

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING NOTICE

DATE:	September 8, 2009
TIME:	7:30 P.M.
PLACE:	Lillis Administration Building – Room 2

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. STAFF & STUDENT RECOGNITION

- A. Mrs. Kathleen Shemeley, New Milford Year of the Year 2010
- B. Joshua Jugler, Student Representative to the Board of Education

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board welcomes Public Participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to 3 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Regular Meeting Minutes June 9, 2009
 - 2. Special Board of Education Minutes – June 16, 2009
 - 3. Special Board of Education Minutes – July 14, 2009

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

8. BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Facilities Sub-Committee – Mr. McSherry
- B. Operations Sub-Committee – Mrs. Faulenbach
- C. Policy-Sub-Committee - Mrs. Llerena
- D. Committee on Learning – Mr. Lawson

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. Revised Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence
- B. Monthly Reports
 - 1. Revised Request for Budget Transfers
 - 2. Purchase Resolution D-619
 - 3. Revised Budget Position as of 8 /31/09
- C. Award Bids
 - 1. Leased vehicle for High School Special Education Program
 - 2. Purchase van for Litchfield Hills Transition Center Program
- D. Textbook Approvals for Grade 1
- E. School Resource Officer

11. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

1 Field Trip Report – September 2009

12. ADJOURN

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. Facilities Sub-Committee Minutes—September 1, 2009
2. Operations Sub-Committee Minutes—September 1, 2009

Policy Sub-Committee Meeting September 15, 2009 – 6:30 p.m. Lillis Administration Bldg., Room 2	Board of Education Meeting October 13, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. Sarah Noble Intermediate School – LMC
Committee on Learning September 15, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. Lillis Administration Bldg., Room 2	Policy Sub-Committee Meeting October 20, 2009 – 6:30 p.m. Lillis Administration Bldg., Room 2
Facilities Sub-Committee Meeting October 6, 2009 – 6:30 p.m. Lillis Administration Bldg., Room 2	Committee on Learning October 20, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. Lillis Administration Bldg., Room 2
Operations Sub-Committee Meeting October 6, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. Lillis Administration Bldg., Room 2	

**New Milford Board of Education
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 September 8, 2009
 Lillis Administration Building**

GEORGE C. BUCKDEE
 TOWN CLERK

2009 SEP 10 P 3:25

NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Dr. Lisa Diamond, Board Chair Mr. Thomas McSherry Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mrs. Amy Llerena Mrs. Alexandra Thomas Mr. Bill Wellman Mr. David Lawson Mrs. Julie Turk
Absent:	Mrs. Elizabeth Finney

Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Catherine Richard, Interim Assistant Superintendent Mr. David Elmore, Director of Information Technology Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager Mrs. Dana Ford, Principal, Schaghticoke Middle School Mrs. Adele Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Daniel Holland, Student Representative Josh Jugler, Student Representative
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1.	Call to Order The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance
2.	Staff & Student Recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Diamond welcomed Josh Jugler, the newest student representative to the Board. Dr. Diamond asked Dr. Paddyfote to make the presentation of Teacher of the Year for 2010. Dr. Paddyfote recognized Kathy Shemeley, a third grade teacher at Northville Elementary School as the Teacher of the Year.	Staff & Student Recognition
	Mrs. Thomas moved to recess the meeting at 7:33 pm and reconvene in the Board Room of the Lillis Administration Building, seconded by Mrs. Llerena and passed unanimously. A short recess was held from 7:33 pm until 7:44 pm.	Motion made and passed to recess and reconvene in the Board Room of the Lillis Administration Building
3.	Public Comment There was none.	Public Comment
4.	PTO Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2009-10 will be the 20th anniversary of the PTO and a celebration is being planned for this fall. The PTO is still selling calendars that have all the district events listed and proceeds will go to the scholarship fund. 	PTO Report

5.	<p>Student Representatives' Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 26th was the opening day for school. • September 1-2nd assemblies were held. • September 7th was a summer reading day to be sure students had kept up with the summer reading assignments. • September 8-10th is underclassmen photos. • September 17th will be an open house at the high school. • September 25th the Spanish Honor Society will hold a blood drive. 	Student Representatives' Report
6.	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Mrs. Llerena moved to approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2009, Special Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2009, and the Special Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2009, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed 5-0-3.</p> <p>Ayes: Llerena, McSherry, Faulenbach, Lawson, Diamond Abstain: Thomas, Turk, Wellman</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Motion made and passed to approve minutes from the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2009, Special Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2009, and the Special Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2009.</p>
7.	<p>Superintendent's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote noted the all-staff convocation was held August 25th where the 2010 Teacher of the Year was announced. Dr. Diamond, Mrs. Chastain—PTO President, Mrs. Patella—NMEA President, and Mr. Knipple—Energy Education Manager addressed the staff. • August 26th was the first day of school and it was a smooth opening. There were some bus issues at the end of the day that ran late, but that was to be expected. • The district received notification that the Connecticut budget does include money for the CT Education Network (CEN)—a fiber optic connection for schools and libraries that costs approximately \$30,000 annually to maintain for a school district like New Milford. • On September 10th the school will co-sponsor a public forum on the H1N1 virus at 7 pm at the high school theatre. 	Superintendent's Report
8.	<p>Board Chairman's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Diamond said she had attended the convocation where the teacher of the year was announced. • She also explained the process of how the Board works for the general public. She said there are four subcommittees: facilities, operations, policy and committee on learning. Items are placed on the sub-committee agenda for discussion first and then brought to the Board for further discussion and action. She said there is time for public input at both the subcommittee meetings and the Board meetings. • Mr. Wellman noted that the Board had recently adopted a policy that would exclude members of the Board who are not on the sub-committee from participating in a discussion which might limit discussion at the subcommittee level. 	Board Chairman's Report

