

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT 06812.

MINUTES – January 31, 2023

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

ABSENT: Tim Blair

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, Director of Facilities Phil Ross, Director of Curriculum Alyce Misuraca, Supervisor of Special Education Melissa Busnel and BOF Chairman Wes Marsh

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. REVIEW OF THE 2023-2024 BUDGET

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ken Craw noted that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss Special Education, PPS, Building and Grounds and Capital Improvements Plan and how they affect the budget. He showed a chart of all staffing positions for Special Education.

Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz spoke of non-payroll factors for Special Education. This includes the number of evaluations, contracted services that can't be done in district, and medical equipment.

Director of Facilities Phil Ross spoke of needed improvements for both the buildings and grounds in the district. He noted that most of the needed improvements are for the Middle School. It was noted that the proposed budget for facilities has a decrease of 2.29% over last year's budget. It was noted that the Middle School cafeteria and lobby flooring, and the MHHS A/C units totaling \$95,000 will be funded by the 2021-2022 budget surplus. There was a brief discussion of the Middle School refrigeration system, and it was noted that this replacement is projected to save approximately \$14,000 per year in energy costs. It was noted that the warranty for the Middle School roof has ended, and it may have to be replaced in the near future.

There was a brief discussion of Operating Budget, Capital Projects and Debt Service, and it was noted that there are no changes to this portion of the budget.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

John McCartney spoke in support of the Superintendent's recommended budget and encouraged residents to communicate their support of the budget to the Board of Finance.

Consolidated Teacher Michelle Brown spoke in support of the budget. She encouraged the BOE to reconsider the redistribution of the ELC classes. She further asked the Board to support Special Education activities for the district.

ELC Teacher Krystl Padilla asked the Board to support having a fourth classroom for the ELC program and spoke of the increasing need for early intervention.

V. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos