

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 23, 2011**

**7:07 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 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 at 7:07 p.m. Present were President Conner, Mrs. McSweeney, Mrs. Mechler, Mrs. Ryan, and Mr. Steele. Vice President Drake, Mr. Bigger, Mr. Foo, and Mrs. Saslow were absent. Also present were Mr. Polizzi, Mrs. Shanley, and Mr. Sawicz. Student Board Representative Kate Jelaska was absent.

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.

The following presentation was made:

High School teacher, Olivia Burton, had taken a trip to South Africa and shared her experiences. She spoke of the conditions of the educational systems in impoverished areas of the city. Ms. Burton's presentation was followed by questions from the Board.

Recommended Action

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Approval of Minutes:

Due to her absences from the meetings, Mrs. Mechler abstained from approving the April 4, April 11 and April 25 minutes. President Conner and Mrs. Saslow also abstained from approving the April 11 minutes due to their absences. Mrs. Ryan abstained from approving all minutes as she was not a Board Member at the time.

Motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. McSweeney, carried by consent of the Board, the following minutes were approved:

April 4 Work April 4 Closed April 11 Special April 25 Regular April 25 Closed

Open to the Public for Items on the Agenda

Motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Ryan, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 7:27 p.m. There were no questions or comments from the public; therefore, on motion by Mrs. McSweeney, 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 advised the Board of the following items:

- There has been a tremendous response to the employment ad in *The Star Ledger*. Many resumes from excellent candidates of various backgrounds with great credentials have been received.
- Students from the Middle School and High School attended the Teen Arts Festival held at Bergen Community College. Artwork by High School art student Christine Almeda was prominently displayed and was critiqued very favorably by Art Teacher Lauren Bettini.
- Mr. Polizzi will give an update on Charter School legislation at the next meeting.
- One thousand books per school have been ordered for their libraries to supplement new reading programs.
- He noted a revision to P30.

Mrs. McSweeney was very moved by correspondence from a New Milford police officer who is serving in Iraq who had received many letters from Berkley and Gibbs student.

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION REPORT Danielle Shanley

Mrs. Shanley spoke of the following:

- Training for Everyday Math is scheduled for 4th Grade teachers.
- Teachers from Grades K-12 worked on the new Science curriculum on May 20.
- There will be upcoming curriculum writing workshops.

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION REPORT (con't):

- Mrs. Shanley will meet with teachers regarding a review of their PLC's
- New textbooks are on the agenda for approval tonight
- Mrs. Shanley attended a NJ Dept. of Education workshop this morning in which an evaluation for *No Child Left Behind* for student performance was discussed.
- Preliminary HSPA scores for Grade 11 students scoring either proficient or advanced status are as follows:

	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>
Math	75.8%	83.4%
Language Arts	90.5%	95.8%

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT Michael Sawicz

Mr. Sawicz will give his report in closed session.

President Conner went to Trenton on May 13 to accept the Master Board Certification Award on behalf of the Board. There were only five districts in the State to earn this prestigious award. Mr. Polizzi commended the Board on this accomplishment.

President Conner also informed the Board that the Relay for Life held at Gibbs School on May 20-21 had been organized by Gibbs parent Danielle Petrolia. 500-600 people participated in the event, and it was hugely successful.

BOARD ACTION

BA34 by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board:

BA34 Approval for New Milford Board of Education Members and Administrators to hold a Board Retreat, date to be determined (July or August 2011).

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & CURRICULUM Peggy Saslow, Chair

C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 by Mrs. Mechler, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board:

- C2 Approval of 2010-2011 Scholarships *Attachment*
- C3 Approval of Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) Program for 2011
- C4 Approval of Student Teaching/Practicum Placements for Spring 2011 Semester *Attachment*
- C5 Approval of field trips to date *Attachment*
- C6 **Approval of High School English Language Arts Textbooks:**

Passing, by Nella Larsen. Penguin Publishing, © 1929
Nickel and Dime: On (Not) Getting By In America, by Barbara Ehrenreich. Henry Holt Publishers, © 2001
The Language of Composition. Bedford/St. Martins, © 2008
ReReading America. Bedford/St. Martins, © 2010
Everything's An Argument. Bedford/St. Martins, © 2010
50 Essays: A Portable Anthology. Bedford/St. Martins, © 2011
A Writer's Reference. Bedford/St. Martins, © 2011

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE Darren Drake, Chair

P133, P20, P22, P23, P24, P25, P26, P27, P28, P29, P30, P31, P32 by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried on a roll call vote of 5-0:

Having the recommendation of the Superintendent:

- P133 **Revision to Leave of Absence (Maternity):**
 Jeanine Tricario MS/HS Guidance Counselor, eff. ~~5/27/11~~-6/30/11 **5/23/11**-6/30/11
- P20 **Revision to Resignation:**
 James M. Frederick HS Physical Education teacher, eff. ~~5/11/11~~ **6/30/11**
- P22 **Latchkey Appointments for 2011-2012:**
 Francine Eagleson Latchkey Director, eff. 7/1/11-6/30/12
 Lynn LePage Latchkey Secretary, eff. 7/1/11-6/30/12
- P23 **Approval of Hourly Rate Schedule for 2011-2012** *Attachment*
- P24 **Hourly Rate Employees for 2011-2012:**
 Geraldine Versace Transportation Secretary, Step 2, eff. 7/1/11-6/30/12
ABA Therapists/Coordinator *Attachment*
Lunch Aides *Attachment*
- P25 **Substitute Teachers for 2011-2012** *Attachment*
- P26 **Approval of payment of stipend positions for Spring Musical 2011:**
 Jane Swartz (Music Director) \$2,000.00
 Lauren Bettini (Set Director) \$ 850.00

