

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

FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTICE

DATE: October 7, 2008
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: Lillis Administration Building—Room 2

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment**

The Board welcomes Public Participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to 3 minutes. Speakers may offer objective comments of school operations and programs that concern them. 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.

- 3. Discussion and Possible Action**
 - A. Creative Playground Update**
 - B. Electrical Savings**
 - C. Building Utilization**
 - D. Capital Reserve Request**
 - E. Composting/Recycling Opportunities**
- 4. Adjourn**

Sub-Committee Members: **Mr. Thomas McSherry-Chairman**
Mrs. Amy Llerena
Mrs. Alexandra Thomas
Mrs. Julie Turk

Alternates: **Mrs. Finney**
Mr. Lawson

**New Milford Board of Education
 Facilities Sub-Committee
 October 7, 2008
 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

Present:	Mr. Thomas McSherry, Chairman
	Mrs. Amy Llerena*
	Mrs. Alexandra Thomas*
	Mrs. Julie Turk*
	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach
	Mr. William Wellman
	Dr. Lisa Diamond, ex-officio Board chairperson
	* Sub-Committee Members

Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools
	Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
	Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager
	Mr. Leo Rogoza, Assistant Facilities Manager
	Mr. John Turk, Director of Fiscal Services

1	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Facilities Sub-Committee was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. McSherry.	Call to Order
2	<p>Public Comment:</p> <p>Mrs. Doreen Savran, President and Co-Founder of the Creative Playground, submitted a letter agreeing with the removal of the playground. Mrs. Savran complimented the many volunteers whose efforts erected the playground. The playground for one dollar was turned over for ownership and responsibility of the schools. Mrs. Savran requested that the bronze plaques be removed and placed in a proper location. Personally, Mrs. Savran requested to be allowed to take possession of the tic tac toe board.</p> <p>Barbara Krubsack, Core Committee Member, looked at other playgrounds built about 20 years ago. It is her opinion that the New Milford and Burnham playgrounds are the most neglected. Toronto did a survey of playscapes; results of arsenic testing, depending on the location (vertical or horizontal) of tests, varied significantly. Other playgrounds are managed by Park and Rec. Ms. Krubsack asked to be notified when the playground is removed.</p>	Public Comment

	<p>Mrs. Janice Dobson, Core Committee Member, noted the lack of maintenance of the playground. Robert Leathers suggested parent volunteers could be organized with professional builders lending support for another playground. If another is built, Mrs. Dobson asked that it be named New Milford Creative Playground with existing plaques placed on that site.</p> <p>Jeff Winter complimented the playground committee and further commented on the lack of oversight and maintenance not only for the playground but other sites. He particularly noted for traveling sports teams the comparison of playing fields in New Milford vs. other towns. Mr. Winter suggested the Board of Education should meet at other schools for a first hand look at interior and exterior of those buildings.</p>	
<p>3. 3A.</p>	<p>Discussion and possible action:</p> <p>Creative Playground Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. McSherry explained that no action had been previously taken, removal was recommended. A Playground Safety Inspector Report was distributed referring particularly to ‘condition report’ Mr. McSherry recommended removal of the playground. He noted that at a future date he hoped the Board of Education could be part of a rebuilding project. • Mrs. Llerena inquired if maintenance for the playground was the schools responsibility since the playground was on school property. Mr. McSherry felt it would depend on the source of funding. • Mrs. Dobson asked to be recognized. • Mr. McSherry noted that the committee members do not engage in dialogue with the public during the business portion of the meeting. He asked if committee members objected to recognizing Mrs. Dobson. There were no objections. • Mrs. Dobson added that at the time Pettibone School needed the playground to help with accreditation. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Savran noted that the Town and the school were not able to share ownership of the playground. • Mrs. Faulenbach expressed appreciation of the committee’s work; she would love to see another playground with a clear understanding of who is responsible for maintenance. <p>Mrs. Thomas moved to send to the full Board the recommendation for removal of the playground based on findings in the Playground Safety Inspection Report and further that the three bronze plaques be placed in an appropriate place, that the Tic Tac Toe Board be returned to Mrs. Savran and the original committee members be notified of removal of the playground. Motion seconded by Mrs. Llerena and passed unanimously.</p> <p>The Core Committee Members and Jeff Winter were thanked for their input.</p>	<p>Motion passed unanimously to send recommendation of removal of the playground to the full Board. Motion included reference to Playground Safety Inspection Report; that the three bronze plaques be placed in appropriate place and Tic Tac Toe Board be returned to Mrs. Savran and original committee be notified of removal.</p>
3B.	<p>Electrical savings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. McSherry thanked Mr. Turk for preparation of the historical electricity costs report for periods 2001-2002 through 2007-2008 showing an incredible reduction of almost two million KWH. • Mr. Turk commented that during this time there has been an increase in students, equipment and usage of buildings. • Mrs. Thomas asked that the team involved in bringing about these savings be recognized. 	<p>Electrical Savings</p>
3C.	<p>Building utilization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Calhoun commented that every available space of schools that could be utilized is done so with the result that maintenance and security have increased. Fields are used to the extent that there is no rest time. • Mr. Calhoun is not looking to make policy changes, but would suggest blocking out time for maintenance for preparation of the next academic day. This past year 11,000 events were held. • Mrs. Llerena stressed the need to allow people to find another suitable site. 	<p>Building Utilization</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Calhoun’s suggestion would be for future events. • Mrs. Turk asked about recurring large events which bring in revenue. Mr. Calhoun answered it’s primarily from outside commercial groups using the theater. • Mrs. Turk suggested an annual calendar well in advance. • Mr. Calhoun plans to utilize a new scheduling system and he expects to put it on the school’s website. • Mrs. Faulenbach asked if other school’s fields are used in addition to the high school. Mr. Calhoun stated all fields are being used. • Mr. Wellman commented that demand rises and falls with cost – should fees be raised? • Mr. Calhoun agreed that some groups would drop off with fees raised. Mr. Wellman asked if maintenance work could be shifted to night scheduling. Mr. Calhoun noted that issue is being looked into. 	
3D	<p>Capital Reserve Request</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The itemized list of facilities’ projects were cut from the 2008-09 budget and are included in this request. 	Capital Reserve Request
3E	<p>Composting/Recycling Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Turk, John Calhoun and Sandra Sullivan are serving as a committee to explore this topic. No other school district has been approached by Garick Composting, a local company. Mr. Turk noted the need for \$5-6,000 for cost benefit analysis. • Mr. Calhoun commented that with this system no garbage will be leaving the building. • Mr. Turk explained Garick Composting is working with local haulers for transportation. • Mrs. Llerena asked about the necessity of the cost benefit analysis. Mr. Turk noted that possibly the committee could rough out the costs. • Mr. McSherry added that Garick Composting is currently working on an odor problem. 	Composting/Recycling Opportunities

4	Adjourn Mrs. Llerena moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Motion passed unanimously.	Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. passed unanimously.
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Respectfully submitted,

Thomas McSherry, Chairman
Facilities Sub-Committee