

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, August 2, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – August 2, 2018

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

ABSENT: Douglas DeRito and Kimberly LaTourette

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Consentino, High School Principal Dr. Richard Sanzo, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Business Manager Craig McClain, Pupil Personnel Director Andrea Einhorn, Board of Finance Chairman Wes Marsh, Selectman Khris Hall and several paraprofessionals

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Peggy Katkocin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. June 21, 2018 - Regular Meeting - approved by consensus
- B. July 17, 2018 - Special Meeting - approved by consensus

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - approved by consensus

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dawn Lipke, Stephanie Marlow, Amanda Lombard and Patrick Bower all spoke in support of increase pay and a fair contract for the paraprofessionals.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Chairman's Report - Chairman Peggy Katkocin welcomed Dr. Pat Cosentino as the new Superintendent of Schools. She explained the process of appropriating the town's surplus and noted that it is solely the purview of the Board of Finance. She gave a brief explanation of contract negotiations.
- B. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Pat Consentino spoke of the following:
 - Thanked everyone for the warm welcome to New Fairfield.
 - The renovation of the culinary arts area in the high school is coming along well.
 - Many new staff members have been hired this summer.
 - There was a five day administrative meeting that was very productive.
- C. Student Representatives' Report – None

D. Liaison Reports

1. Board of Finance - Ed Sbordone noted that the BOF met on July 18th. They met with Dr. Costentino and welcomed her to the district. Erin Badillo from the BOF and Rick Regan from the BOE are working on a communication plan for the district. They discussed the School Security and Safety Committee update. The independent audit has been completed. CIRMA and the State Police will also perform safety audits for the district free of charge.

2. Parks and Recreation Commission - The July meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was cancelled.

3. Permanent Building Committee - The PBC is overseeing the Culinary Arts renovation project at the high school. Phil Ross recently gave them a tour. The PBC changed their rules to allow Mr. Ross to approve invoices up to \$15,000 so that a special PBC meeting will not be required and thus the project can continue in a timely manner.

4. School Security and Safety Committee - Samantha Mannion noted that the next meeting of the School Security and Safety Committee will be held on Tuesday, August 7th at 7:30 p.m. She encouraged residents to attend the meeting and give their input.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Security Audit Report - Dr. Costentino noted that the audit has been completed. There are some recommendations that are either free or low cost that can be done soon. There are other projects that are a lot more expensive. The audit will be discussed further in Executive Session.

B. 2018 CABA Summer Leadership Conference - Dr. Costentino spoke of the many workshops and conferences that are beneficial to Board members. The next conference will be held on Monday, August 13th regarding the roles and responsibilities of Board of Education members.

C. 2018 CABA/CAPSS Convention - Dr. Costentino invited Board members to attend this conference that will be held the Friday and Saturday before Thanksgiving. Anyone interested should contact her office. More information about this can be found on their website.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel Report

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the corrected version of the Personnel Report for July 27, 2018, as recommended by the administration. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Dr. Costentino gave a brief explanation of the recall process for rehiring personnel who were previously laid off. She also spoke of positions that have been filled to date.

B. TEACH Connecticut Partnership

MOTION: Rick Regan made a motion to recommend to the full Board approval of the district's participation in the TEACH Connecticut Partnership, a recruiting system designed to "elevate the image of teaching, recruit a more diverse workforce, and fill certification shortage areas." Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Dr. Cosentino gave a brief explanation of this program and noted that there was no cost to participate.

C. ED099 - Child Nutrition Programs

MOTION: Rick Regan made a motion to recommend to the full Board to authorize Dr. Patricia Cosentino to sign the ED099 and to sign claims for reimbursement. Ed Sbordone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Business Manager Craig McClain explained that this was required due to a new signatory on the account.

D. Approval of Grant Application

1. Perkins Grant Secondary Continuous Improvement Plan

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion recommend to the full Board the approval of the application for the Perkins Grant. Rick Regan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

The amount of this grant is approximately \$20,000 and is used for reimbursement for various high school programs.

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Amanda Lombard asked about the recall process when hiring staff members.
Patrick Bower asked about the mediation process.

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - All members of the Board welcomed Dr. Costentino to the district.

- Kathy Baker noted that the next meeting of the School Start Time committee will be on Monday, August 13th.
- Greg Flanagan spoke of his support for the paraprofessionals.
- Dominic Cipollone spoke of his support for the paraprofessionals. He encouraged parents to start to prepare students of the beginning of the school year.
- Rick Regan spoke of his support for the paraprofessionals and spoke of improved Math scores on the SATs.
- Ed Sbordone spoke of his support for the paraprofessionals.

- Samantha Mannion spoke of spoke of her support for the paraprofessionals. She noted that there will be a special meeting of the Policy subcommittee before the start of school.
- Peggy Katkocin welcomed the new hires and encouraged everyone to stay positive throughout the district.

XI. EXECUTIVES SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING SECURITY PLAN

MOTION: Peggy Katkocin made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:56 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Security Plan and to invite Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Costentino into the Executive Session. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Peggy Katkocin made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:29 p.m. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Peggy Katkocin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos