

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION
JANUARY 11, 2010**

**7:14 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

New Milford School District Mission Statement

The New Milford Public School District provides relevant, innovative and rigorous educational opportunities to students at all grade levels.

The District is resolute in its attention to the development of the whole child by providing a comprehensive range of experiences essential to building capacity for independent and responsible living.

The program is designed to prepare students to think critically, master the challenges of life-long academic, cultural, social, economic, emotional and professional advancement, as well as constructive participation as citizens in an interdependent global society.

The District embraces family and community as active partners in a unified effort to develop students into self-directed, self-confident adults on their journeys to becoming the next generations of entrepreneurs, builders, artists, designers, inventors, scientists, educators, caregivers, protectors, workers and leaders.

The meeting was called to order by President Conner at 7:14 p.m. Present at roll call were President Conner, Vice President Barton, Mr. Drake, Mr. Foo, Mrs. McSweeney, Mrs. Mechler, Mrs. Saslow and Mr. Steele. Mrs. Lacey was absent. Mr. Polizzi, Mr. Sawicz, and Mr. Picardo were also present. Student Board Representative Nicholas Borner was absent.

After the flag salute, the Board President read the required New Jersey Open Public Meetings 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.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The Board will review the bills list at the next meeting.

A review of the tentative agenda for the January 25, 2010 Regular Meeting was held. Mr. Foo advised that F85 should reflect Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for November 2009 – not October 2009. That change will be made on the agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ITEMS *Michael Polizzi*

Mr. Polizzi spoke of the following:

- He attended the National Art and Music Honor Society Induction on January 7th which was excellent.
- The Boy Scouts' Eagle Ceremony was well attended.
- Mr. Polizzi gave an update of the "Race to the Top" grant; the deadline for the Memorandum of Understanding is January 14th. He explained the Memorandum and the Association's position. A discussion among the Board Members took place; the consensus was 6-2 to support this.
- The district achieved a "high performing" rating for the QSAC evaluation.
- The Board preliminarily discussed the school calendar for 2010-2011.

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION ITEMS *Joseph Picardo*

Mr. Picardo informed the Board of the following:

- Mr. Picardo reviewed test results. The Middle School did not make AYP in Special Education. He gave the Board an overview of the test areas.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS *Michael Sawicz*

Mr. Sawicz reported on the following:

- Grant documents for the Berkley and Gibbs roof projects have been filed with the State. Mr. Sawicz is still awaiting news from FEMA regarding payment for the April 2007 flood damage to the High School track.
- Board Attorneys Fogarty & Hara reviewed the Dollars and Sense Program and advised that the Board may participate in the program.
- All facilities requirements for the QSAC have been completed. The Dual Use Application for a classroom at Berkley is on the agenda for approval and will be sent to the County.
- Mr. Sawicz gave an explanation of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual.
- An option to opt out of health insurance will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The first draft of the budget will be available at the January 25th Board Meeting. A Finance Committee meeting will take place prior to the meeting at 6 pm.

President had a question regarding the guardrail on Ceccino Drive.

Mr. Drake asked why the Board Meetings are only advertised on the school sign at the Middle School.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE ITEMS *Nicholas Borner*

Mr. Borner was not present.

BOARD ACTION

Motion BA16 by Mr. Drake, seconded by Vice President Barton, carried by a vote of 6-0-2 (Mrs. Mechler and Mr. Steele abstained):

BA16 Approval to submit application to State for “Race to the Top” Grant

FINANCE COMMITTEE *Peggy Saslow, Chair*

Motion F84 by Mrs. Saslow, seconded by Mr. Foo, carried by consent of the Board:

F84 Approval of professional development opportunities *Attachment*

FACILITIES COMMITTEE *Theresa Lacey, Chair*

Motion FA16 by Mr. Foo, seconded by Mrs. McSweeney, carried by consent of the Board:

FA16 Approval to submit application for dual use of educational space at Berkley School to Bergen County Dept. of Education

LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

On motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the Board went into Closed Session at 8:35 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the Board resumed Open Session at 8:54 p.m. On motion by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mr. Foo, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting adjourned at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sawicz
Board Secretary

MS/lv