

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2017,
at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – June 15, 2017

PRESENT: Steve Burfeind (Chairman), Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon, High School Principal Dr. Richard Sanzo, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia, Pupil Personnel Director Andrea Einhorn and Director of Technology Alison Herold.

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. June 1, 2017 - Regular Meeting

MOTION: Douglas DeRito made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2017, regular meeting as presented. Ed Sbordone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Susan Starr made a motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as presented. Amy Tozzo seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dawn Lipke thanked the Board of Education and everyone involved in facilitating the Special Education Ad Hoc subcommittee and noted that this has created a positive outcome. Ms. Lipke spoke of the possibility to forming SEPTA (Special Education Parent Teacher Association) and noted that an application can only be submitted by a parent. Ms. Lipke spoke of a discussion at a recent Special Education Ad Hoc subcommittee in which she said the Superintendent claimed that she submitted an application for SEPTA in the past.

Laura Consiglio noted that she also appreciated the work of the Ad Hoc subcommittee but noted that there is still work to be done. She further spoke of the Superintendent's upcoming

evaluation and encouraged the Board of Education members to record scores for her evaluation and to give specific comments for their evaluation.

Craig David Rosen discouraged the Board of Education from renewing the Superintendent's contract and further noted that specific constructive comments should be given to the Superintendent.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Chairman's Report - Chairman Steve Burfeind thanked all the district employees and volunteers for another successful year. He congratulated all the graduates in the district and wished everyone a wonderful summer.
- B. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Alicia Roy spoke of the following:
- Congratulated the Girls' Lacrosse team for winning the State Championship.
 - Thanked all the volunteers in the district and especially the PTOs.
 - The SEE Fair was held on Monday, June 5th and was very successful with many diverse projects.
 - Congratulated High School Science teacher Edie Mullally and her students Aileen Leon, Sydney Gouveia and Thomas Ciardi for winning prizes in the Energize CT EE Smarts Competition.
 - There is a survey on the district website to see if there is any interest in before or after school care at the elementary schools.
 - Showed the MHHS Literary magazine
 - Congratulated High School teacher Mrs. Main on the 2017 Yearbook.
 - Over \$75,000 worth of scholarships were awarded to High School Seniors at Scholars Night.
 - The High Schools Seniors will march through Consolidated School and Meeting House Hill School wearing their caps and gowns on June 19th.
 - Invited everyone to the High School graduation that will be held next Saturday, June 24th at 10 a.m. in the O'Neill Center at Western Connecticut State University.
 - Thanked the two high school representatives Nicole Cennamo and Jared Przyborowski for all their work during the school year and presented them with a gift.
 - The Boys' Lacrosse coach received a letter from an opposing team regarding the wonderful display of sportsmanship by the Lacrosse team and their parents.

C. Student Representative Reports

Junior Representative Jared Przyborowski reported on the following:

- Little Mermaid Jr. will be held on Saturday, June 17th as a SEE project.
- 8th graders from the Middle School attended freshmen orientation today.

Senior Representative Nicole Cennamo reported on the following:

- The Senior Breakfast and graduation practice will be held on Monday, June 19th at 8:30 a.m.

- Thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity of being the Senior Representative.

D. Committee Reports

1. Business Operations/Resource Management - Ed Sbordone noted that they met this evening and discussed the Budget vs. Actual for the current fiscal year as of May 31st. The budget is on schedule and there will be a surplus.
2. Special Education Ad Hoc - Samantha Mannion noted that the subcommittee met on June 14th and discussed programming changes and summer programs. There have been requests for more parent programs in the district. There was a discussion of new state legislation regarding dyslexia.

E. Liaison Reports

1. Parks and Recreation Committee - Steve Burfeind noted that the commission met on June 12th and voted to construct a second basketball court at the playground at the high school.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Teacher Data Dashboard - Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon and Director of Technology Alison Herold spoke of the progress made with the Data Dashboard that assesses student performance. Dr. McKinnon spoke of the different types of assessments, which allow for feedback from teachers to students. The subjects for these assessments include Math, Reading and Writing. The frequency of these assessments varies based on the subject. Alison Herold spoke of the Admin. Dashboard vs. the Teacher Dashboards and explained how each is used. The dashboard shows different types of filters that highlight students who are struggling and thus allow for early intervention.

Dr. McKinnon spoke of the next steps and the future of the Data Dashboard. He further thanked Alison Herold for all her hard work and expertise with the Data Dashboard.

B. House of Rebel-sentatives and Student Senate Update - Nicole Cennamo, Marcus MocarSKI and Jared Przyborowski spoke of the House of Rebel-sentatives and the Student Senate and their role within the high school. These programs have representatives that give the students a safe and welcome environment to air concerns and get feedback regarding issues at the high school. The first official meeting was held last week. Nicole gave an overview of the meetings.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel Report

MOTION: Steve Burfeind made a motion to accept the Personnel Report dated June 14, 2017, as recommended by the administration. Douglas DeRito seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR: Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia introduced Mrs. Allyson Story as the new Assistant Principal at Meeting House Hill School and gave a brief description of her background. Mrs. Story thanked everyone for the opportunity.

B. New Textbook Adoption

Suspension of the Rules (referring to New Textbook Adoption)

1. Earth Science

MOTION: Steve Burfeind made a motion to suspend the rules referring to the new Earth Science textbook. Susan Starr seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

MOTION: Susan Starr made a motion to recommend to the full Board the adoption of the new Earth Science textbook. Ed Sbordone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

C. Board of Education Policies

Suspension of the Rules [referring to Policies 3542.43, 4112.5/4212.5, 5141.251, 6142.101, 6146, 6172, 6172.4]

MOTION: Steve Burfeind made a motion to suspend the rules referring to Policies 3542.43, 4112.5/4212.5, 5141.251, 6142.101, 6146, 6172, 6172.4. Jay Voss seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

MOTION: Susan Starr made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the following Board of Education Policies as presented. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

1. Policy 3542.43- Food Service-Charging Policy
2. Policy 4112.5/4212.5- Security Check/Fingerprinting
3. Policy 5141.251- Accommodating Disabled Students with Dietary needs
4. Policy 6142.101- Student Nutrition & Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy)
5. Policy 6146- Graduation Requirements
6. Policy 6172- Alternative Education Programs
7. Policy 6172.4- Parent Family Engagement Policy for Title I Students

D. Board of Education Summer Meetings

MOTION: Steve Burfeind made a motion to recommend to the full Board cancellation of the August 3, 2017, Board of Education meeting. Susan Starr seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

E. Approval of Grant Applications

1. Perkins Grant Secondary Continuous Improvement Plan

MOTION: Douglas DeRito made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the application for the Perkins Grant. Amy Tozzo seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

Dr. Roy explained that this grant will be used mainly for supplies for vocational classes.

F. Acceptance of Donation

1. New Fairfield High School Booster Club

MOTION: Douglas DeRito made a motion to recommend to the full Board to accept with gratitude the donation of \$1,000 from the New Fairfield High School Booster Club as a partial payment to replace pole vault pit cover – total cost - \$3,500. Susan Starr seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

Dr. Roy noted that the rest of the money for this cover will come from the budget.

G. Superintendent's Evaluation (Executive Session)

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

MOTION: Steve Burfeind made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:24 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's contract and to invite Dr. Roy into the applicable portion of the Executive Session. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

The Board came back from Executive Session at 9:51 p.m.

MOTION: Kevin Hearty made a motion to accept the numerical evaluation given to the Superintendent by the Board of Education. Amy Tozzo seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss **OPPOSED:** Steve Burfeind

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dominic Cipollone thanked the entire staff and volunteers of the district and stated that he believes that the Superintendent's contract should not be renewed.

Doug DeRito noted that he was saddened by the process of the evaluation and noted that the Superintendent has 30 days to respond to the evaluation. Mr. DeRito spoke of the many comments and feedback regarding the extension of Dr. Roy's contract and noted that he believes that the Superintendent's contract should not be renewed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT- Steve Burfeind made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 p.m. Jay Voss seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind, Dominic Cipollone, Douglas DeRito, Kevin Hearty, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Susan Starr, Amy Tozzo and Jay Voss

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos