

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – December 19, 2019

PRESENT: Peggy Katkocin (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

ABSENT: Stephanie Strazza

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Julie Luby, Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo, Director of Instructional Technology and Communications Dr. Karen Fildes, Director of Curriculum Lori Ferreira, Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz, Special Education Supervisor Melissa Busnel, High School Principal James D’Amico, High School Assistant Principal Scott Rohwedder, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia, Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal Allyson Story, Consolidated School Principal Rob Spino, Consolidated School Assistant Principal Karen Gruetzner, Director of Buildings and Grounds Phil Ross, Selectman Khris Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Peggy Katkocin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PRESENTATION OF SUPERINTENDENT’S 2020-2021 BUDGET

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino presented the budget and spoke of the many “Points of Pride” for each school and showed pictures of the many accomplishments in the district. She spoke of the return on investment and specifically the English Language Learner teacher, Special Education staff and Technology Infrastructure.

Dr. Cosentino spoke of curriculum and vision and noted that the district will be going “Full STEAM Ahead” (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). She spoke of population and enrollment, staffing needs, program improvements and next steps for the district. She spoke of expanded roles in teaching, learning, security and technology. She also spoke of staff development, special education plans and the capital improvement plan, especially the two new schools. She briefly discussed ways to market the plans in the district.

The overall budget for 2019-2020 is \$42,949,443 and the proposed budget for 2020-2021 is \$44,305,248, which represents an increase of \$1,355,805. It was noted that approximately \$600,000 of this increase is due to debt service for the new building

projects. The percentage increase with debt service is 3.16% and 1.76% without the debt service. The percentage increase of the non-payroll budget is 1.39%. It was noted that approximately 72% of the budget consists of payroll and health insurance for staff.

Dr. Cosentino thanked everyone involved in putting the budget together. She spoke of all the exciting things happening in New Fairfield and noted that they are “Full STEAM Ahead.” A copy of the proposed budget is available on the district website at www.newfairfieldschools.org.

The budget will further be discussed at the next Board of Education meeting on January 2nd and during the budget workshop between the BOE and BOF on Tuesday, January 7th.

IV. ADJOURNMENT - Peggy Katkocin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Peggy Katkocin, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Rick Regan and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos