

**New Milford Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2019
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	Mr. David A. Lawson, Chairman Mrs. Angela C. Chastain Mr. Bill Dahl Mr. Joseph Failla Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mrs. Eileen P. Monaghan Mr. J.T. Schemm	RECEIVED TOWN CLERK 2019 AUG 22 P 12:55
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NEW MILFORD, CT

Also Present:	Dr. Kerry Parker, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Operations and Fiscal Services Mr. Kevin Munrett, Facilities Director Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Mr. Brandon Rush, Director of Technology Mrs. Anne Bilko, Principal, Sarah Nobel Intermediate School Dr. Chris Longo, Principal, Schaghticoke Middle School Mrs. Ashley Albanese, Teacher, LHTC Mrs. Roxanne Kraft, Teacher, LHTC
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1. A.	Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance The regular meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed the call to order.	Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance
2.	Public Comment There was none.	Public Comment
3.	PTO Report There was no report. Mr. Lawson said he is looking forward to hearing from the PTO next month when schools are back in session.	PTO Report
4.	Student Representative's Report	Student Representative's Report

	Mr. Lawson said the student representatives also will return next month when schools are back in session.	
5.	Approval of Minutes A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: 1. Regular Meeting Minutes July 16, 2019 Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes July 16, 2019, seconded by Mrs. McInerney and passed 8-0-1. Aye: Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Chastain, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Failla, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. McCauley, Mrs. McInerney, Mrs. Monaghan Abstain: Mr. Schemm	Approval of Minutes A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: 1. Regular Meeting Minutes July 16, 2019 Motion made and passed to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes July 16, 2019.
6.	Superintendent's Report Dr. Parker said this is week 8 of her tenure and she wanted to recognize the work of her leadership team. Their support has been invaluable in continuing the work of the district. A successful two day administrative retreat was held last week, allowing for data reviewing and goal setting. She attended Freshman Orientation at the high school this morning. She and Mr. Munrett, along with a few of the Board members, attended the most recent Municipal Building Committee meeting. The Mayor was also in attendance. The meeting was very positive and she was impressed with the membership of the committee. She is hopeful that relief for the high school roof will come. PreK numbers are high and may become an issue to be addressed next month.	Superintendent's Report
7.	Board Chairman's Report Mr. Lawson said staff is busy prepping for the opening of schools. He said he was pleased to see the progress on the SNIS roof and looks	Board Chairman's Report

	forward to the Municipal Building Committee finding solutions for the high school roof.	
8.	Committee And Liaison Reports	Committee And Liaison Reports
A.	Facilities Sub-Committee – Mr. McCauley Mr. McCauley said there was no meeting in August. He and some of the Central Office administrators met with Celtic Energy and the company will present to the Facilities Sub-Committee in September. That meeting will also include an update on roofs and other items.	A. Facilities Sub-Committee
B.	Operations Sub-Committee – Mrs. Faulenbach - Mrs. Faulenbach said there was no meeting in August. Items have been added to tonight's agenda. The requested capital reserve in the amount of \$96,511 has been approved by the Town. The Board expects to go back with additional requests and it will be an item on the Operations Sub-Committee agenda in September. - Mr. Lawson said he attended the Board of Finance meeting and informed them of that intention.	B. Operations Sub-Committee
C.	Policy Sub-Committee – Mrs. McInerney Mrs. McInerney said there was no meeting in August. There are seven policies on tonight's agenda for approval. The next meeting will be September 3, where the focus will be on policy changes required by statute.	C. Policy Sub-Committee
D.	Committee on Learning – Mr. Schemm There were no summer meetings. The next meeting in September will review four curricula.	D. Committee on Learning
E.	EdAdvance – Mrs. Monaghan Mrs. Monaghan said EdAdvance held their opening convocation. Next month's meeting will be at their new Plainville location. Dr. Kitching	E. EdAdvance

	met with Dr. Parker to review what EdAdvance offers the district. F. Connecticut Boards of Education (CABE) – Mr. Lawson - Mr. Lawson said that it is not too late to sign up for the convention workshops. Just let the Superintendent’s Office know if you are interested. He said CABE is also beginning discussion regarding new grading policies. G. Magnet School – Mrs. Monaghan - Mrs. Monaghan said there have been no summer meetings, and that the next one will probably be in October.	F. Connecticut Boards of Education (CABE) G. Magnet School
9.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies for Approval 1325 Advertising and Promotion 1330 Use of School Facilities 1331 Smoking 1411 Relations with Police Authorities 1412 Fire Department 1430 State and Federal Aid 1620 Relations with Private Schools, Colleges and Universities Mr. McCauley moved to approve the following Policies: 1325 Advertising and Promotion 1330 Use of School Facilities 1331 Smoking 1411 Relations with Police Authorities 1412 Fire Department 1430 State and Federal Aid 1620 Relations with Private Schools, Colleges and Universities Seconded by Mrs. Monaghan and passed unanimously.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies for Approval 1325 Advertising and Promotion 1330 Use of School Facilities 1331 Smoking 1411 Relations with Police Authorities 1412 Fire Department 1430 State and Federal Aid 1620 Relations with Private Schools, Colleges and Universities Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Policies: 1325 Advertising and Promotion 1330 Use of School Facilities 1331 Smoking 1411 Relations with Police Authorities 1412 Fire Department 1430 State and Federal Aid

		7. 1620 Relations with Private Schools, Colleges and Universities
10.	Items For Information And Discussion - Mr. Lawson said these items are for information only since the Board had previously delegated these approvals to the Superintendent for the summer months. A. Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated August 20, 2019 - Mrs. Monaghan asked how staffing was going. Ms. Baldelli said there are four certified openings with interviews scheduled. There are two non-certified paraeducator vacancies but they are reviewing numbers for those. - Mr. Schemm asked if giving the Superintendent authorization to hire helps with retention of new staff. Ms. Baldelli said it is extremely helpful to be able to extend an offer right away and have the candidate sign the contract. The market is very competitive and the district would lose qualified candidates otherwise. She thanked the Board for allowing the practice. - Mr. Lawson said it was nice to see two teachers returning to the district, noting he hoped it would become a trend. B. Monthly Reports Budget Position Purchase Resolution: D-725 Request for Budget Transfers - Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the 51201 non-certified encumbrance was earlier than last year. Mr. Giovannone said it was. This report is as of July 31 and they have been working on encumbrances, including payroll. The first teacher pay day is August 30 and they will do an encumbrance proof after that, making adjustments as needed. - Mr. McCauley said it was good to see.	Items For Information And Discussion A. Exhibit A: Personnel – Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated August 20, 2019 B. Monthly Reports Budget Position Purchase Resolution: D-725 Request for Budget Transfers

- Mr. Giovannone noted other encumbrances not done yet including those for All Star, oil, electric, health insurance, ESS and Shepaug and Nonnewaug.
- Mr. Giovannone said the first page shows the pension amount overdrawn by a small amount. The actual number comes from the Town. A transfer will be needed.
- The capital amount on page 4 does not reflect the \$96,511 approved withdrawal. When that is made, the balance will be \$677,505.
- Mrs. Chastain asked if all of New Milford's magnet school seats are filled and if not could the open seat(s) be sold to a district in need. Mr. Giovannone said he would check.
- Mr. Giovannone said there were no transfers requested this month.
- Mrs. Faulenbach asked about the Aquarion Water charge on the purchase resolution and how it tied into the 54411 water line on the budget position, since they are different totals. Mr. Giovannone said he would check.
- Mrs. Faulenbach asked where MUNIS is paid from. Mr. Giovannone said from the Business Professional Services line.

C. Direct Donations and Fundraisers Report

- Mr. Lawson said this is a remarkable list and gave thanks to all for the over \$161,000 support. It is a testament to the community and their willingness to augment district programs.
- Mrs. McInerney agreed it is outstanding and important for the community to see.
- Mr. Giovannone said he is open to suggestions for any change in format going forward.
- Mr. Schemm asked if these funds go into activity accounts, and what the Board responsibility is there. Mr. Giovannone said the Board approves signatories for these accounts and they are all audited.
- Mrs. Faulenbach noted that the auditors had requested tightening of these accounts several years ago and there hasn't been a problem since. Mr. Giovannone said discussion continues with the auditors who would prefer that all goes

C. Direct Donations and Fundraisers Report

through MUNIS, but that can create timing issues. The auditors are satisfied that there is no deficiency.

