


**New Milford Board of Education
 Policy Sub-Committee Special Meeting Minutes
 May 2, 2023
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	Mrs. Olga I. Rella, Chairperson Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mrs. Sarah Herring
Absent:	Mrs. Leslie Sarich

Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Jeffrey Turner, Technology Director Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Project-Based Employee
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1.		Call to Order The New Milford Board of Education Policy Sub-Committee was called to order at 6:15 pm by Mrs. Olga Rella, Chairperson.	Call to Order
2.		Public Comment None	Public Comment None
3.	A.	A. Policies Recommended for First Review and Approval at the Conclusion of the 2023 School Year <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5116 Pledge of Allegiance 2. 5131.81 Use of Private Technology by Students 3. 5141.23 Management Plan for Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease 4. 5141.5 Suicide Prevention and Intervention 5. 5143 Policy Concerning Sunscreen Application in School 6. 5157 Physical Restraint and Seclusion and Exclusionary Time Out 7. 5159 Education Stability Procedures 8. 2110 Uniform Treatment of Recruiters 9. 4119 Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs 	 RECEIVED TOWN CLERK 2023 MAY - 5 P 1:56 NEW MILFORD, CT

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		<p>Regarding policy 5116, Dr. Paddyfote stated it is a normal policy to have the Pledge of Allegiance. It is intended to remind everyone about the requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>Regarding policy 5131.81, Dr. Parlato acknowledged that students have access to phones and stated this policy allows for possession on school property and school events. The regulation is meant to limit the use of devices. Dr. Parlato stated privately owned tech devices, unless permitted by staff, or if being used to access google classroom, should not be used in school. It is clearly stated in the policy. Mrs. Rella asked what happens should a student use a phone during instructional time. Dr. Parlato stated the student should put the phone away, and if the student does not, the teacher can confiscate the phone during class or until the end of the school day. It is at the teacher's discretion.</p> <p>Mrs. Rella stated personal tech devices are a huge distraction to the education process. Mrs. McNerney stated the one problem is some students are not allowed to bring their phone to school, when some students can. If a student has their phone, it allows them to do things such as take a picture of the smart board, etc. Students who are not allowed to bring their phones cannot. Mrs. McNerney stated the high school students use their devices constantly. The students are on their phones in class, but the culture is different there than at Schaghticoke Middle School. At the high school, when the students are told to put their device away, they do listen. Parents want their kids to be able to be contacted in the middle of the day in case of an emergency, but students should not be contacting parents in moments of crisis. Unless parents understand how much of a distraction phones are in class, it will not slow down. Mrs. McNerney stated that bad decisions are made with cell phones. Kids are not developmentally able to understand the pitfalls that come with a phone. Mrs. Rella agreed and stated that it is a</p>	
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	<p>hard decision, and uniform policies are necessary. Mrs. McNerney stated once the device is used when it is not supposed to be, then it should be taken away. If a student has a device, it should not be seen. Mrs. Rella stated when someone is in a professional setting, there is a dress code and that person is supposed to be career ready. Many employers do not allow phone use at work. It prevents productivity, and it should be the same in our schools. Mrs. McNerney added that it is disrespectful to the teachers. There is no learning that happens when kids are on their phones. Mrs. Herring stated a picture was taken of her and posted online without her knowledge, while she was a teacher. There were almost no repercussions to the student that posted it, which leads to why teachers feel helpless about it. Teachers tell the students to put the phone on the teacher's desk and the students will not do it. The teachers cannot physically make them.