<p>9.</p>	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>Facilities Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. McSherry said the facilities committee had been updated on summer projects, security updates and field work at the schools. <p>Operations Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Faulenbach said the operations committee looked at the monthly reports and budget transfers, awarding of bids, and got an update on the high school athletic hall of fame which will culminate in a banquet in 2010. She said the committee also looked at the Town Audit for dependent eligibility for insurance and Mr. Turk presented the approximate end of year balance that is projected to be \$49,000. Mr. Wellman asked if at the Facilities Committee any discussion was held regarding the fact that the Sarah Noble roof, which had been completely replaced this summer, was only 10 years old and were the repairs really necessary. Mr. McSherry said it was not discussed. Mr. Lawson, as parliamentarian, said these items were reports and not meant for discussion. <p>Policy Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Llerena said the committee had finished reviewing and updating the 1000 series in June. The next meeting is September 15th. At the next meeting the Board will be looking at policies that have been updated due to recent changes in the statutes. She also said the reason for the policy change Mr. Wellman referred to under the Board Chairman's report was that Board Counsel suggested that at sub-committee meetings the only people allowed to discuss issues were committee members and not all Board members as that might constitute a quorum of the Board. Board members could certainly come and speak during public participation. <p>Committee on Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Lawson said the next meeting is September 15th and Windows on New Milford will be discussed, as well as curricula that are part of the five-year curriculum plan. 	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>Facilities Committee</p> <p>Operations Committee</p> <p>Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on Learning</p>
<p>10.</p> <p>10A.</p>	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Revised Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence</p> <p>Ms. Baldelli noted that the revisions were coaches at Sarah Noble and Schaghticoke.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence, seconded by Mrs. Thomas.</p>	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Revised Exhibit A</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Revised Exhibit A.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Thomas asked how the school system was doing getting coaches. Ms. Baldelli said the schools were in good shape with almost a full complement. • Mr. Lawson recused himself from the vote. • Mrs. Thomas asked if the schools were in good shape other than coaches to which Ms. Baldelli said other than one special education position at Schaghticoke the schools were in good shape with personnel. <p>Motion passed 6-0-2. Aye: Thomas, McSherry, Diamond, Llerena, Faulenbach, Turk Abstain: Lawson, Wellman</p>	
<p>B.</p>	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revised Request for Budget Transfers 2. Purchase Resolution D-619 3. Revised Budget Position as of 8/31/09 <p>Mr. McSherry moved to approve the Monthly Reports: Revised Request for Budget Transfers, Purchase Resolution D-619 and Budget Position as of 8/31/09, seconded by Mrs. Thomas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Wellman noted in the budget transfer there was a request to purchase an X-Box 360 and a Playstation 3 and he asked for an explanation. • Mrs. Johnson said at the high school there is a behavioral intervention program that has a point system devised by a consultant. These systems are used to motivate students to stay in school. Students can earn points for good behavior which can be used to listen to music on an ipod or play on X-Box. <p>The motion passed 7-1. Aye: Thomas, McSherry, Diamond, Lawson, Llerena, Faulenbach, Turk No: Wellman</p>	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the monthly reports.</p>
<p>C.</p>	<p>Award Bids</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leased Vehicle for High School Special Education Program 2. Purchase van for Litchfield Hills Transition Center Program <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mrs. Thomas moved to award the bid to lease a vehicle at a cost of \$13,000 for the high school special education program to All-Star Transportation, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously. 2. Mr. McSherry moved to award the bid to purchase a van at a cost of \$26,000 for the Litchfield Hills Transition Center Program to All-Star Transportation, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and passed unanimously. 	<p>Award Bids</p> <p>Motion made and approved to award leased vehicle for HS Spec Ed Program</p> <p>Motion made and approved to award van purchase for Litchfield Hills Transition Ctr Prog.</p>

<p>D.</p>	<p>Textbooks Approvals for Grade 1</p> <p>Mr. Lawson moved to approve the textbooks for Grade 1, seconded by Mr. McSherry and passed 7-0-1.</p> <p>Aye: Thomas, McSherry, Diamond, Lawson, Llerena, Faulenbach, Turk Abstain: Wellman</p>	<p>Textbooks Approvals for Grade 1</p> <p>Motion made and approved to approve textbooks for Grade 1</p>
<p>E.</p>	<p>School Resource Officer</p> <p>Mr. McSherry moved to fund the School Resource Officer (SRO) position at Schaghticoke Middle School beginning on November 1, 2009 in the amount of \$54,796 and to approve a transfer of funds from 15-511-2710 to 04-112-2410 to cover this expense, seconded by Mrs. Thomas.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Faulenbach noted these funds were being transferred from the transportation account. • Mr. McSherry said he thought the number was \$82,000 to which Dr. Paddyfote said this number is prorated for November to June 2010. • Mr. Wellman said there was no SRO when his kids went to school when there were three grades at SMS and now there are two grades and a smaller population of students so he wonders what has changed that requires this SRO position. • Dr. Diamond said this change has come about since Columbine and a need for safety in the schools. She said this position brings police into the schools and shows the students the authority of the police; she said the students also have someone they can speak to from the police in a positive way. She said she is unhappy this is not funded by the town as it used to be. • Mr. Lawson said he does not question the effectiveness of the SRO and thought it was a good collaboration between the town and the school community. However, he said he has difficulty understanding why this falls under the Boards' purview to fund. The BOE is responsible for education, the police are responsible for safety. He said if the town is unwilling to fund this position then the Board has no choice but to fund it. • Mrs. Llerena said this is a valuable and important position and she did not feel the Board had any choice but to fund it. • Mrs. Faulenbach said the SRO position had been funded by the town and noted that the town had applied for a grant which it did not get. She felt the Town Council members were supportive of this position. She said it is not easy to find money, but because of some hard work the transportation contract had some savings that would allow the BOE to fund the SRO position. • Mr. McSherry asked if the administration was confident there was enough money in the transportation account to which Dr. Paddyfote replied yes. 	<p>School Resource Officer</p> <p>Motion made and approved to fund the School Resource Officer (SRO) position at Schaghticoke Middle School</p>

- Mr. McSherry asked if there had been any communication with the Chief of Police re: availability of an officer to which Dr. Paddyfote said she had spoken to the chief and there is a procedure that the police department must follow to fill this position. The position must be posted and officers can put in a bid for the slot.
- Mr. McSherry said he felt this position was very important, especially at the middle school.
- Mrs. Turk said if this position does not start until November 1st who is "watching the store?" to which Dr. Paddyfote replied Dana Ford, the principal.
- Mrs. Turk said she looked at the information received from Mrs. Ford and wondered if these functions could be done by someone else, for instance, a counselor to parents and students could be handled by guidance counselors; teaching the US Constitution can be handled by teachers; student advocate to administration can be done by the administration. She noted that over the years the administration has increased and the enrollment has decreased and this needs to stop.
- Mrs. Ford said she was the first Vice Principal in the state to accept an SRO and it was a State Trooper at Nonnewaug. She said students would go to the trooper versus anyone else in the school due to confidentiality issues. Students will not go to guidance counselors and in fact, a student who was assaulted would only go to the officer. The officers also offer a different perspective of what the law means to students at different ages.
- Mr. Wellman suggested the SRO should be in all the schools and not just the high school and middle school if it is indeed an issue of student safety.
- Dr. Paddyfote explained the history of the officers at school and noted the first program was the DARE officer at Schaghticoke and John Pettibone. Then a community policing grant was received and the SRO went to the high school and eventually the middle school. She said the DARE officer and one SRO were taken out of the budget but the Mayor put in \$1 in hopes of getting a grant. When the grants were released in early August, New Milford was not chosen.
- Mr. Lawson said there are about 800 people at the middle school, the majority being teenagers, he said it should not even be a question whether the officer is there or not.
- Mrs. Thomas said the Board does need to support this position and regardless of whether the money comes from the Board or the Town it is New Milford's money. She said she does not want a child's first experience with the police to necessarily be negative and this position allows for positive interaction.
- Mrs. Faulenbach asked if this position has always been funded by a grant to which Dr. Paddyfote responded that the grant was only for the first 3 years.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the SRO also services Northville and Mrs. Ford said that the SRO helps at Northville and the high school when needed. • Mrs. Ford said the officers help with lockdown procedures and internet safety including MySpace and Facebook. • Mr. McSherry said this should be in collaboration with the town and thought that the town did not reduce the police force by these two positions to which Dr. Paddyfote responded that was correct. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
11.	<p>Items for Discussion</p> <p>1. Field Trip Report – September 2009</p> <p>Mr. Wellman asked if there were any costs associated with the Festival of Music in Chicago to which Ms. Richard responded that the Festival was a very prestigious music program and she believed that the band parents covered all the costs for the 3 chaperones and 14 students.</p>	<p>Items for Discussion</p> <p>Field Trip Report—September 2009</p>
12.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m., seconded by Mr. McSherry and passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Adjourn</p>

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Lawson, Secretary
 New Milford Board of Education