

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 15, 2009**

**7:40 P.M.  
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

***New Milford School District Mission Statement***

*The mission of the New Milford School District is to provide effective instruction in all curricula areas, to develop the learning potential of all students, to build skills for a lifetime of learning, and to develop a feeling of self-worth and confidence that will allow students to become productive members of a democratic society. The New Milford School District team joins the parents and community in assisting students to develop skills to enable them to become independent and self sufficient adults who will succeed and contribute responsibly in the global community.*

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. Present were President Conner, Vice President Barton, Mr. Foo, Mrs. Lacey, Mrs. McSweeney, Mrs. Mechler, Mrs. Saslow, and Mr. Steele. Mr. Drake was absent. Also present were Mr. Polizzi, Mr. Sawicz, and Mr. Picardo.

*After the flag salute, the Board President read the required New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law Statement. The Board announced that under its long-standing policy, it will not discuss in public any comments made by members of the public concerning individual staff members.*

**Recommended Action**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Approval of Minutes:**

*Mrs. Mechler and Mrs. Lacey recused themselves from approving the November 16 minutes due to their absence. Motion by Mr. Foo, seconded by Vice President Barton, carried by consent of the Board, the following minutes were approved:*

November 9 Work                      November 9 Closed                      November 16 Special                      November 16 Closed  
November 23 Regular                      November 23 Closed

**Open to the Public for Items on the Agenda**

*On motion by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mr. Foo, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 7:43 p.m. There were no questions or comments; therefore, on motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at that time.*

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT**     *Michael Polizzi*

Mr. Polizzi gave his report at the Work Session.

**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION REPORT**     *Joseph Picardo*

Mr. Picardo gave his report at the Work Session.

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**     *Michael Sawicz*

Mr. Sawicz reviewed the following:

- Mr. Sawicz spoke with State officials regarding the status of the FEMA check; everything is in order and it is being processed.
- Filing of documents for the Gibbs roof replacement project grant money has been completed and is in Trenton.
- Documentation for the Berkley roof replacement project grant money is being compiled and will be submitted as well.
- Pre-paid envelopes using the "forever" stamp will not be cost effective. In addition to the envelopes costing more, the district still requires the postage machine for heavier mail.
- It is necessary to keep the gas tanks in district vehicles full to prevent condensation in them.
- A Finance Committee Meeting will take place on January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. The first draft of the budget will be reviewed.
- Mr. Sawicz is very pleased with the new Mission Statement and it will be part of the budget presentation.
- The Certification of Implementation of the Audit Correction Action Plan will be sent to the State and County on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**BOARD ACTION**

*Motions BA13,BA14,BA15 by Mr. Foo, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by a roll call vote of 8-0:*

BA13 Approval of Application for Disenrollment:

Nawal Abdallah

Anthony Bottigliero

Khadijah Cox

Lynne Gehringer

Avalon Montana

Nicholas Wright

BA14 Approval of Board Goals and District Goals for 2009-2010

*Attachments*

BA15 Approval of new Mission Statement

*Attachment*

**CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE** Lori Barton, Chair

Motions C14, C15, C16, C17, C18, C19 by Vice President Barton, seconded Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board:

- C14 Approval of High School NJ Elks Peer Leadership Conference, February 5–7, 2010, which is sponsored by the Elks, at no cost to the District under the direction of Colleen Tambuscio.
- C15 Approval of High School Holocaust Study Tour trip 2010, April 5–16, 2010, under the direction of Colleen Tambuscio.
- C16 Approval of Social Studies trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC, March 18-19, 2010 under the direction of Colleen Tambuscio and Dave Wilson.
- C17 Approval of additional field trips to date *Attachment*
- C18 Approval for electronic submission of NJ QSAC DPR's
- C19 Approval of School Nursing Service Plan for 2009-2010

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** Lori Barton, Chair

*Having the recommendation of the Superintendent*

Motions P6, P43, P47, P48, P49, P50, P51, P52 by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by a roll call vote of 8-0:

