

**New Milford Board of Education
 Committee on Learning Meeting Motion & Minutes
 February 3, 2026
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

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 NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Sarah Herring, Chairperson Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mr. Dean Barile Mr. Joseph Failla
Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Linda Demeyer, Principal Schaghticoke Middle School Mrs. Shannon Surreira, assistant principal Schaghticoke Middle School Mrs. Theresa McGuinness, Teacher Math Grade 8 and Department Head Mrs. Karen Bosco, Data Content Coach New Milford High School
Absent:	

1.	Call to Order The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mrs. Sarah Herring.	Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2.	Public Comment None	Public Comment None
3.	Items of Information A. Middle School Math Update Mrs. Demeyer presented an update on the Schaghticoke Middle School math program. Previously, teachers were having to create or source their own materials. The school had a curriculum but it didn't have common resources. To alleviate this issue and to build consistency, the middle school adopted a new program, Savvas Envision Program. Mrs. Surreira stated it creates growth and commonalities for cohesive learning progressions. Savvas helps with mathematical real life connections with a strong emphasis on visual representation. The data-driven differentiation tailors instruction to meet the diverse needs of all learners. Mrs. Surreira stated the iReady is based on diagnostics, and with the Envision program, the students take daily quizzes and work is assigned accordingly. Data comes in daily, which helps teachers know what materials to use, and re-teach where needed. Mrs. Demeyer stated they recognized the need to	Items of Information A. Middle School Math Update

support teachers with the new program. Teachers have met in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) with representatives from EdAdvance to help them understand what the essential understandings are for the units. The newly implemented Lab Classroom gives extra time for consultants with the teachers.

Mrs. Surreira stated the program takes a sophisticated approach to data. The results are essentially real-time, so teachers can respond to the students' needs quickly. The IABs are targeted assessments that are administered based on specific claims and targets. The IABs serve multiple services; it is a great practice tool to prepare for higher stake assessments.

Mr. Barile asked how often students are being assessed. Mrs. Surreira said IABs are 4 times a year. The targeted assessments are allowing teachers to have more overarching conversations about the grade level, and not just their individual classrooms.

Mr. Barile asked if the testing platforms and state questions are all similar. Mrs. Surreira stated they are modeled to have similarities. Mrs. McGuinness added, students may have a learning curve of understanding on how to answer a question, it may be as simple as realizing an answer had to be dragged and dropped into a box.

Mrs. McInerney noted that the district utilizes iReady for internal use as well as for testing. Mrs. Demeyer stated yes, iReady is used internally, preparing the students for state testing. It is also a mathematics program. In grades 6-8 students take the iReady diagnostic. Savvas is the program for grades 6-8. Mrs. McInerney asked to clarify that everything was consistent, so that curriculum was leading to the diagnostics, then to the testing and the supporting materials. Mrs. Demeyer stated that was correct and they are conscious to not overdo it. So far the data they have collected has been extremely helpful.

Mrs. McInerney stated she is happy to hear the teachers are able to collaborate.

Mr. Failla asked if it was exclusively an online platform. Mrs. Surreira stated the foundations are the common core standards. There are workbooks the

students use every day. Mrs. Demeyer stated the teachers will have students do the test on the computer but have them do the work on a piece of paper. The teacher can then see how the student got to their answer, If they were incorrect, see why they were.

Mr. Failla stated that math is a serious problem in the U.S. and there is significant concern. Mr. Failla asked why they are no longer teaching through memorization. Mrs. Demeyer stated instructional programs are now teaching diagrams and number sense, but we are at a point of needing to combine both.

Mrs. McGuinness stated students are working in small groups and the thought processes are working. Students are realizing they are good at math. Savvas can target students that need enrichment and those that need reteaching. It is helping students apply strategies and problem solve. There is great discourse going on student-to-teacher and student-to-student.

Mrs. McInerney stated it is great to have students learn from one another.

Mrs. McGuinness stated the students are starting to read and write like mathematicians. They are getting used to the pacing but they are reading it and understanding it.

Mr. Barile stated math is a building process and asked if there are still gaps. Mrs. Demeyer stated there are but those gaps are being addressed. There is growth happening.

Mr. Failla stated he would welcome the opportunity to observe in the classroom.

B. Curriculum Development and Alignment

Ms. Hollander stated there are annual course proposals and curriculum for review and approval. When reviewing curriculum there is a need to align other facets, such as the portrait of a lifelong learner, and instructional keystones for effective teaching. It is important not to work in silos as we do curriculum revision, and to be cohesive. It is important to have tasks in place so students are engaged.

B. Curriculum Development and Alignment

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	<p>Ms. Hollander stated she is happy to discuss the curriculum development process, and is reviewing what might work before committing it to formalization.</p> <p>Mrs. McInerney asked when curriculum will be reviewed again. Ms. Hollander stated it will be in May and June.</p>	
4.	<p>Public Comment None</p>	<p>Public Comment None</p>
5.	<p>Adjourn <i>Mr. Barile moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. McInerney, with all voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.</i></p>	<p>Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.</p>

Respectfully submitted:



Sarah Herring, Chairperson
 Committee on Learning