</p> <p>Mrs. McNerney added that access to watches is an issue as well. It needs to be dealt with and it must become protocol in the schools. Dr. Parlato asked Dr. Paddyfote if she had more to add and she noted the use of personal phones at the middle school is different than the high school.</p> <p>Regarding policy 5141.23 Dr. Paddyfote stated this policy allows for ongoing glucose monitoring, and can be done in the classroom. Mr. Turner stated that school nurses have iPads to track glucose levels, with parental permission. Mrs. Rella stated it was a good thing, so the student is not responsible. Mrs. McNerney added most of the policy falls under state regulations.</p> <p>Regarding policy 5141. Mrs. Rella asked what is the regulation for this, how it is implemented and is it clear as to when the administration calls 211. Dr. Parlato stated it is a case by case basis. Mrs. Herring asked if the time period fell within the school day. Dr. Parlato stated, yes, it happens immediately. Mrs. Herring asked what happens if a parent or guardian can not be reached if</p>	
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	<p>there is an emergency. Dr. Paddyfote stated if there is a suicidal situation it will go as long as it needs, even beyond the school day. The school officials with the student stay until the parents arrive or the student is released into treatment. Mrs. McInerney stated the policy is thorough and covers many scenario situations. Mrs. Rella and Dr. Parlato agreed.</p> <p>Regarding policy 5157 Mrs. McInerney stated it is thorough and backed up by law. The policy is comprehensive and has to be done in the least restrictive environment. Mrs. Rella stated that she wants to make sure the staff is being trained and that there is ongoing training. Dr. Parlato said she would follow up on the training schedule but believed it was every year or every other year. Dr. Parlato also noted these restraints are reported to the state department of education. Mrs. McInerney stated that the regulation describes how everything should happen. Mrs. Rella commented on item #3 and that no employee should use restraint unless in an emergency. Mrs. McInerney and Dr. Parlato agreed that it has to be an emergency situation only. Mrs. Rella added that a PPT is held after a certain number of restraints. Mrs. McInerney stated that if the student does not have a PPT or 504, and the behavior persists, a phone call will go home to address that there should be one.</p> <p>Regarding policy 5159. Dr. Paddyfote stated to ensure that DCF recoups expenses when a child is moved to a different school or facility, the district that has to pay receives the funding. Unfortunately some districts do not recoup the money. Mrs. Rella stated that the responsibility lies with the district responsible based on where the parent lived last. Mrs. McInerney added that it is done this way because that is where the child is most comfortable. Mrs. Rella stated usually the student finishes the year, and where the parent lives is where they take ownership of the case. Mrs. Rella mentioned that sometimes it is unknown where the parent lives and it becomes an issue to see what town the fees fall</p>	
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upon. Mrs. Rella asked if anyone checks where the student actually lives. Ms. Hollander stated yes, different methods are used, which includes recent home sales, or a student may mention at school that they have moved. Once it is known a student is no longer in district, the school asks the parents/guardians for proof of residency. If it is found they do live elsewhere, New Milford then communicates with the other school district and advises the parents that the student must attend the new school district. Mrs. Rella asked if parents drop kids at a house to make it seem like they live there. Ms. Hollander stated that does occur, and it is hard to prove if a child does not live there, but it is looked into. Mrs. Rella stated the bus drivers can be very helpful. Ms. Hollander agreed, but stated it puts a lot on the bus drivers. Ms. Hollander added Mrs. Breton is a big help on this because she has much knowledge, and stated she would keep the Superintendent informed.

Regarding policy 2110, Dr. Parlato stated this applies to mostly military and college recruitment.

Regarding policy 4119, Mrs. Rella stated drugs like this should reside with the nurse. Dr. Parlato stated the school personnel does not and cannot give advice about any medication. Mrs. Rella asked for a status on the behavioral and medical health centers in the schools. Ms. Hollander stated they are working on getting things up and running, making sure everyone has the centers and communication happens with families. Mrs. Rella asked if things are moving forward. Ms. Hollander replied not yet, the money is in the ESSR grant but prices have gone up and next steps have to be taken carefully. Mrs. Rella mentioned that it was already voted upon. Ms. Hollander confirmed it was, and right now we do have behavioral sources at all the schools. Mrs. McInerney stated that once behavior is running smoothly the health part will follow. Mrs. Rella stated with the influx of students coming from Danbury, the schools will need it.

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	<p>Those families are in need of medical services. New Milford does not have clinics like Danbury. Ms. Hollander agreed and knows the need is there.</p> <p><i>Mrs. Rella moved to bring the following Policies for the full board for second review and approval at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 School Year, seconded by Mrs. McInerney and passed unanimously.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5116 Pledge of Allegiance 2. 5131.81 Use of Private Technology by Students 3. 5141.23 Management Plan for Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease 4. 5141.5 Suicide Prevention and Intervention 5. 5143 Policy Concerning Sunscreen Application in School 6. 5157 Physical Restraint and Seclusion and Exclusionary Time Out 7. 5159 Education Stability Procedures 8. 2110 Uniform Treatment of Recruiters 9. 4119 Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs <p><i>Mrs. McInerney moved to recommend deletion of the policies listed below, upon approval of the above policies in Item 3A, seconded by Mrs. Herring, and passed unanimously.</i></p> <p>Policies Recommended for Deletion Upon Approval of Above Policies in Item A</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5131.81 Electronic Devices 2. 5133 Behavior of Participants in Athletic Events 	<p>Motion made and approved for the following policies to the full board for second review:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5116 Pledge of Allegiance 2. 5131.81 Use of Private Technology by Students 3. 5141.23 Management Plan for Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease 4. 5141.5 Suicide Prevention and Intervention 5. 5143 Policy Concerning Sunscreen Application in School 6. 5157 Physical Restraint and Seclusion and Exclusionary Time Out 7. 5159 Education Stability Procedures 8. 2110 Uniform Treatment of Recruiters 9. 4119 Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs <p>Motion made and approved for the following policies to be deleted upon approval of the full board.</p> <p>Policies Recommended for Deletion Upon Approval of Above Policies in Item A</p>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. 5141 Student Health Services 4. 5141.22 Students with Chronic Infectious Diseases 5. 5141.23 Students with Special Health Care Needs 6. 5141.231 Psychotropic Drug Use 7. 5141.25 Students with Special Health Care Needs, Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs 8. 5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations 9. 5144 Discipline 10. 5144.3 Discipline of Students with Disabilities 11. 5145.14 Students—On Campus Recruitment 12. 5145.6 Student Grievance Procedures 13. 5157 Use of Physical Force and Seclusion 14. 6000 Concept & Roles in Instruction 15. 6010 Goals & Objectives 16. 6113 Released Time 17. 6114.1 Fire and Crisis Response Drills 18. 6114.3 Emergencies & Disaster Preparedness: Bomb Threats 19. 6115 School Ceremonies & Observations <p>Items of Information—Administrative Regulations to be Implemented Upon Approval of Above Policies in Item 3.A</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5141.3 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Health Assessments, Screenings and Oral Health Assessments 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5131.81 Electronic Devices 2. 5133 Behavior of Participants in Athletic Events 3. 5141 Student Health Services 4. 5141.22 Students with Chronic Infectious Diseases 5. 5141.23 Students with Special Health Care Needs 6. 5141.231 Psychotropic Drug Use 7. 5141.25 Students with Special Health Care Needs, Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs 8. 5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations 9. 5144 Discipline 10. 5144.3 Discipline of Students with Disabilities 11. 5145.14 Students—On Campus Recruitment 12. 5145.6 Student Grievance Procedures 13. 5157 Use of Physical Force and Seclusion 14. 6000 Concept & Roles in Instruction 15. 6010 Goals & Objectives 16. 6113 Released Time 17. 6114.1 Fire and Crisis Response Drills 18. 6114.3 Emergencies & Disaster Preparedness: Bomb Threats 19. 6115 School Ceremonies & Observations <p>Items of Information—Administrative Regulations to be Implemented Upon Approval of Above Policies in Item 3.A</p>
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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 5141.221 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Immunizations 3. 5141.5 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Suicide Prevention and Intervention 4. 5143 R Administrative Regulations Concerning Sunscreen Application in School 5. 5157 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Physical Restraint and Seclusion and Exclusionary Time Out <p>Mrs. McInerney stated the Board may want to look at administrative regulations regarding use of the private technological devices. Dr. Palato stated The Board should look at admin regulations for private tech for cell phones and see what the language is in other neighboring schools. Dr. Paddyfote stated that would be fine and that Dr. Parlato can recommend changes to the regulations but need to inform the Board on those regulations. Mrs. McInerney stated each school will be different, but agrees it will be interesting to see what other schools have in place. Mrs. Rella stated that Torrington has a zero tolerance policy and agrees New Milford should research what other districts are doing. Dr. Parlato agreed it was a huge issue and 5131.81 will be discussed in the June agenda. Mrs. McInerney thanked Dr. Paddyfote and Dr. Parlato for going through all these policies.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. 5141.3 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Health Assessments, Screenings and Oral Health Assessments 7. 5141.221 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Immunizations 8. 5141.5 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Suicide Prevention and Intervention 9. 5143 R Administrative Regulations Concerning Sunscreen Application in School 10. 5157 R Administrative Regulations Regarding Physical Restraint and Seclusion and Exclusionary Time Out
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4.		Public Comment none	Public Comment
5.		Adjourn <i>Mrs. McInerney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm, seconded by Mrs. Herring and passed unanimously.</i>	Adjourn Motion made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Mrs. Olga I. Rella, Chair