

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION  
JUNE 8, 2009**

**8:00 P.M.  
HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

***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 by President Conner at 8:00 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. Picardo, Ms. Dunn and Ms. Wilkins were also present. Student Board Representative Angela Wan 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.*

**PRESENTATIONS**

Staff Recognition:

- Ms. Perro, Principal of D.E. Owens Middle School, presented Carl Scariati - 2009 New Milford Teacher of the Year / 2009-2010 NJ Teacher of the Year Nominee. Mr. Scariati expressed his thanks.
- 2009 Governor's Teacher Recognition Honorees were presented. Berkley School Principal Pat Aufiero introduced Lauren Giannettino who thanked the staff and students. Several of her students also came forward and presented her with flowers. Mr. Scott Davies, Gibbs School Principal, introduced Robin Shugg who thanked everyone for the honor bestowed on her. Ms. Whitney Perro, Owens Middle School Principal, introduced Christopher Addeo. He thanked all of his colleagues for their support and recognition. High School Principal, Eric Sheninger, introduced Peter Torpie who thanked the Board and his colleagues for this honor.
- Retirees – Mr. Sheninger introduced Lynette Bettini and Donna Gianfredi. Ms. Bettini, Art Teacher, thanked the school district for allowing her the creative freedom to do what she does best. Ms. Gianfredi, High School Secretary, thanked the Board and staff for their support.

Student Recognition:

- Mr. Sheninger announced the 2009 Governor's School Honorees. He gave a brief biography of both honorees, Mark Diaz and Sheryl Matthew.
- Ms. Aufiero introduced Dora Oliviero who described the program and announced the winner, Patricia Cenit.
- Mr. Davies described the Casey and Bella Story Contest program and Kaitlyn Carberry's achievement. She was unable to attend this evening.
- NJSIAA Sectional Champions – Boys' Tennis: Mr. Perrone recounted the accomplishments of the boys' tennis team. Coach Ricciardelli paid tribute to the dedication of the team members.
- Holocaust Trip Presentation: Ms. Colleen Tambuscio described the trip this year to Berlin, Prague and Krakow with 13 students from New Milford. She highlighted the trip as a learning opportunity translated into action. Three students commented on their experiences during the trip. Ms. Tambuscio invited the Board Members to attend the full trip presentation on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

President Conner thanked Ms. Dunn, Interim Business Administrator, for her Board service during the last eight months. President Conner proposed a fifteen minute break for refreshments and personal greetings at 9:00 p.m.

*The meeting resumed at 9:15 p.m.*

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Review of bills.

Review of agenda for Regular Meeting to be held on June 29, 2009.

**Open to the Public**

*On motion by Mrs. Mechler, seconded by Mr. Drake, and carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 9:15 p.m. The following comments were made:*

- Mr. McCarten and Dr. Mintz urged the passage of the contract with the teachers.

There being no further questions or comments, on motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Vice President Barton, the meeting was closed to the public at 9:16 p.m.

**INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Joseph Picardo

- Mr. Picardo introduced Ms. Anne Wilkins, the Interim Director of Curriculum & Instruction.
- He is in constant contact with the Board of Health regarding the flu virus.
- The Board Retreat date is still uncertain. It has been difficult to reach consensus on a date, but the dates of July 28 and July 30 should be held open until further notice.
- Student Board Representative Angela Wan was unable to be present, but was thanked for her service on the Board this year.

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

Motions C43,C44,C45,C46,C47 by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board:

- C43 Approval of New Milford Girl Scout Scholarship, established and funded by the New Milford Girl Scouts, in the one-time amount of \$500, per guidelines on file in the High School Guidance Office
- C44 Approval of the Lauren Savino Scholarship, established and funded by the Project Graduation 2009 Committee, in the one-time amount of \$1000, per guidelines on file in the High School Guidance Office
- C45 Approval of the Lauren Savino Memorial Scholarship, established and funded by the Michael Pevny Benefit Dinner Committee, in the annual amount of \$500, per guidelines on file in the High School Guidance Office
- C46 Approval of 2008-2009 Scholarships Attachment
- C47 Approval of additional field trips for 2008-2009 to date Attachment

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** Lori Barton, Chair

Motions P165,P166,P167,P168,P169,P170 by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by a roll call vote of 8-0:

- P165 **Approval of Employment Agreement for 2009-2010 as approved by the Executive County Superintendent:**  
Michael Sawicz Business Administrator/Board Secretary, eff. 7/1/09-6/30/10
- P166 **Certificated Appointment for 2009-2010:**  
Lisa Forte MS LDTC, MA+16 Step 7, \$TBD, eff. 9/1/09-6/30/10 pending certification
- P167 **Approval of Job Description:** Attachment  
Director of Special Services, eff. 7/1/09
- P168 **Lateral Moves – Effective 2/1/09: prorated/retroactive**  
Timothy Gouraige from: BA+16 Step 4 to: MA Step 4
- P169 **Approval for Joseph Picardo to carry over 5 additional unused vacation days from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010**
- P170 **Approval for Brett Lyness to carry over 5-1/2 additional unused vacation days from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010**
- P148 **Correction to Certificated Staff for 2009-2010:**  
Timothy Gouraige from: ~~BA+16 Step 5~~ to: MA Step 5

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** Peggy Saslow, Chair

Motions F219,F221,F222,F223,F224,F225 by Mrs. Saslow, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board:

- F219 **Rescind** transfer of \$67,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Outlay Fund to cover costs associated with the High School Running Track Restoration Project
- F221 Approve the transfer of \$47,582.58 from the General Fund to the Capital Outlay Fund, effective May 31, 2009, to cover costs associated with the High School Running Track Restoration Project:  
from: 11-999-270-515-00 (\$47,582.58) Contracted Services – Transp. Special Education  
to: 12-999-400-390-00 +\$47,582.58 Other Prof./Tech. Services
- F222 Approval of May 2009 bills \$ 652,453.51 Attachment
- F223 **Approval of professional services for 2008-2009/Summer 2009: retroactive**  
Fairleigh Dickinson University Center for Psychological Services: six-week social skills program (6/2-7/7/09) - \$350.00
- F224 **Approval of Professional Services for 2008-2009:**  
Sara LaBarr ABA therapy/direct instruction, 4 hrs/wk for 3 weeks (6/9/09-6/25/09), plus one 1-hr clinic at \$35/hr for a total of \$455.00
- F225 Approval of professional development opportunities Attachment

**POLICY COMMITTEE** Peggy Saslow, Chair

First reading of the following policies:

- |        |  |        |  |
|--------|--|--------|--|
| 0142.1 | Nepotism   | 1220   | Employment of Chief School Administrator |
| 1620   | Administrative Employment Contracts                              | 2428.1 | Standards-Based Instructional Priorities |
| 6423   | Expenditures for Non-Employee Activities, Meals and Refreshments |        |  |
| 6470   | Payment of Claims  | 6471   | School District Travel                   |
| 6510   | Payroll Authorization  | 6630   | Athletic Fund                            |
| 6830   | Audit and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report                  | 6831   | Withholding or Recovering State Aid      |
| 8310   | Public Records   | 9120   | Public Relations Program                 |

*Motion by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mrs. McSweeney, carried by consent of the Board, to go into Closed Session for the purposes of discussing personnel issues at 9:20 p.m. The Board went to the Board Conference Room where the closed session discussion took place at 9:25 p.m. Motion by Mrs. Mechler, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board, the Board returned to open session at 10:05 p.m.*

*Motions P171,P172 by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried on a roll call vote of 8-0:*

P171 **Approval and Adoption of Contracts** with the New Milford Educational Association, New Milford Association of Educational Secretaries and New Milford Custodial Association for contract years 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011.

P172 **Appointment of Director of Special Services:**  
Raymond Dorso \$120,000, eff. 7/1/09-6/30/10

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. McSweeney lauded three teachers who worked with the students on the play – Mr. Scariati, Mr. Legband and Mr. Monte. Mr. Steele praised the Art Show at Berkley School and the work of the art teachers.

**Open to the Public:**

*On motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 10:08 p.m. There being no comments, on motion by Vice President Barton, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dunn  
Interim Board Secretary

JD/lv