

New Milford Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2022
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

Present:	<p>Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. Eric Hansell Mr. Pete Helmus Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mr. Tom O'Brien Mrs. Olga I. Rella Mrs. Leslie Sarich</p>
Absent:	<p>Mr. Keith A. Swanhall Jr.</p>

Also Present:	<p>Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Interim Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Matthew Cunningham, Facilities Director Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Mrs. Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Mr. Jeffrey Turner, Technology Director Mrs. Anne Bilko, Sarah Noble Intermediate School Principal Mrs. Gwen Gallagher, Northville Elementary School Principal Mr. Ray Manka, New Milford High School Principal Nicholas Carroccio, Student Representative</p>
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1. A.	<p>Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance</p> <p>The regular meeting of the New Milford Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mrs. Faulenbach. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.</p>	<p>Call to Order A. Pledge of Allegiance</p>
2. A.	<p>Recognition</p> <p>NMPS Stars of the Month: Alicia Hanelt, Nina Money, Diane Smith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Paddyfote congratulated the Stars of the Month and read their nomination. 	<p>Recognition</p> <p>A. NMPS Stars of the Month: Alicia Hanelt, Nina Money, Diane Smith</p>
3.	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There was none. 	<p>Public Comment</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p>PTO Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Byrd said the NMHS PTO completed their flocking fundraiser and assisted with the Homecoming Dance. They are looking to fund a few water bottle fillers for the high school. ● SMS PTO held a fall festival. The book fair was successful, just shy of \$10,000. They were able to purchase \$1,000 in books to give back to students and a new teacher. ● SNIS PTO has pie and custom sock fundraisers going. They will host a wreath making event and movie night upcoming. ● HPS PTO helped with Veterans Day and Thanksgiving themed bulletin boards. Their book fair is at the end of the month. ● NES PTO held their Spooktacular event and book fair. They also have a sock fundraiser ongoing as well as catalog sales. ● K-5, the PTOs helped with Veterans events through decorations and meals. Holiday stores are coming up. ● Townwide PTO is hosting Sip and Shop this Friday at JPCC to benefit scholarships. 	<p>PTO Report</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Student Representatives' Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nicholas Carroccio, student representative, reported on happenings in the schools. ● NES: On Thursday NES had their first in person Veterans Day celebration since pre-Covid. They sang patriotic songs to the veterans and their families. They also collected food for the annual food drive. This year they did a spin on this by including fitness into the mix. Students used their food donation as a weight to strengthen their muscles. Next Monday will be the 50th day of school and Kindergarteners will enjoy a Sock Hop in gym class to celebrate. ● HPS: At the end of October, Hill and Plain held their annual Book Character Parade. Students and staff had fun dressing up and the weather was perfect for a short outdoor parade. During the month of November, Hill and Plain has been focusing on gratitude. Each morning the 	<p>Student Representatives' Report</p>

	<p>announcements have focused on what gratitude is and how students can show gratitude. Students also saw gratitude in action during the school’s Veterans Day assembly. They are continuing the focus on gratitude with a schoolwide food drive this month to benefit the New Milford community. Hill and Plain would like to thank all of the families who took part in parent conferences and are grateful for families' involvement in their children's education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SNIS: During the month of October, SNIS observed Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Students raised change by doing chores at home and contributed to a pink boot drive. They celebrated the end with a pink day where staff and students wore pink. In all, SNIS raised more than \$1700 to donate. This past Thursday SNIS celebrated Veterans Day with three assemblies. This year was made even more special with the addition of the high school band and choral groups joining SNIS students. ● SMS: The fall season wrapped up at SMS and winter sports have begun. Field hockey, soccer, and cross country teams all had great seasons. All eyes are now on basketball! SMS hosted local veterans and friends from New Milford High School on November 10 for a Veterans Day program. Thanks to the efforts of the PTO, the fall book fair was held from November 2-10. ● NMHS: The Fall theatre production is coming up November 18 and 19 and teachers can take their students down for an in school preview this Friday. Wingman day is November 15 and Activity day is November 16. There was a school wide assembly to recognize veterans in the community. Seniors can now order their cap and gown from November 14-18. 	
<p>6.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:</p> <p>1. Regular Meeting Minutes October 18, 2022</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>A. Approval of the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:</p>

	<p>Mr. Helmus moved to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes October 18, 2022, seconded by Mr. Hansell.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>1. Regular Meeting Minutes October 18, 2022</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes October 18, 2022.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Superintendent’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Paddyfote said there are twenty two new fundraisers at the high school this month and two at SMS. ● Parent teacher conferences were held November 8 and 9 with 4512 conferences held; a huge thank you to staff, parents and Assistant Superintendent Hollander. ● Each school held moving Veterans Day ceremonies, of which Dr. Paddyfote’s schedule let her attend four out of five. All were very well done. ● Central Office continues the move to SNIS. All departments will be there by next Monday. 	<p>Superintendent’s Report</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Board Chairman’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Faulenbach said Veterans Day ceremonies were amazing and she appreciated the invitations to Board members from the schools. ● Several items are on for capital reserve discussion this evening. ● The negotiations team continues to work on two contracts. She thanked team members for their time and hard work. ● The Danbury Magnet School held their annual meeting and Mrs. Rella attended as Board Liaison. New Milford has eighteen students attending the school. ● She reminded the Board that its annual meeting is December 20 beginning at 6:30 PM for Board elections, followed by the regular meeting at 7:00 PM. 	<p>Board Chairman’s Report</p>

<p>9.</p> <p>A.</p> <p>B.</p>	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Position dated October 31, 2022 2. Purchase Resolution: D-764 3. Request for Budget Transfers <p>Mrs. McInerney moved to approve Monthly Reports: Budget Position dated October 31, 2022, Purchase Resolution D-764, and Request for Budget Transfers, seconded by Mr. Helmus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Faulenbach said these were all discussed at Operations. ● Mr. O’Brien asked what the actual available amount of the capital reserve account is. ● Mr. Giovannone said it is the \$1,811,670 balance shown. This does not include the 2021-22 fiscal year balance of approximately \$1.7 million that is waiting final audit. ● Mrs. Faulenbach asked if the balance includes the recently approved \$20,000 for the SMS wastewater plan. ● Mr. Giovannone said it does. ● Mrs. McInerney asked when the 2021-22 funds will be available to the Board. ● Mrs. Faulenbach said typically in February or March after the audit presentation. The Board already approved the motion last June to deposit the funds to capital reserve. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Policy for First Review</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5132 Student Dress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Faulenbach said this is on for discussion only and will be back next month for second review. ● Mrs. McInerney said she is very happy with this policy. She likes the generalized nature and follow up with a more “meaty” regulation that allows for easier revision if needed by trends. She is also happy to see the responsive work 	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Monthly Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Position dated October 31, 2022 2. Purchase Resolution: D-764 3. Request for Budget Transfers <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Monthly Reports: Budget Position dated October 31, 2022, Purchase Resolution D-764, and Request for Budget Transfers.</p> <p>Policy for First Review</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5132 Student Dress
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	<p>done by the Board when suggestions for change were brought up.</p> <p>C. Policies Recommended for Revision and Approval at Initial Board Presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 2500 Retention of Electronic Records and Information2. 4115.2 Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events3. 4115.3 Exertional Heat Illness Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics4. 5115 Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline5. 5134 Meal Charging6. 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <p>Mr. Helmus moved to approve the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 2500 Retention of Electronic Records and Information2. 4115.2 Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events3. 4115.3 Exertional Heat Illness Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics4. 5115 Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline5. 5134 Meal Charging6. 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <p>Seconded by Mrs. Rella.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Faulenbach said these are up for approval at the initial Board presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311.	<p>C. Policies Recommended for Revision and Approval at Initial Board Presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 2500 Retention of Electronic Records and Information2. 4115.2 Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events3. 4115.3 Exertional Heat Illness Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics4. 5115 Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline5. 5134 Meal Charging6. 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 2500 Retention of Electronic Records and Information2. 4115.2 Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events3. 4115.3 Exertional Heat Illness Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics4. 5115 Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline5. 5134 Meal Charging6. 6141.7 Policy Addressing Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum
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	<p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>D. Approval of New Course</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grade 6 Accelerated Math 2. Grade 7 Accelerated Math 3. Statistics Honors <p>Mr. McCauley moved to approve new courses Grade 6 Accelerated Math, Grade 7 Accelerated Math and Statistics Honors, seconded by Mr. Hansell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. McInerney said she wanted to thank Ms. Hollander and the curriculum writers for getting this done. We have been looking at accelerated math classes for SMS for a while and these provide a good pathway. She is also happy to see the return of Statistics Honors and says it will address a current gap. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>E. Approval of Curriculum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grade 6 Math <p>Mr. Hansell moved to approve the Grade 6 Math curriculum, seconded by Mr. O’Brien.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no questions. <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>F. NMHS Woodshop</p> <p>Mr. Helmus moved that the Board make a request of the Town Council and Board of Finance to remove \$233,980.00 from the BOE Capital Reserve Account to fund the proposed NMHS Woodshop HVAC recommendations, seconded by Mrs. McInerney.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Faulenbach said this topic has been before the Board numerous times this year. • Mr. O’Brien said he wants the record to show that there are a number of Board members, including him, uncomfortable with this expense falling entirely on the Board. Demolition as a 	<p>D. Approval of New Course</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grade 6 Accelerated Math 2. Grade 7 Accelerated Math 3. Statistics Honors <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve new courses Grade 6 Accelerated Math, Grade 7 Accelerated Math and Statistics Honors.</p> <p>E. Approval of Curriculum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grade 6 Math <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the Grade 6 Math curriculum.</p> <p>F. NMHS Woodshop</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously that the Board make a request of the Town Council and Board of Finance to remove \$233,980.00 from the BOE Capital Reserve Account to fund the proposed NMHS Woodshop HVAC recommendations.</p>
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result of the first fire revealed what the fire marshal determined was an HVAC code issue. He asked Mr. Cunningham if there was any difference between the architectural plans and the “as built” plans.

- Mr. Cunningham said no and a certificate of occupancy was issued in 2000.
- Mr. O’Brien noted that now because of accident, correction is required. He said the Town built the school and owns the building and so he questioned why it is all on the Board. As a carpenter by trade, he wants the project completed as much as anyone but is troubled by the depletion to the budget to make it right. He would like to see the Town help with this.
- Mr. Helmus said he seconds Mr. O’Brien’s comments and agrees that this is collateral damage from the fire; the shop was fully functioning prior to it. He said the Town has some culpability since the fire was under the Town’s supervision of the project but that it is time now to move forward and do what is right for students. It is safer to bring it up to code. The Board should take action to make sure the shop is fully functioning for next school year.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said this is an unbudgeted item and there is no other funding source but capital reserve if the Board wants to move forward. There are no contingency funds. She said this has been discussed at every Facilities subcommittee and Board meeting this year and she said open dialogue can continue when the request is made to the Town.
- Mrs. McInerney said the Mayor said at the September meeting that he is looking to continue conversation about collaborative projects, perhaps this can be one of them. She said this is an important program to students and she will support the motion.
- Mrs. Faulenbach thanked all involved who have pivoted to make this program work in the interim.

The motion passed unanimously.

<p>G.</p>	<p>Central Office Move to SNIS</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved that the Board make a request of the Town Council and Board of Finance to remove \$85,200.00 from the BOE Capital Reserve Account to fund expenses related to the Central Office move to SNIS, seconded by Mr. Hansell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Faulenbach referenced the memo sent to Board members today. She said this is another project that has been under discussion for a very long time. The move itself was finally expedited on an emergency basis. Whatever the Board deems appropriate tonight, this is just a phase in the final move. The entire project has a much higher price tag and the Board should anticipate additional funding requests. ● Mrs. Rella asked if the newly proposed layout provides enough room. ● Mr. Cunningham said it does. There are ten classrooms still but all on the first floor. That means no elevator needed, less bathrooms. He spoke to SNIS administration and they will be shifting classrooms regardless so they can work with the new layout. ● Mr. McCauley said he can't believe this hadn't been considered before and that it makes a lot of sense. He is glad we are discussing it now before investing funds. ● Mr. O'Brien asked what impact the new layout has on the Planetarium. ● Mr. Cunningham said it will still be there. Since it is only used sporadically throughout the year, classes will use it as if it is an in-school field trip basically and Central Office administration will be made aware when they are visiting. ● Mr. O'Brien asked if tonight's request for funding is an appropriation for the short term move. ● Mr. Cunningham said that is correct, it is to work with the available space now to make it workable in the short term. ● Mr. O'Brien asked if the redesign will be available at the next meeting. ● Mr. Cunningham said that is his hope. ● Mrs. Faulenbach said it is great to see an 	<p>G. Central Office Move to SNIS</p> <p>Motion made and withdrawn that the Board make a request of the Town Council and Board of Finance to remove \$85,200.00 from the BOE Capital Reserve Account to fund expenses related to the Central Office move to SNIS.</p>
