

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2018,
at 6:30 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – January 18, 2018

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon, High School Principal Dr. Richard Sanzo, High School Assistant Principal Michael Chapleau, High School Assistant Principal Scott Rohwedder, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Middle School Assistant Principal Cheryl Milo, Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia, Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal Allyson Story, Consolidated School Principal Robert Spino, Consolidated School Assistant Principal Karen Gruetzner, Business Manager Craig McClain, Director of Buildings and Grounds Phil Ross, Athletic Director Mary Stolle, Director of Technology Alison Herold, Pupil Personnel Director Andrea Einhorn, Director of Mathematics Science and Interventions Keegan Finlayson, Board of Finance Chairman Wes Marsh, Board of Finance member Erin Badillo

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Peggy Katkocin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PRESENTATION OF SUPERINTENDENT’S 2018-2019 BUDGET

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy wished everyone a “Happy New Year” and outlined the many awards and accomplishments both academic and athletic of New Fairfield students and spoke of the many reasons to invest in our children’s future. Dr. Roy gave a Power Point presentation that outlined the recommended budget and noted that a copy was available on the district website at www.newfairfieldschools.org.

Dr. Roy showed a brief video of accolades of the schools and program additions and improvements over the past year.

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon spoke of Standardized Assessments and Professional Development.

Dr. Roy noted that grant funding was almost \$50,000 more than last year.

Each administrator gave a brief summary of the requested non-payroll increases for their respective school.

Consolidated School Principal Robert Spino spoke of the budget for Consolidated School and requested a non-payroll increase of \$9,448 to be used for math journals (\$8,500) and the license for the math program (\$3,000). There is a decrease of \$2,200 for Instructional equipment.

Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia and Assistant Principal Allyson Story spoke of the requested non-payroll increase for Meeting House in the amount of \$11,014 to be used for the following: CAS Leadership conference and the Responsive Classroom Leader Conference for two administrators in the amount of \$1,450, student math journals and practice work in the amount of \$6,033, new instruments and book carts for mobile classroom libraries in the amount of \$3,091, and dues/fees increasing in the amount of \$3,111. The cost for instructional supplies has decreased by \$3,791.

Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli and Assistant Principal Cheryl Milo spoke of the requested non-payroll increase of \$4,568 for the Middle School. These funds would be used for textbooks and workbooks in the amount of \$274, instructional equipment in the amount of \$1,661, dues and fees in the amount of \$3,959. The cost for instructional supplies has decreased by \$1,051.

High School Principal Dr. Richard Sanzo spoke of the requested non-payroll increase for the high school of \$49,906 to be used for PSAT/SAT bulk registration and ACT electronic score reporting in the amount of \$730, professional development in the amount of \$4,859, instructional equipment in the amount of \$18,912 and PSATs for 9th -11th graders in the amount of \$6,346. Instructional supplies have decreased by \$6,400 and putting documents online instead of printing saves \$1,440. A budget increase of \$23,422 is needed for the NEASC accreditation visit, which includes hosting 16 members including lodging, meeting space, refreshments, welcome reception, evaluation fees, travel expenses for visiting members and NEASC editor and clerical fees.

Athletic Director Mary Stolle spoke of the requested increase for Athletics of \$22,428 that includes increase in officials' fees of \$3,552, purchase of HUDL for all athletic teams in the amount of \$7,525, transportation in the amount of \$2,890, uniform replacement in the amount of \$2,587, Pixellot cameras for stadium and Rebel turf in the amount of \$2,924, and participation fees in the amount of \$4,000. The cost for police and event supervision has decreased by \$1,750 and the cost of NFHS network subscription has decreased by \$1,000.

Dr. Roy spoke of the increase for Central Office in the amount of \$6,947, which includes an increase of \$12,440 for BOE legal services for teacher collective bargaining. The cost of CABA dues has not increased as expected in fiscal year 2018 thus there is a Central office savings of \$1,668. There is also a cost savings of \$2,333 for the BOE financial systems, accounting, payables and payroll services provided by the Town Finance

Department. Districtwide increases include \$17,291 for the pension benefit for all non-teaching staff members and non-certified staff, \$22,849 for unemployment compensation payments and worker's compensation of \$4,294.

Director of Technology Alison Herold spoke of the Technology increases of \$13,070. This includes an increase of \$25,840 for software and an increase of \$77,400 since Chromebooks have moved from equipment to supplies. The equipment line for Technology will decrease by \$72,950 due to the moving the category for Chromebooks. The repair/maintenance line will decrease by \$5,820 as determined by the annual survey in alignment with the technology plan, and the Connecticut Education Network charge will be offset by eRate in the amount of \$12,000.

Business Manager Craig McClain spoke of the transportation costs requested increase of \$95,086, which includes transportation to Henry Abbott Technical School. This increase is due to an increase in the negotiated contract. Utilities will increase by \$50,597.

Dr. McKinnon spoke of the increase in curriculum implementation in the amount of \$71,175.

Buildings and Grounds Director Phil Ross spoke of the requested non-payroll increase for Buildings and Grounds in the amount of \$15,702.

Pupil Personnel Director Andrea Einhorn noted an increase in non-payroll Special Education in the amount of \$416,006 mainly due to student outplacements.

Dr. Roy spoke of payroll changes to the budget and noted that 28.9 positions have been cut from the district since 2010. Dr. Roy noted that they are not recommending any staff reductions but instead are including positions for which they have asked in the past but have not survived the budget process. She noted that \$150,000 deduction has been included for attrition and another deduction of \$150,000 for unappropriated salary funds.

Requested staff members include a Life Skills teacher at the secondary level, a Math Teacher/Instructional Coach at Consolidated, two STEM coaches at the Middle School and High School, and two School Safety Advocates. Dr. Roy spoke of the team structure at Meeting House and Middle School and the desire to keep the Humanities Coordinator.

The Total Superintendent's recommended operating budget is \$34,833,412, which represents an increase of \$1,407,132. The total Superintendent's recommended budget for 2018/2019 is \$42,897,153, which represents a 4.87% increase over the 2017/2018 budget. It was noted that the current expenditure per pupil in New Fairfield is \$15,987, which is \$767 less than the DRG B average. This ranks New Fairfield 108 out of 169 Connecticut communities.

IV. ADJOURNMENT- Douglas DeRito made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Rick Regan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic

Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette,
Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos