audit.</li> <li>• To date there have been five snow days which means the last day of school is Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• The schools will be in recess on February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>	
8.	<p><b>Board Chairman's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Shook said the Board of Finance and Town Council will meet to hear the Board of Education budget on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the E. Paul Martin Meeting Room of Town Hall.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked if Mrs. Shook wanted Board members to attend and she said she did.</li> <li>• On February 26<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Shook and Dr. Paddyfote will meet to put together a plan to present the budget to the joint Boards.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Board Chairman's Report</b></p>
9.	<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked for a point of information on how he, as a Board member, could ask a question about a sub-committee meeting if he could not ask at the sub-committee meeting itself or at the Board meeting. He felt the rules of the Board limited his ability to ask questions.</li> <li>• Mrs. Shook said if the item discussed in the sub-committee was on the agenda for discussion and possible action, the questions could be asked at that time.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked if the item was not on the agenda did he, as a Board member, have the right to ask questions during the sub-committee reports and Mrs. Shook said the sub-committee reports were for reports only but if Mr. Coppola had a question he could ask the sub-committee chair.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Coppola noted he could not talk at a sub-committee meeting if he was not a member, and if public comment had already passed, he did not see where he had an opportunity to ask questions on an item.</li> <li>• Mr. Shaffer noted most Board members read the sub-committee minutes online and some of the items discussed might raise questions.</li> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach said the sub-committees only have four members so as to avoid a Board quorum. She said Board members can go to the Board Chair as well as sub-committee chairs to ask for items to be placed on an agenda.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked if he needed three members of the Board to request an item on the agenda and Mrs. Faulenbach said yes, three members of the Board, but not necessarily members of the same sub-committee. She noted the reason this rule was in place was to allow the public to know what items would be discussed in advance on the agenda.</li> <li>• Mr. Spatola asked if he had a question on a sub-committee report could he discuss it during this part of the agenda and Mr. Lawson said he could ask for clarification on an item.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola said he did not like the way the Board is operating but asked if he could e-mail a sub-committee chair without going through the Board Chair first. Mrs. Shook said he could certainly e-mail a sub-committee chair but asked that she be included in the communication.</li> </ul> <p><b>A. Facilities Sub-Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Littlefield said they discussed three items including the building use fee structure which was on tonight's agenda, the security update, and the winter maintenance updates which were already done.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Operations Sub-Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach said almost all the items discussed were on the agenda for discussion</li> </ul>	<p><b>A. Facilities Sub-Committee</b></p> <p><b>B. Operations Sub-Committee</b></p>
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	<p>and action tonight.</p> <p><b>C. Policy Sub-Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs. Chastain said the first meeting of the year for Policy will be February 25<sup>th</sup> and there was one policy for approval on tonight's agenda.</li> </ul> <p><b>D. Committee on Learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Lawson noted that there will be at least one curriculum to review and approve at the next meeting and a review and update on the State and Federal initiatives.</li> </ul> <p><b>E. Education Connection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Coppola said he had not been made aware of any meetings and Dr. Paddyfote said Dr. Thibodeau typically would come down to meet with him regarding Education Connection and would inform him of meetings.</li> </ul> <p><b>F. Connecticut Boards of Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach noted that Board members should have received an invite to Day on the Hill for March 5<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>G. Negotiations Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mrs. Faulenbach said there were no negotiations ongoing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>C. Policy Sub-Committee</b></p> <p><b>D. Committee on Learning</b></p> <p><b>E. Education Connection</b></p> <p><b>F. Connecticut Boards of Education</b></p> <p><b>G. Negotiations Committee</b></p>
<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion and Possible Action</b></p> <p><b>A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated February 11, 2014</b></p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non-Certified, Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated</p>	<p><b>Discussion and Possible Action</b></p> <p><b>A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated February 11, 2014</b></p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non-</p>

