

Board of Education Regular Meeting 2025

Thursday, January 16, 2025 7:00 PM

New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT. In the event of inclement weather, this meeting will change to remote and a virtual link will be provided on our website and distributed. , 3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

III.A. December 19, 2024 - Regular

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

V. PRESENTATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S FY 2025-2026 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

VI. 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]*

VII. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

VII.A. Chairman's Report

VII.B. Superintendent's Report

VII.C. Student Representatives' Report

VII.D. Committee Reports

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

VII.E. Liaison Reports

VII.E.1. Board of Finance (*Ed Sbordone*)

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

VIII.A. New Fairfield High School/Consolidated School Building Project Update

VIII.B. Bus Lot Multi-Board Joint Special Meeting

IX. ACTION ITEMS

IX.A. Personnel Report

IX.B. NF Middle School Oil Tank Replacement
Proposal

IX.C. NFPS Orchestra Program Development and
Course Proposal (*Strategic Planning Goal: Curriculum & Instruction*)
(*First Review*)

IX.D. Board of Education Policy

IX.D.1. Policy 2400 – Evaluation of the Superintendent

IX.D.2. Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements

IX.E. Acceptance of Donation – New Fairfield
Community Thrift Shop, Inc.

IX.F. NFEA Retirement Settlement

IX.G. School Security and Safety

IX.H. Paraeducator Collective Bargaining Negotiations
(*To be voted on after 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 SAFETY AND SECURITY
MATTERS**

XIV. **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF
DISCUSSING DOCUMENTS RELATED
TO PARAPROFESSIONAL COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS**

XV. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 7:00 pm via zoom.

MINUTES – December 19, 2024

PRESENT: Dominic Cipollone (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

ABSENT: Kimberly LaTourette

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Kristine Woleck, Director of Business and Operations Carrie DePuy, High School Principal James D’Amico, Director of Buildings and Grounds Phil Ross, Director of Technology Paul Gouveia

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. December 5, 2024 - Regular meeting - Approved by consensus.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Greg Flanagan made a motion to Action Item VIII E (Capital Improvement Plan) to Information Item VII D. Ed Sbordone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Chairman’s Report - Dominic Cipollone spoke of accomplishments made by the district in 2024. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

B. Superintendent’s Report - Dr. Kenneth Craw spoke of the many successful music concerts and performances this time of year. Dr. Craw wished everyone happy New Year!!

C. Student Representatives’ Reports

Senior Representative Emilia Sedlak spoke of the following:

- The Girls’ Soccer Team is hosting a fundraiser.
- The Senior Class is hosting a “Diaper Drive” throughout the month of December to benefit foster families.
- The 2025 Yearbook is currently for sale on the school’s website. Family and business ads are due by January 28th.
- The Festival of Culture will be held on Saturday, February 1st from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Junior Representative Ella Skogstrom spoke of the following:

- School will be closed for Christmas Break beginning Monday, December 23rd and will resume on Thursday, January 2nd.
- The Concert Choir will be held on January 8th.
- Mid-terms will be given January 16th through January 21st.
- Transition into High School meeting will be held on January 29th.

D. Committee Reports

1. Business Operations/Resource Management - Greg Flanagan noted that this subcommittee met on December 19th and reviewed the following:

- The budget is in line with previous years.
- Locked in a price for heating oil.
- Reviewed information about the solar project.
- Thanked the Food Service Providers for their hard work this year especially with the propane issues.
- Discussed the Capital Improvement Plan.
- Discussed shared services with the Town.
- The propane at the high school is being tested on weekends.
- The Consolidated building has been demolished.
- A letter of intent has been signed for the Rebel turf and the track.

2. Curriculum - Tim Blair noted that the Curriculum subcommittee met on December 16th and discussed:

- The Orchestra program.
- Bilingual service and discussed statistics.
- Middle School World Language opportunities.
- Discussed Adaptive Physical Education overview.

3. Policy - Samantha Mannion noted that this subcommittee met on December 11th and got an update on the following policies:

- Residency policy
- Cell phone policy
- Policy on Student ID tags

4. Field Fees Committee - Ed Sbordone noted that this subcommittee met on December 9th and discussed:

- Stadium lighting replacement was successful and within budget.
- The Rebel turf and track replacement is scheduled to begin in June 2025 and be completed by early Fall 2025.
- Discussed field scheduling for Girls' Softball.
- Drainage issues were discussed.
- There was a discussion of the Field Fees structure.
- The next meeting of the Field Fees Committee will be in January.

E. Liaison Reports

1. Board of Finance - Ed Sbordone gave a summary of recent BOF meetings:

- BOF Regular meeting was held on December 18th and discussed the following:
 - Chairman Thora Perkins thanked Carrie DePuy for sending a 17-page expenditure report for the BOE.
 - Thora Perkins gave an update of the Medical subcommittee that met on December 17th. Tom Kowalchik spoke of the claims for November. He noted that claims were 12.5% over budget for the first five months of the year. They discussed the amount to put into the Medical fund for fiscal year 2025-2026.
 - The audit is due on January 31, 2025.
 - BOF member Cheryl Reedy spoke of the Capital Projects committee and noted that they have met with the BOE and most of the Town departments regarding their capital needs. They will meet again on January 13th and will review all the needs presented to date.
 - Finance Director Vladimir Kan spoke of "Free Cash" otherwise known as the budget surplus. There was a discussion of policies for the budget surplus.

- BOF member Wes Marsh spoke of his meeting with Town Assessor Rich Seman regarding how the revaluation will affect next year's Mil Rate.
- The next BOF meeting will be held on January 22, 2025.
- 2. Parks and Recreation Commission - Ed Sbordone noted that this commission met on December 9th and discussed the following:
 - Approved the meeting calendar for 2025.
 - Approved the water testing for the Rebel Turf pavilion and the beach.
 - Approved an increase for the boat docks.
 - The commission discussed the possibility of allowing "swim at your own risk" during times when the beach is open but no lifeguards are available.
 - The next meeting of the Parks and Rec Commission will be held on January 13th.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Carrie DePuy noted that the propane for the kitchens is now working. It is hopeful that the Science room propane can be fixed soon. The Town Attorney has been contacted regarding problems with the playground at New Fairfield Elementary School. The Consolidated school building has been demolished.

B. Orchestra Program Development and Course Proposal

Dr. Kristine Woleck gave an overview of the Orchestra proposal. She introduced String Teacher Jack Giuliano who talked about the logistics of the program.

C. Board of Education Policy (Second Reading)

1. Policy 2400 - Evaluation of Superintendent
2. Policy 6146 - Graduation Requirements

D. Capital Improvement Plan

Carrie DePuy spoke of the Capital Improvement projects for the district from fiscal year 2023-2024 through fiscal year 2028-2029. The presentation included projects funded and completed in 2023-2024, projects funded and to be completed in 2024-2025 and ongoing capital projects for future years. She noted that \$50,000 will be put each year into the contribution of the turf field replacement for long term replacement needs.

Dr. Craw spoke of possibilities for utilizing space at the Middle School. A schematic plan will be presented in January.

Director of Buildings and Grounds Phil Ross spoke of the plans for the underground oil tank at the Middle School. He noted that the new tank will most likely be an above ground oil tank.

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 December 13, 2024, as recommended by the administration. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR: Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

B. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Assumptions

Dr. Craw spoke of the budget assumptions for 2026 and spoke of how teacher attrition affects the budget. He noted that \$300,000 per year has been used in the past but as this number is getting increasingly more difficult to achieve, the number will be reduced to \$150,000 over a three-year period. For fiscal year 2025, the turnover savings was budgeted at \$250,000 and will be \$200,000 for next year.

MOTION: Greg Flanagan made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the FY26 Budget Assumptions as presented. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

C. Cybersecurity Grant

Director of Technology Paul Gouveia spoke of a federal grant for Cybersecurity for public funds and municipalities. He spoke of the grant sent to the State of Connecticut asking for these funds and noted that both the Town of New Fairfield and the New Fairfield School District were awarded 100% of the funds requested. Dominic Cipollone thanked Paul Gouveia and his staff for their hard work on this grant application.

MOTION: Kathy Baker made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval to accept the competitive Cybersecurity Grant from the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security in the amount of \$316,708. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

D. Unexpended Funds

Dr. Craw noted that over \$200,000 was left over in unexpended funds. Carrie DePuy spoke of a new State statute that allows the Board of Education to use the full amount of unexpended funds for either capital and nonrecurring or educational purposes. There was a discussion of unexpected capital expenses.

