New Milford Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes December 9, 2014 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

Present:	Mrs. Angela C. Chastain, Chairperson		0	
	Mr. Robert Coppola		3	6.5
	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach	C	ò`	
	Mr. David A. Lawson	The Part of the Part of the	A	
	Mr. Dave Littlefield		~ .	
	Mr. David R. Shaffer	<u></u>	2	
	Mrs. Daniele Shook	<u> </u>	B	1
	Mr. John W. Spatola	to a	0	
	Mrs. Theresa Volinski		2014	

Als	so Present:	 Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Joshua Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources Mr. Jay Hubelbank, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Ms. Roberta Pratt, Director of Technology Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager
		Mr. Eric Vazquez, Student Representative

1.		Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance The 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 Pledge of Allegiance
2.	А.	 Recognition NMPS Retirees: Mrs. Marissa Froehlich and Mrs. Gayle Stewart Dr. Paddyfote acknowledged two teachers who are retiring from the system – Mrs. Gayle Stewart who has been in the district for 26 ½ years and Mrs. Marissa Froehlich who has been in the district for 21 ½ years. The meeting recessed at 7:32 p.m. for a brief reception and reconvened at 7:40 p.m. 	Recognition A. NMPS Retirees: Mrs. Marissa Froehlich and Mrs. Gayle Stewart
3.		Public Comment	Public Comment
		• John Spatola, a New Milford resident, said he	

was angry that the New Milford taxpayer is not being properly represented by its elected officials because of the policies of the Board of Education. He said if Board members come to subcommittee meetings and they are not seated with the Board, they are not allowed to speak other than at public participation. He said this does not allow for an exchange of ideas. He felt this practice should be amended to allow participation from all members. He also felt public participation should be held at the end of the meeting or at the beginning and the end.

- Jill Olejniczak, a New Milford resident, spoke about the closing of John Pettibone School and how crowded Schaghticoke Middle School was when she went to school there. She suggested the Board wait three years to close John Pettibone to allow the population to decrease so that the school is not overcrowded for the children. She noted class sizes were promised to be 19 and her daughter's class is already over 19 students.
- Sandi Giancaspro, a New Milford resident, said she read the 1000 series of the Board's policies and it says that the Board could allow public participation throughout the meeting at the Chair's discretion. She also said that no one, as far as she knew, had heard anything from Arum & Associates despite their promise to hold forums around Thanksgiving. She said she held her own focus group and handed the Board a series of questions that were raised at that forum.
- Ann Marie Sarbello, a New Milford resident, said she had recommendations for the Board on policy changes – they included a cap on the number of students per class per grade level, a maximum length of time for a bus ride to school and back, and a maximum number of students on a bus. She also noted parents have not been contacted yet for these focus groups and said it will probably now be next year before they are held. She asked what the purpose of these focus groups would be if decisions are already being made. She asked

6. A.	Approval of Minutes Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes 1. Special Meeting Minutes November 18, 2014	Approval of Minutes A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes 1. Special Meeting Minutes November 18, 2014
5.	 Student Representatives Report The instrumental concert will be this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the theatre. The chorus concert will be next Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the theatre. Winter recess will run from December 23rd to January 5th. Incoming Freshman Night will be January 22nd at 7:00 p.m. 	Student Representatives Report
4.	 PTO Report Mrs. Romaniello congratulated Mrs. Chastain on her election as Chairperson of the Board as well as the other officers elected. The PTO is wrapping up its fall and winter fundraisers. They are a little behind and will have to hold more fundraisers in the spring. Mrs. Romaniello said the PTO received Mrs. Chastain's resignation from their Board and they are sad to see her go after eight years on the Board. 	PTO Report
	 again why the Board was rushing this process. Cheryl Hill, a New Milford resident, spoke about the data collection aspects of common core. She said the data will be shared according to documents she has found which are the opposite of what the Board has been told. She said the Board is not getting the real information and she suggested they have a presentation on the common core from a non-biased group. Sydney Lane, a New Milford resident, said the federal government has no place in taking over the educational system in the states. She also said common core is not a valid measure of student achievement. 	

the Board.

