

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Thursday, January 31, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – January 31, 2019

PRESENT: Peggy Katkocin (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion (arrived 7:10 p.m.), Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza (arrived 7:30 p.m.)

ABSENT: Greg Flanagan

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Cosentino, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon, Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo, Director of Instructional Technology and Communications Dr. Karen Fildes, High School Interim Principal Michael Clarke, High School Assistant Principal Scott Rohwedder, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia, Consolidated School Assistant Principal Karen Gruetzner, Director of Buildings and Grounds Phil Ross, Special Education Supervisor Katherine Matz, Reading Teacher and Instructional Coach Roseann Petruso, High School Teacher Kim Salta

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Peggy Katkocin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ACTION ITEM

A. International Travel - Belize Trip April 2019-2020

High School Teacher Kim Salta gave a brief description of a proposed trip to Belize scheduled for April 2020. This trip would be high school seniors, juniors and possibly some sophomores. The ideal number of students would be a minimum of 12 with a maximum of 18. There will be one chaperone per every six students.

MOTION: Kimberly LaTourette made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the international field trip to Belize as presented. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

IV. WORKSHOP

A. Review of the 2019-2020 Board of Education Budget

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo gave a summary of the proposed budget with an opportunity for administrators and members of the Board of Education to ask questions. He spoke of revenue accounts and expenses for non-payroll and capital and non-recurring expenses. Main topics discussed included professional development,

enrichment opportunities for each school, the new bus contract, athletics and special education, including outsourcing if necessary. Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason McKinnon spoke of expenses for curriculum supplies and staff development.

There was a discussion of the payroll portion of the budget. The main topics for this discussion included the union negotiations and the custodial contract, a gifted and talented teacher that will also serve as an instructional coach. There was a brief discussion of the role of the coaches and interventionists. There was a discussion of non-union positions and stipends.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Cosentino spoke of the proposed twelve month Director of Humanities (Pre-K - 12) position and suggested that this be put on hold for now and keep it at a ten month position with the title of Secondary Humanities Curriculum Coordinator and Implementer. There was a discussion of the process of changing this position.

V. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM

A. 2019-2020 Budget

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the addition of \$250,150 to the 2019-2020 capital expenditure/contribution for the purpose of security upgrades and enhancements. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

It was noted that the salaries for personnel for the security enhancements will be included in the Board of Selectmen's budget.

MOTION: Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the returning the Director of Humanities position as listed in the superintendent's recommended budget to the current position of Secondary Humanities Curriculum Coordinator and Implementer and reducing the budgeted salary for 2019-2020 by \$37,817. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Dominic Cipollone, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza **OPPOSED:** Kathy Baker

MOTION: Peggy Katkocin made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2019-2020 Board of Education budget in the amount of \$43,435,443 for an increase of 1.44%. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Board members thanked everyone involved in putting together the budget for their hard work. Peggy Katkocin briefly explained the budget process and reminded everyone that the BOE will present the budget to the Board of Finance on Saturday, March 2nd.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

VII. ADJOURNMENT - Peggy Katkocin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos