

**New Milford Board of Education
 Special Workshop Meeting
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School—Library Media Center
 June 11, 2007**

Present:	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson
	Dr. Lisa Diamond
	Mr. Joseph Failla
	Mr. David A. Lawson
	Mrs. Dian Traisci-Marandola
	Mrs. Elizabeth Finney (7:12 p.m.)
	Mr. Tom McSherry
	Mr. Joseph Vita

Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools
	Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

1.	<p>The Special Workshop Meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was Called to Order at 7:05 p.m.</p> <p>At this time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p>	Call to Order
2.	<p>Presentation of the Draft Strategic Plan</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote reviewed the process to develop the strategic plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved funding a strategic plan utilizing the Cambridge Group process in October 2006. • The Strategic Planning Team of 26 members comprised of teachers, staff, administrators, parents, business owners, and community members met for 3 days to develop the Draft Plan on Nov. 29-30, and December 1st. • The draft beliefs, mission, objectives, parameters and strategies were presented to the Board in December 2006. • Since that time, seven action teams met to develop the action plans for each of the seven strategies. • The action team leaders presented the draft action plans to the strategic planning team in May. 	Presentation of the Draft Strategic Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The strategic planning team approved the final draft of the plan on May 9 and 10th.• The draft beliefs, mission, objectives, and parameters were reaffirmed by the strategic planning team and presented to the Board via a slide presentation.• Members of the strategic planning team read and commented on the components of the draft plan:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Beliefs—Ann Hartman○ Mission—Irene Kwidzinski○ Objectives—Joan Kick○ Parameters—Mark Haglund• Mr. Mulvihill reviewed the charge given to the action teams. There were seven action teams, one for each strategy.• Maryann Ness and Larry Lieberman reviewed the communication strategy and the work of their action team.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Communication is the backbone of the plan, and it is bridge that connects the vision to the daily operation of the school district.• Joseph Dragone presented the character education strategy.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The district needs to engage parents and collaborative partners in a discussion about character attributes.○ Character education needs to be integrated into all curricula.○ Staff need training.• Marcy Autuori presented the strategy on personalized learning plans.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ All high school students should have personalized learning plans.○ Students K-8 should develop goals and portfolios around their goals.○ Advisories should be developed for students in middle school to high school.○ Career awareness, career exploration and career internships need to be incorporated into the school program at appropriate levels.	
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- **Jeff Ferguson presented the technology strategy.**
 - **Information Communication Technology competencies for the 21st century must be integrated into the curriculum.**
 - **Students should have equal access to technology.**
 - **Students should be aware of the ethical issues around technology.**
 - **Staff training is key to the implementation of this strategy as well as acquisition of technology resources.**
- **J.T. Schemm presented the strategy related to curriculum and instruction.**
 - **The district needs to organize itself in a manner to provide adequate time and the necessary resources for teachers to implement the approved curriculum.**
 - **Teachers should receive professional development to increase the delivery of effective instructional strategies and assessment techniques.**
 - **Effective instruction and analysis of assessment data are important to engage students.**
 - **All of the above stated factors are important in order for the district to meet its strategic objectives.**
- **Ellamae Baldelli presented the strategy related to recruiting, retaining, training and rewarding staff.**
 - **These are some of the recommendations to implement this strategy:**
 - **Advertise broadly**
 - **Ensure salaries and benefits are competitive**
 - **Broaden mentor support**
 - **Offer incentives for graduate work**
 - **Celebrate excellence**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage professional growth opportunities▪ Provide opportunities for parents to continue their careers through leaves, and childcare▪ The Board, Superintendent, and unions should dialogue in between scheduled negotiation periods in order to create a problem-solving atmosphere. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Denise Duggan presented the community support and resources strategy.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The goal is to improve school, family and community partnerships.○ The action plans for this strategy include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Information fairs▪ Directory▪ Newsletters▪ Newspaper calendars of school activities▪ Website links—school to community▪ Alumni Connection▪ Future Considerations—school based healthcare and an educational foundation. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Paddyfote thanked the strategic planning team, the action team leaders and members for all of the hours and work on the draft strategic plan. She also thanked the Board of Education for approving the development of the plan utilizing the Cambridge Group process. <p>The meeting was turned over to the Board for questions and comments.</p> <p>Mrs. Marandola commended the planning committee for the quality of work.</p> <p>Mr. McSherry praised the work of the strategic planning committee and actions teams.</p>	
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	<p>Mrs. Faulenbach praised all of the participants who worked on the strategic plan.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.</p>	
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Respectfully submitted,

**Dian Traisci-Marandola,
Board Secretary**