

## Board of Education Regular Meeting 2022

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 7:00 PM

BOE Meeting Access: BOE (2/15/22 at 7 p.m.) Web:

<https://zoom.us/j/97827463343> Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 978 2746 3343, 3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812

### I. CALL TO ORDER

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

III.A. February 1, 2022 - Special

III.B. February 2, 2022 - Special

III.C. February 3, 2022 - Regular

III.D. February 8, 2022 – Special

### IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

V. **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 thirty (30) minutes total for the entire meeting. Individuals who wish to speak longer are encouraged to attend any and all related subcommittee meetings where most of the board's groundwork is done. We value your input, but due to these time limitations, we ask you to be concise and to observe the rules of common courtesy. [9320(a) of Board Bylaws]*

### VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

VI.A. Chairman's Report

VI.B. Superintendent's Report

VI.C. Student Representatives' Report

VI.D. Committee Reports

VI.D.1. Business Operations/Resource  
Management (*Greg Flanagan*)

VI.E. Liaison Reports

VI.E.1. Parks and Recreation Committee (*K.  
LaTourette, G. Flanagan*)

VI.E.2. School Security and Safety  
Committee (*Samantha Mannion*)

### VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

VII.A. Mid-year Data

VII.B. COVID Update

VII.C. Board of Education Policies (*Second Reading*)

VII.C.1. Policy 3517.1 – Identification Badges

VII.C.2. Policy 4111.3 - Minority Recruitment Plan

VII.C.3. Policy 5131.6 - Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

VII.C.4. Policy 6140 - Curriculum

VII.C.5. Policy 6142 - Basic Instructional Program

VII.D. New Fairfield High School/Consolidated School  
Building Project Update

VIII. **INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM**

VIII.A. COVID Mask Discussion

IX. **ACTION ITEMS**

IX.A. Personnel Report

IX.B. Quarterly FY 2021-22 Budget Transfers

IX.C. Paraprofessional Grievances (*It is anticipated the  
Board will enter into Executive Session.*)

IX.C.1. Grievance #1

IX.C.2. Grievance #2

IX.D. Custodian Leave of Absence Request (*It is  
anticipated the Board will enter into Executive Session.*)

X. **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 thirty (30) minutes total for the entire meeting. Individuals who wish to speak longer are encouraged to attend any and all related subcommittee meetings where most of the board's groundwork is done. We value your input, but due to these time limitations, we ask you to be concise and to observe the rules of common courtesy. [9320(a) of Board Bylaws]*

XI. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

XII. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

XIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF DISCUSSING PARAPROFESSIONAL  
GRIEVANCES**

XIV. **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
DISCUSSING SCHOOL SECURITY AND SAFETY**

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
DISCUSSING CUSTODIAN LEAVE OF ABSENCE  
REQUEST**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. virtual meeting via Zoom.

**MINUTES – February 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. 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, Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz, High School Assistant Principal Scott Rohwedder, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Middle School Assistant Principal Cheryl Milo, Meeting House Hill School Principal James Mandracchia, Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal Allyson Story, Consolidated School Principal Rob Spino, Director of Curriculum Alyce Misuraca, Special Education Supervisor Melissa Busnel, Director of Buildings and Grounds Phil Ross, First Selectman Pat Del Monaco, Selectman Lori Beninson, Selectman Khris Hall, BOF Chairman Wes Marsh, BOF members Mark Beninson, Thora Perkins, Cheryl Reedy and Claudia Willard, BOF Alternate member Chris D’Esposito and PBC Chairman Don Kellogg

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo explained the procedure for the virtual meeting and noted that this virtual meeting is available to everyone including members of the public. The purpose of this special meeting is to review the budget with the Board of Finance.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Dominic Cipollone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He thanked everyone involved in the budget process.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. REVIEW OF THE 2022-2023 Budget**

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino welcomed the Board of Finance members to this workshop and noted that the BOE received 58 questions pertaining to the budget that will be discussed.

Dr. Rich Sanzo reviewed the plan for the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan. He spoke of primary projects scheduled for either this year or next. They include the venue for the STRIDES program, the Middle School cafeteria HVAC system and the Middle School underground oil storage tank. There was a brief discussion of the replacement of the Middle School roof and the possibility of moving the Board of Education central office to the existing high school cafeteria. It was noted that a portion of the ARP and ESSER grants were used to upgrade ventilation at the schools.

There was a discussion of test scores and achievement and how COVID has affected learning and progress. Assistant Superintendent of Schools Julie Luby gave some data for Math and Reading.

There was a discussion of a \$1.5 million increase in non-payroll expenses for Special Education. Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz noted that the bulk of this increase is due to out placement expenses. It was noted that it might be possible to invite out of district students to the STRIDES program in the future on a tuition basis.

There was a discussion regarding books and calculators at the Middle School. Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli spoke of how supplies are shared among students in the same grade.

There was a suggestion of using college interns as substitutes instead of full-time building substitutes. There was a discussion of teachers' salaries that are funded by Title Grants.

Dr. Cosentino encouraged the Board of Finance members to attend the following meetings:

- Freedom of Information workshop on February 2<sup>nd</sup>;
- BOE meeting of February 3<sup>rd</sup>;
- BOE/PBC meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>;
- BOE meeting to vote on the budget on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

BOF Chairman Wes Marsh spoke of the budget and the desire to see a zero budget for both the Town and the BOE. There was a brief discussion of decisions that must be made if this is not feasible.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Aline Fogle spoke in favor of keeping two separate elementary schools and her concerns regarding the possible merger between Consolidated and Meeting House Hill Schools.

MHHS teacher Jeff Giuliano spoke of his concerns regarding cuts to the budget and spoke of the negative effects of cuts.

Selectman Lori Beninson spoke of the need for balance in town. She spoke in support of the students and against the cutting of any teachers.

Cheryl Duffy spoke of in favor of the budget and against any cuts to staff especially considering issues that have derived from the pandemic.

Don Kellogg spoke in favor of the budget as presented.

Stefanie Marlow asked about the possibility of Open Choice in New Fairfield and if this was considered in determining the budget. Chairman Dom Cipollone responded that Open Choice was voted down by the Board, and thus it will not affect the budget for 2022-2023.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Dominic Cipollone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Kloos

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 7:00 pm. virtual meeting via zoom.

**MINUTES – February 2, 2022**

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

**ABSENT:** Kathy Baker

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Julie Luby, Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo, Pupil Personnel Director Katherine Matz, Special Education Supervisor Melissa Busnel, Sarah Roy, Sarah Opdahl

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo explained the procedure for the virtual meeting and noted that this virtual meeting is available to everyone including members of the public.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Dominic Cipollone called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. WORKSHOP**

A. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Workshop

Shipman & Goodwin Attorneys Natalia Sieira Millan and Thomas Mooney shared information regarding FOIA, Connecticut's commitment to open government. The definition of public meetings and access to public agencies and public records were discussed. Further presentation and discussion centered around the following: texts, emails, disclosure of candidates' names and resumes in the hiring process, executive session, records pertaining to the misconduct of public employees, medical records, employee termination, illegal meetings in relationship to "reply all" as discussion among Board members, caucus of Board members of the same political party, and penalties for violation of FOIA.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Kimberly LaTourette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Patricia Cosentino

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, February 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**MINUTES – February 3, 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. 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, High School Principal James D’Amico, Middle School Principal Christine Baldelli, Middle School Assistant Principal Cheryl Milo, 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 Curriculum Alyce Misuraca, Selectman Lori Beninson, BOF Chairman Wes Marsh, BOF member Mark Beninson, BOF member Thora Perkins and Permanent Building Committee Chairman Don Kellogg

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo explained the procedure for the virtual meeting and noted that this virtual meeting is available to everyone including members of the public.

**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. January 20, 2022 - Special meeting - approved by consensus
- B. January 20, 2022 - Regular meeting - approved by consensus
- C. January 25, 2022 - Special meeting - approved by consensus
- D. January 27, 2022 - Special meeting - approved by consensus

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Ed Sbordone made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Action Item D “Approval of 2022-2023 Budget.” 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

**V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

High School teacher Owen Lucas spoke in support of the 2022-2023 budget and explained the role of teachers in shaping the lives of students.

Aline Fogle spoke of her concerns regarding the possible combination of Consolidated School and Meeting House Hill School and spoke of advantages of having smaller separate schools.

## **VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Chairman's Report- Dominic Cipollone spoke of his wonderful visit to the Middle School.

B. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino spoke of the following:

- The School Nurses were all trained on Narcan distribution if necessary.
- There will be listening sessions regarding the transition for opening of Consolidated Early Learning Academy and Meeting House Hill School for the 2022-2023 school year. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> after school for staff. There will be an in-person meeting for parents, staff and community members on February 24<sup>th</sup> at MHHS and March 1<sup>st</sup> via Zoom. The purpose of these meetings is to hear ideas regarding the opening of the schools. Dr. Cosentino stressed that no decisions have yet been made regarding these schools.
- The Governor's Executive Order requiring masks in the schools will end on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Cosentino noted that there is a possibility that the Governor will extend this mandate. She noted that if this mandate is lifted, the Board will be charged with deciding if masks should be required in schools. If the mandate is lifted by the Governor, Dr. Cosentino noted that she will invite the Town of New Fairfield Director of Health Tim Simpkins to the BOE meeting to give recommendations on how to move forward and give guidance to the Board regarding this decision.

- Dr. Cosentino will present her goals later in the meeting.

### C. Student Representative Report

Junior Representative Grace DeMarco reported on the following:

- An in-person Band and Chorus concert was held at the high school and was very successful.
- The National Honor Society offers tutoring to students after school on Thursdays.

### D. Committee Reports

1. Curriculum - Stephanie Strazza noted that this committee met on January 24<sup>th</sup> and discussed Early Reading data and compared it to data from before COVID. They spoke of the Early College Experience at the high school. There was a discussion of the pros and cons of the block schedule at the high school. An advisory committee will be formed to discuss the block schedule further.

2. Policy - Samantha Mannion noted that this subcommittee met on January 26<sup>th</sup> and discussed whether or not to extend Policy C19-1250 regarding visitors to campus. The subcommittee also discussed five policies that are on tonight's meeting for first reading.

3. Special Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee - No report

### E. Liaison Reports

1. Calendar Committee - Kathy Baker noted that this committee met on January 27<sup>th</sup> and discussed the calendar for 2022-2023. It was decided that the start of school will be delayed until Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> due to the opening of Consolidated Early Learning Academy.

## **VII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### A. COVID Update

Julie Luby showed data and noted that the absentee rate in the schools is down significantly from the week immediately following winter break. She noted that there are 29 students currently on quarantine. Of those students, 19 are in Grades K-5 and are attending Q school. The remaining students are in Grades 6-12 and are attending window classroom.

There was a discussion of the mask regulations in the district and the consensus of the board on what should be decided if the Governor decides to end the mask mandate on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Board spoke of the possibility of allowing family choice regarding masks but noted that they would

want to hear from the staff and the Town's Health Director regarding the pros and cons of masks. Kimberly LaTourette spoke of her experience with the lifting of the mask mandate at her school in New York and emphasized that there should be significant notice no matter what the decision so that parents have time to talk to their children about proper behavior and tolerance for students whose family has made different choices.

B. Board of Education Policies - (First Reading)

1. Policy 3517.1 - Identification Badges
2. Policy 4111.3 - Minority Recruitment Plan
3. Policy 5131.6 - Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco
4. Policy 6140 - Curriculum
5. Policy 6142 - Basic Instructional Program

C. Superintendent Mid-Year Goals

Dr. Cosentino discussed her mid-year goals and noted that these goals are also for the Administrative Team, the whole New Fairfield Community and the Board of Education and will be sent to the Board of Finance to show accountability. These goals will also be available on the district website.

The highlights of the goals and achievements included:

- Keeping schools open during COVID;
- Improving student achievement, including Special Education;
- Professional Development;
- Addition of extracurricular activities;
- Math tutoring;
- STRIDES Program;
- Implementation of Responsive classrooms;
- Increase in safety;
- Improvement of the website;
- Working with the PBC for opening of the new schools;
- Presenting a budget.

The Superintendent's goals will be discussed by the Board in Executive Session on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

D. New Fairfield High School/Consolidated School Building Project Update

Dr. Rich Sanzo noted that both projects are progressing rapidly. Most of the steel frames are being completed at the high school. The Consolidated walls have been constructed and many aspects have been completed. Dr. Sanzo encouraged any Board members to contact him for a walk through of the CELA project.

Bonding for the project is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>. It is expected that the AAA rating for the Town will be reaffirmed, which will allow the Town to get the best interest rate possible.

There will be special meeting of the Board of Education and the Permanent Building Committee on Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Ed Sbordone encouraged Board members to take a tour of the Consolidated Early Learning Center.

### E. 2022-2023 Budget

Dr. Sanzo gave a brief description of the Superintendent's recommended budget. The Board discussed the budget section by section with the following topics discussed:

- Positions funded through the ARP and ESSER grants.
- Enrollment and staffing and how it affects class sizes. There was a discussion of the number of administrators and the optimal number of secretaries in the district. Dr. Cosentino recommended the reduction of an ELC teacher and a social worker.
- Non-payroll expenses were discussed, included conference and travel.
- Karen Fildes spoke of technology needs in the district, especially how they relate to standardized testing and the increased need for technology due to the pandemic.
- Julie Luby spoke of professional development for the teachers.

Dr. Sanzo spoke of grants available to the district and noted that they are built into the budget as an offset. He spoke of revenue, including an increase of ELC tuition and building use fees. He spoke of debt service and noted that depends on the interest rate that will be determined at the bond sale.

## **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 January 27, 2022, as recommended by the administration. Kim LaTourette 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. New Fairfield Public Schools 2022-2023 Draft Calendar

**MOTION:** Kimberly LaTourette made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2022-23 school calendar as presented. 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

Dr. Cosentino explained that the start day for 2022 will be after Labor Day to give enough time for the opening of CELA and will end as early as possible in June 2023 to give the high school project enough time to be completed.

### C. Board of Education Policies

Suspension of the Rules (referring to Policy C-19-1250)

#### 1. Policy C-19-1250- Visitors, Volunteers and Access to Campus

**MOTION:** Samantha Mannion made a motion to suspend the rules referring to Policy C-19-1250. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

**MOTION:** Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full board the approval of the following temporary policy, in effect until March 3, 2022: 1. Policy C-19-1250 - Visitors, Volunteers and Access to Campus. 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

D. Reduction of the Superintendent's 2022-2023 Budget

**MOTION:** Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full board the reduction of the Superintendent's budget by \$135,318 as presented. 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

**IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Aline Fogle clarified previous comments about certifications for New York State teachers.

Lisa Abrams spoke of the approved calendar for 2022-2023 and her concerns that Rosh Hashanah is not a day off in the district. Dr. Cosentino spoke of the reasons for this and noted that any staff that observes this holiday is able to take it as a paid personal day.

**X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Future Board of Education meetings include Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. with the Permanent Building Committee and Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> special meeting to vote on the budget.

**XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Members of the Board thanked the administrative team for their cooperative efforts with the budget. Samantha Mannion noted that the Safety and Security meeting will be held on Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Kathy Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 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

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special joint meeting with the Permanent Building Committee on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. virtual meeting via Zoom.

**MINUTES – February 8, 2022**

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

**ABSENT:** Kathy Baker

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino, Director of Business and Operations Dr. Rich Sanzo, and PBC Chairman Don Kellogg and PBC members Paul Boniello, Michael Del Monaco and Ed Sbordone

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Rich Sanzo explained the procedure for the virtual meeting and noted that this virtual meeting is available to everyone including members of the public. Permanent Building Committee Chairman Don Kellogg opened the meeting for the PBC.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Dominic Cipollone called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

**IV. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Consolidated Early Learning Academy (CELA) Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment and Technology review and approval**

Scott Pellman from Colliers Project Leaders explained the specifics for furniture, fixtures and equipment and noted that a lot of technology equipment from the current Consolidated School can be repurposed to the CELA academy. This saves the district approximately \$400,000 for this project. He noted that the furniture budget came in approximately \$32,000 over budget. He spoke of the process for sending the project to the State and noted that both packages need to be approved separately by both the PBC and BOE.

**MOTION:** Dominic Cipollone made a motion to recommend to the full Board to certify that the Consolidated Early Learning Academy Phase 3 FF&E final plans and project manuals as prepared for bidding and dated 2-4-2022, and the professional cost estimate, completed in accordance with Level 3 of ASTM International Standard E1557, Standard Classification of Building Elements and Related Sitework-UNIFORMAT II for this project, dated 2-4-2022, have been reviewed and approved for this project on the dates shown above. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

**MOTION:** Dominic Cipollone made a motion to recommend to the full Board to certify that the Consolidated Early Learning Academy Phase 4 Technology final plans and project manuals as prepared for bidding and dated 2-4-2022, and the professional cost estimate, completed in accordance with Level 3 of ASTM International Standard E1557, Standard Classification of Building Elements

and Related Sitework-UNIFORMAT II for this project, dated 2-4-2022, have been reviewed and approved for this project on the dates shown above. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion.

**IN FAVOR:** Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Dominic Cipollone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos

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# New Fairfield Public Schools

Mid-year Student Data



# GRADUATES OF THE NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE...



## KNOWLEDGEABLE SCHOLARS

Pursue their interests and curiosities while developing a depth of background knowledge in all of the core academic domains as well as in life skills such as financial literacy, that they can use to solve problems and succeed in life.

## TALENTED COMMUNICATORS

Read, write, listen, speak, create and view skillfully, critically and confidently. They can adapt their style and message for a variety of purposes, situations and audiences. As a result, they have strong relationship skills and can collaborate well. They can manage conflict confidently and respectfully.



## CRITICAL & CREATIVE THINKERS

Access, evaluate and apply information to solve problems, pursue their curiosities and make decisions. They grow their creativity through experiences within the fine and performing arts which will further support their ability to think critically and creatively.



## ENGAGED GLOBAL CITIZENS

Learn about the history of their local community, our country and other countries around the world to understand the value and unique principles of our American democracy. They learn what other cultures are like, so that they can understand, respect and embrace diversity, be socially aware, be kind, compassionate, empathetic and respectful. They obtain information from multiple, reliable sources and use it to be active, civic-minded participants within and beyond their community.



## SELF-DETERMINED & SELF-RELIANT INDIVIDUALS

Set goals, persevere, and reflect as they learn to understand and regulate their emotions and reactions, which will foster their overall health, wellness and mindfulness. Through this they will become intentional, resilient, independent and most importantly, self-reliant.



This vision was co-created by our students, staff, parents and Board of Education. It represents the collective voice of the New Fairfield Public Schools. 2021



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“Energy and persistence  
conquer all things.”

–**Benjamin Franklin**

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# Overview

**01**

**National Context**

**02**

**Our Data**

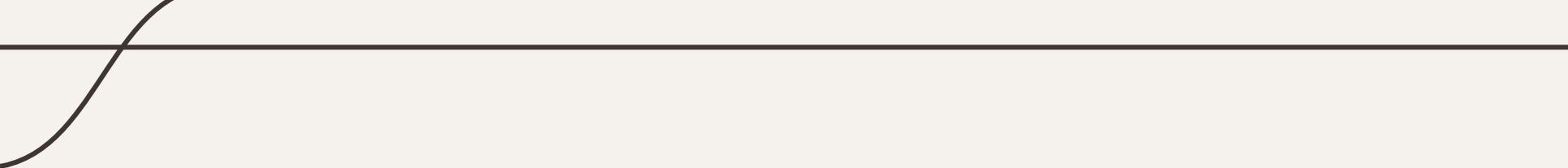
**03**

**Our Strategy**

**04**

**Key Takeaways**

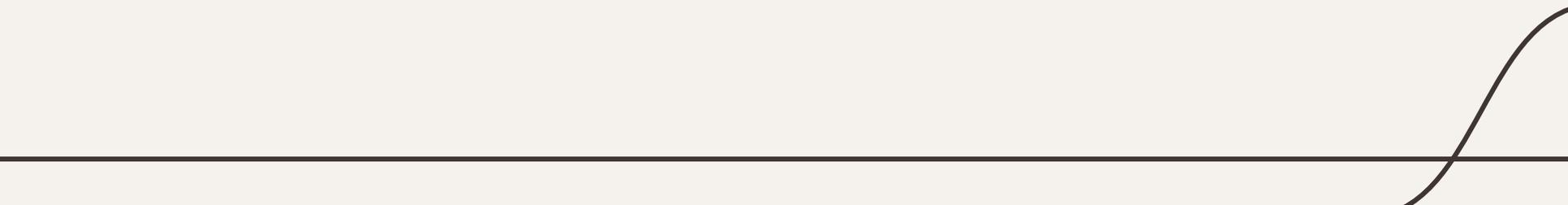
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01

# The National Context

Curriculum Associates' Research

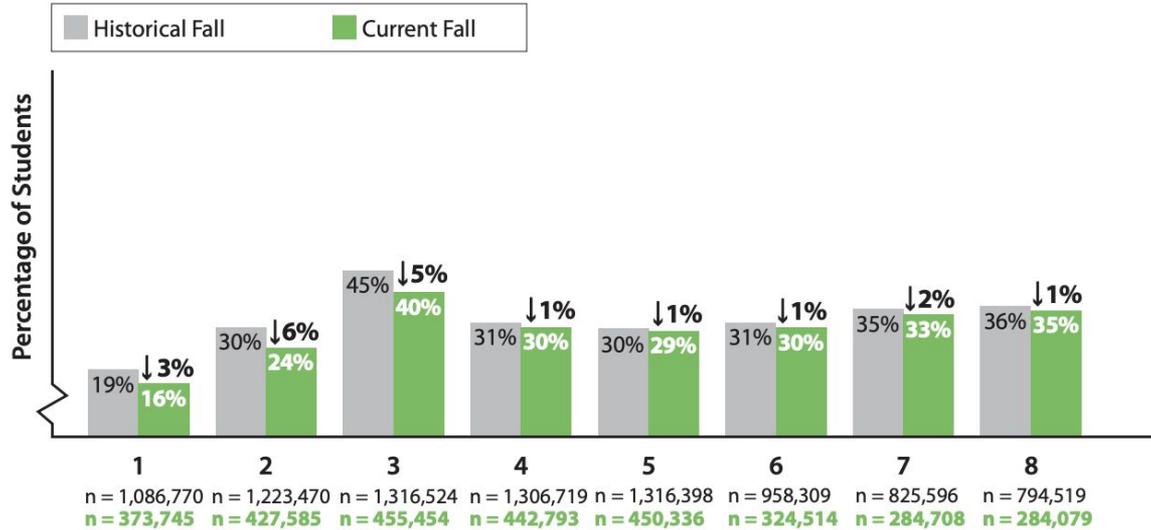


## Reading

In reading, the percentage of students who are on grade level is nearly that of pre-pandemic levels in the upper-elementary and middle school grades. However, there is a greater amount of unfinished learning in the early elementary grade levels, particularly in Grades 2 and 3. The percentage of students who are ready for grade-level work (i.e., Early On Grade Level or Above) remains lower during the fall of the 2021–2022 year relative to the historical average across all Grades 1–8. The largest decreases are in Grade 2 (6 percentage points lower) and Grade 3 (5 percentage points lower).

**Graph 1.1: On Grade Level, Reading**

Data Focus:



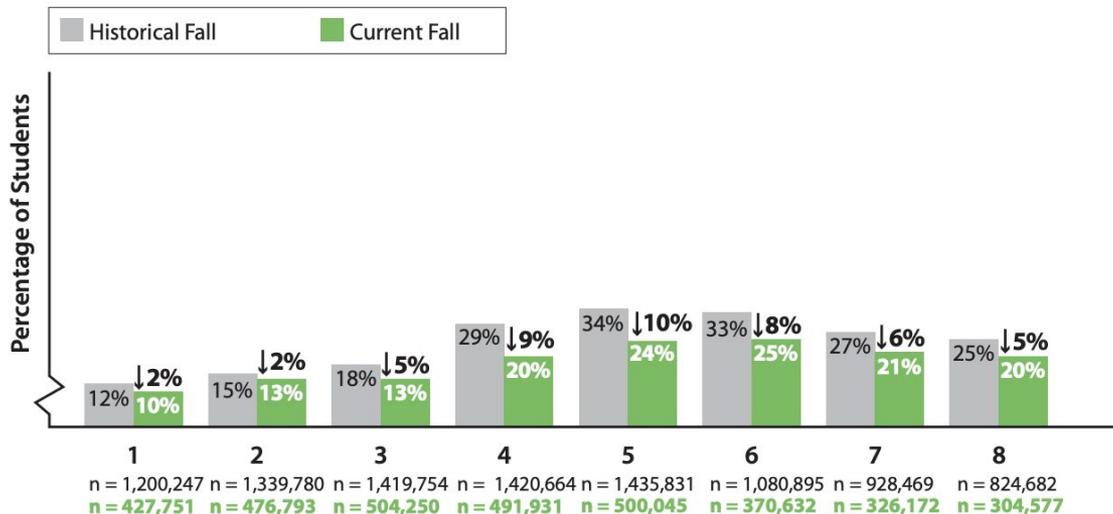
## Mathematics

In mathematics, there is a greater amount of unfinished learning in fall 2021 compared to the historical average across all grade levels, particularly in upper-elementary and early middle school grades. The percentage of students who are ready for grade-level work (i.e., Early On Grade Level or Above) is lower during fall of the 2021–2022 school year relative to the historical average across all Grades 1–8. The largest decreases are in Grades 4, 5, and 6 (9, 10, and 8 percentage points lower, respectively).

Within the same sample, we also looked at the percentage of students who are underprepared for

**Graph 1.3: On Grade Level, Mathematics**

Data Focus:



- Students in the COVID cohort did not make up unfinished learning from the initial disruption to learning during spring 2020.
- On average, students in the COVID cohort had slower rates of growth compared students in the pre-COVID cohort, but the growth rate varied based on time period, grade, and subject.
- Students in the COVID cohort who were lower performing in the fall before COVID hit tended to have slower growth than similarly lower-performing students in the pre-COVID cohort, while students in the COVID cohort who were higher performing before COVID saw little, if any, significant change in their growth after the initial shock.
- Pre-existing differences between students across different race/ethnicity, neighborhood poverty, and school locales were maintained or exacerbated.
- The impact of student demographics, neighborhood poverty, and school locale were inconsistent, meaning that the direction and strength of impact differed by grade and time period.

Figure 3: In School Only Growth in Reading from Grade 2 to Grade 3 by Starting Placement Level

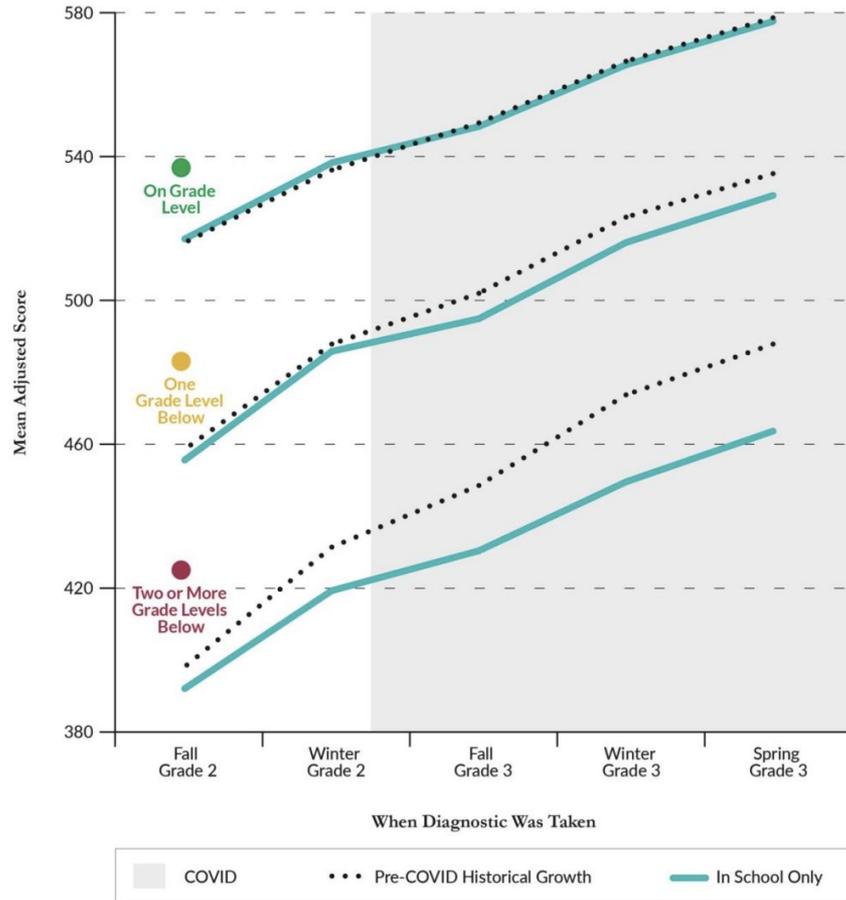
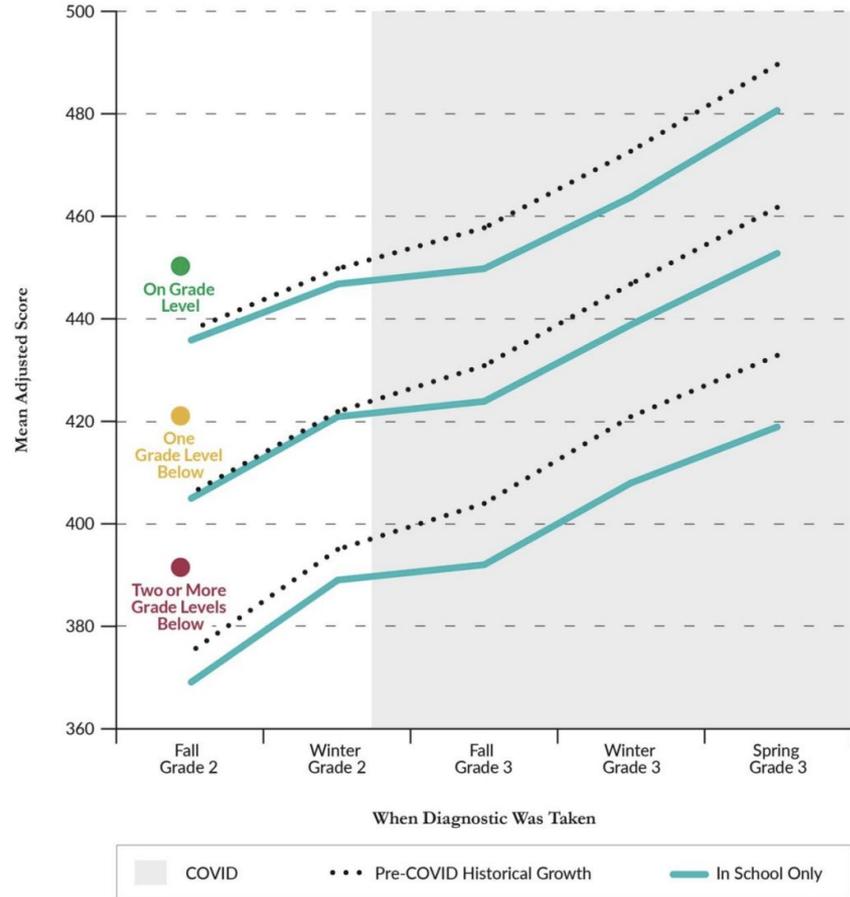


