

New Milford Board of Education
 Operations Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
 September 9, 2025 7:15 pm
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

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 NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson Mr. Eric Hansell Mr. Tom O'Brien Mr. Brian McCauley
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Absent:	
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Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Jeffrey Turner, Technology Director Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Finance Mr. Matthew Cunningham, Director of Facilities
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1.		Call to Order The New Milford Board of Education Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 7:15pm by Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson.	Call to Order
2.		Public Comment There was none.	Public Comment
3.	A.	Discussion and Possible Action Monthly Reports 1. Budget Position dated August 31, 2025 2. Purchase Resolution D-798 3. Request for Budget Transfers Mr. Giovannone stated, to get a better sense of the Budget Position, it's best to wait until October. That is when payroll is encumbered and it will true-up encumbrances at that time. Currently the report is a comparison of prior month and prior year. Payroll began September 5th and this report is as-of August 31st. The Capital Reserve balance of \$3,581,189 does not reflect the withdrawal that was approved by Town Council and Board of Finance in the amount of \$2,583,000. There is a chance there will need to be additional layers of approval. Mr. Giovannone stated he would provide a revised Purchase Resolution for the full board meeting as they are gearing up for goods and services that will be expended throughout the year. There are no transfers at this time.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Monthly Reports 1. Budget Position dated August 31, 2025 2. Purchase Resolution D-798 3. Request for Budget Transfers

	<p>Mrs. Faulenbach asked how leftover funds could be utilized. Mr. Giovannone stated leftover funds, in any line item, fall to the bottom line at the end of the year. For the legal line item, we are still working off last year's retainer and have no encumbrances yet. There are 3 bargaining units in contract negotiations.</p> <p><i>Mr. O'Brien moved to bring the Operations Subcommittee monthly reports to the Board of Education for discussion and possible action, seconded by Mr. McCauley. The motion passed unanimously.</i></p> <p>B. Bid Awards</p> <p>1. SMS Underground Storage Tank (UST) Replacement Project</p> <p>Mr. Giovannone stated the recommendation is to award to the American Petroleum Equipment and Construction in the amount of \$287,000.50. Original funding was not enough to cover the project and that is why there is an additional withdrawal request from Capital Reserve. The plan is to move forward and withdraw funds once approved. The project is slated for next summer.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach asked if this project was discussed at MBC. Mr. O'Brien stated no it was not.</p> <p><i>Mr. McCauley moved to bring the following bid award to the Board of Education for discussion and possible action: Schaghticoke Middle School Underground Storage Tank Replacement Project, seconded by Mr. Hansell. The motion passed unanimously.</i></p> <p>C. Tuition Rates for 25/26</p> <p>Mr. Giovannone stated the tuition rates will increase 3.91% to \$15,103 for the high school, \$12,998 for the middle school and \$12,747 for K-5. This is different from the per pupil expenditure that is referenced by the state's (Department of Education) DOE. That is because</p>	<p>Motion passed to bring the Operations Subcommittee monthly reports to the Board of Education for discussion and possible action. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>B. Bid Awards</p> <p>1. SMS Underground Storage Tank (UST) Replacement Project</p> <p>Motion passed to bring the following bid award to the Board of Education for discussion and possible action: SMS Underground Storage Tank (UST) Replacement Project. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>C. Tuition Rates for 25/26</p>
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	<p>the costs for Special Education and transportation are excluded from the calculation. Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the board approves the amounts. Mr. Giovannone stated yes. Mrs. Faulenbach asked for a breakdown of Sherman tuition for the last 5 years.</p> <p>Mr. O'Brien asked how many students are currently paying tuition. Mr. Giovannone stated there are 2 currently paying the full tuition rate. If the student is a child of a parent/legal guardian that is a teacher, and part of the bargaining unit, they get a reduced rate. \$29,272 has been received for the 24/25 school year. The tuition for Sherman students goes directly to the town.</p> <p><i>Mr. Hansell moved to bring the Tuition Rates for the 25/26 school year to the Board of Education for discussion and possible action, seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.</i></p>	<p>Motion passed to bring forward the Tuition Rates for the 25/26 school year to the Board of Education for discussion and possible action. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Items of Information</p> <p>A. Employment Report - September 2025 Dr. Parlato stated the secretaries are doing incredible work helping in Human Resources. Some districts have large amounts of vacancies and we are working hard to fill positions that are open.</p> <p>B. Enrollment Report - September 2025 Dr. Parlato stated the numbers are holding steady. October will be the best snapshot. Low enrollment is a statewide trend.</p> <p>C. ESG/Solar Update Mrs. Faulenbach stated there are details that are still forthcoming. It is an evolving situation and everything will be discussed when more information is available.</p> <p>D. CEN Connect Community Wi-Fi Grant Mr. Turner stated our application for the Community WiFi grant was approved by CEN. The grant will allow us to set up a working WiFi network at no cost to us for the outside perimeter, including sports fields at both Schaghticoke Middle School and New Milford High School. This grant will allow the community to use the internet on</p>	<p>Items of Information</p> <p>A. Employment Report - September 2025</p> <p>B. Enrollment Report - September 2025</p> <p>C. ESG/Solar Update</p> <p>D. CEN Connect Community Wi-Fi Grant</p>

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		<p>personal devices outside the school’s public WiFi. While the grant is fully refundable, we do have to pay for it up front and will be reimbursed per CEN for the entire amount. The hope is New Milford will be part of the second round in October.</p> <p>Mrs. Faulenbach asked how the money is collected and the time frame to spend it. Mr. Turner stated we have until June 30, 2026. Mr. Giovannone stated it is a joint grant. He has reached out to the town Finance Director on how to capture it. The town will set up a separate entity code. The money will be earmarked while we await reimbursement. The town is listed as grantee, so the town will handle fronting it. Mrs. Faulenbach asked to confirm that the board and town will have access to it. Mr. Giovannone stated that was correct.</p>	
5.		<p>Public Comment There was none.</p>	Public Comment
6.		<p>Adjourn <i>Mr. O’Brien moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34pm, seconded by Mr. Hansell, and passed unanimously.</i></p>	<p>Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 pm.</p>

Respectfully submitted:



Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach
 Chairman, Operations Subcommittee