New Milford Board of Education
Meeting Motions and Minutes
November 17, 2026
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

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NEW MILFORD, CT

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

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 6:30 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** None.	**Public Comment**
3.		**IDEAL STUDENT RECOGNITION: New Milford Public Highschool** Dr. Parlato recognized students from New Milford High School that are involved in the arts and demonstrate focus, heart, collaboration and creativity. Dr. Parlato recognized the following students:	**IDEAL STUDENT RECOGNITION: New Milford Public Highschool**

		Emma Altemus Daviel Cabrera Agatha Dinglasan Miranda King Ryan Ma Mia Marchena Elias Nelson Jake Perez Eduardo Quiroz Barreno Ashley Salvador Antonio Sandberg Joshua Violette Emma Williams	
4.		**PTO REPORT** None	**PTO REPORT**
5.		**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT** Mr. Porter stated Northville Elementary School had staff set goals to support student learning. They had their annual book character parade on October 30th. Kindergarten celebrated its 50th day of school with a sock-hop. Conferences were held November 10th. They had a Veteran's Day celebration and are having an annual food drive to provide meals for the community. Ms. Schell stated at Hill and Plain School they had their annual book character parade. They celebrated Veteran's Day with veterans visiting classrooms. Kindergarten celebrated its 50th day of school with a sock hop. Hill and Plain was the only school in CT to earn the iReady super stretch distinction in math and reading. The distinction is because 55% of students reached stretch growth in both subjects. Mr. Porter stated there was no report from SNIS. SMS continues to build a culture of belonging. They are participating in a school-wide smart goal. There is the students vs. staff volleyball game this week. Ms. Schell stated New Milford High School had an outstanding performance for Peter and the Star Catcher. SADD is hosting a blood drive November	**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**

		24th. NMHS band got 2nd place at nationals. November 3rd was parent/teacher night.	
6.		**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:** **1. Regular Meeting Minutes October 20, 2026** **2. Special Meeting Minutes October 20, 2026** *Mr. Hansell moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes, dated October 20, 2026. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.* *Mr. McCauley moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes, dated October 20, 2026. Seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Motion passed unanimously.*	**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:** **1. Regular Meeting Minutes October 20, 2026** **2. Special Meeting Minutes October 20, 2026** Motion made and passed to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 20, 2026. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made and passed to approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated October 20, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.
7.		**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** Dr. Parlato stated Hill and Plain school was named a super stretch school by Curriculum Associates. A majority of students made more than a year's growth in reading and math in iReady. Model United Nations won best delegation. Peter and the Star Catcher was an outstanding show with exceptional talent, beautiful sets and detail. Varsity soccer will play in the semi-finals tomorrow. Dr. Parlato wished them luck.	**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
8.		**BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT** Mrs. Sarich stated they are electing new officers next month. She thanked the board and cabinet members for their support over the last year.	**BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**
9.		**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS** **A. Policy** Mrs. McInerney stated there are a few policies on the agenda and an executive session for transportation.	**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS** **A. Policy**

		B. Committee on Learning Mrs. Herring stated there was an update on the PreK Excel program. There was also a presentation by Dr. Parlato about performance workshop next steps.	**B. Committee on Learning**
		C. Facilities Mr. O'Brien stated Mr. Cunningham will give an update on current and future projects.	**C. Facilities**
		D. Operations Mrs. Faulenbach stated there was no meeting and budget reports were included in the agenda.	**D. Operations**

10.		**<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u>**	**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
	A.	**Monthly Reports** **1. Budget Position dated October 31, 2026** **2. Purchase Resolution: D-811** **3. Request for Budget Transfers**	**A. Monthly Reports** **1. Budget Position dated October 31, 2026** **2. Purchase Resolution: D-811** **3. Request for Budget Transfers**
		Mrs. Failla asked about the return on investment for the alternative fuel tax credit. Mr. Giovannone clarified that the fee represents 25% of the qualified credit per the town's contract. Mr. McCauley inquired about the quarterly billing for two tuition-in students. Mr. Giovannone stated he would provide further details. Mrs. Faulenbach asked if a student services category was added to the purchase resolution; Mr. Giovannone confirmed an update to the name of the category to Student Services. Mrs. Faulenbach requested new fiscal year vendors be highlighted prior to budget discussions, which Mr. Giovannone agreed to provide. Regarding the $5,000 increase for JTR transportation raised by Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Giovannone committed to providing documentation.	