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	<p>alternative option presented that will be more financially advantageous. She asked if there are costs involved in obtaining info for the redesign.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mr. Cunningham said there will be, since cost estimates are needed for grant purposes.● Mrs. Faulenbach suggested the capital reserve request be revised to cover that unbudgeted expense. She suggested the original motion could be withdrawn and a new motion for “not to exceed \$100,000” be substituted.● The Board was amenable. <p>The motion was withdrawn.</p> <p>Mrs. Rella moved that the Board make a request of the Town Council and Board of Finance to remove \$100,000.00 from the BOE Capital Reserve Account to fund expenses not to exceed that amount related to the Central Office move to SNIS, seconded by Mr. Hansell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mr. Helmus said the boiler is barely functioning. The heat is sporadic at best. Staff are subject to wearing coats while working in less than desirable circumstances. The move is way overdue. This phase is the first baby step and the Board needs to take it.● Mrs. Faulenbach said the Board can also anticipate a motion to come regarding East Street school. She said there are legal requirements regarding the transfer of a school back to the Town.● Mrs. McInerney asked if the emergency move set up allows separation from the school operations.● Mr. Cunningham said they are working on it and that is what some of the requested funding is for.● Dr. Paddyfote said the current set up is less than ideal. There are no separating walls so no privacy. Confidentiality could be an issue. Construction will be needed to address those and other issues.● Mrs. Faulenbach said the Board recognizes that it is a challenging situation and appreciates the efforts of all to make it work. This is just the beginning of making needed accommodations	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously that the Board make a request of the Town Council and Board of Finance to remove \$100,000.00 from the BOE Capital Reserve Account to fund expenses not to exceed that amount related to the Central Office move to SNIS.</p>
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	<p>for offices to function fully. She is pleased to see the revised plan suggested.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
10.	<p>Items for Information and Discussion</p> <p>A. Employment Report: October - November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Rella said she is thrilled to see Ms. Baldelli back helping with Human Resources. <p>B. Job Descriptions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools Clerk, Board of Education Nurse Supervisor Human Resources Benefits Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Faulenbach said these were discussed at Operations. She is pleased to see them and said it is a good use of funds. <p>C. Entitlement Grants 2022-23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no questions. <p>D. Regulations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2500R Retention of Electronic Records and Information 5132R Administrative Regulation Addressing Student Dress 6141.7R Addressing Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no questions. <p>E. Field Trip Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Helmus said it was nice to see field trips back. 	<p>Items for Information and Discussion</p> <p>A. Employment Report: October - November</p> <p>B. Job Descriptions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools Clerk, Board of Education Nurse Supervisor Human Resources Benefits Specialist <p>C. Entitlement Grants 2022-23</p> <p>D. Regulations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2500R Retention of Electronic Records and Information 5132R Administrative Regulation Addressing Student Dress 6141.7R Addressing Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum <p>E. Field Trip Report</p>

11.	Adjourn Mr. O'Brien moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m., seconded by Mr. McCauley. The motion passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted:



Olga I. Rella, Secretary
New Milford Board of Education