Mr. Coppola moved to approve the special meeting minutes of November 18, 2014, seconded by Mrs. Shook and passed 8-0-1.	Motion made and passed to approve the special meeting minutes of November 18, 2014.
Aye: Mr. Littlefield, Mrs. Chastain, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Coppola, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Spatola, Mrs. Faulenbach Abstain: Mrs. Volinski	
2. Special Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2014	2. Special Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2014
Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the special meeting minutes of December 3, 2014, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.	Motion made to approve the special meeting minutes of December 3, 2014.
• Mr. Lawson recused himself from this vote.	
Mr. Coppola moved to amend the motion to postpone the approval of the minutes of the special meeting of December 3, 2014 until the Board could determine if Mr. Spatola should be listed as present or absent, seconded by Mr. Spatola.	Motion made to postpone the approval of the minutes of the special meeting of December 3, 2014 until the Board could determine if Mr. Spatola should be listed as present or absent.
 Mr. Spatola said he was surprised that no one else was at the meeting so he decided to sit next to his wife at the meeting rather than at the Board table. He noted he was exactly 47" away from the Board table. He said he spoke to an attorney who said there is no white line around the table. He suggested the Board get an opinion from their attorney as well. Mrs. Shook said she spoke with the Board's attorney who said in order for a Board member to be marked present they must be sitting at the table. She has asked for a written opinion since this was just a verbal opinion. Mr. Coppola noted that there was a meeting he missed for the Superintendent's contract and Mr. Littlefield was not present but he was called on the phone for a vote. Mr. Spatola asked why it was okay for a phone vote to be taken but a person sitting in the room but not at the table was not considered part of 	

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	 Dr. Paddufote noted that these minutes were already posted but could be amended and approved by the Board at any time. The amendment passed 4-3-2. Aye: Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Coppola, Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Spatola No: Mrs. Chastain, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mrs. Shook Abstain: Mrs. Volinski, Mr. Lawson 	The motion passed 4-3-2.
7.	Superintendent's Report	Superintendent's Report
	• Dr. Paddyfote said the representatives from Arum & Associates were in the district last week visiting the five schools and spending time with each principal. They looked at all spaces including closet space, classroom space, etc. They have begun to set up schedules with each principal for focus groups and those meetings will be posted to the website. She noted that Arum & Associates has been impressed with the child centered focus of each school. Arum & Associates brainstormed some ideas for the transition with her and Ms. Baldelli and she will also give the items on the list presented during public participation to them for consideration.	
	• Central Office has received the budgets from the schools and different departments for initial review. Mr. Hubelbank is experiencing the challenges of the old AS400 system and is looking forward to the change to the MUNIS system next year. Dr. Paddyfote encouraged Board members to come in and chat with her about the budget if they have any thoughts and ideas.	
	• The winter break will begin after a half day on December 23 rd and school will resume on January 5 th .	
8.	Board Chairman's Report	Board Chairman's Report
	• Mrs. Chastain congratulated the new officers and thanked those who served this past year.	
	 Mrs. Chastain appointed Mrs. Faulenbach parliamentarian. 	

	 Mrs. Chastain asked Board members to select a subcommittee and let her know their interest if they had not done so already. The next Board meeting will be January 20th which will be the initial budget hearings. She noted that the 21st and 27th would be for hearings and the 28th for adoption but asked members to keep January 22nd and 29th open in case of inclement weather. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be the second Tuesday in February. 	
9.	Committee Reports	Committee Liaison Reports
A.	Facilities Sub-Committee	A. Facilities Sub-Committee
	 Mr. Littlefield said the Schaghticoke roof was discussed and there will be a motion presented tonight. Mr. Coppola mentioned the Sarah Noble baseball field and Mr. Littlefield said the Facilities Sub-Committee recommended approving the rejuvenated baseball field which will be used to host Babe Ruth tournaments at no cost to the town. 	
В.	Operations Sub-Committee	B. Operations Sub-Committee
	• Mrs. Faulenbach said all of the items on the Operations Sub-Committee agenda were on tonight's agenda.	
C.	Policy Sub-Committee	C. Policy Sub-Committee
	• Mrs. Chastain said there were four policies on tonight's agenda for second review.	
D.	Committee on Learning	D. Committee on Learning
	 Mr. Lawson said there are curriculum on the agenda for approval and a new course which completes the 9-12 engineering program. Mr. Smith said this is the third year of Project Lead the Way and an audit will be done to 	

	 review the program, meet with teachers and students to get the program certified for college credits with University of New Haven. Mr. Lawson said it is remarkable how much support a local foundation has given to fund this program. 	
E.	Education Connection	E. Education Connection
	 Mr. Coppola said the future regional calendar was discussed though no one seems to know how it will save money for the districts. In 2016-17 all districts will have to follow the regional calendar. He noted that the common core presentation went very well and it will be on the cable station for those interested. Mrs. Chastain said it is also on the website. 	
F.	Connecticut Boards of Education	F. Connecticut Boards of Education
	• There was no report.	
G.	Negotiations Committee	G. Negotiations Committee
	• Mr. Littlefield handed out a sheet with summary highlights of the arbitration award. He said the contract is for three years with salary increases totaling 9.19% over that three year period.	
10.	DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION	DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
А.	 Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 9, 2014 Mr. Coppola asked if the person filling in for the Principal at the high school would get a stipend and Dr. Paddyfote said for medical leave the substitute is compensated in an 	ACTION A. Exhibit A: Personnel — Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated December 9, 2014
	appropriate manner but would not necessarily	
	appear on Exhibit A because they would have been approved previously.	

Mrs. Shook moved to approve Exhibit A: Personnel Motion made and passed - Certified, Non-Certified Appointments, unanimously to approve Exhibit A: Personnel - Certified, Non-**Resignations and Leaves of Absence dated** December 9, 2014, seconded by Mrs. Volinski. Certified Appointments, **Resignations and Leaves of Absence** The motion passed unanimously. dated December 9, 2014. В. **Monthly Reports B.** Monthly Reports 1. Purchase Resolution D-670 1. Purchase Resolution D-670 2. Budget Position as of November 30, 2014 2. Budget Position as of 3. Request for Budget Transfers November 30, 2014 3. Request for Budget Transfers Mrs. Faulenbach moved to approve monthly Motion made and passed reports: Purchase Resolution D-670, Budget unanimously to approve monthly Position as of November 30, 2014, and request for reports: Purchase Resolution budget transfers, seconded by Mr. Littlefield. D-670, Budget Position as of November 30, 2014, and request for budget transfers. • Mr. Lawson asked if electricity rate increases were anticipated for next year and Mr. Hubelbank said he will put that in the budget. Mr. Coppola asked if the legal opinions were part of the retainer and Mr. Hubelbank said they were. Mr. Coppola asked when the contract would come up for renewal and Dr. Paddyfote said the Board changed its policy that said they will go out from time to time to get bids. She said this is a three year contract and the attorneys will most likely want to renegotiate the price after three years. The motion passed unanimously. C. Approval of the Following Approval of the Following Curriculum C. Curriculum 1. Allied Health Careers 1. Allied Health Careers 2. Health I 2. Health I Motion made and passed Mrs. Shook moved to approve the following curriculum: Allied Health Careers and Health I, unanimously to approve the seconded by Mr. Lawson and passed unanimously. following curriculum: Allied Health Careers and Health I.

D.

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F.

Request for New Program or Course 1. Engineering Design and Development	 D. Request for New Program or Course 1. Engineering Design and Development
Mr. Lawson moved to approve the following new course: Engineering Design and Development, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.	Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following new course: Engineering Design and Development.
 Mr. Lawson said he was pleased with the community support of this program. Mr. Littlefield said his daughter has been a part of the program and it is a fantastic. 	g
The motion passed unanimously.	
Request for Course Revision 1. Academic Statistics	E. Request for Course Revision 1. Academic Statistics
Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the revision to Academic Statistics, seconded by Mr. Lawson and passed unanimously.	Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the revision to Academic Statistics.
Five Year Curriculum Plan (2014-2019)	F. Five Year Curriculum Plan (2014-2019)
Mr. Littlefield moved to approve the Five Year	Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the Five

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Mr. Little Curriculu Coppola. Mr. Shaffer noted that when Mr. Costa did the 0 common core presentation, Mr. Shaffer had the syllabus for common core with the 130+ topics listed for the high school. He asked which ones might be tested and he was told no one knows what will be on the test. He asked when the students would be taught some of these concepts and advised that the high school math courses not be updated until there is a handle on what will be on the test. For instance he said the rational root theorem is not seen until precalculus which most juniors never see. He said geometry is now emphasizing geometric proofs.

Mrs. Shook said she agrees with what Mr. 0

Shaffer was saying but the curriculum plan was really a budgetary tool.

- Mr. Smith said the curriculum was never defined to teach to one specific test except perhaps the AP exam. He said the curriculum prepares students for life after high school. He noted that the smarter balanced test is one tool the district has to measure a student's achievement. The curriculum is not tied to the common core and the state can choose another assessment of high school effectiveness. He noted the curriculum plan was put into place as a result of the last NEASC visit. He said the curriculum plan can be changed as needed stating that at the last budget \$30,000 was cut from the curriculum writing line.
- Mrs. Chastain said the word used to describe the plan is a fluid document.
- Mr. Lawson said he always wanted a two year plan but he is concerned with how the school can give a test without knowing the topics to be covered.
- Mr. Littlefield said the College Board would be changing the SATs to align with the common core and wondered how the school would be able to prepare kids for the SATs.
- Mr. Smith said the concept of the smarter balanced test is that it is adaptive and that currently Connecticut Math is 85% aligned with common core standards already. He also noted that the high school assessment has been a topic of conversation with the State.
- Mrs. Volinski asked how the curriculum budget was formed and Mr. Smith said it is based on the teacher contract language and is a fixed cost.
- Mrs. Volinski asked how the five year plan would affect the K-3 and 4-6 alignment shift with sixth now moving to Schaghticoke. Mr. Smith said from an instructional standpoint the process has already begun.
- Mr. Smith also noted that the tests are available on line for the public to look at and practice. He said with the math coaches a lot of time is spent on working on the questions that students

might struggle with so that the district does meet the standards. Mr. Smith also noted that there are many subject areas without the standards in Language Arts and Math. Mr. Shaffer said there were 15 questions on connex sections and if the students got tested on those and got them wrong because they weren't taught, they would go home and tell their parents they were tested on something they were never taught. The motion passed unanimously. G. G. Policies for Second Review **Policies for Second Review** 1. 4112.9/4212.9 Outside 1. 4112.9/4212.9 Outside Employment 2. 4115 Evaluations Employment 2. 4115 Evaluations 3. 4118.5/4218.5 Electronic Monitoring 3. 4118.5/4218.5 Electronic 4. 4121 Substitute Teachers Monitoring 4. 4121 Substitute Teachers Mr. Coppola noted there had not been a Policy Committee meeting to discuss the changes he was concerned with. He asked in reference to Policy 4118.5/4218.5 Electronic Monitoring, who would be responsible to safeguard the students and teachers? He felt this would be an invasion of privacy. He noted if a teacher sent an e-mail to a parent with a student's name and that got monitored it could be against the HIPPA [FERPA] laws. Dr. Paddyfote noted that the policy was already in effect, that the language change included WiFi and monitoring phones. She said employees and students sign an Acceptable Use Policy. She said typically a complaint is made to the police, children and family services, etc. and then she is made aware of the complaint. She noted that the Central Office now has signs installed that say "video surveillance" warnings. Mr. Coppola asked who would enforce the policy, the Board or the Superintendent, and Dr. Paddyfote said she is an agent of the Board. Mr. Spatola noted the legal references in the policy and that he did not feel it was an

	infringement.	
	• Mr. Coppola asked in regards to Policy 4121 Substitute Teachers when would the Board receive the list and could that be spelled out in	
	the policy.	
	• Dr. Paddyfote noted the policy said annually and as amended from time to time.	
H.	Improvement to Front Baseball Field at SNIS	H. Improvement to Front Baseball Field at SNIS
	Mr. Littlefield moved to approve the improvement to the front baseball field at SNIS by the New Milford Youth Little League, seconded by Mr. Shaffer.	Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the improvement to the front baseball field at SNIS by the New Milford Youth Little League.
	• Mr. Lawson asked how this would be paid for and Mr. Littlefield responded that New Milford Youth Baseball would do the work at their expense and allow the school to use it when it is not in use by them.	
	 Mr. Lawson asked who would maintain this field and Mr. Calhoun said it would be maintained as any other field would be by the Maintenance department. 	
	• Mr. Lawson asked if the field could be used by any other sports and Mr. Calhoun said the outfield could be used for youth soccer in the fall.	
	• Mrs. Chastain asked who would do the scheduling and Mr. Calhoun said the district would.	
	The motion passed unanimously.	
I.	SMS Roof Replacement	I. SMS Roof Replacement
	Mrs. Shook moved to engage the Garland Company to develop bid specifications for the 1990's section of the SMS roof, which comprises approximately 20,000 square feet, and to not seek state reimbursement for this portion of the work, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.	Motion made and passed to engage the Garland Company to develop bid specifications for the 1990's section of the SMS roof, which comprises approximately 20,000 square feet, and to not seek state reimbursement for this portion of
	• Mr. Littlefield asked why we weren't seeking a	the work.

