

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Thursday, August 15, 2013 7:00 PM

New Fairfield Community Room, 3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812

## I. CALL TO ORDER

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

III.A. June 20, 2013 - Regular

## IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

## V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

## VII. COMMITTEES

VII.A. Finance

VII.B. Curriculum

VII.C. Personnel

VII.D. Policy

VII.E. Operations

VII.F. Field Fees

VII.G. Liaison

VII.G.1. Board of Finance

VII.G.2. Magnet School

VII.G.3. Parks and Recreation Committee

VII.G.4. Permanent Building Committee

VII.G.5. Technology

VII.G.6. Safety

VII.G.7. Education Connection

## VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

VIII.A. Assessment Results

VIII.A.1. NWEA

VIII.A.2. DRA-2

VIII.A.3. DRP

VIII.A.4. ESGI

VIII.B. Board of Education Policies (Second Reading) 13-98

VIII.C. School Security Grant

**IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - The Board welcomes public participation. Pursuant to our Board Policy, public participation is limited to no more than three (3) minutes per speaker and a total of no more than fifteen (15) minutes. People who wish to speak longer are encouraged to attend any and all related**

**X. ACTION ITEMS**

X.A. Personnel Report

X.B. Approval of Grant Applications

X.B.1. PEGPETIA Grant - MHHS 13-101

X.B.2. Technology Grant

X.B.3. Community Conversations Grant

X.B.4. Derx Foundation Grants

X.B.4.a. Middle School Film Club (fka Middle School Student News)

X.B.4.b. Middle School Breakfast Club

X.C. Acceptance of Grant

X.C.1. Project SERV Grant - Hurricane Sandy

X.D. Acceptance of Donation

X.D.1. New Fairfield Lions Club

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, June 20, 2013  
at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

**MINUTES – June 20, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Kim Hanson (Chairman), Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy, Consolidated School Principal Wendy Seeley, Business Manager Craig McClain, Consolidated School Social Worker Ann Marie McMEnamin, Consolidated School Teachers Nikki Garvey, Tonia Wood and Joanne Woodard

**CALL TO ORDER**

**I.** Chairman Kim Hanson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A. June 6, 2013- Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Scott Akam made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2013, regular meeting as presented. Karen Chance seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Kim Hanson made a motion to amend the agenda for tonight’s meeting to add Information Item F “School Security Update,” to move Action Item C to follow Action Item F, to add Action Item G “Teacher Evaluation Plan Update,” to add Action Item H “Non-Union Salaries and Benefits,” Agenda Item XV “ Executive Session of the Purpose of Discussing Confidential Student Matter,” Agenda Item XVI “Executive Session of the Purpose of Discussing Pending Litigation,” and Agenda Item XVII “Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Personnel Issues.” Peter Ohring seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**MOTION:** Kim Hanson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Vic Flagello seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT-** None

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** - Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy noted that student art work is currently being displayed at the Senior Center, Peachwave, Savings Bank of Danbury, New Fairfield Library and 37 Patio and Grill Hamburger Restaurant. Art work is also shown on the first page of this week's *Citizen News*.

Voting for the State Student Voices contest that was proudly displayed on the school's website has concluded. Middle School students made a short video which highlighted ideas for continuing education and tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the State.

Students at the Middle School and at MHHS gave award-winning performances at "Music at the Park."

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Recognition was held today and the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Step Up was held last week. Eighth Grade Graduation will be held on Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, and High School Graduation will be held on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**

Senior Representative Malana Krongelb reported on the following:

- High School Graduation will be held on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at the O'Neill Center.
- The Senior Class trip to Six Flags will be on June 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Graduation rehearsal will be held on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Thanked everyone involved in putting together Post Grad.
- Thanked the board for the opportunity to be the Student Representative.

Junior Representative Matt DeLeon reported the following:

- The SEE Fair was held last week.
- The last day of finals will be on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Freshmen Orientation was held today and was very successful.

