

**NEW FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT**

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2018,
at 6:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Board of Education Central Office Conference Room,
3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – July 17, 2018

PRESENT: Peggy Katkocin (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Greg Flanagan, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

ABSENT: Kimberly LaTourette

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Cosentino

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Peggy Katkocin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. WELCOME AND PIZZA

This meeting was posted as a Board retreat, with the addition of Action Item IX.B. Agreement between the New Fairfield Board of Education and the New Fairfield Paraprofessionals of CSEA, Chapter 141 SEIU Local 2001, CTW - July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2021 (*This item will be voted on after Executive Session.*), and XI. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Paraprofessional Negotiations. Since the agenda was posted, the paraprofessionals have turned down the district's offer. Thus, there will be no Executive Session related to Paraprofessional negotiations and no action taken, and the district and the union will enter into mediation.

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to move agenda Item III. to agenda Item VII.A. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

IV. INFORMATION ITEM

A. Introduction of Director of Instructional Technology and Communications
Karen Fildes was introduced as the new Director of Instructional Technology and Communications. Karen has a comprehensive resume, and talked about her experience in teaching and her educational background. She will be joining the administrator's union. The Board asked about her role in working with the safety committee to upgrade district technology.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the new Network Administrator position and to invite Dr. Patricia Cosentino. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic

Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

X. ACTION ITEM

A. New Position – Network Administrator (*This item will be voted on after Executive Session.*)

This position was discussed in Executive Session.

MOTION: Kathy Baker made a motion to accept and approve the posting for the Network Administrator. Doug DeRito seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

VI. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARD MEMBERS AND THE SUPERINTENDENT

VII. COMMUNICATION

The importance of the Superintendent, District Administration and the Board working as a team was stressed. It was requested that the Board refer to the Superintendent and the Administrative team prior to addressing matters independently. A Board of Education and administrative team retreat may be planned. Good communication is very important. In response to BOE questions, the superintendent will respond to “all” with her answer. The Board will be notified of all incidents, and the Dr. Cosentino is considering sending a weekly “bulleted” update to the Board. The Board was reminded that topics discussed in Executive Session are confidential. It is important to measure the District’s progress according to the Net Accountability Report and not just by test scores. The Board was encouraged to attend CABA conferences in August and November. It was requested that the Board have adequate time to review the budget before it is publicly presented.

VIII. UPDATE ON FIRST TWO WEEKS AS SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Cosentino reported that she had a wonderful first two weeks. Paraprofessional mediation is scheduled for August 14th, and the start of teacher contract negotiations is planned for August 15th. Kathy Baker, Doug DeRito, Dominic Cipollone and Rick Regan have volunteered to serve on the teacher negotiations committee. Some district activities which are planned include book talks, team building exercises, professional development for administrators regarding the new teacher evaluation format and strategic planning meetings. Dr. Cosentino will present her goals to the Board at an August meeting and will share her goals with the staff at convocation, to which the Board is invited. She had attended two Safety and Security meetings, and plans on attend the July 18th Board of Finance meeting. Assessments will be reviewed on July 26th, and the first "Say Something" meeting is scheduled for that date as well.

IX. SCHEDULE ONE-ON-ONE APPOINTMENTS WITH SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS

Board members made appointments to meet with Dr. Cosentino.

X. ACTION ITEMS

- B. Agreement between the New Fairfield Board of Education and the New Fairfield Paraprofessionals of CSEA, Chapter 141 SEIU Local 2001, CTW - July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2021 (*This item will be voted on after Executive Session.*)
No action taken.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PARAPROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS - No Executive Session.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – Greg Flanagan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Mannion