

NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

**New Milford Public Schools
50 East Street
New Milford, Connecticut 06776
(860) 355-8406**

**POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE**

DATE: September 23, 2008
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: Lillis Administration Building, Rm. 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 Items

A. Virtual/Online Courses/College/University Courses

4. Adjourn

**Sub-Committee Members: Mrs. Elizabeth Finney, Chair
Dr. Lisa Diamond
Mr. David A. Lawson
Mr. Bill Wellman**

**Alternates: Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach
Mrs. Amy Llerena**

**New Milford Board of Education
Policy Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2008
Lillis Administration Building, Rm. 2**

Present:	Mrs. Elizabeth Finney, Committee Chairperson Dr. Lisa Diamond, Board Chairperson Mr. Bill Wellman Mr. David Lawson (arrived at 6:53 pm) Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, alternate (arrived at 6:34 pm)
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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Greg Shugrue, New Milford High School Principal
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1.	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Policy Subcommittee was called to order at 6:30pm.	Call to Order
2.	There was no public comment	Public Comment
3.A.	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Virtual/Online Courses/College/University Courses (Policy 6172.6)</p> <p>Dr. Paddyfote noted the online course information was discussed at the Committee on Learning meeting in May 2008, and was now coming before the Policy Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shugrue said there are more families and students requesting online courses both to complete high school on time and to broaden their education. • Mr. Mulvihill said the Commissioner of Education will be releasing a statement soon on reforming public high schools and it will call for 25 credits to graduate where New Milford only requires 22 ½. The administration is looking at creative and substantive ways to deal with this upcoming change. <p>Mrs. Faulenbach arrived at 6:34 pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Diamond asked if other schools were offering online courses; Mr. Shugrue said some do the virtual high school and some accept as transfer credits as long as they are from an accredited program. 	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Virtual/Online Courses/College/University Courses—Policy 6172.6</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Wellman asked if there were a variety of courses, different event from what NMHS offers, through the virtual online high school which could broaden a student's education.• Mr. Wellman asked if the CT Virtual On-Line HS was accredited; Mr. Shugrue said it was. Mr. Wellman noted that New Milford must accept credits from an accredited source. Mr. Wellman said he thought the Board should welcome the broadening of educational opportunities and did not feel any barriers should be put in the way as were suggested in this policy, i.e., up to 3 courses will be accepted and more courses can be accepted with the principal's authorization.• Dr. Paddyfote noted that the New Milford Board of Education has certain standards that must be met by students in order to graduate and receive a New Milford High School diploma, including reaching specific benchmarks on the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). <p>Mr. Lawson arrived at 6:53 pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Shugrue said that if a student came in from anywhere in the country and transferred credits from an accredited source, they would have to be accepted, then it is up to school to be sure that the child meets the NM BOE standards which includes CAPT testing.• Dr. Paddyfote noted that the procedure to approve a policy included two reviews by the Board and then a separate meeting for final approval. <p>Mr. Wellman moved to not bring the policy to the Board at this time, but that it be revised to reflect how New Milford will interact with the virtual online high school, seconded by Dr. Diamond for discussion purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Faulenbach explained that this policy will go to the Board for review the first time anyway and then it is sent back to the policy committee for further discussion.	<p>Motion made, seconded and defeated to not bring policy forward at this time.</p>
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	<p>The motion failed 1-3. Aye: Wellman No: Lawson, Diamond, Finney</p> <p>Dr. Diamond moved to pass this policy to the Board of Education for review, Mr. Lawson seconded. Motion passed 3-1. Aye: Lawson, Diamond, Finney No: Wellman</p>	<p>Motion made, seconded and passed to bring policy to the next Board of Education meeting for review.</p>
4.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>Dr. Diamond moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 pm, seconded by Mr. Wellman and passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion to adjourn made and passed unanimously.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Finney, Chairman
Policy Sub-Committee