D. LHTC Program: Possible Location Change

- Mrs. Olson thanked the Board for their support of the LHTC Program that provides mandated services to students aged 18-21. She said this is the program's twelfth year and they are growing out of their present environment at the MAXX. There is no room for privacy, issues meeting student needs and behavior support, limited access to the kitchen and no access to the facility between 10 and 2 due to other events. Students go out to the community during that time instead. Numbers for the program will be increasing over the next few years. She would like to start the discussion with the Board about finding another space.
- Mrs. McInerney asked if Mrs. Olson had facilities to suggest. Mrs. Olson said she had thought of the JPCC but that has limits as well and is not centrally located. She said they had an unofficial meeting with the Mayor and looked at the old paint store in the center but it needs a huge amount of reconstruction for ADA compliance and safety.
- Mrs. Chastain asked about needed building parameters. Mrs. Olson said it would need to be ADA compliant regarding steps and bathrooms, wheelchair accessible and up to code.
- Mrs. Monaghan asked if the program runs all year. Mrs. Olson said it is school year.
- Mrs. McInerney asked what the program times are. Mrs. Albanese said students are with them from 8:40 a.m. until 3:05 p.m. Mrs. McInerney said this is an important conversation to start.
- Mrs. Faulenbach agreed and she said she would like to see it come back to committee throughout the year, with budget needs developed. She strongly supports the collaboration with the Town.

D. LHTC Program: Possible Location Change

E.	Field Trip Report There were no questions.	E. Field Trip Report
11.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Interview and discuss candidate for the position of Assistant Principal at SMS. Executive session is anticipated. Mrs. McInerney moved to enter into Executive Session to interview and discuss the candidate for the position of Assistant Principal at SMS, and invite into the session Dr. Kerry Parker, Ms. Ellamae Baldelli and the candidate, seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously. The Board, Dr. Parker, Ms. Baldelli and the candidate entered executive session at 8:05 p.m. The candidate left executive session at 8:21 p.m. The Board returned to public session at 8:40 p.m. B. Appointment of candidate to the position of Assistant Principal at SMS Motion made by Mrs. Chastain that the Board of Education approve the appointment of: Mrs. Sasha Salem as Assistant Principal at SMS effective on or about August 22, 2019; 2019-2020 salary – \$118,412.00, prorated to start date. Motion seconded by Mrs. McInerney. The motion passed unanimously. C. To discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation involving the NMEA. Executive session is anticipated. Mr. Dahl moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect	Discussion and Possible Action A. Interview and discuss candidate for the position of Assistant Principal at SMS. Executive session is anticipated. Motion made and passed unanimously to enter into Executive Session to interview and discuss the candidate for the position of Assistant Principal at SMS, and invite into the session Dr. Kerry Parker, Ms. Ellamae Baldelli and the candidate. B. Appointment of candidate to the position of Assistant Principal at SMS Motion made and passed unanimously that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Mrs. Sasha Salem as Assistant Principal at SMS effective on or about August 22, 2019; 2019-2020 salary - \$118,412.00, prorated to start date. C. To discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation involving the NMEA. Executive session is anticipated. Motion made and passed unanimously to enter into Executive

	to pending litigation involving the NMEA, and invite into the session Dr. Kerry Parker, Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Mr. Anthony Giovannone and Attorney William Connon, seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously. The Board entered executive session at 8:42 p.m. The Board returned to public session at 9:56 p.m. Motion made by Mrs. McInerney that the Board of Education authorize the Business Office to issue payments to individual teachers who worked on the days of concern in 2015-16 as awarded by the arbitrator. Motion seconded by Mrs. Monaghan. The motion passed unanimously.	Session to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation involving the NMEA, and invite into the session Dr. Kerry Parker, Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Mr. Anthony Giovannone and Attorney William Connon. Motion made and passed unanimously that the Board of Education authorize the Business Office to issue payments to individual teachers who worked on the days of concern in 2015-16 as awarded by the arbitrator.
12.	Adjourn Mr. Dahl moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 p.m., seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Angela C. Chastain
Secretary
New Milford Board of Education