



New Milford
Public Schools
50 East Street
New Milford, CT 06776



New Milford High School



Schaghticoke



Sarah Noble



Hill & Plain



John Pettibone



Northville

Board of Education

Wendy Faulenbach, Chair
Daniel Nichols, Vice Chair
David Lawson, Secretary
Nancy C. Tarascio-Latour
Lynette Celli Rigdon
Thomas McSherry
Alexandra Thomas
William Wellman
Rodney Weinberg

Contents:	
Dolan & Racey	1
Brooks & Fogel	2
Cherniske & O'Connor	3
Hallecks	4

Spotlight on New Milford School Retirees

Volume 3, Issue 1

July 2011

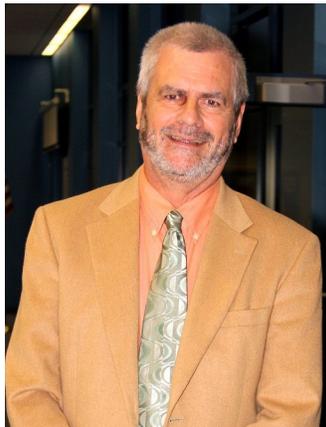
This is the time of year that employees depart New Milford Public Schools for retirement. This newsletter issue pays special tribute to those staff members that retired at the end of the 2010-2011 school year.

NMPS would like to thank them for their years of service and wish them the best of luck in the future!

Denis Dolan—NMHS Vice Principal

Years at
NMPS: 36

Grades/
Subjects
Taught:
2nd grade;
6th grade;
7th grade
math; As-
sistant Principal—HPS, JPS, NES,
SMS, NMHS



Denis Dolan, NMHS Assistant Principal, is planning a move to Reno, NV after his retirement. However, his family and friends in New Milford will not be forgotten—he's planning to return for regular visits.

During his 36 years with NMPS, Mr. Dolan oversaw the JPS mentor program and served on numerous committees.

Mr. Dolan comments that he is thankful for, "the wonderful colleagues, friends and students I've met over the years."

Chalice Racey—NMHS Social Studies

Years at NMPS: 26.5



Photo courtesy of Stephen Flanagan

Grades/
Subjects
Taught:
English &
Social
Studies
Ms. Chal-
ice Racey,
Social
Studies

Department Chair, has plans to visit family and friends disbursed throughout the east coast now that she will have more time do so.

During her time at NMPS, Ms. Racey served as a BEST Teacher Mentor, was a member of Phi Delta Kappa, developed the NMHS Social Studies website and was passionate about the Model UN project at New Milford High School.

"What endeared me to New Milford are the students and the people with whom I work. They are the kindest, most caring people I have ever had the pleasure to know and teach," comments Mrs. Racey.

Mrs. Sheila Brooks—4th Grade
Years at NMPS—27
Subjects/Grades Taught: 4th Grade



Mrs. Brooks is planning to spend time with her husband traveling—possibly to Alaska!

Of her teaching experience, Mrs. Brooks says, “I’ve always believed there is no more rewarding experience in life than being a part of a child’s life and witnessing them grow academically and behaviorally. I’m hoping to continue enjoying this as a grandparent, but also as an educator, by serving as a mentor and as a volunteer in the classrooms at SNIS. I’ll always cherish the memories of teaching our New Milford children and the wonderful times I’ve shared with them, my dear friends and colleagues.”

Mrs. Brooks has served as a BEST Teacher Mentor, was featured in the 1998 Who’s Who Among American Teachers after being nominated by a former student, received the 1997 Celebration of Excellence Award and created a writing mentor program in conjunction with New Milford High School students.

Mrs. Carol Fogel—6th Grade
Social Studies
Years at NMPS: 26
Subjects/Grades Taught: 4th grade, 5th grade and 6th grade at JPS, NES and SNIS



After teaching social studies for the last several years, Mrs. Fogel is excited about traveling to some of the places she has taught her students about and seeing them first-hand for herself.

Mrs. Fogel served as a BEST Teacher Mentor and chairperson of the science fair at John Pettibone and Northville Elementary schools.

Mrs. Alice Cherniske—5th Grade

Years at NMPS: 20

Grades/Subjects Taught: 5th grade, special education tutor at SNIS, and NES



Mrs. Cherniske began her teaching career at John Pettibone School, then stayed home to raise her five children before

returning to New Milford schools to finish out her teaching career.

“Working with the staff at Sarah Noble has been a pleasure, everyone is always willing to help each other. I will miss their friendships and all the good times,” says Mrs. Cherniske.

Mrs. Cherniske plans to spend more time with her grandchildren, volunteer in the schools and possibly substitute teach.

Mrs. Cherniske served as co-coordinator of the fifth grade walking project.

Mrs. Elaine O’Connor—6th Grade Math, Science & Reading

Years at NMPS: 22 years

Grades/Subjects Taught: Grades 2-8



Mrs. O’Connor has taught every grade from 2nd to 8th in various public and private schools around the country. Additionally, before coming to NMPS, she served as the Director of Rumsey Hall School.

As a retiree, Mrs. O’Connor plans to spend time enjoying her family as well as traveling. She also plans to return to NMPS as a volunteer and tutor.

Mrs. O’Connor will miss working with the SNIS students and her colleagues.

During her years at NMPS, Mrs. O’Connor served as a BEST Teacher Mentor.

*Photo courtesy of Gynn and Barrett.

**SNIS
Con’t.**

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.

Administration

Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote
Superintendent

Dr. Maureen E. McLaughlin
Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Greg Shugrue
High School Principal

Mrs. Dana Ford
Schaghticoke Principal

Mr. Les Weintraub
Intermediate Principal

Dr. Sandy Nadeau
Hill & Plain Principal

Mrs. Paula Kelleher
John Pettibone Principal

Mrs. Susan Murray
Northville Principal

Barbara Hallecks—Food Services

Years at NMPS—27 years



Mrs. Barbara Hallecks began her career at New Milford Public Schools at the Hill & Plain library before moving to the Food Services department.

At NMPS, Mrs. Hallecks has enjoyed working with the children and staff she has met. She was able to share her love of reading with many children over the years. Mrs. Hallecks appreciates everyone who has helped and supported her.

In retirement, Mrs. Hallecks plans to spend time with her husband and family. She has several creative ideas that she's also planning to pursue.

Quotable

- ◆ Best Wishes to Denis Dolan. He has served New Milford well over the past three decades.
Dana Ford, SMS Principal
- ◆ Mrs. O'Connor was the best math teacher I've ever had. There was never a dull moment in her class—she made math fun.
Izzy Rella, NMHS Student
- ◆ Mrs. Cherniske said she is coming back as a substitute teacher next year. If she does I hope she subs in my classroom!
Sam Taub, SNIS Student
- ◆ Mrs. Brooks was always very supportive and would continually encourage the kids to just do their best. She always came into the classroom with a smile on her face.
Emma Hallacker, SNIS Student
- ◆ Mrs. O'Connor is very easy going, was funny and had a great sense of humor and always helped students that needed extra help.
Daniel Rella, SNIS Student
- ◆ Ms. Racey was a gracious teacher that was always ready to help anyone. She was also very wise and knows more about ancient Egypt than anyone else I've met." - Hannah Dieterle, NMHS Student
- ◆ Mrs. Fogel's project made things like immigration and ancestry come alive! We learned a lot in her class." Ally Del Monte, SMS Student
- ◆ "Mrs. Hallecks is always helpful and friendly, I'll miss that." PTO Volunteer, Northville Elementary