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of FY 24 Unexpended Funds Proposed Allocation in the amount of \$209,768 pending final audit as presented. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

E. Capital Improvement Plan - Moved to Information Items

F. Board of Education Policy

1. Policy 5114 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

MOTION: Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Board of Education Policy listed below as presented: 1. Policy 5114 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

G. Board of Education 2025 Policy Subcommittee Meeting Dates

Samantha Mannion spoke of the need to move meeting dates for the Policy subcommittee so as to not be in conflict with budget meetings.

MOTION: Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2025 Board of Education Policy Subcommittee meeting dates as presented. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

H. New Fairfield School Calendar for 2025-2026

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2025-26 school calendar as presented. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

I. Acceptance of Donation - Old Timers Association of Greater Danbury

MOTION: Kathy Baker made a motion to recommend to the full Board to accept with gratitude the Old Timers Association of Greater Danbury donation of \$3,500.00 to be put towards the construction of a new storage shed at Rebel Stadium. Dominic Cipollone seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - There was a request for an update on the bus lot situation.

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

The members of the BOE wished everyone Happy Holidays.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dominic Cipollone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Samantha Mannion and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos

January 2, 2025

Mr. Phil Ross
New Fairfield Board of Education
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812-2655

RE: Design Build Services Turn-Key Proposal
Construction, Environmental and Engineering Services
UST System Abandonment & AST System Installation for Facility Boilers
New Fairfield Middle School - 56 Gillotti Road
CT DAS Environmental Services Contract - 18PSX0153
Fuss & O'Neill Project No.: 20051098.U10

Dear Mr. Ross:

Fuss & O'Neill is pleased to submit this turn-key design/build proposal to the New Fairfield Board of Education (New Fairfield BOE), for the abandonment-in-place of a 10,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) system and replacement with a 10,000-gallon aboveground storage tank (AST) system at the New Fairfield Middle School. The replacement tank which serves the school's boilers will include a new fuel forwarding pump set and automatic tank gauge (ATG) as part of the new system.

This proposal is for a complete "turn-key" project, under a design build project delivery methodology, led by Fuss & O'Neill (F&O). Included in this proposal is the necessary design, code compliance and permit-level plan development, obtaining permits, UST in-place closure (abandonment), environmental sampling and tank closure reporting, O&M manual submission, system startup and on-site training of facility personnel.

Fuss and O'Neill's Construction Services division will perform engineering, construction management and construction administration services for this project and will be your single point of contact on behalf of New Fairfield BOE. Fuss & O'Neill will prepare necessary "permit level" design drawings for the AST system installation for submission to the New Fairfield Building and Fire Departments. You will be able to review the plans for each site prior to submission to local authorities. Plans will be stamped by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut.

Scope of Services

Pre-Construction Project Services

During this phase we will perform the following:

- Notify the CTDEEP of the intent to abandon in place the 10,000-gallon UST at New Fairfield Middle School
- Prepare a site-specific Job Hazard Analysis (JHA)

- Contact Call-Before-You-Dig and obtain dig-safe number.
- Perform a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey to supplement CBYD in identifying underground utility conflicts.
- Expediently review and approve the new AST submittal drawing to order the 10,000-Gallon ConVault AST as quickly as practical (current lead time for ASTs can be 10 to 14 weeks).
- Attend two (2) design phase meetings with Client representatives: One to review 75% design and one to review 100% design.
- Establish subcontract/vendor agreements for all phases of the work described in this proposal.
- Finalize field measurements in conjunction with ground penetrating radar (GPR) results.
- Perform code reviews of the proposed AST installation designs.
- Prepare a drawing set, stamped by a Connecticut licensed professional engineer for construction.
- Provide electronic PDF copies of drawings and specifications required for the AST installation.
- Prepare and submit permit applications for the work and obtain permits.

New 10,000-Gallon UL2085 ConVault AST System Installation

- Prepare area for new AST installation: Set new AST elevations and prepare AST location for a new poured-in-place concrete mat.
- Form and pour concrete pad according to the design specifications.
- Provide crane services for setting the new AST.
- Provide and set new 10,000-gallon UL2085 ConVault AST on concrete pad.
- Inform the Building and Fire Department at key milestones for inspections, as appropriate.
- Evaluate AST post-delivery and provide testing reports in final O&M package.
- Provide and install tank top dress packages including vent piping, clock gauges, emergency vents and ATG riser nipples.
- Provide and Install 6" concrete bollards, 4-5' on-center around the new AST as needed for protection from vehicular traffic. Bollards will be sleeved with yellow plastic covers for high visibility.
- Provide and install remote fill box with 3" piping for filling AST.
- Provide and install auto shut-off valve in tank riser and pipe to spill containment, setting valve to 95% shut-off.
- Provide black steel tank top fittings, painted for corrosion control.
- Excavate to exterior wall of boiler room for installation of product piping and electrical conduit.
- Provide and install new Pryco fuel forwarding pump set with controls in cabinet within boiler room.
- Provide and install new 1" double wall flexible underground fuel oil piping from the AST to the boiler room and tie in fuel piping from the new pump set into the existing product piping loop.
- Provide and install in-floor monitoring system in the event of an internal leak of fuel piping:
 - Core-drill (2-3) low point holes in the floor and fill base with concrete to accept new in-room leak sensors, and
 - Provide and install (2-3) interstitial sump sensors as necessary and tie in sensors into the pump set controls for positive shutdown in the event of a leak.
- Cap/plug existing floor drains.
- Provide and install (1) new Omntec tank monitoring system, complete with overflow alarm mounted on the exterior of the building within view of tank filling operation.

- Prime, start-up and purge new fueling system with New Fairfield Middle School's boiler technician. Run system and review all components with technician for proper operation.
- Startup new Omntec tank monitoring system.
 - Note: CAT5 cabling to tank monitoring system for remote monitoring (if desired) will be performed by New Fairfield Middle School.
- Train facility personnel on the entire new system.
- Backfill trench and repair surfaces as needed post construction.

Existing 10,000-Gallon UST Abandonment

- Excavate and remove tank top concrete and manholes, excavate, and expose tank top(s) for cleaning access.
- Cut open UST and using a vac truck, pump out and remove remaining product and clean UST. Pump out and remove remaining cleaning rinsewaters. Cut access holes in the bottom of the UST for collecting soil samples.
- Provide documentation of all wastes removed and disposed.
- Collect closure samples beneath UST as described in the Environmental Compliance Services section below.
- Provide and install concrete slurry fill as needed to completely fill the UST.
- Repair any disturbed asphalt or excavated areas as needed.

Environmental Compliance Services for UST Abandonment

- Document and oversee demolition and excavation activities prior to tank abandonment, ensuring material is handled appropriately.
- As discussed above, the following samples will be collected:
 - Two samples from core holes at the bottom of the UST from both ends and
 - One sample per 20 feet of pipe trench (assumes one sample).
- All samples collected will be screened in the field for petroleum hydrocarbons using a "Petro Flag" screening method to confirm that soil is not impacted by tank activities.
- Samples collected will be analyzed for extractable total petroleum hydrocarbons (ETPH) using Connecticut's ETPH method. The sample exhibiting the highest Petro Flag reading within the tank and at the piping line will also be analyzed for the following:
 - Aromatic volatile organic compounds (VOCs) by USEPA Method 8260
 - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) by USEPA Method 8270

Samples will be submitted to Phoenix Environmental Laboratories for analysis on a 24-hour-turnaround time.

- Fuss & O'Neill will prepare a UST Closure Report summarizing our observations and the collected analytical data. The report will include a figure showing the approximate sample locations, data summary tables, laboratory analytical reports, photographs, and disposal documentation. A copy of the report will be provided to the New Fairfield BOE and the New Fairfield Fire Marshal.

Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans

Following installation of the AST the site will be subject to the Oil Pollution Prevention Regulation promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 40 CFR Part 112. The regulations require preparation and implementation of an SPCC Plan. To prepare the SPCC Plan, F&O will complete the following tasks.

