


**New Milford Board of Education  
 Regular Meeting Minutes  
 April 24, 2018  
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	Mr. David A. Lawson, Chairman Mrs. Angela C. Chastain Mr. Bill Dahl Mr. Joseph Failla Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mrs. Eileen P. Monaghan Mr. J.T. Schemm	RECEIVED TOWN CLERK  2018 APR 27 A 8:28
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NEW MILFORD, CT

Also Present:	Mr. Joshua Smith, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Ms. Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Operations and Fiscal Services Mr. Kevin Munrett, Facilities Director Mr. Nestor Aparicio, Assistant Facilities Director Mrs. Anne Bilko, Principal, Sarah Noble Intermediate School Mrs. Paula Kelleher, Principal, Hill and Plain Elementary School Dr. Christopher Longo, Principal, Schaghticoke Middle School Mrs. Susan Murray, Principal, Northville Elementary School Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal, New Milford High School  Ms. Elizabeth Meskill, Student Representative Mr. Gregory Winkelstern, Student Representative
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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>A. Pledge of Allegiance</b>
2.	<b>Recognition</b>  <b>A. NMHS Art Students: Maya Addison, Fiona Alexander, Nicholas Arlands, Katherine Clawson, Jenna Epstein, Justin Forero, Kristen Kornhaas, Liam Lacey, Colleen Ryan, Hunter Sloane, Jefferson Vieira, Cassandra Way, Michaela Zegarelli,</b>	<b>Recognition</b>  <b>A. NMHS Art Students: Maya Addison, Fiona Alexander, Nicholas Arlands, Katherine Clawson, Jenna Epstein, Justin Forero, Kristen Kornhaas, Liam</b>

	<p><b>Karolina Zimny, and Emma Street</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Smith and NMHS art teacher Annette Marcus congratulated the students on their recognition.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. NMPS Stars of the Month: Denise Ambrose-Arnauckas, Christine Benson, Jennifer Chmielewski, Jack Ducey, Theresa McGuinness, Ann Marie Tozzi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Smith read a comment about each Star from the person who nominated them. They each received a pin recognizing their nomination and Denise Ambrose-Arnauckas was randomly selected to drive the Ingersoll Automotive Courtesy Car for the month.</li> </ul> <p>The meeting recessed at 7:42 p.m. for a brief reception and reconvened at 7:49 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Lacey, Colleen Ryan, Hunter Sloane, Jefferson Vieira, Cassandra Way, Michaela Zegarelli, Karolina Zimny, and Emma Street</b></p> <p><b>B. NMPS Stars of the Month: Denise Ambrose-Arnauckas, Christine Benson, Jennifer Chmielewski, Jack Ducey, Theresa McGuinness, Ann Marie Tozzi</b></p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heather Byrd, a third grader, spoke about what is important to her at school including art, music and gym. She said these classes are important because they help kids figure out what they want to be when they are adults. She said she participates in many clubs like computer science, chess and yoga. Teachers help the children in many ways.</li> <li>Aaron Byrd, a third grader, spoke about specials at school such as art, gym, intramurals, music, and chorus. He said art teachers should get more respect because they work hard to teach kids about art. He said art teachers should be paid more. He said gym teachers teach basketball, volleyball and badminton and deserve more respect. He said music teachers deserve more respect as they teach students how to play instruments like recorder and xylophone. He felt specials and recess should be longer.</li> <li>Megan Byrd, a New Milford resident, thanked the Board for listening to her children who spoke just prior. She acknowledged the difficult task</li> </ul>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>

	<p>the Board has maintaining programming while absorbing the existing cuts, assuming the referendum passes. She urged the Board to look for ways to increase revenue such as pay to play, even at Sarah Noble. She suggested the Board get even more aggressive in risk taking. She asked the Board to work closer with the Town to consolidate costs. She also said community members should be engaged to brainstorm ideas for outside the box thinking. She noted the budget referendum will be May 15th.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>PTO Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathleen Lewis, Town wide PTO President, said the end of the school year is quickly approaching, and the PTO is still hard at work. All the schools are still trying to raise those last few dollars to benefit the students in our schools. Schaghticoke’s Flamingo Flock fundraiser begins the end of this week, while some of the other schools are doing movie nights and plant sales.</li> <li>• The Grad Party’s Junk in the Trunk is being held this Sunday at the high school. Restaurants in the area will donate 10% of their revenues on select days. Visit All Aboard on May 2nd, Three Brothers Restaurant on May 12th and First and Ten Restaurant on May 16th from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 pm.</li> <li>• Dates have been set for the send-offs for the students who will be moving into new schools as well as some other great events like Touch a Truck, Bingo for Books and Family Fun Night.</li> <li>• It is never too early to start to plan for next school year so the PTO is in the process of recruiting new volunteers and firming up the PTO school boards.</li> <li>• May spirit theme is crazy hair day.</li> </ul>	<p><b>PTO Report</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Student Representative’s Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before spring break the students heard from a guest speaker about social media and how careful students should be when using it.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Student Representative’s Report</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The juniors took the SATs today. AP exam prep has started.</li> <li>• The high school did a presentation of “The Truth About Hate” and students will do one for the staff on May 1st.</li> <li>• April is Jazz Month so the Friday before spring break the jazz band went to Northville and Schaghticoke. This Thursday Jazz Fest will be held at the high school, where the high school ensemble will practice and play together with Sarah Noble and Schaghticoke jazz groups.</li> <li>• Friday is the Jazz Fest at WCSU.</li> <li>• On May 11, the Dramatics Club will perform Friday Night Live with skits written by students.</li> <li>• May 12th is the prom which will be a joint junior and senior event to help cut down the costs of the tickets.</li> <li>• Spanish students recently returned from a community service trip to Peru.</li> <li>• The final week of college decisions for seniors ends May 1st.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6.</b></p> <p><b>A.</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:</b></p> <p><b>1. Special Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Mrs. Monaghan moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>2. Regular Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Mrs. McInerney moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p><b>A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:</b></p> <p><b>1. Special Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018.</b></p> <p><b>2. Regular Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education</b></p>

	<b>Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018, seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously.</b>	<b>Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018.</b>
7.	<p><b>Superintendent's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Smith said the SATs started today and the Smarter Balance testing is ongoing too.</li> <li>• The spring break included all five days despite the large number of snow days this year.</li> <li>• There will be events at all schools almost every day now until the end of the school year as we count down to the last day.</li> <li>• Mr. Smith shared a success story of a student who graduated through Adult Education who went on to graduate from college and recently served as the representative for that college at the College Fair in New Milford.</li> <li>• Mr. Smith said they determined the root cause for the graduation rate having dropped to 82%. He said there were 25 students in the special education program who graduated the same time but, in the past, their information was entered later. He said the State reporting window changed and their number can no longer be edited as it had been in the past. He said if those students were counted the graduation rate would be 89%. This is an internal process that will be corrected moving forward.</li> <li>• The high school graduation is set for June 23rd.</li> </ul>	<b>Superintendent's Report</b>
8.	<p><b>Board Chairman's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson said the referendum is set for May 15th for the Town and School budgets.</li> <li>• Talks are continuing with the Mayor's office to resolve the shortfall in state funding by June 30th.        The General Assembly is talking about restoring some ECS funding grants to schools in next year's budget and he is cautiously optimistic.</li> </ul>	<b>Board Chairman's Report</b>
9.	<b>Committee And Liaison Reports</b>	<b>Committee And Liaison Reports</b>

<p><b>A.</b></p> <p><b>B.</b></p> <p><b>C.</b></p> <p><b>D.</b></p>	<p><b>Facilities Sub-Committee – Mr. McCauley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mr. McCauley said they discussed the roof thermal scan report. They have a window of time in which to discuss repairs that might be needed. Overtime was discussed and it will not have too much impact on this year's budget.</li></ul> <p><b>Operations Sub-Committee – Mrs. Faulenbach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mrs. Faulenbach said they are still working with the Town to close the \$450,000 gap and they discussed how the capital reserve works and what is in it. There are three parts to the capital reserve - the Town, the Board and the turf field. The Board has \$926,102 in the capital reserve. They discussed the monthly reports and possibly putting money aside for turf field replacement.</li></ul> <p><b>Policy Sub-Committee – Mr. Schemm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mr. Schemm said they discussed the 1000 series and sent some for legal review. They discussed adding some language from the mission statement in policy 1000. Policy 1110.1 mentions No Child Left Behind which has now sunset; the new law is Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Policy 1112 uses the word "broadcast" and they discussed different words to use instead. There are crosslinks between the 9000 series and the 1000 series. They discussed graduation requirements. They also talked about the age of the 2000 series policies and that they may be dated as such.</li></ul> <p><b>Committee on Learning – Mrs. McInerney</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mrs. McInerney said they discussed two new curricula. She said Ms. DiCorpo said the eleventh grade students attended "The Truth About Hate" program which extends the NAMES programming. They heard a presentation on TEAM which is the mentoring program that was once funded by the State but is</li></ul>	<p><b>Facilities Sub-Committee</b></p> <p><b>Operations Sub-Committee</b></p> <p><b>Policy Sub-Committee</b></p> <p><b>Committee on Learning</b></p>
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	<p>no longer funded and is still a mandate. New Milford is working with EdAdvance to keep the program active.</p> <p><b>E. EdAdvance – Mr. McCauley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no report as the liaison spot is open.</li> </ul> <p><b>F. Connecticut Boards of Education (CABE) – Mr. Lawson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson said CABE is lobbying heavily to restore funding to schools but the decision must be made soon since the session ends May 9th.</li> </ul> <p><b>G. Negotiations Committee – Mrs. Faulenbach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach said they are negotiating with the secretarial bargaining unit.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson said they are reviewing the process for ongoing negotiations as well.</li> </ul> <p><b>H. Magnet School – Mrs. Monaghan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Monaghan said they spoke about having a spring meeting but it has not been set yet.</li> </ul>	<p><b>E. EdAdvance</b></p> <p><b>F. Connecticut Boards of Education (CABE)</b></p> <p><b>G. Negotiations Committee</b></p> <p><b>H. Magnet School</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 April 24, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Mrs. McInerney moved to approve Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence as of April 24, 2018, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</b></p> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>B. Monthly Reports</b>  <b>1. Budget Position</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 April 24, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence as of April 24, 2018.</b></p> <p><b>B. Monthly Reports</b>  <b>1. Budget Position</b></p>

	<p><b>2. Purchase Resolution: D-709</b>  <b>3. Request for Budget Transfers</b></p> <p><b>Mr. McCauley moved to approve monthly reports: Budget Position dated March 31, 2018; Purchase Resolution D-709; and Request for Budget Transfers, seconded by Mrs. McInerney.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Schemm asked if numbers will move at the end of April and Mr. Smith said in two weeks they will have the numbers for Operations. He said they need a strong picture to see if they can cover the \$450,000 request from the Town.</li> <li>• Mrs. Faulenbach noted the budget shortfall is not just the state shortfall but the excess costs difference as well.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson said the total number is \$650,000. Mr. Smith said the Town has asked for \$450,000 and the decrease in excess costs might be about \$200,000.</li> <li>• Mr. Schemm said procedurally there must be items that can't be encumbered and Mr. Smith said they will go until June 26th when school ends. He said they are not filling positions in the certified salary line right now.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>C. Gifts &amp; Donations</b>  <b>1. PTO – Exhibit B</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Lawson moved to accept Gifts and Donations: PTO – Exhibit B in the amount of \$10,121.27, seconded by Mr. McCauley.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson thanked the PTO for their wonderful donations.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>D. Approval of the Following Curricula</b>  <b>1. AP Language and Composition</b>  <b>2. Writing Research and Workshop</b></p>	<p><b>2. Purchase Resolution: D-709</b>  <b>3. Request for Budget Transfers</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve monthly reports: Budget Position dated March 31, 2018; Purchase Resolution: D-709; and Request for Budget Transfers.</b></p> <p><b>C. Gifts &amp; Donations</b>  <b>1. PTO – Exhibit B</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Gifts &amp; Donations: PTO – Exhibit B in the amount of \$10,121.27.</b></p> <p><b>D. Approval of the Following Curricula</b>  <b>1. AP Language and Composition</b></p>
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	<p><b>Mr. Dahl moved to approve the following curricula:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. AP Language and Composition</b></li> <li><b>2. Writing Research and Workshop</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Seconded by Mr. McCauley.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Failla said the presentation for the writing course made it sound very interesting but said part of its design is to help students write their college essays and wondered if this should be offered to juniors versus seniors. He hoped guidance counselors were encouraging juniors to take this course.</li> <li>• Mrs. Chastain agreed that this course should be offered to juniors since said the college essay is being written before the first semester senior year.</li> </ul> <p><b>The motion passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>2. Writing Research and Workshop</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following curricula:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. AP Language and Composition</b></li> <li><b>2. Writing Research and Workshop</b></li> </ol>
<p><b>11.</b></p>	<p><b>Items For Information And Discussion</b></p> <p><b>A. Field Trip Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Schemm asked if the Board could be told the reason for the trips and Ms. DiCorpo said they typically only give the destination but could add a column.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. BOE 2018-2019 Budget Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Smith said they have begun examining areas of the budget to account for the decreases made at the Town level and will present the numbers to the Board in the format of previous years, moving from least impact to highest impact.</li> <li>• Mr. Smith said the Board will have to find \$936,000 assuming the referendum passes. He said they do like outside the box thinking but it can also be complicated, so he asked for ideas</li> </ul>	<p><b>Items For Information And Discussion</b></p> <p><b>A. Field Trip Report</b></p> <p><b>B. BOE 2018-2019 Budget Update</b></p>

	<p>from Board members so they can research the whole picture. Ms. Baldelli and he had met with the teachers whose positions will be cut based on the Board approved budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. McInerney asked how many teachers will be impacted and Mr. Smith answered seven.</li> <li>• Mrs. Monaghan asked how many retirements there might be and Mr. Smith said they have received a couple at this point but there is no deadline.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked if Board members would accept receiving piecemeal budget cut proposals to review ahead of time and Mrs. Faulenbach said to send an e-mail with a relevant subject line since they receive so much information regularly.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>12.</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p> <p><b>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m., seconded by Mr. Dahl and passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.</b></p>

Respectfully submitted:

Angela C. Chastain  
 Secretary  
 New Milford Board of Education