**VIII. COMMITTEES**

- a. Finance - Met on June 20<sup>th</sup>, went over the budget transfers and reviewed the budget for 2012-2013 and the building project.
- b. Curriculum - Will meet again in August.
- c. Personnel – No report
- d. Policy – One policy is on as an Information Item for tonight's meeting.
- e. Operations – Met last week and discussed the possibility of an additional SRO in the schools.
- f. Communications - Met last week and noted that all Administrators now have Twitter accounts. CAFE services will be added this summer to allow our Board meetings to be completely electronic and paperless.
- g. Field Fees - No report
- h. Liaison

1. Board of Finance – No report
2. Magnet School – No report
3. Parks and Recreation – No report
4. Permanent Building Committee – No report
5. Technology - No report
6. Safety - No report
7. Education Connection - No report

## IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. CCSS - A Closer Look - Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy spoke of the Common Core State Standards and specifically Grade 11 Math. Dr. Roy showed a sample performance task regarding crickets and spoke of how students will be asked to read, look at data, ponder and discuss the questions, and then compare their model to that presented using Dolbear’s formula. They will also be required to explain their model in writing.

B. SPDG Grant Update - Consolidated School Social Worker Ann Marie McMenamain spoke of the SPDG Grant that is part of PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports.) Ms. McMenamain along with Assistant Principal Lynn Fichtel and Consolidated School teachers Nikki Garvey, Tonia Wood, Joanne Woodard and Michelle Brown developed ways to improve expectations and behavior at school. This team met twice a month and discussed implementation phases. Expectations were discussed for school, bus, hallway, lunch room and playground behavior. A STAR Club (Students That Act Responsibly) was developed to recognize outstanding students. Students receive paw prints as a reward for good behavior. A survey of the staff determined that 90.6% thought this program was valuable, 92.1% of the staff thought that students were “buying in” to PBIS, and 87% thought it has improved the climate.

C. TEAM (Annual Report) – Dr. Roy explained that a summary report regarding the mentor program this year for new teachers (that replaced the BEST program) is in their packets. Overall TEAM has been a program that is received positively by teachers.

D. Racial Statistics - Dr. Roy noted that this information is provided to the board every year. There is an increasing percentage of minorities in the district. Currently, 15.14% at Consolidated School, 12.19% at MHHS, 11.31% at the Middle School and 8.81% at the High School are considered minorities

### E. Board of Education Policies (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

1. Policy 1313 - Gift to School Personnel

This is the first reading of this policy and will be on for Information at the next BOE meeting.

F. School Security Update - Dr. Roy gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding school safety that was presented in January and updated for this meeting. It

was noted that all four schools have locked doors and cameras. Identification is required for all visitors to the schools. Safety drills are conducted twelve times a year. Safety meetings are held at least once a month. Dr. Roy spoke of additional safety measures that will be implemented over the summer. It was noted that New Fairfield has received a REMS Grant (Readiness and Emergency Management in Schools) that enhanced our preparedness for 22 hazards. Dr. Roy encouraged everyone to be watchful and vigilant for anything that didn't seem "quite right."

## **X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Many residents gave their opinions regarding the addition of another Student Resource Officer for the District. The main topic discussed was whether or not there is a need for another SRO and would the addition be effective in preventing a tragedy. The cost of the SRO was also discussed and whether or not hiring an additional officer would result in the loss of teachers or other staff.

## **XI. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM**

### **A. School Resource Officers**

**MOTION:** Ken Chapman made a motion to recommend the addition of an additional armed School Resource Officer to be funded out the 2013-2014 BOE budget. Steve Burfeind seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind and Ken Chapman  
**OPPOSED:** Scott Akam, Karen Chance, Kim Hanson, Vic Flagello, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

The board discussed the timing of the budget process and where the money for the SRO would come from.

## **XII. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Personnel Report**

**MOTION:** Ken Chapman made a motion to recommend to the full board the approval of the Personnel Report dated June 13, 2013 as presented. Scott Akam seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

### **B. Approval of Grant Application**

#### **1. School Security Grant**

Dr. Roy noted that the application for this grant is due next month and spoke of the criteria to apply for this grant. It was noted that this grant can only be used for security enhancements. Salaries are not covered through the grant.

