

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION
MAY 11, 2010**

**7:06 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

New Milford Public 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 all students to meet or exceed NJCCCS, 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 7:06 p.m. Present at roll call were President Conner, Vice President Drake, Mrs. Barton, Mr. Foo, Mrs. Lacey, Mrs. McSweeney, Mrs. Mechler, Mrs. Saslow and Mr. Steele. Mr. Polizzi, Mr. Sawicz, and Student Board Representative Nicholas Borner were also present.

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.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE ITEMS *Nicholas Borner*

Mr. Borner advised that the Student Council is winding down for the year. Monies collected through Denim Days will be donated to the Rape Crisis Fund to benefit victims of rape and sexual assault. He also advised that the High School Carnival will take place on June 11th.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A review of the tentative agenda for the May 17, 2010 Regular Meeting was held. There were no questions regarding the agenda.

Open to the Public for Items on the Agenda

On motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Vice President Drake, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 7:10 p.m. There were no questions or comments; therefore, on motion by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mrs. Barton, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at that time.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ITEMS *Michael Polizzi*

Mr. Polizzi spoke of the following:

- After his trip to Trenton on May 10th, Mr. Polizzi said the audience was not receptive to the "Race to the Top". The federal government is looking for education reform. New Jersey will file again and is looking for support. If accepted, half of the \$400 million would be split between the State and the rest distributed to participating districts. Mr. Polizzi believes in the importance of the grant.
- NJ School Boards Association awarded board recertification to New Milford; a dinner on May 14th will be held for two Board Members to receive the award.
- A notice was received from NJSBA to apply for a School Leader Award. Since the district received Honorable Mention two years ago for the Holocaust Program, the district will not apply again.
- High School graduation requirements will be discussed in Closed Session.
- Assembly Bills A-2622 and A-2623 are being debated at the State level. These bills propose to abolish local control of school districts and utilize a County Superintendent.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS *Michael Sawicz*

Mr. Sawicz advised the Board of the following:

- An update of the Health Benefits Opt Out initiative was given.
- The Board Office will coordinate mandated training for Board Members.
- A master schedule of committee meetings will be established for 2010-2011.
- Due to the loss of \$371,000 in State Aid, Mr. Sawicz will ask the auditors to review the current budget in June.
- Borough Liaison Ann Subrizi's request for information regarding the budget has already been submitted to her.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE *Lori Barton, Chair*

Motion C2 by Mrs. Barton, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board:

C2 Approval of field trips to date *Attachment*

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE *Lori Barton, Chair*

Having the recommendation of the Superintendent:

Motions P7,P8,P9,P10,P11,P12,P13,P14,P15 by Mrs. Barton, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by a roll call vote of 9-0:

- P7 **Retirements:** *with regrets*
 James Carr HS Guidance Director, eff. 6/30/10
 Faye Sententino HS English Teacher, eff. 6/30/10
- P8 **Non-Tenured Certificated Staff Appointments for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P9 **Tenure Recommendations – Certificated Staff for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P10 **Tenured Certificated Staff Appointments for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P11 **Non-Tenured Administrator Appointments for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P12 **Tenure Recommendations – Administrators for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P13 **Tenured Administrator Appointments for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P14 **Tenured Secretarial/Clerical Staff Appointments for 2010-2011** *Attachment*
- P15 **Custodial/Maintenance Staff Appointments for 2010-2011** *Attachment*

FINANCE COMMITTEE *Peggy Saslow, Chair*

Motion F14 by Mrs. Saslow, seconded by Mrs. Lacey, carried by consent of the Board:

F14 Approval of professional development opportunities *Attachment*

Open to the Public

On motion by Mrs. Barton, seconded by Vice President Drake, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 7:57 p.m. There were no questions or comments by the public; therefore, on motion by Mrs. Barton, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at that time.

LIAISON/BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS

- Mrs. Saslow recapped items discussed at the NJSBA Spring Meeting she attended on May 6th. Topics under discussion included a proposed 2.5% cap on wage increases for all State employees; the County Executive Superintendent approving all negotiated contracts; and a State Constitutional Amendment to enforce a 2.5% hard cap on the budget. The State Senate is also discussing S-1872 in which a tax credit would be issued to corporations that fund vouchers for High School students.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Board Member requests for additional information

None

Motion by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the Board went into Closed Session at 8:01 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the Board resumed Open Session at 9:35 p.m. There being no further business, on motion by Mrs. Barton, seconded by Vice President Drake, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting adjourned at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sawicz
Board Secretary