

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2020,  
at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**MINUTES – December 15, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Peggy Katkocin (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion and Stephanie Strazza

**ABSENT:** Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Julie Luby, Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo, Director of Instructional Technology and Communications Dr. Karen Fildes, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Middle School Assistant Principal Cheryl Milo and Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal Allyson Story

Network Administrator Paul Gouveia explained the procedure for the virtual meeting and noted that this virtual meeting is available to everyone including members of the public.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Peggy Katkocin called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. 2021-2022 BUDGET**

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino noted that the budget presentation originally scheduled for Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> is postponed until Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm due to an impending snowstorm. She spoke of the challenges of putting together a budget during a pandemic and noted that this budget for 2021-2022 is based on the assumption that the pandemic will be over and everything will be back to normal. She spoke of silver linings that COVID brought including an increased use of technology.

Dr. Cosentino spoke of the Board retreat that discussed the most pressing needs for the upcoming budget. These include more interventionists for student learning and closing of gaps, increase in mathematics instruction and the transition program for special needs young adults ages 18-21. Other needs for budget funds include an increase in technology costs and special education costs.

Dr. Cosentino spoke of the budget process and noted that there will be many workshops and deliberations before the Board votes to recommend it to the Board of Finance. Currently, the increase for this budget over last year is approximately 2.5%.

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo spoke of projections for the 2020-2021 budget and how it has been affected by COVID. There was a brief discussion of head count and how positions are reallocated due to student needs.

There was a brief discussion of compiling the budget so that math instruction can be held every day and the logistics of getting this as part of the curriculum. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Peggy Katkocin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:32 p.m. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Kloos