

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

POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTICE

DATE: March 18, 2014
TIME: 6:45 P.M.
PLACE: Lillis Administration Building, Rm. 2

AGENDA

New Milford Public Schools Mission Statement

The mission of the New Milford Public Schools, a collaborative partnership of students, educators, family, and community, is to prepare each and every student to compete and excel in an ever-changing world, embrace challenges with vigor, respect and appreciate the worth of every human being, and contribute to society by providing effective instruction and dynamic curriculum, offering a wide range of valuable experiences, and inspiring students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

The Board welcomes Public Participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to three 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.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items

A. Policy Recommended for Revision:

1. 1250 Visits to the Schools

4. Items of Information

- A. Follow up on Policy 3542.45 Vending Machines
- B. Follow up on Regulation 3152 Spending Public Funds for Advocacy
- C. School Security and Safety Plans

5. Adjourn

Sub-Committee Members: Angela C. Chastain, Chairperson
David A. Lawson
Dave Littlefield
David R. Shaffer

Alternates: Wendy Faulenbach
John W. Spatola

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NEW MILFORD, CT

RECOMMENDED FOR REVISION

Commentary March 2014: The following policy revisions incorporate the concerns discussed at the February 25th policy sub-committee meeting. The phrase “and strongly encourage” as well as the word “encourage” in (1) below have been put back in. Alternative language has been suggested in (1) below to emphasize the desire to encourage parental and familial visits.

1250(a)

Community Relations

Visits to the Schools

The Board of Education and staff of the school district welcome and strongly encourage members of the community and other interested persons to visit the schools.

Board of Education members are expected to visit schools to become acquainted with school personnel and programs; however, Board members have authority only in scheduled meetings of the Board, as members of Board committees or when delegated specific tasks by specific Board action.

Members of the public and individual Board members interested in visiting schools or classrooms will make arrangements for visitations through the administrators of the various schools. Such visits shall be regarded as expressions of interest in school affairs and/or efforts to become informed about school programs and activities.

Subject to the direction and approval of the Board, the Superintendent is authorized to establish such reasonable regulations as will:

1. Encourage *parents, guardians and other family members of students to visit our schools.* ~~visitors to observe our schools in operation.~~
2. Provide for appropriate hospitality for visitors.
3. Require all visitors to register in the office of the Principal upon their arrival at the school.
4. Ensure student safety.
5. Ensure that the orderly process of school activities is not disrupted.
6. Channel expressions of approval as well as constructive criticism to the *school administration* staff and to the Board of Education.

Since continuity in classrooms is often difficult to achieve and maintain, while visiting in a classroom, a visitor must not interrupt the class in any way, nor speak to (unless invited to do so) or disturb the students or teacher.

Community Relations

Visits to the Schools (continued)

The Principal or her/his designee shall have complete authority to exclude from the school premises any persons whom s/he has reason to believe are disrupting the educational programs in the classroom or in the school, are disturbing the teachers or students on the premises, or whom the Principal believes are on the premises for the purpose of committing an illegal act.

Visitor Registration

It is required that all visitors, including members of the Board of Education, register in the office of the Principal. Staff members should be alert to the presence of unauthorized visitors and report their presence to the Principal promptly.

~~Non-school people~~ *Visitors not associated with the schools* may not initiate, direct, conduct, control or regularly attend the meetings of student groups.

~~School volunteers are required to register in the Volunteer Sign-in book when they are visiting or volunteering in the schools.~~

(cf. 9010 - Responsibilities and Limits of Authority)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-151b Evaluation by superintendents of certain educational personnel

53a-185 Loitering in or about school grounds: Class C misdemeanor.

Policy adopted:

May 7, 2001

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut