

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK *mdp*
2025 SEP 19 P 2:12
NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Leslie Sarich, Chairperson Mr. Eric Hansell, Vice Chairperson <i>arrived 6:34pm</i> Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Secretary Mrs. Sarah Herring, Assistant Secretary Mr. Dean Barile Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Brian McCauley Mr. Tom O'Brien
Absent:	Mr. Randall Scofield

Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Mr. Jeffrey Turner, Director of Technology Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Mr. Matthew Cunningham, Director of Facilities Dr. Kimberly Culkin, Director of Student Services
---------------	---

1.	A.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mrs. Leslie Sarich, Chairperson. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order.	Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance
2.	A.	Public Comment There was none.	Public Comment
3.		<u>IDEAL EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:</u> <u>TEACHERS AND PARAEDUCATORS OF THE YEAR</u> <u>Teachers of the Year:</u> Cara Abraham of New Milford High School (NMHS) Diana Beddows of Schaghticoke Middle School (SMS) Kara Gray of Hill & Plain School (HPS) Megan Przybysz of Sarah Noble Intermediate School (SNIS)	

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

2

		<u>Paraeducators of the Year:</u> Katherine Fossi of NMHS Barbara Marques of HPS Jill Shailor of LHTC Konnie Tlasky SMS <u>District Winners:</u> Stefanie Pilla teacher at NES Jessica Bates paraeducator at SNIS	
4.		PTO REPORT Mrs. Reiss stated the district received a donation of school supplies from Walmart. The donation was split amongst the schools. NMHS is doing a class shirt fundraiser, spirit week is coming up as well as the homecoming dance. SMS had a successful 6th grade dance and there is a fall fest planned for the 26th. NES held a merchandise sale, and they are waiting on grant approval for a water fountain in the gym. HPS had a successful fall fest and thanked everyone for coming out to celebrate and participate in the dunk tank. There will be a color run Thursday. The hope is to raise \$10,000. SNIS had a welcome back foam fest and they are planning a Halloween party. Boosterthon has ended and they raised \$20,000.	PTO REPORT
5.		STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT There was none.	STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT
6.		APPROVAL OF MINUTES Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: 1. Regular Meeting Minutes August 19, 2025 2. Special Meeting Minutes August 19, 2025 <i>Mr. Hansell moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes, August 19, 2025 and Special Meeting Minutes, August 19, 2025. Seconded by Mr.</i>	APPROVAL OF MINUTES A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: 1. Regular Meeting Minutes August 19, 2025 2. Special Meeting Minutes August 19, 2025 Motion made and passed to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes, August 19, 2025 and

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

3

		<i>McCauley. Motion passed 6-0-2 with Mrs. Sarich, and Mrs. Faulenbach abstaining.</i>	Special Meeting Minutes, August 19, 2025. Motion passed 6-0-2.
7.		SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Dr. Parlato stated they are off to a strong school year. Clubs and teams have begun with lots of participation. Dr. Parlato thanked staff for their hard work in getting the buildings ready for the beginning of the school year.	SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
8.		BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT Mrs. Sarich stated she wanted to thank the negotiations team for all their hard work, especially since they were there the previous evening from 5:30pm-5:30am.	BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
9.		SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT'S A. Policy Mrs. McInerney stated there are policies for third review and approval, including the Board's bylaws. They were listed on last month's agenda, but because there was a break in time from the second review, it was decided to take another month to review them. These bylaws govern how the Board conducts its business. The Board will also be voting to delete policies and bylaws that are no longer applicable. B. Committee on Learning Mrs. Herring stated there is an update on Artificial Intelligence, a K-3 literacy update for Bookworms, and a new K-5 progress report. C. Facilities Mr. O'Brien stated there is one item on the agenda regarding the removal of the SMS underground storage tank. Mr. O'Brien thanked Mr. Cunningham for his presentation on the summer projects and for all their hard work. D. Operations Mrs. Faulenbach stated the monthly reports will be reviewed, as well as some items of information. It is important to bring as much information forward so we can prepare for budget.	SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT'S E. Policy F. Committee on Learning G. Facilities H. Operations

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

4

10.	DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION A. Monthly Reports 1. Budget Position dated August 31, 2025 2. REVISED Purchase Resolution: D-798 3. Request for Budget Transfers Budget Position: Mr. Giovannone stated the Budget Position is current as of August 31st. There are no payroll encumbrances shown since those were posted in September. Any comparison to prior years or months should wait until payroll encumbering is completed in October. The capital reserve balance reflects the deposit for the 23/24 fiscal year end, but does not show the money needed to fund capital projects for the current year version of the 5 Year Capital Plan. Mrs. Faulenbach noted the 23-24 fiscal year-end deposit is reflected, but not the 24/25 withdrawal. Also, the deposit from our last end-of-year balance has not been reflected, but the carveout is there for the ESG payment. Those December payments are large dollar amounts. All these items, and more, will need clarity as we go into budget season. Mrs. Faulenbach asked if we have captured and quantified the savings, as well as expected expenditures with regards to ESG. Mrs. Giovannone stated there was a meeting with ESG and NV5 to review the measurement verification report. This report is issued one year after the construction phase is completed. ESG will be submitting that report and once NV5 signs off on it, it will be sent out to the Board. Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the credits go back to both the town and the district. Mr. Giovannone stated there are credits for class 3 recs and Z recs. Those do not go to the BOE at all. They go to the town. There are credits for energy conservation on demand response, during high demand times, where we ramp down certain equipment such as chillers and coolers.	DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION A. Monthly Reports 1. Budget Position dated August 31, 2025 2. REVISED Purchase Resolution: D-798 3. Request for Budget Transfers
-----	---	---

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

5

		The district does receive credits for that. For the 24/25 year it was \$5,800. Mrs. Faulenbach noted that at one time the district had to catch up on payments. Mr. Giovannone stated that was correct due to the construction delay, but the payment was still due on the bond. The town made the complete payment in its first year. The Board paid its obligation for the second year and reimbursed the town for the first year's payment. Mrs. Faulenbach stated it's important the savings are identified and teasing out where any credits may be. Purchase Resolution: Mr. Giovannone stated this is a revised Purchase Resolution that includes \$50,000 for sidewalks and another \$37,080 for HVAC building automation. It is tied to the 5 Year Capital Plan. There is a need to move forward with the projects, with approval forthcoming, so nothing is held up. Request for Budget Transfers: No discussion. <i>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve the Budget Position dated August 31, 2025; Revised Purchase Resolution D-798; and Request for Budget Transfers. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.</i> B. Policy for Third Read and Approval: 1. 6200 Adult Education Mrs. McInerney stated we have a great adult education program in the district with an excellent director and teachers. <i>Mr. Barile moved to approve policy 6200 Adult Education. Seconded by Mrs. McInerney. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	Motion made to approve the Budget Position dated August 31, 2025; Revised Purchase Resolution D-798; and Request for Budget Transfers. Motion passed unanimously. B. Policy for Third Read and Approval: 1. 6200 Adult Education Motion made and passed to approve policy 6200 - Adult Education. Motion passed unanimously.
--	--	--	---

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

	C. Policy for Third Read and Approval: 1. 6141 Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <i>Mr. O'Brien moved to approve policy 6141 - Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.</i> D. Policy for deletion upon approval of 6141: 1. 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <i>Mr. McCauley moved to delete policy 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.</i> E. Bylaws Recommended for Third Review and Approval: 1. 9020 Construction and Posting of Agenda 2. 9021 Time, Place and Notice of Meetings 3. 9022 Public Meetings and Executive Session 4. 9023 Meeting Conduct 5. 9024 Quorum and Voting Procedures 6. 9025 Minutes	C. Policy for Third Read and Approval: 1. 6141 Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum Motion made and passed to approve policy 6141- Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum. Motion passed unanimously. D. Policy for deletion upon approval of 6141: 1. 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum Motion made and passed to delete policy 6141.7 Addressing Enrollment in Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum. Motion passed unanimously. E. Bylaws Recommended for Third Review and Approval: 1. 9020 Construction and Posting of Agenda 2. 9021 Time, Place and Notice of Meetings 3. 9022 Public Meetings and Executive Session 4. 9023 Meeting Conduct 5. 9024 Quorum and Voting Procedures
--	---	---

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

7

		7. 9026 Transaction of Business 8. 9027 Conflict of Interest 9. 9028 Filling Vacancies on the Board Mrs. Faulenbach stated that the major change was re-numbering the bylaws. There were not a lot of substantive language changes. Dr. Parlato explained that these bylaws were in the third phase of review due to a gap in time. This gave the Board a chance to have a fresh look. Typically the bylaws are reviewed twice. The Board is almost finished with all the policy revisions. <i>Mr. McCauley moved to approve Bylaws 9020, 9021, 9022, 9023, 9024, 9025, 9026, 9027 and 9028. Seconded by Mrs. Herring. Motion passed unanimously.</i> F. Bylaws Recommended for Deletion Upon Approval of Bylaws in Item 10 E.: 1. 9320 Meetings of the Board 2. 9321 Time, Place and Notification of Meetings 3. 9322 Public and Executive Session 4. 9323 Construction of the Agenda 5. 9324 Advance Delivery of Meeting Materials 6. 9325 Meeting Conduct 7. 9325.1 Quorum 8. 9325.2 Order of Business 9. 9325.21 Order of Business Consent Agenda 10. 9325.4 Vote Recording 11. 9330 Board/School District Recordings 12. 9332 Electronic Communications 13. 9350 Hearings 14. 9360 Legislative Program 15. 9400 Monitoring Products and Processes 16. 9410 Public Announcement of Accomplishments	6. 9025 Minutes 7. 9026 Transaction of Business 8. 9027 Conflict of Interest 9. 9028 Filling Vacancies on the Board Motion made and passed to approve bylaws 9020, 9021, 9022, 9023, 9024, 9025, 9026, 9027 and 9028. Motion passed unanimously. F. Bylaws Recommended for Deletion Upon Approval of Bylaws in Item F: 1. 9320 Meetings of the Board 2. 9321 Time, Place and Notification of Meetings 3. 9322 Public and Executive Session 4. 9323 Construction of the Agenda 5. 9324 Advance Delivery of Meeting Materials 6. 9325 Meeting Conduct 7. 9325.1 Quorum 8. 9325.2 Order of Business 9. 9325.21 Order of Business Consent Agenda 10. 9325.4 Vote Recording 11. 9330 Board/School District Recordings
--	--	--	---

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

8

	17. 9420 Recognition of Public Accomplishments by Citizens, Students, Staff Members, or Members of the Board <i>Mr. Hansell moved to delete Bylaws 9320, 9321, 9322, 9323, 9324, 9325, 9325.1, 9325.2, 9325.21, 9325.4, 9330, 9332, 9350, 9360, 9400, 9410 and 9420 upon the approval of Bylaws 9020, 9021, 9022, 9023, 9024, 9025, 9026, 9027 and 9028. Seconded by Mr. Barile. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	12. 9332 Electronic Communications 13. 9350 Hearings 14. 9360 Legislative Program 15. 9400 Monitoring Products and Processes 16. 9410 Public Announcement of Accomplishments 17. 9420 Recognition of Public Accomplishments by Citizens, Students, Staff Members, or Members of the Board Motion made and passed to approved to delete Bylaws 9320, 9321, 9322, 9323, 9324, 9325, 9325.1, 9325.2, 9325.21, 9325.4, 9330, 9332, 9350, 9360, 9400, 9410, 9420 upon the approval of Bylaws 9020, 9021, 9022, 9023, 9024, 9025, 9026, 9027 and 9028. Motion passed unanimously.
G.	Bid Award Schaghticoke Middle School Underground Storage Tank Replacement Mr. Barile asked Mr. Cunningham if this was the same company that did the last oil tank removal. Mr. Cunningham stated this was a different company since it involves removal as well as installation. <i>Mr. O'Brien moved to approve the Bid Award Schaghticoke Middle School Underground Storage Tank Replacement. Seconded by Mr. Barile. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	G. Bid Award Schaghticoke Middle School Underground Storage Tank Replacement Motion made to approve the Bid Award Schaghticoke Middle School Underground Storage Tank Replacement. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

9

	H. 2025-26 Board of Education Goals Dr. Parlato stated the workshop centered around resilience in students. The first goal was revised to reflect a more substantive student achievement goal and a strong work ethic for every learner. The other goals remained the same as last year. Mr. Barile thanked Dr. Parlato for the workshop. Dr. Parlato commented that she is now in her third year and that makes it easier to put stakes in the ground and show what we stand for. <i>Mrs. McInerney moved to approve 2025-26 Board of Education Goals. Seconded by Mrs. Sarich. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	H. 2025-26 Board of Education Goals Motion made to approve the 2025-26 Board of Education Goals. Motion passed unanimously.
	I. Tuition Rates for 25/26 Mrs. Faulenbach thanked Mr. Giovannone for providing the Sherman tuition numbers and asked if that revenue goes to the town. Mr. Giovannone confirmed the money from the Sherman tuition goes directly to the town and not the district. <i>Mr. Hansell moved to approve Tuition Rates for the 2025-26 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Herring. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	I. Tuition Rates for 25/26 Motion made to approve the tuition rates for the 2025-26 school year. Motion passed unanimously.
11.	A. ITEMS OF INFORMATION Update from John J. McCarthy Observatory Members and volunteers from the McCarthy Observatory presented updates to the Board. The 25th anniversary is coming up and they are very thankful for the support from their volunteers and donations from the community, including New Milford Public Schools.	ITEMS OF INFORMATION A. Update from John J. McCarthy Observatory

