


**New Milford Board of Education
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 December 8, 2015
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

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| Present: | Mr. David A. Lawson, Chairperson Mrs. Angela C. Chastain Mr. Robert Coppola Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Dave Littlefield Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mr. J.T. Schemm | RECEIVED TOWN CLERK 2015 DEC 11 A 9 07 | NEW MILFORD, CT  |
| Absent: | Mr. Bill Dahl | | |

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| Also Present: | Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Joshua Smith, Deputy Superintendent of Schools Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Jay Hubelbank, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Mr. Kevin Munrett, Facilities Manager Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Mrs. Anne Bilko, Principal, Sarah Noble Intermediate School Mrs. Paula Kelleher, Principal, Hill and Plain Elementary School Dr. Len Tomasello, Principal, Schaghticoke Middle School Kendall Stewart, Student Representative Eric Vasquez, Student Representative |
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| 1. | Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance The regular meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence immediately followed the call to order. | Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance |
| 2. | Recognition A. Peace Poster Contest: SMS students Ishaani Pradeep and Francesca Spindle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote invited Dr. Tomasello to come forward to recognize the two students who won the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest. B. NMPS Retiree: Dr. Eileen Cooper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote noted that Dr. Cooper has been | Recognition A. Peace Poster Contest: SMS students Ishaani Pradeep and Francesca Spindle B. NMPS Retiree: Dr. Eileen Cooper |

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| | <p>teaching the talented and gifted program for 36 years including 20 in New Milford.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Cooper said she was pleased with the addition of two programs –Project Lead the Way and the K-8 science program. <p>The meeting recessed at 7:41 p.m. for a brief reception and reconvened at 7:47 p.m.</p> | |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Spatola, a New Milford resident, congratulated Mr. Lawson on his election as Chairperson of the Board and encouraged him to bring civility back to the Board. He also asked the members to welcome diverse opinions and not reject different ideas. He noted that the job of the Board is to bring a great education to the students of New Milford and he wished the Board luck. • Nicole Gregory, a teacher at Northville, said she is concerned with the lack of substitutes and paraeducator support. She said professional development is now limited because of these two issues. She encouraged adding more paraeducator support in the budget and also maybe adding building substitutes. | <p>Public Comment</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>PTO Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-5 has wrapped up book fairs and family events. Mrs. Lewis thanked the school staff for all their assistance in these events. • The K-5 holiday shops will be running for the next few weeks. • Schaghticoke is currently having a Battle of the Books. • Schaghticoke and Hill and Plain are sponsoring events with the Danbury Titan Hockey team as a fundraiser. • Mrs. Lewis thanked the former Board members and welcomed the new members. • Mrs. Lewis thanked Dr. Paddyfote on behalf of the PTO. | <p>PTO Report</p> |

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| <p>5.</p> | <p>Student Representatives' Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parent teacher conferences were held December 3rd. • December 4th was the FBLA hosted New Milford Police Department versus high school staff basketball game – the police won. • December 10th is the jazz band and orchestra concert. • Winter sports teams have begun. • December 17th is the chorus concert. • January 21st is the Incoming Freshman Night. • The construction of the turf fields at the high school has begun. • Auditions for the spring musical are under way. The musical will be Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella. • Winter break begins December 23rd. | <p>Student Representatives' Report</p> |
| <p>6.</p> <p>A.</p> | <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board Workshop Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015 2. Regular Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015 <p>Mr. Coppola moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Board Workshop Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015 and Regular Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015, seconded by Mr. Littlefield and passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board Workshop Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015 2. Regular Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015 <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Board Workshop Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015 and Regular Meeting Minutes November 10, 2015.</p> |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Superintendent's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote said the Board of Finance will be meeting December 9th to discuss the capital reserve request for the Board which includes the CEN line to Sarah Noble, upgrading the phone system, and corrective action per the civil rights review. • The Project Lead the Way teachers met with | <p>Superintendent's Report</p> |

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| | <p>representatives of the Goldring Family Foundation who once again granted \$50,000 to the school for scholarships (\$20,000) and equipment purchase (estimated at \$27,000).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school winter break will be December 23rd until January 3rd. | |
| 8. | <p>Board Chairman's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Lawson thanked the members for the vote of confidence for his election as Chair. • He said there will be two meetings potentially upcoming including a workshop for superintendent search timeline and one for vendor presentations to help the Board hire. He thanked the Ad Hoc Committee for its work up to this point. • Mr. Lawson asked Board members to give input to the Superintendent regarding the upcoming budget noting that in January, when it is presented, it is the Superintendent's budget and at adoption night it becomes the Board's. • He also asked for the Board members to let him know what sub-committees they would like to serve on. • Mr. Lawson appointed Mr. Coppola as parliamentarian and Mrs. Faulenbach as assistant parliamentarian. | Board Chairman's Report |
| 9. | <p>Committee and Liaison Reports</p> <p>A. Facilities Sub-Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Littlefield said they received updates about the Schaghticoke roof project, the chiller at the high school, and overtime. <p>B. Operations Sub-Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Faulenbach said the Operations Committee discussed the monthly reports, personnel exhibit, gifts and donations, bid award, grant and certified substitute coverage. | Committee and Liaison Reports |

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| <p>C. Policy Sub-Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Lawson noted there were two policies on the agenda for second review. <p>D. Committee on Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain said there was no meeting in November. <p>E. Education Connection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Coppola noted that Education Connection is in the process of replacing its Executive Director. He said the target to replace the current director is February/March. <p>F. Connecticut Boards of Education (CABE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Littlefield said there was nothing new to report. • Mr. Coppola said he had been appointed by Mrs. Chastain as the delegate to the CABE convention and he had asked the group to review the SAT requirement saying that other schools supported this because not all students will be going on to college. • He said he tried to get the school calendar added to the legislative agenda but was unable to get the support. <p>G. Negotiations Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain said all three bargaining unit contracts were settled and signed. <p>H. Magnet School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Faulenbach said she and Dr. Paddyfote attended a meeting today. This is the tenth year of the magnet school program and the tuition will remain the same; the last increase was four years ago. • Mr. Coppola asked how many slots were available and Mrs. Faulenbach said there are 17 | <p>C. Policy Sub-Committee</p> <p>D. Committee on Learning</p> <p>E. Education Connection</p> <p>F. Connecticut Boards of Education (CABE)</p> <p>G. Negotiations Committee</p> <p>H. Magnet School</p> |
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| | <p>total, of which 16 have been filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote said there are 16 filled but there are also students who now live in Danbury that are filling school choice seats and New Milford has to pay for those students attending. | |
| <p>10.</p> | <p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 8, 2015</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve, Mr. Littlefield seconded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Coppola wished Mr. Hubelbank good luck in his retirement. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purchase Resolution D-681 2. Budget Position dated 11/20/15 3. Request for Budget Transfers <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve Purchase Resolution D-681, Budget Position dated 11/20/15, and Request for Budget Transfers, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Coppola said he was glad to see that transfers came from within the same departments and were not from the 611 line item. • Mr. Littlefield asked what the McGraw Hill subscription was and Mr. Smith said he thought it was the on-line component for world language textbooks. • Mr. Coppola asked how the district was doing overall and Mr. Hubelbank said the district is concerned with the special education line. He | <p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 8, 2015</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve.</p> <p>B. Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purchase Resolution D-681 2. Budget Position dated 11/20/15 3. Request for Budget Transfers <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Purchase Resolution D-681, Budget Position dated 11/20/15, and Request for Budget Transfers.</p> |

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| | <p>noted that the school district budgets for five or six outplacements per year but so far New Milford has had 11 or 12. New Milford pays a certain amount of transportation and tuition based on a state formula.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Coppola noted that the Board has a finite amount to spend and might need to freeze spending which they have done in the past.• Mr. Schemm asked about the Dell Chromebooks and Mr. Hubelbank noted they are about \$300 each.• Mr. Schemm asked about the ten pack of iPads versus Chromebooks. Mr. Smith said the iPads include cases, carts, etc. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>C. Gifts & Donations 1. PTO Exhibit B</p> <p>Mr. Coppola moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Lawson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Coppola thanked the PTO because their contributions allow many programs and field trips to happen. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>D. Bid Award 1. Food and Nutrition Services – Serving Lines</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to award the bid for Food and Nutrition Services – Serving Lines to Warehouse Store Fixture Company, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Faulenbach noted this was from the Food and Nutrition Services account not the general operation account. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p>C. Gifts & Donations 1. PTO Exhibit B</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve.</p> <p>D. Bid Award 1. Food and Nutrition Services – Serving Lines</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to award the bid for Food and Nutrition Services – Serving Lines to Warehouse Store Fixture Company.</p> |
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| <p>E. Grant 1. District Consolidated Grant</p> <p>Mr. Coppola moved to approve the District Consolidated Grant, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Smith said both Title I and Title II grants are state entitlements and are not competitive. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>F. Policies for Second Review 1. 3240 Tuition Fees 2. 5157 Use of Physical Force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Faulenbach asked if these would be adopted during the budget hearings and Dr. Paddyfote said they would probably come up at the February Board meeting. • Mr. Coppola noted that the Board is given two opportunities to review policies and Mrs. Faulenbach said every so often the Board needs to suspend a policy to approve one quickly. • Mr. Coppola said typically these changes are due to a change at the state level. • Mrs. McInerney asked for confirmation for clarification purposes that strike outs meant language was being removed and bold was language that would be added. <p>G. Certified Substitute Coverage</p> <p>Mrs. McInerney moved to approve an increase to the compensation rate for a substitute teacher in the New Milford Public Schools to \$90.00 per day, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Coppola said he heard if there were tissues in the classrooms then perhaps teachers would not be getting sick so much. • Mr. Hubelbank said there are tissues provided for each classroom. • Mrs. Chastain asked if the \$90 would take effect on day one for a substitute and Ms. Baldelli said it would though in the past the | <p>E. Grant 1. District Consolidated Grant</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the District Consolidated Grant.</p> <p>F. Policies for Second Review 1. 3240 Tuition Fees 2. 5157 Use of Physical Force</p> <p>G. Certified Substitute Coverage</p> <p>Motion made and passed to approve an increase to the compensation rate for a substitute teacher in the New Milford Public Schools to \$90.00 per day.</p> |
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| | <p>substitute would start at \$75 for their first 90 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Faulenbach said this was discussed at the Operations meeting and will have an effect on the current budget but this is an effort to see if this is the answer to the substitute problem.• Mr. Coppola said he would be abstaining from the vote as his daughter is a substitute.• Mrs. McInerney asked when this starts and Mr. Hubelbank said January 1st.• Mr. Lawson applauded the Board for taking this action noting that New Milford is not the only district facing the substitute shortage.• Mr. Littlefield asked how the district's new pay rate compared with other districts and Ms. Baldelli said all the districts are trying this same approach of raising the rate. She said outsourcing the situation may be a future solution.• Mr. Schemm asked what the fill rate was for the district and Ms. Baldelli said it was 74%.• Mr. Schemm asked if the tracking will continue after January to see if this increase will help and Ms. Baldelli said it would. <p>Motion passed 7-0-1. Mr. Coppola abstained.</p> <p>H. Input for 2016-2017 Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Lawson said this was an opportunity for Board members to give the Superintendent some input on the budget. He said they could also reach out to him or to the Superintendent individually.• Mr. Coppola said he wants to see money for field trips given that the schools already spend \$1 million on sports. He suggested \$20 per student for K-2 and \$35 per student for 4-6 for a total of about \$60,000. He also wants the district to hire someone to run a true alternative high school – he said currently it is a computerized program.• Mr. Schemm said the Board of Education at the state level adopted the next generation science standards and the district would have to see | <p>H. Input for 2016-2017 Budget</p> |
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| | <p>where they would go with that since it is different from common core.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Coppola noted the U.S. House recently passed a bill to rescind No Child Left Behind. | |
| 11. | <p>Item for Information and Discussion</p> <p>A. Field Trip Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Coppola said the Leo Club, the student branch of the Lion's Club, had 14 members join the Lions for their annual senior citizen Christmas party and there are now 60 members in the Club in total. Mr. Coppola also said he is the interim curator of Hunt Hill Museum at the Silo and the fourth and fifth graders were singing at the Silo which is a nice connection with the community. | <p>Item for Information and Discussion</p> <p>A. Field Trip Report</p> |
| 12. | <p>Adjourn</p> <p>Mr. Littlefield moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously.</p> | <p>Adjourn</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.</p> |

Respectfully submitted:



Wendy Faulenbach
 Secretary
 New Milford Board of Education