- P6 **Adjustment to Leave of Absence (Maternity):**  
Heidi Terwilliger Berkley Teacher, eff. ~~12/23/09~~ 11/30/09-5/3/10
- P43 **Revision to Teacher Aide Appointment for 2009-2010:**  
Elizabeth Brownstein Gibbs Teacher Aide (.4), Step 1, Eff. 11/30/09-6/30/10
- P47 **Approval of Additional Hourly Rate Employees for 2009-2010:**  
Elizabeth Brownstein Gibbs Teacher Aide, Step 1, eff. 11/30/6/30/10  
Donna Corrado MS Teacher Aide, Step 1, eff. 11/13/09-6/30/10 *retroactive*  
Amanda Calautti Gibbs Lunch Aide, Step 1, eff. 12/16/09-6/30/10  
Mary Picinic Gibbs Substitute Lunch Aide, Step 1, eff. 12/16/09-6/30/10  
Lisa Hugerich Gibbs Substitute Lunch Aide, Step 1, eff. 12/16/09-6/30/10
- P48 **Certificated Appointment for 2009-2010:**  
Caitlin Holmes Berkley Teacher (maternity leave repl.), BA Step 1, \$45,350 prorated, eff. 1/4/10-4/30/10
- P49 **Retirement:** *with regret*  
Amy M. Solimano HS Spanish Teacher, eff. 6/30/10
- P50 **Request for Leave of Absence (Maternity):**  
Leigh Madger Gibbs Teacher, eff. 2/22/10-6/30/10
- P51 **Additional Extra Pay Stipend for 2009-2010:**  
Jerry Engstrom MSG Varsity Club
- P52 **Additional Substitute Teachers for 2009-2010** *Attachment*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** Peggy Saslow, Chair

Motions F72, F73, F74, F75, F76, F77, F78, F79, F80, F81, F82, F83 by Mrs. Saslow, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board:

- F72 Approval of Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for October 2009
- F73 Approval of November 2009 payroll: \$1,588,253.12
- F74 Approval of November 2009 payroll agency bills: \$ 657,262.48
- F75 Approval of December 2009 bills \$ 902,678.45 *Attachment*
- F76 Approval of cafeteria bills for October 2009 \$ 96,524.65
- F77 Approval of November 2009 budget transfers *Attachment*
- F78 Approval and acceptance of Board Secretary and Board of Education's monthly certification of budgetary major account/fund status that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a): November 30, 2009
- F79 Approval of Professional Development Opportunities *Attachment*
- F80 **Approval of additional Special Education tuition contract for 2009-2010:**  
Palisades Regional Academy (Palisades Learning Center) Student attending 11/30/09-6/30/10, \$28,986.24
- F81 **Approval of Professional Service for 2009-2010:**  
Solutions Architecture Services related to FEMA – April 2007 flood
- F82 **Approval of Transportation Jointure Agreements with Dumont (host) for 2009-2010:**  
Route #DBOE12 BCSSSD – Transition  
Route #DBOE14 BCSSSD – Venture Program
- F83 Approval of resolution for participation in Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission *Attachment*  
Cooperative Pricing System

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE** Theresa Lacey, Chair

Motions FA14,FA15 by Mrs. Lacey, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board:

FA14 Approval of Fire Drill Log for November 2009

Attachment

FA15 Approval to revision of Emergency and Crisis Management Plans

**POLICY COMMITTEE** Peggy Saslow, Chair

Second reading by Mrs. Saslow, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board the following policies were adopted:

- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1220 | Employment of Chief School Administrator | 2435 | NJSIAA Random Testing for Interscholastic Athletics                                |
| 4434 | Holidays (Support Staff)                 | 2631 | NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC)                                  |
| 5465 | Early Graduation                         | 8210 | School Year  |
| 5600 | Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct         | 9162 | Athletic Code of Conduct   |
| 5701 | Plagiarism                               | 5611 | Removal of Pupils from the General Education Program for Weapons/Firearms Offenses |

**ATHLETIC/CO-CURRICULUM COMMITTEE** Darren Drake, Chair

Motion AC4 by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Foo, carried by consent of the Board:

AC4 Approval of Kenneth Porrino to volunteer his services as Middle School Wrestling coach

**Open to the Public**

Motion by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 8:05 p.m. There were no questions or comments from the public, therefore, on motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at that time.

**COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

Vice President Barton asked if the Board supports participation in the Dollars and Sense Program. The Board was polled and favors participation in the program.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

On motion by Mrs. Mechler, seconded by Mrs. McSweeney, carried by consent of the Board, the Board went into Closed Session at 8:12 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Lacey, carried by consent of the Board, the Board resumed open session at 9:01 p.m.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sawicz  
Board Secretary

MS/lv