

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2022, at 7:00 pm at the Community Room at 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT 06812.

**MINUTES – December 1, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Dominic Cipollone (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Julie Luby, Director of Business and Operations Carrie DePuy, Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz, New Fairfield High School Principal James D’Amico, New Fairfield Middle School Principal Karen Gruetzner, Elementary School Assistant Principal Steven Groccia and Director of Guidance Stephanie Cheung

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Dominic Cipollone called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. November 17, 2022 - Regular meeting - approved by consensus

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** - approved by consensus

**V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Chairman’s Report - Dominic Cipollone spoke of the following:

- Wished all the Winter Sports Teams good luck this season.
- Encouraged everyone to communicate with one another especially this time of year.

B. Superintendent’s Report - Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth Craw spoke of the following:

- Parent -Teacher conferences for Grades K-8 have been rescheduled to Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Congratulated the Rebel Players for a wonderful Fall Play.
- Thanked the Elementary Schools PTO for coordinating the Book Fair.

C. Student Representatives’ Report

Senior Representative Grace DeMarco spoke of the following:

- The Food Drive at the high school was a big success.
- The Girls’ Lacrosse Team is hosting a “Toy Drive” for Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. Donations can be dropped off at any New Fairfield School until Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

D. Committee Reports

1. Curriculum - Stephanie Strazza noted that this committee met on November 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed course proposals for new Math classes at the high school.

2. Special Education Ad Hoc - Stephanie Strazza noted that this committee met on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz gave the committee an overview of the IEP Process for parents.

E. Liaison Reports - None

## **VII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A. Class of 2022 Outcomes**

Dr. Craw introduced Director of Guidance Stephanie Cheung who gave a presentation regarding the Guidance Department and its role in assisting student in their post high school careers. Ms. Cheung New Fairfield alumni. She gave statistics of the number of colleges, the number of applications and the number of students that have applied to college in recent years. There was a discussion of what is done to prepare and encourage students to explore the trades.

### **B. ARP/ESSER Funding Update**

Dr. Craw spoke of the staffing plan for Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024 and how it affects the budget. He spoke of positions that were funded through ARP and ESSER Funds in recent years and the importance of continuing these positions when the relief funding ends.

### **C. New Fairfield High School/Consolidated School Building Project Update**

Director of Business and Operations Carrie DePuy gave an update on the school building projects. The high school project is on budget and is currently out to bid for furniture, fixtures and equipment. Technology for the high school project will go out to bid next month. The Elementary School playground is completed but some of the equipment is still waiting inspection. The demolition for the old Consolidated School is delayed but hopefully will be completed by the spring.

### **D. Transportation Update**

There will be a meeting with the residents of Middleton Drive to discuss traffic concerns on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will include the Superintendent of Schools, First Selectman and members of the Police Department.

E. Board of Education Policies (First Reading) - Samantha Mannion gave a brief description of this policy.

1. Policy 1312 - Public Complaints

F. New Course Proposals (First Reading) - Julie Luby gave a brief description of these Math classes and noted that they are elective classes once the required Math classes are finished.

1. Explorations in Data Science 1

2. Explorations in Data Science 2

3. Financial Agenda

4. History of Mathematics: How Math Shapes the World Around Us

## **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Personnel Report**

**MOTION:** Kathy Baker made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Personnel Report for November 29, 2022, as recommended by the administration. Stephanie Strazza seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

B. Board of Education 2023 Regular Meeting Dates

**MOTION:** Kimberly LaTourette made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2023 Board of Education Regular and Board of Education Subcommittee meeting dates as presented. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

C. Board of Education Policies

**MOTION:** Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Board of the Education Policies listed below as presented (Policy 7230.2- Extensions/Renovations or Replacements). Ed Sbordone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

1. Policy 7230.2 - Extensions/Renovations or Replacements

D. Acceptance of Donation

**MOTION:** Greg Flanagan made a motion to approve to recommend to the full Board to accept with gratitude the New Fairfield Community Thrift Shop donation of \$5,000, to be split among students to subsidize student travel to Quebec City on February 2-5, 2023. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

**IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

**X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None**

**XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS -** Greg Flanagan asked about the status of the turf field. It was decided that this will be discussed at a future meeting.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Dominic Cipollone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Kloos