

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK *CP*

2025 OCT 27 A 11:43

NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Leslie Sarich, Chairperson Mr. Eric Hansell, Vice Chairperson Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Secretary Mrs. Sarah Herring, Assistant Secretary Mr. Dean Barile <i>arrived 6:39pm</i> Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Brian McCauley Mr. Tom O'Brien
Absent:	Mr. Randall Scofield

Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, 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 Ms. Penelope Morrissey, Student Representative Mr. Mark Porter, Student Representative
---------------	--

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. Dr. Parlato called for a moment of silence for two members of the New Milford Public School's community. Noelia Camacho, a 12th grade student at New Milford High School, and Carlton Ryder, a PE teacher for nearly 40 years.	Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance
2.	A.	Public Comment There was none.	Public Comment
3.		<u>IDEAL STUDENT RECOGNITION:</u> <u>SCHAGHTICOKE MIDDLE SCHOOL</u> Dr. Parlato stated the Ideal Student Recognition award is given to those that operate with focus,	<u>IDEAL STUDENT RECOGNITION:</u> <u>SCHAGHTICOKE MIDDLE SCHOOL</u>

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

2

		heart, creativity, and collaboration. Dr. Parlato thanked and distributed awards to each recognized student: Emma Herrera Jeremy Torres-Pulla Maggie McQueen Isabella Espino Ashley Bramhall Matias Campoverde-Zarate Sarah Muckerman Lucinda Chapman Avery Gray Pamela Porowski Stella DeGregorio Eiryn Zeller	
4.		PTO REPORT There was none.	PTO REPORT
5.		STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT Ms. Morrissey stated there was no update from Northville Elementary School. Mr. Porter stated Hill and Plain Elementary School had an all school assembly to show the students core values. They had their 3rd annual Spooky Reading Night which included math games. The school garden has been doing extremely well. Hill & Plain wanted to thank the Litchfield Hills Transition Center for collecting plastic that was turned into a bench. Principal Calabrese has been doing a read-aloud every week for the students. There was no update from Sarah Noble Intermediate School. Ms. Morrissey stated that Schaghticoke Middle School had a presentation on healthy friendship. They were visited by Abbot Tech, Shepaug Valley School, and the National Honor Society (NHS) to learn about opportunities for high school. The 7th grade went to the Beardsley Zoo and the 8th grade went to the Litchfield Historical Society.	STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

3

		The NHS at New Milford High School has 83 new members. The NHS students tutor fellow students and volunteer at food banks. Juniors and seniors attended a college and career fair at the University of New Haven. Field hockey and soccer are advancing to the semi-finals. The Math Honor Society inducted its newest members. Students took the PSAT's last week.	
6.		APPROVAL OF MINUTES Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: 1. Regular Meeting Minutes September 16, 2025 <i>Mrs. Herring moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes, September 16, 2025. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	APPROVAL OF MINUTES A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: 1. Regular Meeting Minutes September 16, 2025 Motion made and passed to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes, September 16, 2025. Motion passed.
7.		SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Dr. Parlato stated October is one of her favorite months of the school year. All the planning that is done over the summer comes into full view. The district is now using Bookworms and is in its third year of a new math program. High impact instructional strategies have been implemented. Everything works to support student learning and create consistency across the district.	SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
8.		BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT Mrs. Sarich stated the Capital Reserve withdrawal has been completed. Mrs. Sarich stated the Board and district send their condolences to the friends and family of those recently lost.	BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
9.		SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT'S A. Policy Mrs. McInerney stated there were no policies on the agenda and the October meeting was cancelled. B. Committee on Learning	SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT'S A. Policy B. Committee on Learning C. Facilities D. Operations

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

4

	Mrs. Herring stated there are 15 course proposals to review. Mrs. Herring thanked administrators for continually thinking outside the box to meet students' needs. Dr. Parlato added that the changes being made do not require additional staff. C. Facilities Mr. O'Brien stated Mr. Cunningham will update the Board on projects. There was not much to report since the October meeting was cancelled. D. Operations Mrs. Faulenbach stated the reports would be reviewed in the meeting. The October meeting was cancelled so the Board could attend the town meeting.	
--	--	--

10.	DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION A. Monthly Reports Budget Position dated September 16, 2025 Purchase Resolution: D-799 Request for Budget Transfers Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the Capital Reserve account reflects the dollar amount approved. Mr. Giovannone stated no, it will be reflected in the November report. Mrs. Faulenbach noted the turf field account has to be updated to reflect the \$100,000 deposit, which should be matched by the town. Once that is complete the account will be close to \$1,100,000. Mr. Giovannone stated that it will be updated after the January audit. Mrs. Faulenbach asked how the ESG revenue line is adjusted. Mr. Giovannone stated the savings from electricity and oil will fall to the bottom line. We don't have an offsetting revenue. Whatever we don't pay to any vendor that provides the commodity, the balance falls to the bottom line and is used to pay the Bank of America payment each year in December.	DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION A. Monthly Reports Budget Position dated September 16, 2025 Purchase Resolution: D-799 Request for Budget Transfers
-----	---	---

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

5

		Mrs. Faulenbach stated the budget transfer savings is great but questioned when it was discussed by the Board. Dr. Parlato stated it was discussed over the summer. The rate the state set for Agriscience tuition came in lower than expected, and that savings will be used towards the architectural and engineering study for the NMHS culinary program. Mrs. Faulenbach asked how athletic transportation invoices are different from actual anticipated athletic transportation. Mr. Giovannone stated those have already occurred and they had to sub out Allstar because they could not fulfill those runs. There's anticipated payments as well for Liberty. It's the same service, but different vendors. Some of Liberty's billing has been delayed. Allstar may be able to provide transportation for the remainder of the year and athletic trips are not encumbered. Mr. Barile asked where the money goes if it's not used. Mr. Giovannone stated it falls to the bottom line. <i>Mr. McCauley moved to approve the Budget Position dated September 16, 2025; Purchase Resolution D-799; and Request for Budget Transfers. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.</i> Course Proposals	
	B. 1. Intro to Career Readiness 2. Draft and Design 2 3. Intro to Drafting and Design 4. AP Business with Personal Finance 5. ECE-Human Geography - SCSU 6. Citizenship 7. Summit Math III 8. Summit Health and Wellness 9. Summit English III: Identity, Society and Capstone		Moton made to approve the Budget Position dated September 16, 2025; Revised Purchase Resolution D-799; and Request for Budget Transfers. Motion passed unanimously. B. Course Proposals 1. Intro to Career Readiness 2. Draft and Design 2 3. Intro to Drafting and Design 4. AP Business with Personal Finance 5. ECE-Human Geography - SCSU

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

6

		10. Math Lab 11. Explorations in Physical Science 1 and 2 12. Nets and Recreational Games 13. Group Fitness 14. Yoga and Pilates 15. Team Sports <i>Mrs. Herring moved to approve the the following course proposals: Intro to Career Readiness, Draft and Design 2, Intro to Drafting and Design, AP Business with Personal Finance, ECE-Human Geography - SCSU, Citizenship, Summit Math III, Summit Health and Wellness, Summit English III: Identity, Society and Capstone, Math Lab, Explorations in Physical Science 1 and 2, Nets and Recreational Games, Group Fitness, Yoga and Pilates and Team Sports. Seconded by Mr. Barile. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	6. Citizenship 7. Summit Math III 8. Summit Health and Wellness 9. Summit English III: Identity, Society and Capstone 10. Math Lab 11. Explorations in Physical Science 1 and 2 12. Nets and Recreational Games 13. Group Fitness 14. Yoga and Pilates 15. Team Sports Motion made and passed to approve the following course proposals: Intro to Career Readiness, Draft and Design 2, Intro to Drafting and Design, AP Business with Personal Finance, ECE-Human Geography - SCSU, Citizenship, Summit Math III, Summit Health and Wellness, Summit English III: Identity, Society and Capstone, Math Lab, Explorations in Physical Science 1 and 2, Nets and Recreational Games, Group Fitness, Yoga and Pilates and Team Sports. Motion passed unanimously.
	C. Leave of Absence Request: Ms. Vilma Alonso, NMHS secretary, from October 14 through the end of the 2025-26 school year for personal reasons.		C. Leave of Absence Request: Ms. Vilma Alonso, NMHS secretary, from October 14 through the end of the 2025-26 school year for personal reasons.

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

7

		<i>Mr. O'Brien moved to approve the Leave of Absence Request for Ms. Vilma Alonso, NMHS secretary, from October 14 through the end of the 2025-26 school year for personal reasons. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	Moton made to approve the Leave of Absence Request for Ms. Vilma Alonso, NMHS secretary, from October 14 through the end of the 2025-26 school year for personal reasons. Motion passed unanimously.
11.	A.	ITEMS OF INFORMATION Registration and Residency Update Dr. Parlato stated they added a secretarial position for the 25/26 school year. The position is meant to streamline and standardize the registration process. Having one person input info into the state reporting system will ensure cleaner data. The position also determines if someone's address needs to be updated. This secretary does research and initial steps in residency investigation by looking at property transfers, etc. This year all incoming 6th grade families had to resubmit proof of residency. Mrs. Faulenbach asked what proof needed to be provided. Dr. Parlato stated it needed to be a utility bill and mortgage statement or rental agreement. Mrs. Sarich suggested having incoming 3rd grade families have to re-register as well. Dr. Parlato stated the person began in August and they did not have the time to expand beyond 6th grade. Now that they are fully onboard it will be expanded. Mrs. Sarich asked who was monitoring the Danbury city bus that stops in front of the high school. Dr. Parlato stated they have an administrator there checking names as they get off the bus. Mrs. Sarich asked how the 6th grade families responded to the re-registration process. Dr. Parlato stated it went very well.	ITEMS OF INFORMATION A. Registration and Residency Update

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

8

	Mrs. Sarich asked what the district does now that there aren't as many hard copy mailings that get returned, a clear indicator someone has moved. Dr. Parlato stated they look at property transfers. Mrs. McInerney asked how many mailings go out. Dr. Parlato stated there are still a few mailings a year. Mr. Barile suggested having all families in the district submit proof of residency. Dr. Parlato stated they are not doing it for every grade as it would be a giant task. Mrs. Faulenbach asked what percentage of kids were not residents. Dr. Parlato stated there were some that had to be investigated. Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the job is quantified. Dr. Parlato stated it is. It is ½ registration and the other ½ supports Ms. Hollander's office. It is also avoidance and the data is cleaner. B. Pathways Explorations at SMS Dr. Parlato stated that a STEM teacher at the middle school resigned. It's a position that is hard to hire for, so they had to pivot and create a course called Pathways Explorations. This course enables the district to hire a school counselor to teach the course and school counselors are in more abundance. This helps ensure kids are not in study halls. They will try and recruit for STEM. Mrs. Herring asked if it was a graded class. Dr. Parlato stated yes. C. Facilities Ongoing Projects Mr. Cunningham reviewed the various facilities projects, which includes RFPs for Central Office spaces, locations at the high school for a culinary program, swapping out for pressurized fire hydrants at Northville, and the replacement of the tennis courts at the high school. Mrs. Sarich asked if the district was going to replace the tennis courts without assistance from the town. Mr. Cunningham stated they were. Mrs. Sarich asked if they would be locked when not in use by	B. Pathways Explorations at SMS C. Facilities Ongoing Projects
--	---	--

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

9

	the school. Dr. Parlato stated that would have to be discussed. Mr. O'Brien asked if there was a location identified for the culinary program. Mr. Cunningham stated it is still being looked into. Utility access, egress and other factors have to be considered. Mr. O'Brien stated he is happy to hear the project is moving along, Mrs. Herring agreed. D. Employment Report - October 2025 Mrs. Herring asked how many positions are open for para professionals and student care workers, and if it is affecting the student's IEP's and 504's. Dr. Parlato replied that the staff is doing their best and the students with significant disabilities are covered. Dr. Culkin added that they are working with staffing agencies to fill vacancies. There has been an influx of applicants over the last few weeks. Mrs. Herring asked how many they were short. Dr. Culkin stated she would send it to the Board. Mrs. Herring asked if the position for the language teacher had been filled. Dr. Parlato stated that it has been filled but they are starting later so it will be reflected on the November report. Mrs. McInerney commented on the woodworking teacher resigning and how it is a difficult position to fill. Mrs. McInerney asked what will happen since the course has already started. Dr. Parlato stated she is able to hold the teacher for 30 days so the students currently in class will receive a half credit. The projects can be done with a substitute, but they are working on finding a replacement. The position is currently posted. Mrs. McInerney noted it is a hard area to find a teacher with such a skill set since they can make more money elsewhere. It is important to provide opportunities for students to do things with their hands.	D. Employment Report - October 2025
--	---	---