Figure 4: In School Only Growth in Mathematics from Grade 2 to Grade 3 by Starting Placement Level





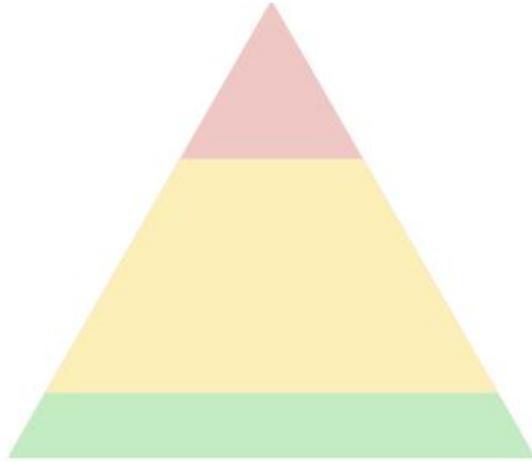
# 02

## Our Data

K - 8 Reading, Math and SEL  
High School PSAT, Fall 2021

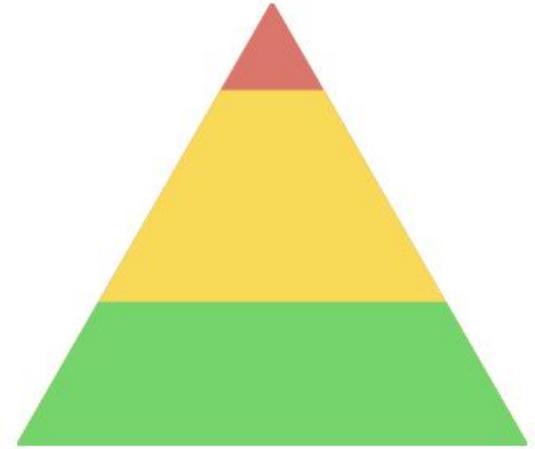
# CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

## READING *(grades 1-2)*



Fall 2021-2022

- **At Risk for Tier 3**  
4% (From 12%)
- **Tier 2**  
42% (From 62%)
- **Tier 1**  
54% (From 25%)

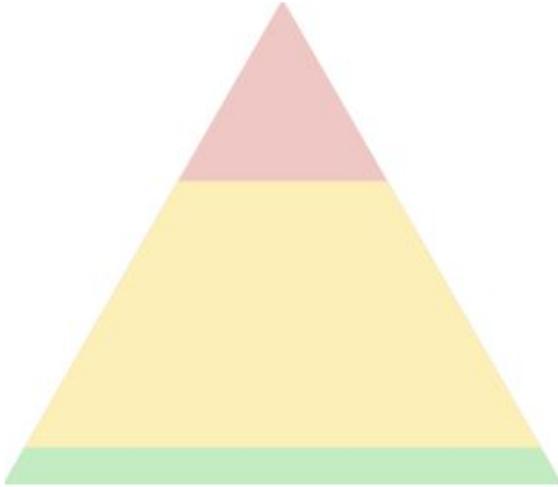


Mid 2021 - 2022

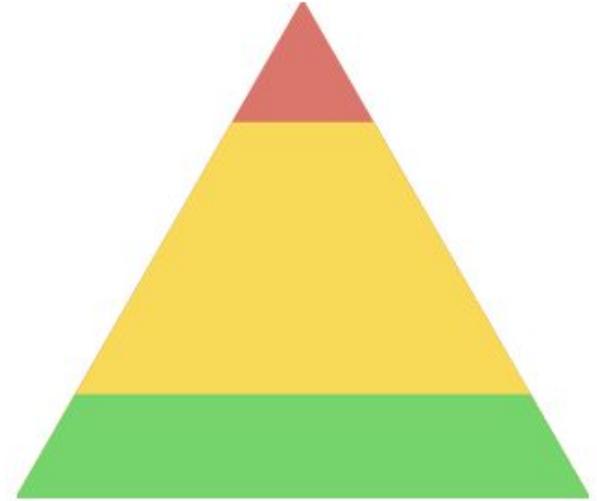
# CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

## MATH *(grades 1-2)*

- **At Risk for Tier 3**  
6% (From 14%)
- **Tier 2**  
57% (From 72%)
- **Tier 1**  
37% (From 13%)



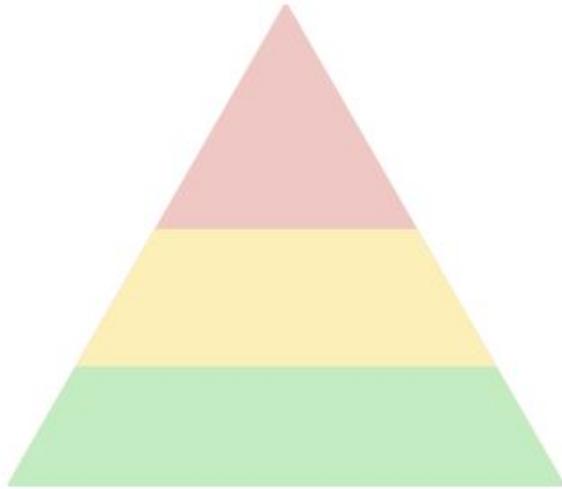
Fall 2021-2022



Mid 2021 - 2022

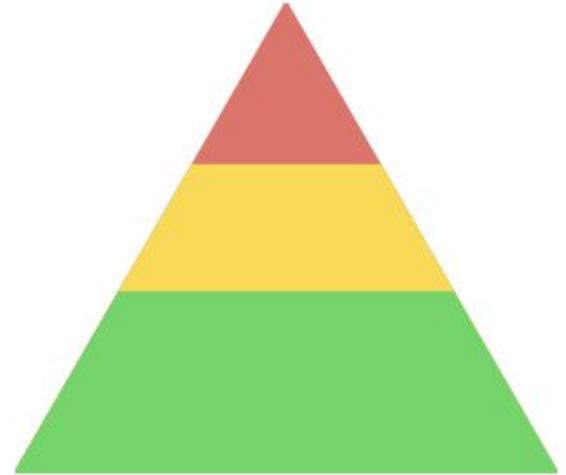
# MEETING HOUSE HILL SCHOOL

## READING



Fall 2021-2022

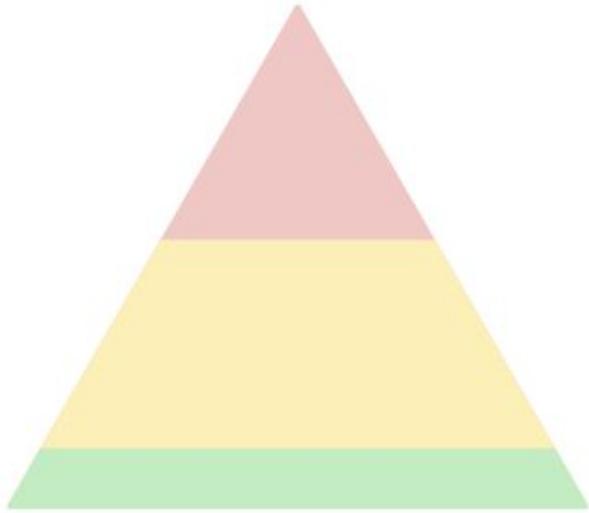
- **At Risk for Tier 3**  
12% (From 22%)
- **Tier 2**  
26% (From 35%)
- **Tier 1**  
62% (From 43%)



Mid 2021 - 2022

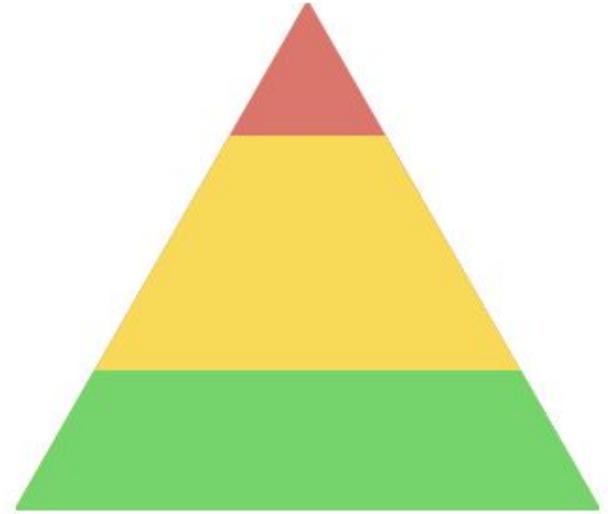
# MEETING HOUSE HILL SCHOOL

## MATH



Fall 2021-2022

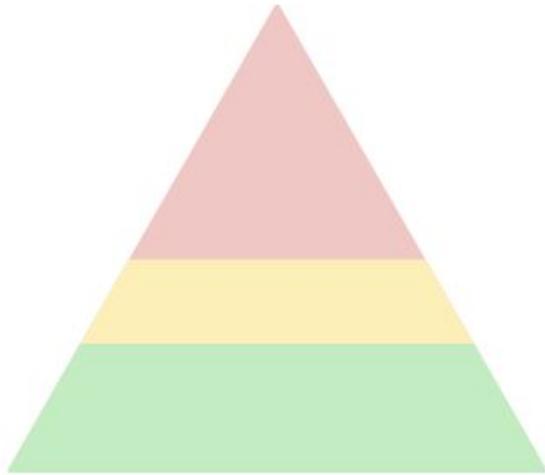
- **At Risk for Tier 3**  
7% (From 22%)
- **Tier 2**  
46% (From 56%)
- **Tier 1**  
47% (From 22%)



Mid 2021 - 2022

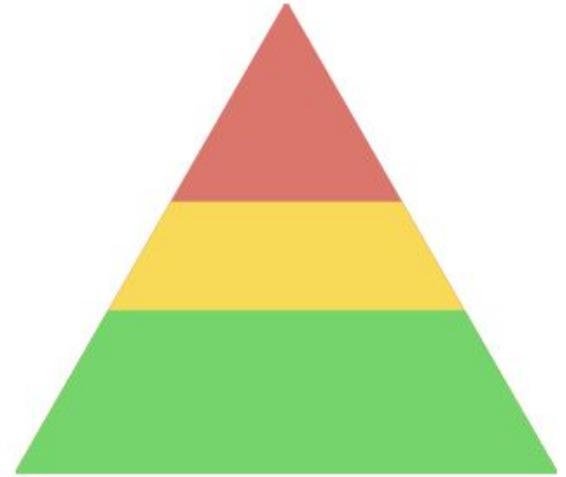
# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## READING



Fall 2021-2022

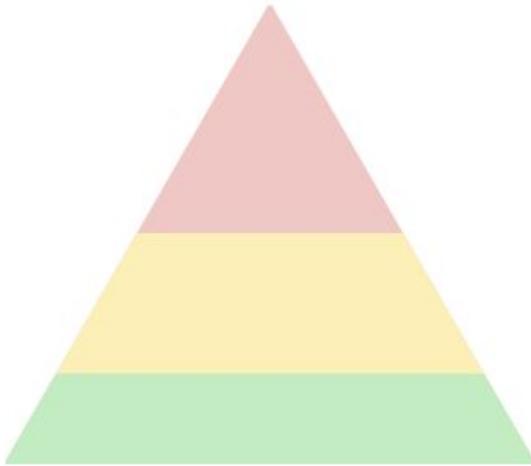
- **At Risk for Tier 3**  
18% (From 30%)
- **Tier 2**  
25% (From 23%)
- **Tier 1**  
57% (From 48%)



Mid 2021 - 2022

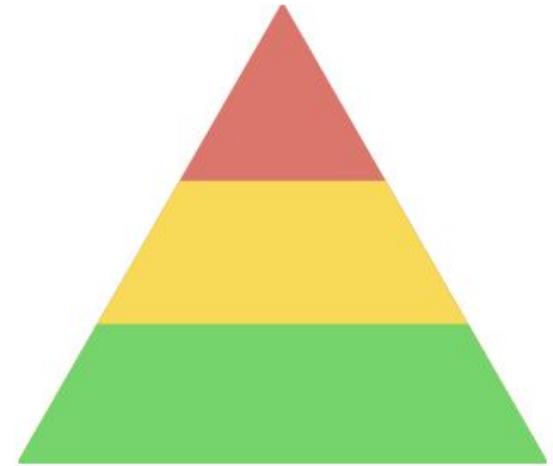
# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## MATH



Fall 2021-2022

- **At Risk for Tier 3**  
15% (From 25%)
- **Tier 2**  
34% (From 40%)
- **Tier 1**  
51% (From 36%)



Mid 2021 - 2022

# HIGH SCHOOL

## Fall 2021 PSAT Mean Scores Longitudinal Look

	Class of 2017		Class of 2018		Class of 2019		Class of 2020		Class of 2021 ** Fall SAT		Class of 2022		Class of 2023	
	ERW	Math	ERW	Math	ERW	Math	ERW	Math	ERW	Math	ERW	Math	ERW	Math
<b>PSAT 11 (Fall)</b>	545	502	518	482	541	500	542	501	531	495	534	505	503	488
<b>School Day SAT</b>	564	523	552	513	563	542	546	522	557	530	541	537		

# HIGH SCHOOL

## Fall 2021 PSAT Mean Scores by Graduating Class

Class of 2023	ERW		Math	
PSAT 8/9 Fall 2019 (gr 9)	73%	456	51%	457
PSAT/NMSQT Fall 2020 (gr 10)	75%	484	43%	472
PSAT/NMSQT Fall 2021 (gr 11)	73%	503	41%	488
SAT Spring 2022 (gr 11)				

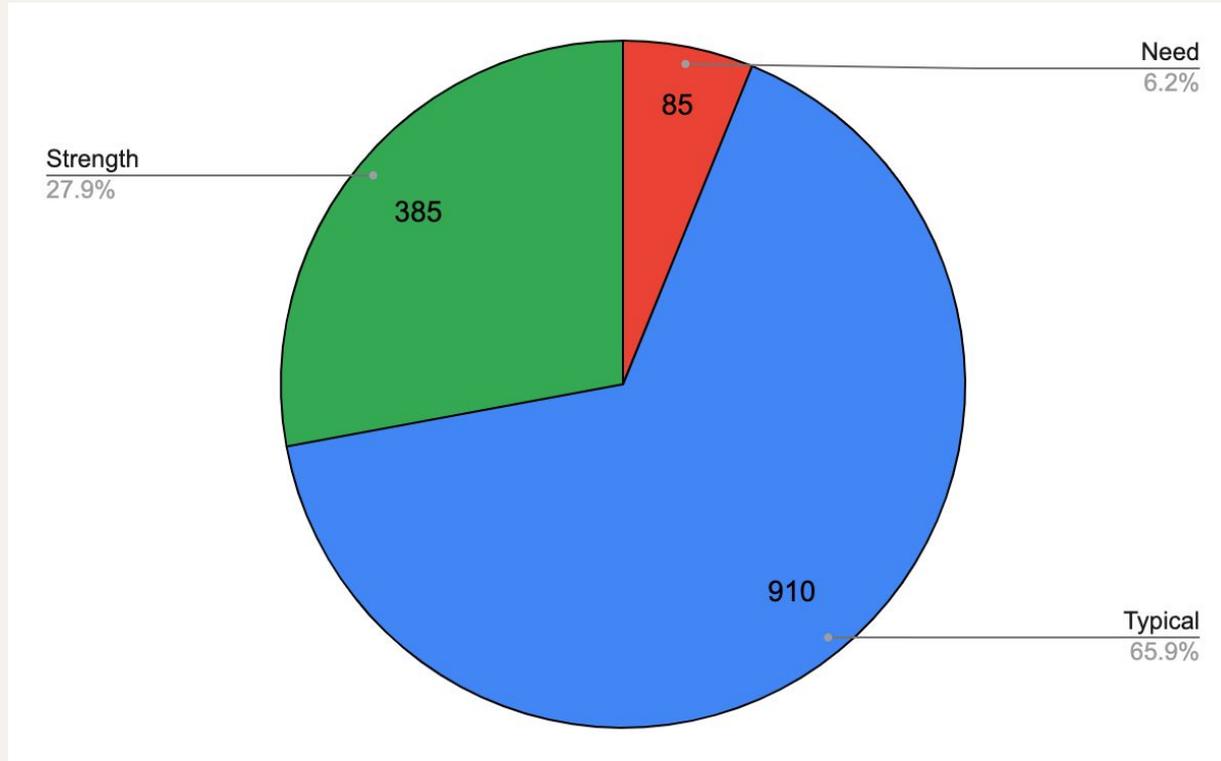
Class of 2024	ERW		Math	
PSAT 8/9 in Fall 2020 (gr 9)	76%	467	51%	450
PSAT 10 in Fall 2021	80%	498	45%	467
PSAT/NMSQT Fall 2022				
SAT Spring 2023				

Class of 2025	ERW		Math	
PSAT 8/9 in Fall 2021 (gr 9)	71%	456	44%	438
PSAT 10 in Fall 2022				
PSAT/NMSQT Fall 2023				
SAT Spring 2024				

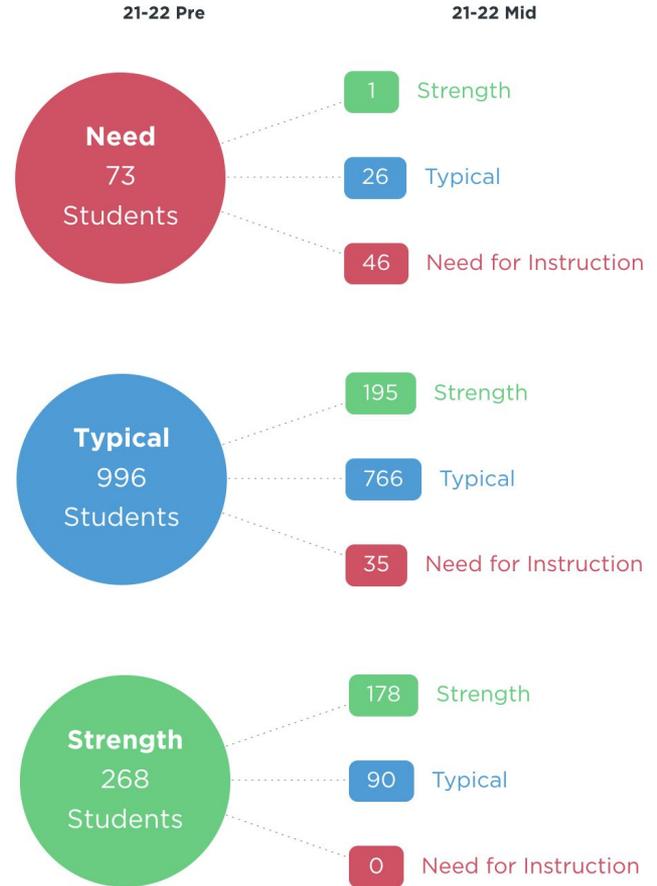
# Aperture SEL Screener



## Aperture Winter Ratings of Social Emotional Competence (K - 8)



# Grades K - 8 Students' Social & Emotional Competence Ratings - Change Fall to Winter





# 03

## Our Strategy

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# Our strategy for success...



## **S.E.L.**

Ensure that students'  
are ready  
to learn



## **Coaching**

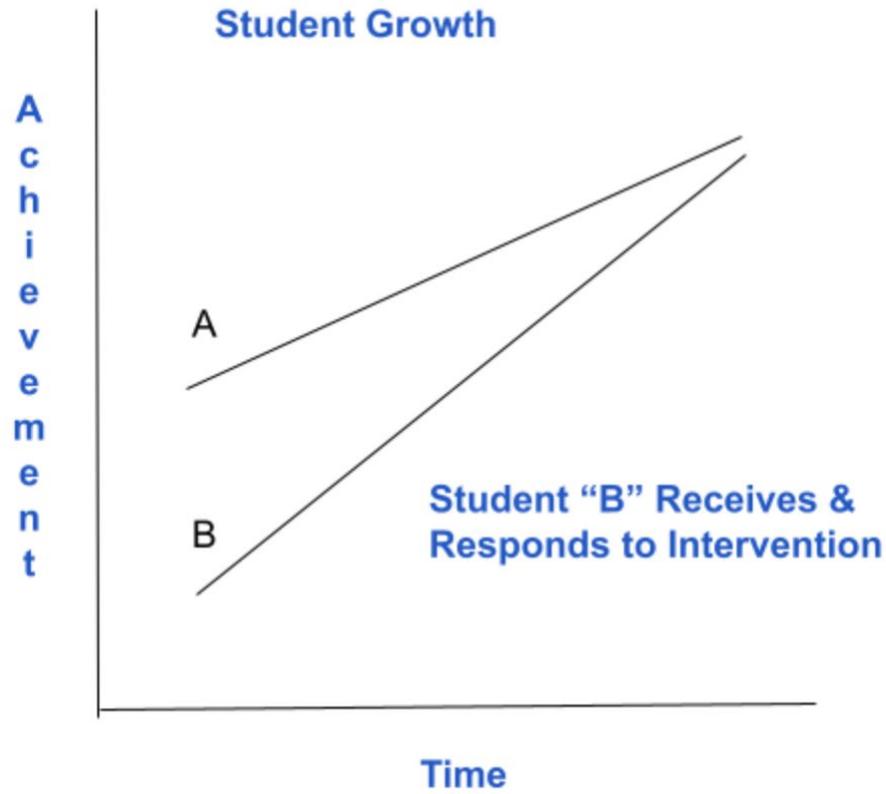
Provide ongoing  
coaching to support  
the core



## **Intervention**

Meet students where  
they are and intervene  
to accelerate their  
growth

# How Intervention is Designed to Work



## All Schools Combined: Reading Growth by Baseline Placement

### The Return on Investment of Intervention & Coaching the Core

Baseline Placement 	Progress (Median) 
Mid or Above Grade Level	 87%
Early On Grade Level	 97%
One Grade Level Below	 92%
Two Grade Levels Below	 112%
Three or More Grade Levels Below	 153%

## All Schools Combined: Math Growth by Baseline Placement

### The Return on Investment of Intervention & Coaching the Core

Baseline Placement 	Progress (Median) 
Mid or Above Grade Level	 67%
Early On Grade Level	 56%
One Grade Level Below	 65%
Two Grade Levels Below	 83%
Three or More Grade Levels Below	 106%



04

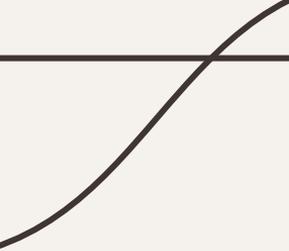
Key Takeaways

# Takeaways

- Research shows student growth rates are slower than pre-pandemic
- Our current performance levels reflect national trends of impact
- Our intervention is working
- Teachers matter and we need to invest in providing the best supports and tools to assess and instruct
- Using an asset-based coaching model where we capitalize on strengths and grow practices collectively is impacting the quality of instruction
- Strong core instruction coupled with intervention will help us close the “COVID” and beyond achievement gap



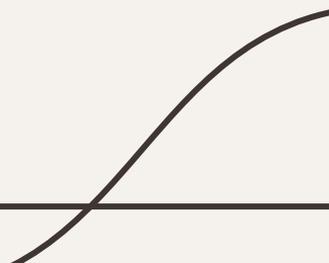
*(CSDE will provide growth data this year)*



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**“When I approach a child, he  
inspires in me two sentiments -  
tenderness for what he is and  
respect for what he may become.”**

Louis Pasteur, French chemist and microbiologist



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## Business/Non-Instructional Operations

### Security of Buildings and Grounds

#### Site and Building Access

#### Identification Badges

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of providing a safe environment for all District students and staff. To promote a safe environment, the District requires all employees, volunteers and visitors to wear, above the waist, a District issued, approved identification badge.

**Required Identification:** All employees, while carrying out regular employment duties, will display identification badges in plain view. Student ID ~~cards/~~ badges and lanyards will be provided to ~~every student~~ all students at the middle school and high school, which authorizes a ~~student~~ students to be on campus and on school buses. Students are asked to ~~retain~~ display their ID ~~card~~ badge in a prominent location and to retain their ID badge, until a new one badge is issued. ~~Such cards~~ These badges will help staff in identifying students, as well as trespassers. Students ~~must~~ will be required to present their ID badge to enter the school building, building if they arrive after the start of the school day.

**Issuing Identification Badges:** Identification badges will be provided to all employees. The initial badge, clip or lanyard will be provided to all employees at no cost to the employee. ID badges will be replaced as necessary due to normal use, to make the photo current or for changes in employment status.

**Visitors/Volunteers:** All visitors/volunteers are required to check in to the main office or front desk to obtain a visitor's badge. Volunteer and visitor badges may be permanent and lent to the person or disposable. A log shall be maintained of all visitors/volunteers in the building. When visitors/volunteers leave the building, they must sign out.

All visitors shall display the visitor's badge while they are in the school building during the school day.

Visitors who do not comply with this policy shall be escorted from the property. Staff members who observe someone entering District facilities without proper identification are required to address the person or immediately report this circumstance to the administration main office or front desk.

**Lost or Stolen Badges:** The first time the identification badge is lost or stolen, the District will provide a replacement at no cost, to the employee. Each additional identification badge requested will cost ~~the employee \$4.00~~ \$10.00 per badge. If a badge is lost or stolen, employees should contact Human Resources immediately and students should contact the school main office immediately.

(cf. 1250 – Visits to the School)

(cf. 3516 – Safety)

**Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

**Security of Buildings and Grounds**

**Site and Building Access**

**Identification Badges**

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

Policy adopted: December 19, 2013  
Policy revised: April 3, 2014  
Policy revised: June 4, 2015

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Fairfield, Connecticut

*Existing policy with modifications based on P.A. 21-2, JSS, Sections 378 & 379.*

## **Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified**

### **Minority Recruitment Plan**

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that fundamental to a quality education is the need to provide students with an opportunity to interact with students and educators from different racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds.

In accordance with Sections 10-4a(3) and Section 10-220(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of Education has developed the following written plan for minority educator recruitment:

1. All recruiting sources will be informed in writing of the Board's non-discrimination policy.
2. The Board will develop contacts with local training and educational institutions, including those with high minority enrollments, to publicize job openings within the school district and to solicit referrals of qualified minority candidates.
3. The Board will develop contacts with local minority community organizations to publicize job openings within the school district and to solicit referrals of qualified minority candidates.
4. The Board will maintain, or expand, as appropriate, its help-wanted advertising to include print and/or broadcast media that is targeted to minorities.
5. The Board will participate in local job fairs, including those that are sponsored by the minority community organizations or otherwise targeted toward minorities.
6. The Board, or its designee, will maintain records documenting all actions taken pursuant to this plan, including correspondence with recruitment agencies and other referral sources, job fair brochures and advertising copy.
7. The Board will review on an annual basis the effectiveness of this plan in increasing minority applicant flow and attracting qualified candidates for employment.

The Board shall make appropriate efforts to encourage, recruit, employ, and promote qualified minorities especially where under-utilized in the District's work force. Beginning with the school year commencing July 1, 2020 and each school year thereafter, the Board will utilize the strategies and resources made available to it by the State Department of Education's Minority Teacher Recruitment Policy Oversight Council to assist in meeting Connecticut's annual goal of hiring at least two hundred fifty new minority teachers and administrators, of which at least thirty percent are men.

## Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified

### Minority Recruitment Plan (continued)

For purposes of the “Minority Teacher Candidate, Certification, Retention and Residency Year Program, (*Residency Program*)” the following definitions are applicable:

1. “**Minority**” is defined as individuals whose race is defined as other than white or whose ethnicity is defined as Hispanic or Latino as used by the U.S. Census Bureau.
2. “**Minority candidate**” is defined as a person who is a minority and is employed as a school paraprofessional or an associate instructor with a Board of Education.
3. “**Residency program**” is defined as a State Board of Education (SBE)-approved certification program in which participants serve in (1) a position that otherwise would require professional certification and (2) a full-time position for 10 school months at a Board of Education under the supervision of (a) a certified administrator or teacher and (b) a supervisor from the Regional Educational Service Center (RESC) or a private, nonprofit teacher or administrator operating the certification program.

### The “Residency Program”

#### Alliance District Requirements

In addition, as a designated “alliance district” the Board of Education, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year will include in its plan submitted to the SDE for funding its plan to partner with an operator of a residency program in order to enroll minority candidates and place them in the District as part of the residency program.

As a participating Board, it will apply to the Commissioner of Education, at a time and in a manner the Commissioner prescribes, to receive a payment as established in law to cover specified costs.

The payments made or grants awarded may be used for costs associated with the:

1. enrollment of minority candidates in a residency program,
2. certification process for the minority candidates,
3. hiring of the minority candidates following the successful completion of a residency program, or
4. retention of minority candidates as certified employees of the school district.

The Board may hire a minority candidate who has successfully completed the residency program.

## Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified

### Minority Recruitment Plan (continued)

#### Non-Alliance District Option

The District will partner with a residency program operator to enroll minority candidates and place them in the district as part of the “Residency Program.” Following the minority candidate’s successful completion of the residency program, the Board may hire the minority candidate.

The Board will apply to the Commissioner of Education, at a time and in a manner the Commissioner determines, to receive a grant for any of the allowed costs described in the law. The Commissioner may, within available appropriations, award a grant to a non-alliance board of education for any of the allowed costs.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-4a (3) Educational interests of state identified.  
10-151 Employment of teachers. Notice and hearing on termination of contract.  
10-153 Discrimination on account of marital status.  
10-220(a) Duties of Boards of Education. (as amended by PA 98-252)  
46a-60 Discriminatory employment practices prohibited.  
PA 16-41 An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Minority Teacher Recruitment Task Force.  
PA 18-34 An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention.  
PA 19-74 An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention.  
PA 21-2 June Special Session, Sections 378 & 379.

Policy adopted: August 19, 2010  
Policy revised: December 6, 2018  
Policy revised: March 5, 2020  
Policy revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Fairfield, Connecticut

*Existing policy with recommended revision.*

## **Students**

### **Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco**

#### **I. Definition of Terms**

**“Drug/Mood Altering Substance/Alcohol”** shall include any alcohol or malt beverage, and drug listed as a controlled substance, chemical, abused substance or medication for which a prescription is required under the law, and/or any substance which is intended to alter mood. Examples of the above include, but are not limited to: beer, wine, liquor, marijuana, hashish, chemical solvents, glue, look alike substance and any capsules or pills not registered with the nurse, annotated within the student’s health record and given in accordance with the school district policy for the administration of medication to students in school.

**Drugs** are defined as any substance other than food or water that is intended to be taken or administered (ingested, injected, applied, implanted, inhaled, etc.) for the purpose of altering, sustaining, or controlling the recipient’s physical, mental, or emotional state. Drugs may include, but not be limited to, alcoholic beverages; controlled substances such as marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, barbiturates, amphetamines, narcotics; and non-authorized prescription drugs.

**Controlled substances**, for purposes of this policy shall include all controlled substances prohibited by federal and state law, look-alike drugs, alcoholic beverages, anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia, any volatile solvents or inhalants, such as but not limited to glue and aerosol products, and prescription or patent drugs, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy.

**Under the influence**, for purposes of this policy shall include any consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.

**Electronic nicotine delivery system** means an electronic device that may be used to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

**“Child Study Team”** is a multi-disciplinary team composed of school personnel. This team has been trained to understand and work on the issues of adolescent chemical use, abuse, and dependency and will play a primary role in the identification and referral process of students coming to their attention through the procedures outlined in this policy. The team will enlist the resources of a licensed drug and alcohol facility when professional assessment and/or group programs are recommended.

## Students

### Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

#### I. Definition of Terms (continued)

**“Chemical Abuse Specialist”** is a community-based chemical abuse specialist with expertise in the area of chemical dependency and school based assessment (such as those resources and personnel from a licensed drug and alcohol facility to be utilized by the New Fairfield Public Schools).

**“Distributing”** is to deliver, sell, pass, share or give any tobacco, alcohol, drug or mood altering substance as defined by this policy from one person to another or to aid therein.

**“Possession”** is to possess or hold, without any attempt to distribute any tobacco, alcohol, drug or mood-altering substance determined to be illegal, or as defined by this policy.

**“Drug Paraphernalia”** includes any utensil or item which in the school’s judgment can be associated with the use of drugs, alcohol, or mood-altering substances. Examples include but are not limited to roach clips, pipes, bowls, crack vials, miniature cocaine spoons and tobacco rolling paper.

**Liquid nicotine container** means a container that holds a liquid substance containing nicotine that is sold, marketed or intended for use in an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product, except “liquid nicotine container” does not include such a container that is prefilled and sealed by the manufacturer and not intended to be opened by the consumer.

**Vapor product** means any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine that is inhaled by the user of such product.

**CBD**, for purposes of this policy, is defined under federal law as a cannabis product with less than 0.3% tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) on a dry weight basis. It is also referred to as hemp. (Nonprescription CBD products that are available have not been approved by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for any use.)

Tobacco includes, but is not limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine, nicotine delivering devices, chemicals, or devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances; and any other tobacco or nicotine innovations.

## Students

### Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco (continued)

#### II. Alcohol and Drugs

The New Fairfield Board of Education recognizes the harmful effect that substance abuse can have on a student and the student's peer group. For this reason, a student on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity at any time or at any location who is under the influence of alcohol, drugs or mood-altering substances or possesses, uses, manufactures, dispenses, sells or aids in the procurement of alcohol, narcotics, restricted drugs, mood-altering substances, or any substance purported to be a restricted substance or over-the-counter drug shall be subjected to discipline pursuant to the Board of Education policies and regulations, as described in Expulsion and Suspension Policy 5114.

Possessing, using, or transmitting any substance which is represented to be or looks like a narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, stimulant, depressant, or intoxicant of any kind, including such substances that contain chemicals which produce the same effect of illegal substances including but not limited to Spice and K2 and bath salts are addressed by this policy.

The New Fairfield School System will, in a coordinated effort, attempt to respond openly and effectively to the uses and abuses of drugs, alcohol and mood-altering substances by members of the student population. This effort, through the curriculum, community support and resource services, such as those provided by a licensed drug and alcohol facility, and strong, consistent administrative rehabilitative and disciplinary procedures, will work to educate, prevent and intervene in the use and abuse of all drug, alcohol, and mood altering substances by its student population.

Disciplinary action taken by District officials against a student for the use, sale, or possession of marijuana (cannabis) on school premises or at any District/school sponsored activity, on or after January 1, 2022, shall not result in any discipline, punishment, or sanction greater than that which a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol. (C.G.S. 10-221(d), as amended by P.A. 21-1, June Special Session, Section 19)

#### III. Tobacco

For purposes of this policy, "use of tobacco" shall mean all uses of tobacco, including but is not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, snuff, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, or any other substance that contains tobacco or nicotine, and all other forms of smokeless tobacco, rolling papers and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. In order to protect students and staff, the Board prohibits the use of tobacco or nicotine-based products in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at any school-related event.

## **Students**

### **Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco**

#### **III. Tobacco (continued)**

In the face of overwhelming evidence about smoking as a health hazard, and in keeping with the teachings in our school curriculum, and as a further deterrent and prevention against smoking by young persons, the New Fairfield Board of Education institutes the following policy:

1. Smoking and the use of tobacco products is prohibited in school buildings, on school property, at school activities, and on school buses at all times. All schools are “Drug-Free School Zones.”
2. Visible display and/or possession of tobacco products by students is prohibited on school property.
3. The New Fairfield Board of Education authorizes the principal and/or designee of New Fairfield High School to notify and provide statements or other assistance to the New Fairfield Police Department with respect to violations by students of the CT General Statutes prohibiting smoking in public buildings.

Any student (over the age of sixteen) found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to arrest by the New Fairfield Police Department who may issue smoking policy violators a Superior Court enforced ticket in compliance with the Connecticut General Statute.

#### **IV. School Guidelines**

As an extension of this policy, the New Fairfield Board of Education directs the Superintendent to develop guidelines to be used by all school district personnel in responding to drug, mood-altering substance, and alcohol-related situations.

As an integral part of the New Fairfield Public Schools, Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drug guidelines represent one component in a district-wide effort to respond effectively to tobacco, drug, mood-altering substance and alcohol-related situations that may occur at school or at school-sponsored activities. These guidelines are also intended to provide a consistent disciplinary means to respond to tobacco, alcohol and other drug-related incidents. The New Fairfield Public Schools will provide a safe and healthy environment for students with due consideration for their legal rights and responsibilities. The Board reserves the right to use any extraordinary measures deemed necessary to control substance abuse even if the same is not provided for specifically in any rule or regulation enumerated herein.

## **Students**

### **Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco (continued)**

#### **V. Instruction**

Students will receive instruction emphasizing the effect of alcohol, nicotine, tobacco, and drugs on health, character, and personality development wherever appropriate in the health education program and such other contexts which touch on the subject.

#### **VI. Cooperation with Community and Parents**

Any effort put forth by the New Fairfield Public Schools to address alcohol, drugs and tobacco usage requires support from all parents and cooperation from the community in order to be effective.

#### **VII. Medical Marijuana**

Although possession and use of marijuana for certain medical conditions, consistent with Connecticut's P.A. 12-55, "An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana," as amended by P.A. 16-23, is no longer a crime in Connecticut, the possession and use of marijuana remains illegal under federal law. Consistent with federal law, including the Controlled Substances Act and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, the use and or possession of marijuana continues to be prohibited while a student is on a school bus, at school, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity. The District will continue to enforce its policies regarding controlled substances and any students who violate District policy prohibiting the use, sale or possession of illegal drugs in District facilities and school property will be subject to disciplinary and criminal action.

#### **VIII. Use of CBD Products**

Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, or manufacturing any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), regardless of whether it constitutes a controlled substance under federal law.

Students are prohibited from being under the influence of any controlled drugs, narcotic, substance or any mind-altering substance or intoxicant, illegal or legal, specifically any product with cannabidiol (CBD), whether hemp or cannabis, and regardless of the amount of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) in the product or the extent to which it is legal or illegal under state law.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-21b Smoking prohibited in certain places.

10-19 Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel.

## Students

### Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes (continued)

10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student. Surrender or physical evidence obtained from students.

10-220b Policy statement on drugs.

10-221(d) Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures re sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs. (as amended by P.A. 21-1, June Special Session, Section 19)

21a-240 Definitions dependency producing drugs.

21a -240(8) Definitions “Controlled Drugs,” dependency producing drugs.

21a-240(9) Definitions “controlled substance.”

21a-243 Regulation re schedules of controlled substances.

21a-408 et. seq. Palliative Uses of Marijuana (as amended by P.A. 16-23)

53-198 Smoking in motor buses, railroad cars and school buses.

P.A. 11-73 An Act Regulating the Sale and Possession of Synthetic Marijuana and Salvia Divinorum.

P.A. 12-55 An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana.

P.A. 16-23 An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana.

Federal Regulation 34 CFR Part 85 Drug-free Schools & Communities Act.

20 U.S.C. Section 7181 et. seq., No Child Left Behind Act.

*New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985).

*Veronia School District 47J v. Acton*, 515 U.S. 646. (1995)

*Board of Education of Independent School District No 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls* 01-332 U.S. (2002).

Policy adopted: June 16, 2005  
Policy revised: April 26, 2012  
Policy revised: May 2, 2013  
Policy revised: March 6, 2014  
Policy revised: November 2, 2016  
Policy revised: December 3, 2020  
Policy revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Fairfield, Connecticut

*Suggested replacement for existing policy #6140 adopted 9/18/08.*

## **Instruction**

### **Curriculum**

In accordance with state statutes, the prescribed course of study shall include at least the following subject matter:

1. The arts, including dance, music, art and theater;
2. Career education;
3. Consumer education;
4. Health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and development; nutrition; first aid including CPR training; disease prevention and cancer awareness, including age and developmentally-appropriate instruction in performing self-examinations for screening breast and testicular cancer; community and consumer health, physical mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention including opioid use and related disorders; safety, including the use of social media, and may include the dangers of gang membership; and accident prevention;
5. Language arts, including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling;
6. Mathematics;
7. Physical education;
8. Science, which may include the climate change curriculum;
9. Social studies, including citizenship, economics, geography, government, history, and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness;
10. African-American and Black Studies;
11. Puerto Rican and Latino Studies;
12. Native American Studies (*effective 2023-2024 school year*);
13. Computer programming instruction; and
14. At least on the secondary level, one or more world languages and vocational education.

The curriculum development/revision process will be conducted by a District Curriculum Committee that has the responsibility to recommend, develop, review, and approve all curriculum for the District and said curriculum shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Education.

The Board of Education reserves the responsibility for establishing and approving curricula for the school district. Teachers shall teach within the approved curricula. (*Alternative language: The Board of Education has responsibility and authority for the district's curriculum, subject to any limits specified by the State.*)

## **Instruction**

### **Curriculum**

The Board of Education in establishing and approving curricula for the school district will give due consideration to the possible adoption and use of the model curriculum for grades K-8 developed by the Connecticut State Department of Education in collaboration with the State Education Resource Center (SERC) upon its availability. Such consideration shall be based upon the recommendation of the District Curriculum Committee.

(cf. 6110 - Provisions of Negotiated Agreements)  
(cf. 6121 - Nondiscrimination: Instructional Program)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-16b Prescribed courses of study, as amended by PA 08-153, PA 21-2  
JSS, Sections 374, 375, 376.  
10-16c et seq. re Family life education.  
10-17 English language to be medium of instruction.  
10-17 et seq. re Bilingual instruction.  
10-18 Courses in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship.  
10-18a Contents of textbooks and other general instructional materials.  
10-18 bet seq. re Firearms safety programs.  
10-19 Effect of alcohol, nicotine or tobacco and drugs to be taught. Training of personnel. Evaluation of programs by alcohol and drug abuse commission and department of education.  
10-19a et seq. re Substance abuse prevention team.  
10-24 Course in motor vehicle operation and highway safety.  
10-21 et seq. re Vocational education and cooperation with business.  
10-220 Duties of boards of education as amended by PA 08-153.  
10-221a High School graduation requirements.

Policy adopted:  
rev 10/21

*Existing policy with required modifications.*

## **Instruction**

### **Basic Instructional Program**

The basic instructional program of the New Fairfield Public Schools shall be approved by the Board and be in accordance with the law.

Although learning experiences offered students vary according to their individual needs and abilities, the instructional program will be designed to give all students a common body of skills, understandings, attitudes, and knowledge needed for living in a democratic society.

As required by law the Board shall provide a program of instruction which shall include at least the following subject matter as taught by legally qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education; health and safety; including, but not limited to, human growth and development, nutrition, first aid; including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training; disease prevention, and cancer awareness, including but not limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast cancer and testicular cancer; community and consumer health, physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention, including instruction relating to opioid use and related disorders; teen dating violence awareness and prevention, substance abuse prevention; safety; which shall include the safe use of social media, as defined in C.G.S. 9-601, and may include the dangers of gang membership, and safety and accident prevention; instruction on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); language arts, including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling; mathematics, physical education; science, which may include the climate change curriculum consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; social studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government and history and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; African-American and black studies; Puerto Rican and Latino studies beginning with the school year commencing July 1, 2021; **Native American Studies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year**; computer science, including, but not limited to, computer programming instruction, and in addition, on at least the secondary level, one or more world languages; vocational education; and the black and Latino studies high school course in accordance with P.A. 19-12.

~~Language arts may~~ **World languages shall** include American Sign Language provided such subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a certified teacher.

The “arts” means any form of visual or performing arts which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and theatre.

The implementation of these programs shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools in cooperation with the building principals.

**The Board of Education in establishing and approving curricula to implement the mandated instructional program for the school district will give due consideration to the possible adoption and use of the model curriculum for grades K-8 developed by the Connecticut State Department of Education in collaboration with the State Education Resource Center (SERC), upon its availability.**

## Instruction

### Basic Instructional Program (continued)

Such consideration and Board action shall be based upon the recommendation of the District Curriculum Committee.

**Note:** The addition, as part of the health and safety curriculum, of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training, is to be based on the guidelines for emergency cardiovascular care issued by the American Heart Association and shall include, but not be limited to, hands on training in CPR.

In addition, boards of education are allowed to accept gifts, grants, and donations, including in-kind donations, to purchase equipment or materials needed to provide CPR instruction in the schools.

The addition of instruction on the safe use of social media (blogs, video blogs, podcasts, instant messaging, and other user-generated content) and computer programming instruction is also effective beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

**Note:** Sections 1 and 2 of P.A. 19-12 add African-American and black and Puerto Rican and Latino studies to the required program of studies beginning in the 2021-22 school year. A black and Latino studies high school course may be offered beginning with the 2021-22 school year. Such course must be offered beginning with the 2022-23 school year.

Boards of education may use existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel and other resources, including SBE curriculum material. Boards are also allowed to accept gifts, grants, and donations, including in-kind donations for the development and implementation of the curriculum. The curriculum must meet SBE-approved statewide subject matter content standards.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-16b Prescribed courses of study, as amended by PA 08-153, PA 11-136, PA 14-234, PA 15-17, PA 15-94, PA 15-138, PA 16-188, PA 18-24, PA 18-182, PA 18-181, PA 19-12, PA 19-128, and PA 21-2 JSS Sections 374, 375, 376, 377).  
10-18 Courses in United States History, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship.  
10-19 Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel.

Policy adopted: January 5, 2006  
Policy revised: September 18, 2008  
Policy revised: November 17, 2011  
Policy revised: October 30, 2014  
Policy revised: March 3, 2016  
Policy revised: November 2, 2016  
Policy revised: December 6, 2018  
Policy revised: December 5, 2019  
NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Fairfield, Connecticut

**NEW FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
2021-2022 BUDGET TRANSFERS  
February 15, 2022**

SOURCES OF FUNDS					USES OF FUNDS				
Budget Unit	Budget Unit Title	Account	Account Title	Transfer From	Transfer To	Budget Unit	Budget Unit Title	Account	Account Title
<b>Payroll to Payroll Transfers</b>									
0111200100020307	HS SpEd Para	112	Non-Certified	\$40,000	\$40,000	0111200100020303	MHHS SpEd Para	112	Non-Certified
Contract settlement / relocate budgeted positions									
011110000020301	Spec Ed	199	Pyrl Adj	\$50,000	\$50,000	0111200100020304	MS SpEd Para	112	Non-Certified
Contract settlement / relocate budgeted positions									
0111100212010007	HS Counselors	111	Certified	\$50,000	\$50,000	0111100213020301	Dist Nurse	131	Extra Duties
Floater nurse hours and contact tracing									
0111300241010004	MS Sectry	112	Non-Certified	\$5,000	\$5,000	0111300241010001	Dist Sectry	123	Daily Subs
Higher substitute usage due to leaves / open position									
0111000210020301	PPS Admin	111	Certified	\$31,363	\$31,363	0111000241010007	HS Admin	111	Certified
Reclassification of assistant principal salary									
0111100100010007	HS Teachers	111	Certified	\$28,559	\$28,559	0111000290091005	Athl Dir	111	Certified
Reclassification of athletic director salary									
0111100120091005	HS Coaches	131	Extra Duties	\$12,500	\$7,500	0111600120091005	Athl. Event Staff	131	Extra Duties
					\$5,000	0111300241010005	Athletics Sectry	112	Non-Certified
Reclassification of athletic event wages									
0111100100410008	Sumr Intvnt	111	Certified	\$6,038	\$4,621	0111100100420301	SpEd Sumr	111	Certified
					\$1,417	0111100216720301	OT/PT Sumr	111	Certified
ESY expenses greater than anticipated									
<b>Non-Payroll to Payroll Transfers</b>									
0116000266010009	Security Guards	340	Other Prof Svcs	\$14,000	\$14,000	0111600267010001	Safety & Security	112	Non-Certified
Hired after hours security guard in-house rather than contract out									
<b>Non-Payroll to Non-Payroll Transfers</b>									
0116800270010001	Transportation	627	Diesel	\$5,000	\$5,000	0116800270010001	Transportation	626	Gasoline
Transition of First Student vans from diesel to gasoline									
0116000266010009	Security Guards	340	Other Prof Svcs	\$12,600	\$12,600	0116000231010001	Liability, Auto, Property	520	Insurance
Increase cost of cyber insurance									
0116000280010001	Employee Benefits	260	Unemployment	\$10,000	\$3,500	0116200232010001	Central Office	610	General Supplies
					\$1,200	0112000100010002	Cons Inst'l	610	General Supplies
					\$5,300	0113000100010003	MHHS Inst'l	610	General Supplies
Increased supply costs and office relocation									
0115000100010007	HS Inst'l	641	Textbooks & Workbooks	\$8,200	\$8,200	0115000100010007	HS Inst'l	320	Prof Educ Svcs
Contracted for EMT course due to staffing shortage									
0112000241010002	Cons Principal	580	Conference / Travel	\$1,300	\$6,761	0116200232010001	Central Office	580	Conference / Travel
0115000100010007	HS Inst'l	580	Conference / Travel	\$4,961					
0115000241010007	HS Principal	580	Conference / Travel	\$500					
EdSpaces for HS/CELA and HS Music Trip									
0116000100010001	Tuition	567	Tuition - Magnet	\$4,500	\$3,261	0116600270010001	Home-To-School	510	Pupil Transportation
					\$1,239	0116600270110001	Magnet Transport	510	Pupil Transportation
Variance in anticipated magnet school and HAT costs									
0116800260010001	Utilities	622	Electricity	\$9,727	\$6,819	0116000100010001	Tuition	566	Tuition - Vo-Ag
					\$1,600	0116600270310001	Vo-Ag Transport	510	Pupil Transportation
					\$1,308	0116000211060001	Adult Education	568	Tuition - Adult Ed
Unanticipated vo-ag and adult education cost increases									
				\$294,248	\$294,248				