- Review current Site Plans.
- Perform a review of the site to assess existing oil storage/use practices and procedures and prepare an inventory of oil and petroleum storage tanks as well as other oil containers with capacities of 55-gallons or greater (e.g., ASTs, drums, hydraulic systems, etc.).
- During the site review we will collect information related to existing spill response procedures, training programs, spill contractors, spill clean-up materials locations, etc. We assume site personnel will assist F&O to collect this information.
- We will prepare a Site Plan to be included in the SPCC Plan. We assume that existing mapping for each site (preferably in AutoCAD format) will be provided to F&O that reflects the current site conditions.
- The SPCC Plan will be prepared in accordance with applicable EPA regulations (40 CFR 112).

In preparing the SPCC Plan, we may find that corrective measures need to be implemented if regulatory requirements are not fully addressed (e.g., secondary containment for interior above ground piping). If necessary, we will provide a concise list of recommendations, along with a schedule for corrective actions that will be performed by the New Fairfield BOE. If corrective measures are required, the professional certification provided will be conditional and identify the noted deficiencies and schedule for completing corrective actions. If requested, F&O is available to assist the New Fairfield BOE with implementation of the recommendations/corrective actions as a Change Order to this project or part of a separate agreement.

Prior to finalizing the Plans, we will prepare draft documents for your review. Upon receiving comments on the draft Plans, we will finalize and certify the Plans. One Professional Engineer (P.E.) certified hard copy, and an electronic copy of the Plans will be provided. We assume that access will be available to the petroleum storage area identified in our walkthrough and that someone knowledgeable of the site will be available to accompany us during the onsite review.

Construction Administration Services

- Conduct an on-site pre-construction meeting with appropriate representatives of New Fairfield BOE and our subcontractor team to discuss the full scope of the work including, but not limited to: Site logistics, traffic management, material staging areas, notifications, and overall health and safety.
- Perform field inspection and oversight of contracted services provided on an as needed basis to support the work, assist with answering questions and continuously adhering to the goals of the New Fairfield BOE.
- Review and approve, as appropriate, subcontractor and vendor invoices for completeness and accuracy against work performed. Make all payments to subcontractors/vendors in a timely fashion consistent with mutually agreed upon contractual terms.

- Review shop drawings for new equipment.
- Provide oversight services to ensure conformance with the site-specific plans for the AST installation.
- Prepare notifications to the Building and Fire Departments of critical activities and to review system components and inform/invite to inspect in-person or via facetime. Specific items for review include:
 - Sub-base compaction
 - New piping, inspected and tested at specified pounds per square inch of pressurized air
 - Pressure test isolated compartments of new AST with low-pressure nitrogen
 - All tank-top appurtenances
- Document activities including photographs of the AST system installation and tank abandonment for reporting purposes.
- Prepare and provide an AST Operations and Maintenance manual for that includes warranty and product data, and photographs of the installation.
- Assist the New Fairfield BOE in preparing and submitting final CT DEEP UST Notification documenting the abandonment of the UST through the EZ-File System.

Assumptions and Exclusions

The scope of services and our fees are based on the following assumptions:

- New Fairfield BOE is tax-exempt, and as such, no taxes are included in this proposal (exempt cert to be provided)
- There have been no releases from the underground storage tank systems, and as such, no costs for remediation are included in this proposal. If contaminated soil is encountered, we will immediately notify New Fairfield BOE before proceeding with CTDEEP notification. Unit costs are included in this proposal to cover the cost of remedial activities should they be required. Additional professional services required to guide the excavation of contaminated soil will be performed on a T&M basis.
- Removal of rock, clay, rubbish, or other unsuitable soils and replacement backfill is not included.
- Relocation of underground utilities identified during construction is not included.
- This proposal assumes groundwater will not be encountered within any excavation. No costs for the management of groundwater, contaminated or other, are included in this proposal.
- Shoring is excluded.
- Prevailing wages are included in this proposal. Documentation of weekly prevailing wage payments will be provided.
- Free and clear access will be provided to all work areas. We will work closely with New Fairfield Middle School's on-site personnel throughout the project to minimize the impact on facility operations.
- There are no significant interfering underground utilities that will prevent the abandonment and replacement of the tanks.
- The proposal is based on normal working hours (i.e., Monday - Friday, 7:00 AM - 4:30 PM)
- This work is projected to be started and completed in calendar year 2025. Should this work be pushed to the next calendar year, we will reserve the right to adjust our fees accordingly.
- Payment and Performance bonding is excluded.
- This proposal assumes that no more than 6" of fuel will remain inside each UST at the time of removal. Any additional fuel above the bottom 6" will be removed and invoiced at the Unit Cost listed in the Fee section below.

Schedule

We are prepared to begin this work immediately upon your authorization to proceed. Initial activities will be to review the site-specific design and expeditiously approve the new ASTs and pump set submittals thereby placing this longer lead time equipment on order, initiate design work and prepare the necessary site-specific notifications of the intent to abandon the existing UST to both CTDEEP and the local Fire Marshal. At this point we will be able to develop a full schedule for the work. We envision approximately six weeks of construction work on site.

Fees

The lump sum and as needed unit costs included in this proposal have been constructed in accordance with the labor rates and allowed subcontractor mark-up included in our existing DAS Contract (18PSX0153). We propose to provide the services described in this proposal for a lump sum fee of **\$315,529**.

- Pricing is good for 30 days and the project duration is assumed to be as shown above. Again, this work is projected to be started in the winter of 2025 and completed in the summer of 2025. Should this work be pushed to the next calendar year, we will reserve the right to adjust our fees accordingly.

Unit Costs

The following unit costs will apply only if contaminated soil is encountered and would be in addition to the base lump sum above. These costs (and scope) will be discussed with you if contamination is encountered prior to proceeding with the work.

- Excavation, load, transport, and disposal of contaminated soil: \$173.25/ton
- Disposal of liquid/fuel/sludge from the UST above the bottom 6" included in the proposal: \$1.95/Gallon
- Replacement backfill due to the excavation of contaminated soil: \$31.50/ton

In addition to the subcontracted unit prices above, the presence of contaminated soil would also require additional professional services and laboratory fees to guide the removal of contaminated media. If contaminated soil is encountered, we will submit a subsequent Task Authorization for this work at that time in accordance with the rates included in our DAS Contract (18PSX0153).

We can begin this work immediately upon receipt of a signed copy of the Authorization to proceed enclosed with this proposal, or issuance of a purchase order referencing this proposal.

We thank you for your interest in Fuss & O'Neill and for the opportunity to assist you with this project. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Mr. Phil Ross
January 2, 2025
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If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Charles D. Ahles, P.E.
Vice President Construction Services

Attachments: Authorization to Proceed

Authorization to Proceed

Charles D. Ahles, P.E.
 Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.
 146 Hartford Road
 Manchester, CT 06040

Re: Design Build Services Turn-Key Proposal
 Construction, Environmental and Engineering Services
 UST System Abandonment & AST System Installation for Facility Boilers
 New Fairfield Middle School - 56 Gillotti Road
 CT DAS Environmental Services Contract 18PSX0153
 Fuss & O'Neill Project No.: 20051098.U10

Total Base Lump Sum: **\$ 315,529**

Dear Mr. Ahles:

I hereby authorize Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. to proceed with the above-referenced project in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of DAS Contract (18PSX0153) and proposal dated January 2, 2025.

Printed Name	Date
Signature	Title

New Fairfield BOE – please complete information below.

*Submit invoice as follows (✓ one →):	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Online
Billing Contact:	Name/Title:		
	Address:		
	Phone/Email:		
Accounts Payable Contact:	Name/Title:		
	Address:		
	Phone/Email:		
Purchase Order Number:			

*** Indicate address, email address and website link if different than already provided.**

New Fairfield Public Schools

New Course Proposal

Directions:

Before completing this form, please discuss this proposal with the appropriate administrator(s) in your school. Complete this proposal form thoroughly, and attach any supporting documentation that would help the Board of Education's Curriculum Sub-Committee understand this proposal better. Be sure that you adhere to all deadlines, and be certain to acquire all required signatures. To ensure that a course can be properly planned for, if it is intended for a coming school year, please complete it by October 31. All other proposals can be forwarded at any time of the year.

Course Being Proposed: HS Orchestra

Proposal submitted by: Casey Hounsell and Jack Giuliano

School: New Fairfield High School

1. Indicate the department/grade level in which this course/program will run.

Visual and Performing Arts: 9-12 Orchestra (non-audition ensemble)

2. Please indicate if the new course or instructional program is a semester long or year long, and indicate the applicable grade levels. Please indicate the course level if applicable.

This will be a year-long course open to students in grades 9-12.

3. Please give the rationale for this proposal, and include its relationship to the past, current and future development of curricular offerings in New Fairfield.

New Fairfield Public Schools has a strong tradition of supporting the arts, as evidenced by the strength of its existing band, choir, theater, and music technology program. The district has expanded its performing arts programming to meet the evolving needs and interests of its students.

Over the past several years, the district has grown an orchestra program at the elementary school and through the middle school grades. Students who have participated in this orchestra program at the elementary and middle school are now positioned to enter the high school in order to continue to play instruments such as violin, viola, and cello, and expand to such instruments as bass.

We look now to extend the orchestra program into New Fairfield High School for students currently in the program (now in eighth grade) to continue to this next step in their progression. Introducing an orchestra would honor the district's commitment to the orchestra program specifically and performing arts broadly, meet the needs of our current and future students, and strengthen our existing high school music department.

4. Please indicate the target population for this proposal.

The targeted population for this course proposal are the current middle school orchestra students (11 eighth graders, 10 seventh graders, and 6 sixth graders) as they progress from the middle school into the high school beginning in the 25-26 school year. This course would also allow current high school students who previously did not continue with a stringed instrument in high school to have the option to return to that instrument.

5. Please explain if this course or instructional program is an addition or a replacement for an existing course or program.

The orchestra program at the high school would be an additional program to the current music department.

6. List any prerequisites for this course or instructional program.

While intended for students who have participated in orchestra in middle school, this class would be open to all students of all skill levels in grades 9-12.

7. Please write a short description of the new course or instructional program that would be suitable for the high school *Program of Studies* or for a curriculum document.

Orchestra is a performance-based ensemble course designed for students who play string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and double bass). The class focuses on developing individual and ensemble musicianship through the study and performance of a diverse repertoire. Students will improve their technical skills, music reading, and musicality while expanding their understanding of music theory and music history. Participation in rehearsals and performances, including concerts and festivals, is an essential component of the course. This class is open to students of all skill levels, grades 9-12.

8. Please list the long-term course or program goals that define the broad outcomes that this course or program seeks to help students achieve.

Establishing orchestra at the high school level would provide a sequential string program, grades 3-12, in the district, ensuring students have consistent access to high-quality instruction from elementary through high school. Such a coherent program can allow for students to continue to pursue orchestra post-high school if desired or maintain an appreciation and enjoyment of a string instrument throughout their lives. This orchestra program would also then mirror the current band and choir programs, ensuring equity across all musical disciplines. In addition, it would provide the opportunity for collaboration between band, choir, and orchestra, enriching the overall music education experience for all students.

9. Please indicate what topics, units, or material will be used to meet the long-term goals listed above. What assessment strategies will be used in this course or program? What are the unique components of this course or program content that make it a worthwhile addition for our students?

The curriculum would be split into 2 expansive units in which students learn new techniques and musical skills that fall under the NAFME standards for their grade levels. Each one of these units will be facilitated with proper musical selection and demonstration. Their learning and growth each semester will culminate in a winter and spring concert which will serve as an assessment for their progress. The end goal of this course is to provide students with genuine performance skills and strategies that will assist in all musical endeavors as well as public demonstration.

10. Please enumerate the resources – both human and financial – that you anticipate will be needed to develop this course or program correctly. What impact would this proposal have on scheduling, staffing, and resources? Consider training, equipment and space needs.

This course requires an additional 1.0 FTE who would implement the high school and middle school strings program. In terms of resources, some funds in the performing arts budget would be needed to provide sheet music and instrument maintenance supplies. The current high school band and chorus rooms are available spaces for the orchestra and schedules will be coordinated to allow for access. Instruments and other supplies in the program are also supported by the Fine Arts Boosters and other grants from the PTO.

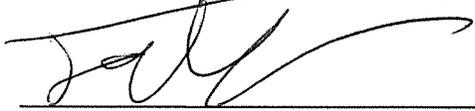
11. If this course will require a textbook, what is the title and cost estimate of a likely text?