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

10

		Mr. Barile asked what the specific qualifications are, and if it can be a non-certified position. Mrs. McInerney stated a teacher has to be certified. Dr. Parlato stated it can be taught by someone who is familiar with wood working as long as a certified teacher oversees the work and it has to be the right certification. Someone who is not certified can do up to 20 hours but has to be attached to a certified teacher. Mrs. Faulenbach asked Mr. Giovannone if filling the school nurse position would be a savings over a contractual service. Mr. Giovannone stated yes. E. Enrollment Report - October 2025 Dr. Parlato stated October is the gold standard. The projections are still good even though they're older and the change in the starting age for Kindergarten has had an effect on the numbers. Mrs. McInerney asked if the high school numbers include the students who may go off to Shepaug or Abbot Tech. Dr. Parlato stated no. Mrs. Faulenbach stated it is a good time to do a new enrollment study. Dr. Parlato stated they looked into it last year but the bids came back with a wide range of prices and they decided to hold off on doing one. Mrs. Herring asked if the bids included the company that did the previous enrollment study. Mr. Giovannone stated no, they did not submit for the RFP. F. October Fundraising Report No discussion. G. Field trip Report No discussion.	E. Enrollment Report - October 2025 F. October Fundraising Report G. Field trip Report
12.		<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u>	<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u>

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

11

		Discussion and possible action regarding ratification of successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford School Administrators Association. Executive session anticipated. <i>Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of review and consideration of the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford School Administrators Association and that the Board further invite into the executive session Superintendent Parlato and Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach. Motion passed unanimously.</i> <i>The Board entered Executive Session at 7:33pm.</i> <i>The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:51pm.</i> <i>Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board ratify the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford School Administrators Association and authorize the Board Chairperson to execute such collective bargaining agreement subject to any necessary legal review and non-substantive changes. Seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	Discussion and possible action regarding ratification of successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford School Administrators Association. Executive session anticipated. Motion made and approved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of review and consideration of the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford School Administrators Association and that the Board further invite into the executive session Superintendent Parlato and Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made to approve that the Board ratify the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford School Administrators Association and authorize the Board Chairperson to execute such collective bargaining agreement subject to any necessary legal review and non-substantive changes. Motion passed unanimously.
13.		<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u>	<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u>

**New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

12

	Discussion and possible action regarding ratification of successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and proposed memoranda of agreement between the Board and Union relating to the same. Executive session anticipated. <i>Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of review and consideration of the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and proposed memoranda of agreement between the Board and the Union relating to the same and that the Board further invite into the executive session Superintendent Parlato and Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.</i> <i>The Board entered Executive Session at 7:52pm.</i> <i>The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:03pm.</i> <i>Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board ratify the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and authorize the Board Chairperson to execute such collective bargaining agreement subject to any</i>	Discussion and possible action regarding ratification of successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and proposed memoranda of agreement between the Board and Union relating to the same. Executive session anticipated. Motion made to approve that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of review and consideration of the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and the New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and proposed memoranda of agreement between the Board and the Union relating to the same and that the Board further invite into the executive session Superintendent Parlato and Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made to approve that the Board ratify the proposed successor collective bargaining agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and
--	---	---

New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 21, 2025
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

13

		<i>necessary legal review and non-substantive changes. Seconded by Mr. Barile. Motion passed unanimously.</i> <i>Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board approve the proposed memoranda of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and authorize the Board Chairperson to execute such memoranda of understanding subject to any necessary legal review and non-substantive changes. Seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Motion passed unanimously.</i>	authorize the Board Chairperson to execute such collective bargaining agreement subject to any necessary legal review and non-substantive changes. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made to approve that the Board approve the proposed memoranda of agreement between the New Milford Board of Education and New Milford Board of Education Nurses Local 1303-154 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO and authorize the Board Chairperson to execute such memoranda of understanding subject to any necessary legal review and non-substantive changes. Motion passed unanimously.
14.		ADJOURN <i>Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Vote passed unanimously.</i>	ADJOURN Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Tammy McInerney
Secretary
New Milford Board of Education