PERSONNEL (con't):

- P27 **Approval of Extra Pay:**
 Alex Ivchenko Facilitating extra Elementary After School Enrichment class (to be paid w/funds from course tuition), \$50
- P28 **Hourly Rate Employee for 2010-2011:**
 Amy Tsao Gibbs Substitute Lunch Aide, Step 1, eff. 5/24/11
- P29 **Approval of Extra Pay Position:**
 Dorene Zacher Anti-Bullying Specialist \$3,000
- P30 **Approval of Coaching Appointment for 2011-2012:**
 Michael Gil \$34,677
- P31 **Retirement:** *with regret*
 Susan Grabowski DEO Math Teacher, eff. 6/30/11
- P32 **Approval for George Penagos, Berkley Night Custodian, to carry over five (5) additional unused days** from 2010-2011 to 2011-2012

FINANCE COMMITTEE *David Foo, Chair*

F4,F5,F6,F7,F8,F9,F10,F11,F12,F13,F14,F15,F16,F17,F18,F19,F20,F21 by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board:

- F4 Approval of March 2011 Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports
- F5 Approval of April 2011 payroll: \$ 1,622,683.99
- F6 Approval of April 2011 payroll agency bills: \$ 657,013.56
- F7 Approval of April 2011 cafeteria bills \$ 54,062.58
- F8 Approval of April 2011 budget transfers *Attachment*
- F9 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): April 30, 2011.
- F10 Approval of Latchkey budget and tuition rates for 2011-2012 *Attachment*
- F11 Approval for New Milford Board of Education Members and Administrators to attend NJ School Boards Conference in Atlantic City, NJ from October 24-26, 2011, expenses not to exceed \$10,000, to include D. Conner, D. Drake, J. Bigger, D. Foo, J. McSweeney, G. Mechler, P. Ryan, P. Saslow, J. Steele, M. Polizzi, M. Sawicz, D. Shanley
- F12 **Approval of Professional Services for 2010-2011:**
 Laura Linder Speech-Language Therapist: feeding therapy services, 2 hrs training/1 hr consultation, \$50/hr, for a total of \$150
 Megan Simon ABA Therapist, 2 hrs/week with additional hours on an as needed basis, \$35/hr
- F13 **Approval of Special Education Tuition Contracts for 2011-2012** *Attachment*
- F14 **Approval of Foodservice Management Contract with Chartwells for 2011-2012:**
 Chartwells will charge the Local Education Agency an administrative fee of \$4,220 per month for ten months for an annual total of \$42,200 during the 2011-2012 academic year, as well as a management fee of \$.0844 per meal served and meal equivalent during the 2011-2012 academic year. Chartwells guarantees that the return to the LEA from the Food Service Program for the school year will be \$1,000. If the annual operating statement shows a return less than \$1,000.00, Chartwells will reduce its management fee by the difference between the actual and the guaranteed amount, but in no event shall the reimbursement obligation exceed the amount of Chartwell’s management fee, as set forth above.
- F15 **Approval of 2011-2012 cafeteria lunch prices:**

Student lunch:	High School	\$2.40
	Middle School	\$2.30
	Gibbs/Berkley	\$2.20
Adult lunch:	All schools	\$2.90
- F16 **Approval of Dental Coverage Agreement for 2011-2012:**

<u>Delta Dental</u>	Monthly rates:	Single:	\$ 49.42
		Two Party:	\$ 90.58
		Family:	\$148.25
- F17 **Approval of Vision Plan Agreement for 2011-2012:**

<u>Vision Service Plan</u>	Monthly rates:	Single:	\$ 13.61
		Two Party:	\$ 19.74
		Family:	\$ 35.38
- F18 **Acceptance of Donation:**
 \$10,000 for three years of Study Island for students in Grades 9-11 and AP from Adam Leitman Bailey, P.C.

FINANCE (con't):

F19 Approval to submit amended No Child Left Behind (NCLB) FY11 grant due to carry over funds:

Title I	89,442
Title IIA	50,818
Title IID	840
Title III	22,651
Title IV	4,673

F20 Approval to submit amended IDEA FY11 grant due to carry over funds:

Basic	557,861
Preschool	36,655

F21 Approval of Professional Development Opportunities *Attachment*

FACILITIES COMMITTEE *David Foo, Chair*

FA1,FA2 by President Conner, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board:

FA1 Approval of fire and security drill log for April 2011 *Attachment*

FA2 Approval of resolution regarding Solar/Photovoltaic Power/ Roofing System Replacement through a Power Purchase Agreement *Attachment*

Open to the Public

Motion by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. McSweeney, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 8:08 p.m. The following questions or comments were made:

- Valerie Callegari has concerns about the grounds at Berkley School. President Conner said this would be discussed at the next Facilities Committee Meeting.
- Russ Schwartz is glad the Director of Curriculum & Instruction position was maintained. He also asked if anyone heard about a High School summer soccer league; President Conner said the Board is not aware of it.

There being no further questions or comments, on motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at 8:16 p.m.

Committee/Liaison Reports:

None

Old Business:

Mr. Steele commended the dance teacher from Bergen PAC and a performance by students at the Middle School.

New Business:

None

Motion by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the Board went into closed session at 8:18 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Mechler, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board, the Board resumed open session at 8:55 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 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sawicz
Board Secretary

MS/lv