		Mrs. McInerney moved to approve the Budget Position dated October 31, 2026; Purchase Resolution D-811; and Request for Budget Transfers. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.	Motion made to approve the Budget Position dated October 31, 2026; Revised Purchase Resolution D-811; and Request for Budget Transfers. Motion passed unanimously.
	B.	**Bid Award - RFP E-2627-005 SMS Gym Video/Audio Upgrade** Mr. Turner stated, if approved the work will happen in January. Responding to Mr. Failla's question, Mr. Turner stated the bids were vastly different due to the video options included. *Mr. Hansell moved to approve Bid Award - RFP E-2627-005 SMS Gym Video/Audio Upgrade. Seconded by Mrs. Herring. Motion passed unanimously.*	**B. Bid Award - RFP E-2627-005 SMS Gym Video/Audio Upgrade** Motion made to approve Bid Award - RFP E-2627-005 SMS Gym Video/Audio Upgrade. Motion passed unanimously.
	C.	**Sherman Tuition Agreement 27/28 - 29/30. Executive Session Anticipated.** *Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the Sherman Tuition Agreement 27/28-29/30, invited into executive session were Superintendent, Dr. Janet Parlato and Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Motion passed unanimously.* *The board entered into executive session at 7:01pm* *The board returned from executive session at 7:13pm* *Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve the Sherman Tuition Agreement 27/28-29/30, effective July 1, 2027. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.*	**C. Sherman Tuition Agreement 27/28 - 29/30. Executive Session Anticipated.** Motion made that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the Sherman Tuition Agreement 27/28-29/30, invited into executive session were Superintendent, Dr. Janet Parlato and Mr. Anthony Giovannone. Motion passed. Motion made and passed to approve the Sherman Tuition Agreement 27/28-29/30, effective July 1, 2027. Motion passed.

	D.	**Discussion and possible action regarding an attorney-client privileged communication about school registration and residency verification. Executive session anticipated.** *Mrs. Sarich moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the attorney-client privileged communication about school registration and residency verification, invited into executive session was Superintendent, Dr. Janet Parlato. Seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Motion passed unanimously.* *The board entered into executive session at 7:14pm* *The board returned from executive session at 7:48pm*	**D. Discussion and possible action regarding an attorney-client privileged communication about school registration and residency verification. Executive session anticipated.** Motion made and passed for the board to enter into executive session for the purpose to discuss the attorney-client privileged communication about school registrations and residency verification. Invited into executive session was Superintendent, Dr. Janet Parlato. Motion passed.
	E.	**Revised Policies for first Read** **1. 4152.6 Family and Medical Leave Act 4252.6** No discussion.	**E. Revised Policies for first Read** **1. 4152.6 Family and Medical Leave Act 4252.6**
	F.	**Revised Policies for Second Read:** **1. 4112.5 Employment and Student Teacher Background Checks 4212.5** **2. 4118.6 Policy Regarding Employee Use of the District Electronic Communications** **3. 5131 Student Discipline** No discussion.	**F. Revised Policies for Second 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** Motion made and passed to approve policies 4112.5, 4212.5,

		Mr. McCauley moved to approve policies 4112.5, 4212.5, 4118.6, 4218.6 and 5131. Seconded by Mr. Hansell. Motion passed unanimously.	4118.6, 4218.6 and 5131. Motion passed unanimously.
	G.	**Policy for Review** **1. 5163: Transportation** *Mrs. McInerney moved for the Board to enter into executive session for the purpose to discuss an attorney-client privileged communication about student transportation. Invited into executive session were Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of New Milford Public Schools and Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.* *The board entered executive session at 7:53pm* *The board returned from executive session at 8:08pm*	**G. Policy for Review** **1. 5163: Transportation** Motion made and passed for the Board to enter into executive session for the purpose to discuss an attorney-client privileged communication about student transportation. Invited into executive session were Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of New Milford Public Schools and Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations. Motion passed.

12.	**A.**	**ITEMS OF INFORMATION** **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 and Oral Health Assessments District Beliefs About Learning**	**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**

		No discussion.	**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.	**Propane Gas Tax Credit Update** Mr. Giovannone stated there were four credits received through the assistance of TransTax Advisors, who charged a 25% fee. Mr. Giovannone stated the funds need to be received as revenue in this year, fall to the bottom line and then can go into Capital Reserve.	**B. Propane Gas Tax Credit Update**
	C.	**NMPS 25-26 Annual Report** Dr. Parlato stated the Annual Report outlines the actions of the board. It is also provided to the town.	**C. NMPS 25-26 Annual Report**
	D.	**Facilities Items** Mr. Cunningham stated an RFP was posted for the middle school elevator modernizations. The Municipal Building Committee has specs for the Northville roof. New Milford High School tennis courts will be posted next month. There is a Phase II for the sidewalks wrapping up next month. The district is receiving a DEMHS grant in the amount of $122,000.	**D. Facilities Items**
	E.	**Employment Report - November 2026** Mrs. Demeyer reported strong certified staff retention, though hiring paraeducators remains challenging. Contracted services are currently being	**E. Employment Report - November 2026**

		used to fill these staffing gaps and meet student needs. Responding to Mrs. Herring's concerns regarding whether contracted staff are fully briefed and if open positions compromise student support, Mrs. Demeyer stated building administrators provide necessary guidance to contracted staff to ensure consistency. Dr. Parlato noted that paraeducator shortages reflect a broader statewide crisis.	
	F.	**Enrollment Report - November 2026** Dr. Parlato stated the report is still close to projected. In December there will be a presentation with the new projection numbers.	**F. Enrollment Report - November 2026**
	G.	**Fundraising Report** No discussion.	**G. Fundraising Report**
	H.	**Field Trip Report** No discussion.	**H. Field Trip Report**

12.		**ADJOURN** *Mr. O'Brien moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hansell Motion passed unanimously.*	**ADJOURN** Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah E Herring

Mrs. Sarah Herring
Secretary
New Milford Board of Education