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price for the whole roof project. Mr. Hubelbank said there are other concerns with the old roof, including drainage issues, and it might not be until February or March before a price could be worked up. He noted the idea was to get a number that might go into this upcoming budget.

- Mr. Spatola said he felt a price should be bid out for the whole roof including reengineering and design. He was concerned that once the newer part of the roof was worked on it could only create more issues for the older part of the roof. He felt it was not cost effective to do the roof work piecemeal and the town might be able to bond the project with its AA1 rating and get a reasonable interest rate. He said Mr. Calhoun noted this was not the worst part of the roof. He also felt the supplier of the materials should not be designing the bid.
- Mr. Lawson said he agreed with Mr. Spatola on not doing the roof piecemeal. He is concerned about asbestos and PCBs and felt the roof should be done in one shot.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said the purpose of this bid was to get a price, not to lock the Board into any decision.
- Mr. Hubelbank said the newer part of the roof does not intersect with the older part of the roof and there are no PCBs and no issues. He said they spoke to the consultant and they felt they could get this part of the roof done this summer and maybe fund it in the upcoming school year budget which is why they decided to proceed this way.
- Mr. Spatola felt this was the wrong way to go about this project. He felt the whole roof should be engineered and then bonded as one project.
- Mr. Coppola asked for clarification that this motion was to get an accurate dollar number for this one portion of the roof for budgeting.
- Mr. Littlefield noted the Board would not be spending any money but would just be getting a price. Mr. Hubelbank said no work would be done subject to having funding in place.

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	• Mr. Spatola felt that only one company could bid given the use of Garland Company materials. Mr. Hubelbank said Garland is an approved bidder with the US Commodities bidding process which Connecticut supports the use of, however if a company had a replacement material that was suitable they could bid on the project with that material.	
	Mrs. Shook called the question, seconded by Mr. Lawson and passed unanimously	Motion to call the question passed unanimously.
	The motion passed 7-2. Aye: Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Coppola, Mrs. Chastain, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mr. Littlefield, Mrs. Shook, Mrs. Volinski No: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Spatola	The motion passed 7-2.
J.	Approval of School Boundary Lines for 2015-2016	J. Approval of School Boundary Lines for 2015-2016
	Mrs. Shook moved to approve the School Boundary Lines for 2015-2016 per refined Scenario B as recommended by Milone and MacBroom, Inc. at the November 18, 2014 Special Meeting of the Board of Education, seconded by Mr. Littlefield.	Motion made and passed to approve the School Boundary Lines for 2015-2016 per refined Scenario B as recommended by Milone and MacBroom, Inc. at the November 18, 2014 Special Meeting of the
	 Mr. Coppola said he was pleased that the districts would stay together with this plan. He said he did not like, necessarily, the Gaylordsville to Hill & Plain bus ride. Mrs. Volinski noted that her son went to John Pettibone from Gaylordsville and that took an hour and she could not imagine the ride to Hill & Plain. 	Board of Education.
÷	 Mr. Lawson asked how many bus routes were added and Mr. Hubelbank said two. 	
	 Mr. Lawson asked how much it would cost per route and Mr. Hubelbank said the cost would be \$50,000 per bus. Mr. Lawson asked what the shortest and longest rides would be and Mr. Hubelbank said he did not have that information but the bus company understood that it would have to be under one hour. 	

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11.	Aye: Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Coppola, Mrs. Chastain, Mrs. Faulenbach, Mrs. Shook, Mr. Littlefield, Mrs. Volinski, Mr. Spatola No: Mr. Lawson Adjourn Mrs. Shook moved to adjourn the meeting at	Adjourn Motion made and passed
	 district there was only one period of time, 1989 – 1992, when the rides were no more than 45 minutes, otherwise they have been up to an hour. Mr. Spatola said when people move to New Milford they know they are moving to the largest town in square area and so a bus ride is going to be long. Motion passed 8-1. 	
	 Mr. Lawson noted that was two hours a day with homework and sports in addition. Dr. Paddyfote said since she has been with the 	

Respectfully submitted:

Wendy Faulenbach Secretary New Milford Board of Education