**MOTION:** Scott Akam made a motion to recommend to the full board approval for the Superintendent to apply for the School Security Grant based on the District Safety Plan. Ken Chapman seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

C. School Lunch Prices

**MOTION:** Vic Flagello made a motion to recommend to the full board the price increase for school lunch by .05 cents from \$2.40 to \$2.45 at the elementary schools and from \$2.65 to \$2.70 at the secondary schools commencing with the 2013-2014 school year. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

D. 2012-2013 Budget Transfers

**MOTION:** Vic Flagello made a motion to recommend to the full board the 2012-2013 budget transfers as presented by the administration. Scott Akam seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

E. District Safety Plan - Discussed in Executive Session

F. Non-tuition Student Requests - Discussed in Executive Session

G. Teacher Evaluation Plan Update

Dr. Roy gave a brief update regarding the recommended changes to the Teacher Evaluation Plan rubric that is based on the Connecticut Common Core of Teaching and also includes 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

**MOTION:** Kim Hanson made a motion to approve the Teacher Evaluation Plan as presented. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring **OPPOSED:** Kevin Hearty **ABSTAINED:** Kim Hanson

H. Non-Union Salaries and Benefits - Discussed in Executive Session

**XIII. OTHER** - None

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSES OF DISCUSSING DISTRICT SAFETY PLAN, A CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT MATTER, PENDING LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL ISSUES**

**MOTION:** Kim Hanson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:44 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the District Safety Plan, A Confidential Student Matter, Pending Litigation, and Personnel Issues and to invite Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy into the Executive Session. Scott Akam seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

The Board came back from Executive Session at 9:31 p.m.

**MOTION:** Ken Chapman made a motion to recommend to the BOE the approval of the non-tuition student request for the middle school student for the 2013-2014 school year. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Steve Burfeind and Vic Flagello  
**OPPOSED:** Scott Akam, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**MOTION:** Kim Hanson made a motion to give Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy full discretion as discussed in Executive Session in regard to the non-resident student request for the high school student. Steve Burfeind seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**MOTION:** Ken Chapman made a motion to approve the non-union salary and benefits as discussed in Executive Session. Scott Akam seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT-** Ken Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m. Steve Burfeind seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Scott Akam, Steve Burfeind, Karen Chance, Ken Chapman, Vic Flagello, Kim Hanson, Kevin Hearty, Sean Loughran and Peter Ohring

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos

## **Community Relations**

### **Gifts to School Personnel**

#### **Gifts from Suppliers and/or Contractors**

The members of the Board of Education and its employees wish to avoid any conflict between their personal interests and the interests of the school district in dealing with suppliers, contractors and all organizations or individuals doing or seeking to do business with the regional school district.

Although it is customary for some suppliers to give gifts to customers' employees at different times which are not of more than nominal value, and are not intended to influence in any manner the school district's procurement practices, the Board of Education requests, in view of the possible adverse publicity that might arise from such practice on the part of the suppliers, that suppliers or potential suppliers do not include the name of any individual connected with the school district on their gift lists.

#### **Gifts to Board Members and Employees**

No Board member or employee shall directly or indirectly solicit any gift; or accept or receive any gift having a value of twenty-five dollars (\$25) or more, whether in the form of money, services, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or any other form, under circumstances in which it could be reasonably inferred that the gift was intended to influence the Board member or employee in the performance of his/her official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on his/her part. **Gifts between students and teachers shall be discouraged.**

#### **~~Gifts between Students and Teachers~~**

~~Gifts between students and teachers shall be discouraged.~~

(cf. 3313 - Relations with Vendors)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-479 Conflicts of interest.

Policy adopted: June 21, 2007

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Fairfield, Connecticut

**NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT**

**DONATIONS VALUED AT \$1000 OR MORE**

**Date:** July 1, 2013

**SCHOOL:** District

**TYPE OF DONATION AND QUANTITY:** Monetary Donation of \$3,000

**CONDITION/AGE OF ITEM DONATED:**

**DONOR:** New Fairfield Lions Club

**SCHOOL'S PLAN FOR USE OF ITEM(S):** Podium for New Fairfield High School

**APPROXIMATE VALUE:** \$3,000

The approximate value denoted above has been supplied by the donor. The New Fairfield Public Schools does not attest to the accuracy of this value. It is the donor's responsibility for documentation to support this valuation for tax or any other purposes.