

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2018,
at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – April 24, 2018

PRESENT: Peggy Katkocin (Chairman), Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan (arrived 7:10 p.m.), Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

ABSENT: Kathy Baker, Douglas DeRito

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon, High School Principal Dr. Richard Sanzo, Business Manager Craig McClain, Pupil Personnel Director Andrea Einhorn and Consolidated School teacher Maureen Kenny

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. April 5, 2018 - Regular Meeting - approved by consensus with the correction of the name of the law firm present as "Goodwin" instead of "Goodman."

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - Approved by consensus

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION - CABE COMMUNICATIONS AWARD

Frances Walton from the Ridgefield Board of Education presented the district with the CABE Communications award for the New Fairfield Schools 2017-2018 recommended budget and the New Fairfield Public Schools website.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- None

VII. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Chairman's Report - Chairman Peggy Katkocin spoke of the following:
- Received an email from Gail DeFeo looking for one more member of the BOE to serve on the Field Fees committee. Dominic Cipollone volunteered to serve in this position and Kimberly LaTourette volunteered to serve as a backup in Mr. Cipollone's absence.
 - The Annual Town meeting to set the date for the budget referendum will be held on Thursday, April 26th at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at 33 Route 37.

- B. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Alicia Roy spoke of the following:
- Congratulated High School student Zachary Ficardo and his teacher, Ms. Mullally for being a semi-finalist in an essay contest about price gouging after natural disasters.
 - The 5th grade play Treasure Island was a great success.
 - The 5th grade students presented their Social Studies showcase.
 - The 6th grade students had a showcase on countries in South America.
 - Some 5th graders put a positive "post-it" note on every locker in the school as part of a Kindness project.
 - The Middle School PTO hosted a "Brain Challenge" game.
 - Eight students earned distinction levels on the National French exam.
 - A new edition of the District Newsletter is now available on the district website and was mailed electronically to all families.
- C. Student Representatives' Report
Senior Representative Jared Przyborowski reported on the following:
- Junior Prom will be held this Saturday, April 28th.
 - The Concert Choir concert will be held on May 2nd.
 - Encouraged families of High School seniors to check the website about graduation and upcoming events.
 - The High School PTO is sponsoring a raffle to win a premium parking spot for graduation.
 - Post Grad will be held on Saturday, June 23rd.
 - The Post Grad committee is currently selling graduation yard signs. The cost is \$20 per sign with an additional \$5 fee to have it personalized.
- D. Committee Reports
1. Business Operations/Resource Management - Ed Sbordone noted that the Business Operations/Resource Management committee met on April 24th. Action items discussed included budget transfers and Healthy Food Certification. Information items included the Consolidated School audit of Aramark activities of the school. Minor issues were reported and were addressed. It was noted that everything with Aramark at Consolidated was in order. The school lunch prices will remain the same for next year. The committee discussed a summary of budget vs. actual expenses and everything is on track. There will be a budget surplus this year. There was a review of Special Education expenses.
 2. Curriculum - Dominic Cipollone noted that the committee met on April 23rd and discussed the Science and Social Studies curriculum for all grades.
 3. Special Education Ad Hoc - Samantha Mannion noted that this committee met on April 11th and discussed an overview of enrichment programs and gifted and talented programs for all four schools. They discussed ELC enrollment and extended school year programs.
- E. Liaison Reports
1. Board of Finance - Ed Sbordone noted that the BOF met on April 18th. The budget will be printed in the Town Tribune on April 26th. The Annual

Town Meeting to determine the date of the budget referendum will be held on Thursday, April 26th. It is likely that the vote will be held on Sat., May 5th.

2. Parks and Recreation Committee - Kimberly LaTourette noted that this committee met on April 9th and discussed summer camp. A document will be brought back to the Field Fees committee asking for clarification of the \$5 incremental fee for the use of the John Pendergast field.

3. Permanent Building Committee- Ed Sbordone noted that the PBC met on April 10th and discussed the renovation of the Culinary Arts classroom in the high school. Invitations to bid went out this week and are due on May 10th.

4. Calendar Committee - No report

5. School Security and Safety Committee - Samantha Mannion noted that this committee met on April 23rd and narrowed the list of independent auditors down to three firms. These three finalists will come back for an interview. The committee expressed a desire to re-implement anonymous student reporting. There was a suggestion of possibly having an anonymous phone system.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Board of Education Policies (Second Reading)

1. Policy 3231-Medical Reimbursement for Special Education students
2. Policy 3323-Bidding
3. Policy 4135-Organizations/Units
4. Policy 6172.1-Gifted and Talented Students program

B. Social Studies K-5 Resources

1. *Discover Kids* (Grades K-2) - Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon and Second grade teacher Mrs. Maureen Kenny spoke of this program and specifically *Discover Kids* text resource and professional development. They spoke of the benefits of *Time for Kids* for students in K-2 and of performance tasks.

