New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
October 20, 2026
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
2026 OCT 27 A 8:25
NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Leslie Sarich, Chairperson Mr. Eric Hansell, Vice Chairperson Mrs. Sarah Herring, Secretary Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Brian McCauley Mr. Joseph Failla Mr. Tom O'Brien
Absent:	Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Assistant Secretary

Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Mr. Matthew Cunningham, Director of Facilities Mrs. Linda Demeyer, Director of Human Resources Mr. Jeffrey Turner, Director of Technology Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Dr. Kimberly Culkin, Director of Student Services Mr. Mark Porter, Student Representative Ms. Mackenzie Schell, Student Representative

1.	**A.**	**Call to Order** Pledge of Allegiance The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 6:32 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** Ms. Elyse Roma, 8 Owens Ln., stated she is working on her Silver Award project for Girl Scouts. The project idea is to offer child care for parents during parent teacher conferences. It would allow parents who do not have access to a babysitter to have a private conference. This would help lead to higher attendance. Ms. Irene Skrybailo, 305 Pumpkin Hill Rd., stated she is disappointed Turning Point USA is creating a chapter at the high school. It is a known hate group.	**Public Comment**

		How will this make kids of color or different orientation feel. Ms. Skrybailo strongly urged the school board to turn down their application. Ms. Lisa Breese, 6 Barons Lane, stated she has a student at New Milford High School. Under federal law, clubs must be student initiated, and outside persons cannot control them. The Republican Town Committee chair confirmed they were exploring a Turning Point club. Ms. Breese asked for information regarding who initiated the request, the application process and how it stands against charter agreements.	
3.		**IDEAL STUDENT RECOGNITION: SCHAGHTICOKE MIDDLE SCHOOL LEARNING LEADERS** Dr. Parlato stated this month, Schaghticoke Middle School Learning Leaders are being recognized for their focus, heart, collaboration and creativity. These students have completed a learning leader rubric. Categories include organization and preparation, willingness to take risks, actively trying new strategies, volunteering, bouncing back from setbacks, and being a wonderful contributor to SMS. Dr. Parlato recognized the following students: William Zeller Georgia Vermillion Maliyah Silva Eden Roma Abigail Rivas Briana Riley Liam Prusakowski Leyli Penaranda Luna Medina Drew Kennedy Samantha Hembrook Gunnar Grahn Irina Filipova Nathaniel DeNatale	**IDEAL STUDENT RECOGNITION: SCHAGHTICOKE MIDDLE SCHOOL LEARNING LEADERS**

		Stella DeGregorio Martina Coellar Carlos Centeno Crew Ayers Meghan Anderson Isabelle Anderson Lily Altemus Mr. Failla apologized for using the phrase "rubber stamp" at the previous board meeting.	
4.		**PTO REPORT** No discussion.	**PTO REPORT**
5.		**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT** Mr. Porter stated Northville Elementary School hosted a Care Citizen lunch, they made good news calls home, celebrated custodians, and the kindergarten class had a field trip to Silverman's Farm. The University of Delaware came to help implement bookworms. PTO hosted a trunk or treat. Ms. Schell stated, thanks to their Mr. Potato Head initiative, Hill and Plain had 97.3% average attendance. The school held a farmers market and their annual color run. Sarah Noble Intermediate School had their Destination SNIS, and their "Start with Hello" week, which helps foster strong relationships between staff and students. There was no response from the middle or high school.	**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**
6.		**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - STATE REPRESENTATIVE BILL BUCKBEE** Representative Buckbee was not present.	**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - STATE REPRESENTATIVE BILL BUCKBEE**
7.		**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:** **1. Regular Meeting Minutes September 15, 2026**	**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:** **1. Regular Meeting Minutes September 15, 2026**

		Mr. Hansell moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes, September 15, 2026. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.	Motion made and passed to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes September 15, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.
8.		**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** Dr. Parlato stated the Board of Education had a workshop prior to the regular board meeting that reviewed student achievement and test scores. The high school received a grant from Whole Foods to support Farm-to-School food. The district has completed the first round of iReady testing.	**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
9.		**BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT** Mrs. Sarich stated she had the pleasure of attending the Farm-to-School presentation. Mr. Dean Barile has resigned from the Board of Education.	**BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**
10.		**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS** **A. Policy** Mrs. McInerney was not present for an update. **B. Committee on Learning** Mrs. Herring stated there was a presentation regarding a student success plan. **C. Facilities** Mr. O'Brien stated the board will be reviewing and voting on the Northville roof replacement project. To qualify for the state grant the Board of Education needs to vote to approve the bid documents. **D. Operations** Mrs. Faulenbach stated the monthly reports are on the agenda. The district has decided not to pursue the theater RFP, but to gather more information.	**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS** **A. Policy** **B. Committee on Learning** **C. Facilities** **D. Operations**

11.		**<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u>**	**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
	A.	**Monthly Reports** **1. Budget Position dated September 30, 2026**	**A. Monthly Reports**

		2. Purchase Resolution: D-810 Revised **3. Request for Budget Transfers** *Mr. McCauley moved to approve the Budget Position dated September 30, 2026; Purchase Resolution D-810 Revised; and Request for Budget Transfers. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.*	**1. Budget Position dated September 30, 2026** **2. Purchase Resolution: D-810 Revised** **3. Request for Budget Transfers** Motion made to approve the Budget Position dated September 30, 2026; Revised Purchase Resolution D-810 Revised; and Request for Budget Transfers. Motion passed unanimously.
	B.	**Northville School Roof Bidding Preparation: Plans, Project Manual, and Cost Estimate** *Mr. McCauley moved that the Board hereby certifies that these final plans and project manual(s) as prepared for bidding and dated October 20, 2026, and the professional cost estimate, completed in accordance with Level 3 of ASTM International Standard E1557, Standard Classification of Building Elements and Related Sitework-UNIFORMAT II for this project, dated October 20, 2026, have been reviewed and approved for this project on the dates shown above. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.*	**B. Northville School Roof Bidding Preparation: Plans, Project Manual, and Cost Estimate** Motion made and passed that the Board hereby certifies that these final plans and project manual(s) as prepared for bidding and dated October 20, 2026, and the professional cost estimate, completed in accordance with Level 3 of ASTM International Standard E1557, Standard Classification of Building Elements and Related Sitework-UNIFORMAT II for this project, dated October 20, 2026, have been reviewed and approved for this project on the dates shown above. Motion passed unanimously.
	C.	**Revised Policies for First Read:**	**C. Revised Policies for First Read:**

		1. **4112.5 Employment and Student Teacher Background Checks 4212.5** 2. **4118.6 Policy Regarding Employee Use of the District's Computer Systems 4218.6 and Electronic Communications** 3. **5131 Student Discipline** No discussion.	1. **4112.5 Employment and Student Teacher Background Checks 4212.5** 2. **4118.6 Policy Regarding Employee Use of the District's Computer Systems 4218.6 and Electronic Communications** 3. **5131 Student Discipline**
	D.	**Revised Policy for Fourth Read:** 1. **6142.1 Curricular Exemptions** Dr. Parlato stated this is a revised policy that allows a parent to opt a student out based on religious beliefs. It is revised language from a Supreme Court case. *Mr. McCauley moved to approve policy 6142.1 Curricular Exemptions. Seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Motion passed unanimously.*	**D. Revised Policy for Fourth Read:** 1. **6142.1 Curricular Exemptions** Motion made to approve policy 6142.1 Curricular Exemptions. Motion passed unanimously.

12.		**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**	**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**
	A.	**Items of Information:** 1. **4118.6 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Use of the District's Computer Systems 4218.6 R and Electronic Communications** 2. **4147.1 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Occupational Safety And Health 4247.1 R (Bloodborne Pathogens)** 3. **5131 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Student Discipline** 4. **5141.221 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Immunizations** 5. **5141.3R Administrative Regulations Regarding Health Assessments/Screenings**	**A. Items of Information:** 1. **4118.6 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Use of the District's Computer Systems 4218.6 R and Electronic Communications** 2. **4147.1 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Occupational Safety And Health 4247.1 R (Bloodborne Pathogens)**

		and Oral Health Assessments District Beliefs About Learning No discussion.	**3. 5131 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Student Discipline** **4. 5141.221 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Immunizations** **5. 5141.3R Administrative Regulations Regarding Health Assessments/Screenings and Oral Health Assessments**
	B.	**District Beliefs About Learning** No discussion.	**B. District Beliefs About Learning**
	C.	**New Milford High School Graduation Date** Dr. Parlato stated graduation is scheduled for June 12, 2027 at 10:00am.	**C. New Milford High School Graduation Date**
	D.	**2027-2028 NMPS Calendar** Dr. Parlato stated the calendar corresponding to the attached memo will be emailed out to the board members. There are 4 early release days for Professional Development as well as full Professional Development days. June 8th is the last day of school.	**D. 2027-2028 NMPS Calendar**
	E.	**Human Resources Department Update** Mrs. Demeyer stated her department has been focusing on improving operational bottlenecks. They have also been streamlining legal and safety mandates to avoid repetition. They are updating Title IX processes, revamping teacher orientation and developing a plan for staff attendance with built in interventions.	**E. Human Resources Department Update**
	F.	**Employment Report - October 2026**	

		Mrs. Demeyer stated there is one certified staff resignation, one retirement and 7 new appointments, including 5 paraeducators.	**F. Employment Report - October 2026**
	G.	**Enrollment Report - October 2026** Dr. Parlato stated the district has 64 more students than what was projected. With the October report complete, the enrollment study will be well on its way to completion..	**G. Enrollment Report - October 2026**
	H.	**Fundraising Report** No discussion.	**H. Fundraising Report**
	I.	**Field Trip Report** No discussion.	**I. Field Trip Report**

13.		**ADJOURN** *Mr. O'Brien moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach. Motion passed unanimously.*	**ADJOURN** Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah E Herring

Mrs. Sarah Herring
Secretary
New Milford Board of Education