	<p>February 11, 2014, seconded by Mr. Littlefield and passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>B. Bid Award</b>  <b>1. Network Switches</b></p> <p>Mr. Littlefield moved to award the bid for Network Switches to Omni Data, LLC, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Coppola noted there were two items on the bid including the grant and a supplemental request. Ms. Pratt said there is an original five year plan that she is following and the district did not know at the time of the plan how much would be awarded through a grant.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked if there was anything left from the grant and Ms. Pratt said the grant had to be used for network equipment and was exhausted.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked if any more money would be requested in this year's budget and Ms. Pratt said there would not be, and that the project will be 60% complete.</li> </ul> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>C. Monthly Reports</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Purchase Resolutions D-661: dated 12/31/13 and D-662: dated 1/31/14</li> <li>2. Budget Positions dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14</li> <li>3. Requests for Budget Transfers dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14</li> </ol> <p>Mr. Littlefield made a motion to approve monthly reports: D-661: dated 12/31/13 and D-662: dated 1/31/14, Budget Positions dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14, Requests for Budget Transfers dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</p>	<p>Certified, Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated February 11, 2014</p> <p><b>B. Bid Award</b>  <b>1. Network Switches</b></p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to award the bid for Network Switches to Omni Data, LLC.</p> <p><b>C. Monthly Reports</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Purchase Resolutions D-661: dated 12/31/13 and D-662: dated 1/31/14</li> <li>2. Budget Positions dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14</li> <li>3. Requests for Budget Transfers dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14</li> </ol> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve monthly reports: D-661: dated 12/31/13 and D-662: dated 1/31/14, Budget Positions dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14, Requests for Budget Transfers dated 12/31/13 and 1/31/14</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked about uniforms on the purchase resolution in terms of what school, or what purpose, and Mr. Miller said the high school. Mr. Littlefield said cross country uniforms and Ms. Baldelli said girls' basketball uniforms as well.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked how energy costs were looking and Mr. Miller said all the utilities were on track for the budget or slightly below. He said the #2 fuel is a little ahead of last year but there are enough gallons budgeted.</li> <li>• Mr. Coppola thanked Mr. Miller for following through on what he said he would do which is track everything from where it came and the balance anticipated in that account.</li> <li>• Mr. Miller noted there would be a whole new format when the Munis system is implemented.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>D. Gifts &amp; Donations</b>  <b>1. PTO – Exhibit B</b></p> <p><b>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to accept Gifts and Donations: PTO – Exhibit B in the amount of \$3,230.00, seconded by Mr. Shaffer.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Coppola thanked the PTO for what they do to help students.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed 8-0-1.</b>  <b>Aye: Mr. Coppola, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Shaffer, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Spatola, Mrs. Volinski</b>  <b>Abstain: Mrs. Chastain</b></p> <p><b>E. Policy for Approval</b>  <b>1. 5131.111 Conduct: Camera Surveillance</b></p> <p><b>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve the following policy: 5131.111 Conduct: Camera Surveillance, seconded by Mr. Shaffer.</b></p>	<p><b>D. Gifts &amp; Donations</b>  <b>1. PTO – Exhibit B</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed to accept Gifts and Donations: PTO – Exhibit B in the amount of \$3,230.00</b></p> <p><b>E. Policy for Approval</b>  <b>1. 5131.111 Conduct: Camera Surveillance</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following policy: 5131.111 Conduct: Camera Surveillance.</b></p>
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	<p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>F. Use of Buildings: Fee Structure Adjustment</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Coppola moved to approve the Use of Buildings: Fee Structure Adjustment Appendix 2 as of July 1, 2014, seconded by Mrs. Volinski.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Spatola asked what the fees were before and Mr. Calhoun said the parking fee has been added and the custodial and A/V tech fees increased \$1 per hour.</li> <li>• Mr. Spatola asked if this covered the school's costs and Mr. Calhoun said it did.</li> <li>• Mr. Spatola asked if the users had to sign a waiver and Mr. Calhoun said they did.</li> <li>• Mr. Spatola suggested that in addition to the million dollar insurance policy requirement, New Milford Public Schools should be named as an additional insured. Mr. Miller said he would look into this.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>F. Use of Buildings: Fee Structure Adjustment</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the Use of Buildings: Fee Structure Adjustment Appendix 2 as of July 1, 2014.</b></p>
<p><b>11.</b></p> <p><b>A.</b></p>	<p><b>Items for Information and Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Field Trip Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Coppola asked why the procedure of Board approval for field trips had changed. Dr. Paddyfote said the administration would check into the matter and she noted that Board policies are typically changed based on the review and advice of Board Counsel.</li> <li>• Mr. Shaffer thanked Mr. Smith for including upcoming field trips noting often the Board sees them after the fact. Mr. Smith said he is working with the schools on getting the information well in advance.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked about the Science 9-12, June 23<sup>rd</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> out of school to Sherman trip and Mr. Smith said that was part of a consortium grant with Education Connection that involved environmental science projects.</li> <li>• Mrs. Volinski asked if the May 30<sup>th</sup> trip to Six</li> </ul>	<p><b>Items for Information and Discussion</b></p> <p><b>A. Field Trip Report</b></p>

	<p>Flags was a senior class trip and Mr. Smith said it was.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Littlefield explained to Mr. Coppola that the policy around field trips coming to the Board for review was discussed in December and that Mr. Smith was given the authority to approve field trips by the Board.</li> </ul>	
<p>12.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p><b>Executive Session (Anticipated)</b></p> <p><b>Discussion of possible legal action by Board to recover back tuition arising out of residency determination. Executive Session anticipated. The Board may take action on this upon returning to open session.</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Shaffer moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible legal action by the Board to recover back tuition arising out of residency determination and to invite into the session Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools, and Attorney Michael McKeon, seconded by Mr. Spatola and passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>The Board, Dr. Paddyfote and Attorney McKeon entered executive session at 8:45 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>The Board, Dr. Paddyfote and Attorney McKeon returned to public session at 9:12 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Littlefield moved that the Board authorize its legal counsel to commence legal action in order to recover the tuition owed by the family of the students discussed in executive session who attended the New Milford Public Schools despite not being New Milford residents, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</b></p> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>Executive Session (Anticipated)</b></p> <p><b>A. Discussion of possible legal action by Board to recover back tuition arising out of residency determination. Executive Session anticipated. The Board may take action on this upon returning to open session.</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible legal action by the Board to recover back tuition arising out of residency determination and to invite into the session Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools, and Attorney Michael McKeon.</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously that the Board authorize its legal counsel to commence legal action in order to recover the tuition owed by the family of the students discussed in executive session who attended the New Milford Public Schools despite not being New Milford residents.</b></p>
<p>13.</p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>

	<b>Mr. Coppola moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m., seconded by Mr. Littlefield and passed unanimously.</b>	<b>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.</b>
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Respectfully submitted:



Angela Chastain  
Secretary  
New Milford Board of Education