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

10

	Their mission is to further science literacy. Last year, the observatory was able to replace the original telescope with a more modern one. There has been a huge demand to utilize the new telescope locally, as well as from people farther away. Given this demand, there is now a plan to install a second dome. This will allow the observatory to support more groups and organizations. The observatory recently received the NEO Grant. Out of the 10 recipients, only 2 are in the U.S. This grant will help pave the way for the second dome and the hope is to install it by December 2nd. The members of the McCarthy Observatory encouraged everyone to come and experience the observatory.	
B.	6141 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Enrollment in Advance Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum No discussion.	B. 6141 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Enrollment in Advance Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum
C.	ESG/Solar Update No discussion.	C. ESG/Solar Update
D.	CEN Connect Community Wi-Fi Grant No discussion.	D. CEN Connect Community Wi-Fi Grant
E.	Employment Report - September 2025 No discussion.	E. Employment Report - September 2025
F.	Enrollment Report - September 2025 No discussion.	F. Enrollment Report - September 2025

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

11

	G. NMHS Graduation Date Dr. Parlato confirmed that the NMHS graduation will take place on June 13, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at Joe Wiser Stadium on the NMHS campus. H. Artificial Intelligence (AI) District Guidelines No discussion. I. September Fundraising Report No discussion. J. Field trip Report No discussion.	G. NMHS Graduation Date H. Artificial Intelligence (AI) District Guidelines I. September Fundraising Report J. Field trip Report
12.	<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u> Discussion and possible action regarding a candidate for the position of Assistant Principal for Schaghticoke Middle School. <i>Mrs. Faulenbach moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action regarding a candidate for the position of Assistant Principal for Schaghticoke Middle School. Invited into executive session is the Board, Superintendent Dr. Janet Parlato, and the candidate. Seconded by Mr. Barile. Motion passed unanimously.</i> <i>The Board entered Executive Session at 7:28pm.</i> <i>Candidate entered Executive Session at 7:44pm</i> <i>Candidate returned from Executive Session at 7:53pm</i>	<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u> Discussion and possible action regarding a candidate for the position of Assistant Principal for Schaghticoke Middle School. Motion made and approved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action regarding a candidate for the position of Assistant Principal for Schaghticoke Middle School. Invited into executive session is the Board, Superintendent Dr. Janet Parlato, and the candidate. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

12

	<i>The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:54pm.</i> <i>Mr. Hansell moved to appoint Alicia Hynes as Assistant Principal for Schaghticoke Middle School, with a start date of September 22, 2025. Seconded by Mr. Barile. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	Motion made to approve the appointment of Alicia Hynes as Assistant Principal for Schaghticoke Middle School, with a start date of September 22, 2025. Motion passed unanimously.
13.	<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u> Discussion and possible action concerning the memorandum of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union Local 424-Unit 107, New Milford Paraeducators regarding paycheck timing. <i>Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action regarding the memorandum of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union Local 424-Unit 107, New Milford Paraeducators regarding paycheck timing. Invited into executive session is the Board, Superintendent Dr. Janet Parlato, and Director of Fiscal Services Anthony Giovannone. Seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach. Motion passed unanimously.</i> <i>The Board entered Executive Session at 7:55pm.</i> <i>The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:02pm.</i> <i>Mrs. Faulenbach moved that the Board adopt the memorandum of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union Local 424-Unit 107, New</i>	<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u> Discussion and possible action concerning the memorandum of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union Local 424-Unit 107, New Milford Paraeducators regarding paycheck timing. Motion made to approve that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action regarding the memorandum of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union Local 424-Unit 107, New Milford Paraeducators regarding paycheck timing. Invited into executive session the Board, Superintendent Dr. Janet Parlato, and Director of Fiscal Services Anthony Giovannone. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made to approve that the Board adopt the memorandum of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

13

		<i>Milford Paraeducators regarding paycheck timing as discussed in Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	the United Public Service Employees Union Local 424-Unit 107, New Milford Paraeducators regarding paycheck timing as discussed in Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.
14.		ADJOURN <i>Mr. O'Brien moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Vote passed unanimously.</i>	ADJOURN Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Tammy McInerney
Secretary
New Milford Board of Education