

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2011**

**7:05 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 7:05 p.m. Present were President Conner, Mr. Bigger, Mr. Foo, Mrs. McSweeney, Mrs. Mechler, Mrs. Ryan, and Mr. Steele. Mrs. Saslow arrived at 7:09 p.m. Vice President Drake was absent. Also present were Mr. Polizzi, Mrs. Shanley, Mr. Sawicz, and Student Board Representative Joseph DeGaetani.

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.

PRESENTATION: *The Buildings and Grounds Staff were commended for their tireless efforts during and after Hurricane Irene. They kept damage to a minimum and made all necessary repairs, yet were still able to get the schools and grounds ready for the opening of school.*

Mr. Polizzi also expressed his appreciation to Barry Swanson and Steven Hill who volunteered their services for landscaping the High School field

Refreshments were served at 7:20 p.m. The Board resumed the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Recommended Action

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Approval of Minutes:

Due to their absence, Vice President Drake and Mr. Foo abstained from approving the August 2nd minutes. Mr. Bigger was absent from the August 15th meetings, and abstained from approving those minutes. Motion by Mrs. Mechler, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board, the following minutes were approved:

August 2 Retreat	August 2 Special	August 2 Closed
August 15 Work	August 15 Regular	August 15 Closed

Open to the Public for Items on the Agenda

Motion Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. McSweeney, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 7:33 p.m. The following question was posed:

- Lynn LePage had a question on F78 which was explained to her satisfaction.

There being no further questions or comments, motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at that time.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT Michael Polizzi

Mr. Polizzi spoke to the Board of the following:

- The opening of schools went well. Any busing or school issues are being resolved.
- In regard to P96, Mr. Polizzi spoke of the importance of having a High School Community Service Advisor.
- Donations of equipment and musical instruments in the amount of \$13,000 are being made to the district by DonorsChoose.org.
- Cardiac screening will be provided to all Freshman, and is not to exceed \$260 per family. The district is looking for donations.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (con’t):

- Mr. Polizzi detailed how the new student ranking system will work with a tier ranking system comprised of ten tiers. President Conner spoke about his view on ranking; he believes the top ten students should still be recognized. Mr. Foo said colleges ask for specific numbers; Mr. Polizzi said this can still be done. Mrs. Ryan asked how many will ask for the rank. Mrs. Saslow researched student ranking and found that 60% of colleges have done away with class rank for admission. The student’s performance in High School is important; particularly their participation in AP or Honors classes, school activities, and community service. Mrs. Shanley spoke with the Guidance Staff who informed her of the advantage for students applying to college.

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION REPORT *Danielle Shanley*

Mrs. Shanley advised the Board of the following:

- A mini college fair was held in the High School with 60 colleges participating.
- A writers’ workshop training was held for all teachers.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT *Michael Sawicz*

Mr. Sawicz updated the Board on the following items:

- Mr. Sawicz explained the revised budget which incorporated the addition State Aid.
- Negotiations with the NMEA will resume on September 22.
- A Facilities Committee meeting will take place prior to the October 3 Board Work Session. The Board will follow the 5-10 year Master Plan and will continue to prioritize capital projects.
- Board Members are required to acquire a criminal history check and fingerprinting for which they are to be reimbursed.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT *Joseph DeGaetani*

President Conner welcomed new Student Board Representative Joseph DeGaetani.

Mr. DeGaetani has already applied to colleges. He also spoke of cell phone use in the cafeteria and the upcoming Homecoming Dance to be held on October 22.

BOARD ACTION

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

BA38 Approval of District and Board Goals for 2011-2012

Attachment

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE *Darren Drake, Chair*

Having the recommendation of the Superintendent

Motions P84,P85,P86,P87,P92,P93,P94,P95,P96,P97,P98,P99,P100,P101 by Mrs. McSweeney, seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by a roll call vote of 8-0:

P84 **Request for Leave of Absence (Maternity):**

Katarzyna Andrychowska Swank MS Teacher, eff. 1/1/12-6/30/12

Marisa Knudsen Gibbs Teacher, eff. 1/1/12-6/30/12

P85 **Approval of Internship for 2011-2012:**

Rachel Gaito Guidance Counselor, 600 hours including 240 hours of direct service

P86 **Additional Substitute Teachers for 2011-2012**

Attachment

P87 **Lateral Moves – Effective 9/1/11: retroactive**

Carroll, Caitlin *from:* BA *to:* BA+16

Cabrera, Marlyn MA+16 MA+30

Farricker, Megan BA+16 MA

Barrera, Kyle MA MA+30

Zacher, Dorene MA+16 MA+30

LePage, Lynn MA MA+16

Shugg, Robin BA+16 MA+30

Mackey, Wendy BA BA+16

P92 **Retirement:** *with regret*

Ann Marie Skrabonja Central Office Accounts Payable, eff. 1/1/12

P93 **Approval of Fellowship for 2011-2012:**

Sam Petrocelli, supervised by Dr. Asa-Awuku, 1-2 days per week

P94 **Approval of Additional Latchkey Employees for 2011-2012**

Attachment

P95 **Rescind Extra Pay Stipends for 2011-2012:**

Karen Vicari HS Fund Treasurer

Lisa Horgan Berkley Club Advisor (Book Club)

PERSONNEL (con’t):

- P96 **Approval of Extra Pay Stipends for 2011-2012:**
 Jeffrey Fiscina High School Fund Treasurer
 Arielle Slaff Berkley Club Advisor (Book Club)
 Chris Addeo High School Community Service Advisor
- P97 **Approval of Mentors for 2011-2012 (fee paid by provisional teacher):**
 Nicole Elmera as mentor for Kelly Archibald, \$550
 Roberta Mayer as mentor for Katherine Sudol, \$550
 Peter Galasso as mentor for Raymond Cottiers, \$550
 Carl Scariati as mentor for Jeffrey Bliss, \$550
 April Millian as mentor for Kanchan Chellani, \$550
 Keith Devereaux as mentor for Tahreen Chowdhury, \$550
 Colleen Tambuscio as mentor for Michael Widmer, \$550
 Lynn Torpie as mentor for Abigail Bergoffen, \$550
 Diana Daley as mentor for Ling Luo (.8), \$367
 Jackie Taite as mentor for Colleen Connolly, \$550
- P98 **Approval of Sixth Class for 2011-2012:**
 Kellie Muratore English
- P99 **Approval of Transfers for 2011-2012:**
 Jeff Bliss From: NMHS Physical Education
 To: DEO Physical Education
 Lisa Horgan From: Berkley/Gibbs Basic Skills
 To: Gibbs Basic Skills
- P100 **Approval of additional Paraprofessional for 2011-2012:**
 Lisa Ponsi Inner Bridge Crossing Program
- P101 **Approval of Additional Hourly Rate P/T Paraprofessionals for 2011-2012:**
 Jennifer Kopervos Step 2
 Brynn Redmond Step 2
 Meaghan Bracchitta Step 1
 Nancy Gronck Step 1
 Sherry Herity Step 1
 Stephanie Pascale Step 1

FINANCE COMMITTEE *David Foo, Chair*

Motions F66,F67,F68,F69,F70,F71,F72,F73,F74,F75,F76,F77,F78,F79,F80,F81,F82,F83 by Mr. Foo, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board:

- F66 Approval of July 2011 Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports
- F67 Approval of August 2011 payroll: \$ 427,812.70
- F68 Approval of August 2011 payroll agency bills: \$ 149,924.85
- F69 Approval of additional August 2011 bill: \$ 1,336.99 *Attachment*
- F70 Approval of July and August 2011 budget transfers *Attachment*
- F71 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): August 31, 2011.
- F72 Approval of additional Special Education Contracts for 2011-2012 *Attachment*
- F73 **Approval of Professional Service for 2011-2012:**
 - Educational Enterprises – Sound Solutions (part of Bergen County Special Services):
 Audiology services for MD (FM fitting, record reviews, staff/parent consultations, meetings) at the rate of \$185 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours
 - Ace Teaching & Consulting for RPM training, cost of training package is \$500
- F74 Approval of September 2011 bills: \$859,585.83 *Attachments*
- F75 Approval of resolution for adoption of the Revised 2011-2012 Budget *Attachment*
- F76 Approval to allow PayPal to act as a collection agent for, and at no cost to, the District to collect student activity fees using the Zipp Slip system, and to transfer said funds into the official depository account at Capital One Bank
- F77 Approval to cancel the following checks:
From 345174135, Current Account totaling \$3,152.36:
 16716 \$884 19661 \$884
 17640 \$12.40 19674 \$442
 19143 \$840 19829 \$ 89.96

FINANCE (con’t):

- F77 Approval to cancel the following checks (con’t):
From 3451741571, Payroll Account totaling \$1,129.44
 25978 \$ 6.93 30266 \$242.45
 29033 \$392.96 31666 \$487.10
- F78 Approval of Salary funded by Education Jobs fund:
 John Ronan total salary TBD, amount charged to grant \$77,074. Balance funded by local.
- F79 Approval of IDEA FY12 Allocations:
 Basic: \$550,080 Preschool: \$26,813
- F80 Approval to submit and subsequently accept IDEA FY12 funds:
 Basic: \$550,080 Preschool: \$26,813
- F81 Acceptance of donation of three Smart Board screens from the Berkley School PTO to Berkley School, Attachment
 with a value of \$5,999.97.
- F82 Acceptance of donation of an HP copier/printer from Keith Devereaux to New Milford High School, with Attachment
 an approximate value of \$100
- F83 Approval of Professional Development Opportunities Attachment

FACILITIES COMMITTEE David Foo, Chair

Motions FA13,FA14,FA15,FA16 by Mr. Foo, seconded by Mr. Steele, carried by consent of the Board:

- FA13 Approval of fire and security drill log for August 2011 Attachment
- FA14 Approval to award an Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services Contract to Peak Environmental Inc. (company transitioned from Hudson Environmental Services, Inc.) in the amount of \$62,940
- FA15 Approval of Change Order #1 for R.D. Architectural Products, due to credit for unused allowance (-\$5,000.00) for the Window Wall Replacement Project at New Milford High School:
R.D. Architectural Products, Inc.
 Original amount: \$ 116,800.00
 Amount of Change Order #1: - 5,000.00
 Revised Amount: \$ 111,800.00
- FA16 Approval to dispose of obsolete computer equipment from District schools Attachment

POLICY COMMITTEE Peggy Saslow, Chair

Second reading and, on motion by Mrs. Saslow, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, adoption of the following Policy and Regulation:

- 5600 Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct (w/Regulation)

Open to the Public

Motion by Mrs. Ryan seconded by Mrs. Saslow, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was opened to the public at 8:25 p.m. The following questions or comments were made:

- Mary McElroy asked if cardiac screening is also available for 10th through 12th graders; Mr. Polizzi advised it is. She also asked about the flooding of the High School field and the need to work with the Borough on this problem.
- Diego Robalino spoke of the other fields in the Borough, particularly the Middle School field, for school and recreational use.
- Comments regarding the High School field by Barbara Flores and Tom Schreck were addressed by President Conner, Mr. Polizzi and Mr. Sawicz.

There being no further questions or comments, on motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Foo, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting was closed to the public at 8:40 p.m.

There were no old or new business items.

Mr. Steele had questions on the CVS parking lot which were addressed.

There being no further business, on motion by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Mechler, carried by consent of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sawicz
 Board Secretary