2. *My World Interactive* (Grades 3-5) - Dr. McKinnon spoke of *My World Interactive program* for grades 3-5. This program includes a workbook and a teacher resource and also gives opportunities for project-based learning.

Dr. McKinnon spoke of the next steps and timeline for these programs.

C. New Fairfield Public Schools 2019-2020 Draft Calendar

Dr. Roy spoke of the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. There will be one less early release data day. The Monday after Easter falls during Spring Break for this year. There are days added in June for inclement weather days.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel Report

MOTION: Kimberly LaTourette made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Personnel Report for April 12, 2018, as recommended by the administration. Ed Sbordone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone,

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

B. Board of Education Policies

1. Policy 5118.1 - Homeless Students
2. Bylaw 9327.1 - Board Member Use of Internet Social Networks

MOTION: Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Board of Education policies listed as presented. Rick Regan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Samantha Mannion gave a brief overview of both of these policies.

C. New Textbook Adoption

1. *Azulejo: Anthology & Guide to the AP Spanish Literature and Culture Course*
2. *New Perspectives in Computer Concepts, 2018 Enhanced Edition*

MOTION: Rick Regan made a motion to recommend to the full Board the adoption of the two textbooks. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

D. 2017-2018 FY Budget Transfers

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Education the requested 2017-18 FY budget transfers as presented. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

There was a brief overview of the budget transfers.

E. Healthy Food Certification

Ed Sbordone read the following recommendation into the record:

As the Board did last year, once again the Board has to take action to certify that all food items sold to students will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards. This year due to changes in federal regulations that reduce restricted items, Aramark is recommending that we participate in the program. Based on total meals from 2016-2017, we calculate that NFPS could receive about \$10,600, and with the changes in regulations we believe the students will purchase the items, as they will be in alignment with the items now being sold.

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Education that the Board of Education certify to the Connecticut State Department of Education that all food items sold to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or

by non-school organizations and groups meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards under the healthy food certification of Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Education that food items prohibited by the Connecticut Nutrition Standards may be sold under the following conditions: 1. The sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2. The sale is at the location of the event; 3. The food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Education that beverages prohibited by Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes may be sold under the following conditions: 1. The sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2. The sale is at the location of the event; 3. The beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. Rick Regan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

F. High School Social Studies Course Sequences

High School Principal Dr. Richard Sanzo spoke of the logic behind the proposed course sequence changes and noted that this is in line with professional development for teachers. He thanked Social Studies Curriculum Administrator Joel Pardalis for all his hard work with this curriculum.

1. Class of 2021
2. Beginning with the Class of 2022

MOTION: Dominic Cipollone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the change in the sequence of courses for high school social studies for the Class of 2021 and also beginning with the Class of 2022 as presented by administration. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

There was a discussion of curriculum pertaining to American Government and specifically the students in the transition class.

G. High School Science Course Sequence

1. Beginning with the Class of 2022

Dr. Sanzo spoke of the sequence of Science courses for high school students and spoke of the transition to the Next Generation Science Standards.

MOTION: Dominic Cipollone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the change in the sequence of courses for high school science beginning with the Class of 2022 as presented by administration. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR: Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Dr. Sanzo thanked the Board of Education and the Board of Finance for their support regarding these changes.

H. New Fairfield Public Schools 2018-2019 Revised Calendar

MOTION: Greg Flanagan made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the revised 2018-19 school calendar as presented, making February 15 a full school day and making April 22 (Easter Monday) a day that could be taken from vacation, if the weather required more snow/emergency days as described in the language on the bottom right of the calendar. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Greg Flanagan announced that the Major Minors will be performing at the Mets game on May 1st.

Kim LaTourette thanked the Curriculum Committee for all their hard work. She noted that the next meeting of the New Fairfield Prevention Council will be held on Monday, April 30th at 7:00 p.m. at the High School library.

Dominic Cipollone suggested having a curriculum fair to give parents an overview of the classes offered at the high school.

Rick Regan encouraged everyone to vote at the budget referendum.

Ed Sbordone echoed Rick's comment and encouraged everyone to vote at the budget referendum.

Peggy Katkocin noted that she has visited all four schools recently and noted that Police officers at Consolidated and Meeting House Hill School have been well received.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Peggy Katkocin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Kloos