Concert repertoire - 3-4 winter concert songs, 3-4 spring concert songs, 3-4 district concert songs, estimated at \$65/song.

12. What impact will this course/program proposal have upon other courses/programs currently being offered in the district?

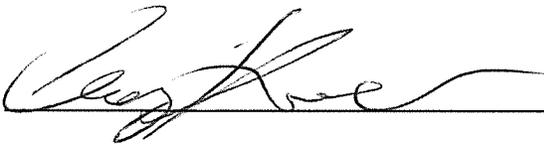
This course continues the current district goal of expanding the strings program throughout the schools. It will complete the high school curriculum to provide performing arts ensemble courses for band, chorus, and strings currently available in grades 3-8. It would also allow a continuation of the already-established classes as well as establish a culminating course for string students.

Signatures of those making this proposal:

 12/10/24

Teacher

Date

 12/10/24

Department Chair (if applicable)

Date

New Course Proposal Form
Updated January 2020

 12/11/24
Principal **Date**

 12/11/24

Assistant Superintendent

Date

New Course Proposal Form
Updated January 2020

Orchestra in New Fairfield

Building a Seamless Program for our Young Musicians



Board of Education Curriculum Subcommittee
New Fairfield Public Schools
December 16, 2024



Orchestra in New Fairfield

Elementary Student String Numbers (Grades 3-5)

- 2022-23: Total students = 95
- 2023-24: Total students = 107
- 2024-25 (current): Total students = 115

NFMS Student String Numbers (Grades 6-8)

- 2022-23: Total students = 14
- 2023-24: Total students = 24
- 2024-25 (current): Total students = 27
- 2025-26 (anticipated): Total students = 35

Orchestra in New Fairfield

Current Elementary Student String Numbers (2024-25)

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
51	35	29

Current NFMS Student String Numbers (2024-25)

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
6	10	11

Moving Forward

- **Initiate an orchestra program at NFHS:** To address our current 8th grade students needs and bring back current high school students who may have been unable to play in past years.
- **Include middle school orchestra lessons for 6th-8th grade students:** To strengthen skill development and mirror the current band program at the middle school.
- **Ensure consistency of lessons for all 3rd-5th grade students:** To build foundational skills and success for students that can be brought forward in the middle and high school years.

The Benefits

Building a **sequential, grade 3–12 strings program** allows us to:

- Provide students with consistent access to high-quality instruction from elementary through high school.
- Mirror the current band & choir programs for equity across musical disciplines.
- Provide opportunities for collaboration between band, choir, and orchestra, enriching the overall music education experience for all students.
- Strengthen our music program when compared to other districts locally, in the state and nationally.

Next Steps

- **HS Orchestra Course Proposal** (*NFHS Program of Studies*)
- **One additional full-time orchestra teacher**
 - Allows us to hire a certified, high-quality teacher to transition our program to the high school and ensure staffing for lessons at the middle school.
 - Ensures all students across levels in the district (Grades 3-12) have access to orchestra lessons and playing in an ensemble. Access to lessons as well as ensemble opportunities ensures skill development to grow a strong program of young musicians.

Q & A

- **Is there space to accommodate expanding the NFPS Orchestra Program?**
 - The NFHS band and orchestra room will be scheduled collaboratively.
 - We continue to assess space for lessons and ensemble at NFMS per our space utilization study.
- **Will there be enough students moving forward?**
 - Current 8th grade orchestra students have indicated their interest in continuing to pursue orchestra next year and some current high school students (9-12) may also join.
 - Our enrollment in strings at NFES continues to grow.
- **Will the additional teacher have a full schedule?**
 - The additional staffing will provide for both HS orchestra and strings lessons across the MS and ES; both string teachers in the district will have a full schedule across the three buildings.
- **Do we have the resources/equipment to support a program at the High School?**
 - We continue to provide for music supplies in our district and school curriculum budgets and build instrument options. The PTO and FAPA Boosters have been wonderful partners as well.

Administration

Evaluation of Superintendent

It is the responsibility of the Board of Education to maintain and improve the quality of administration and instruction in the public school system. In this regard, the Board will formally evaluate the Superintendent each year in accordance with guidelines and criteria mutually determined and agreed to by the Board and the Superintendent.

Through the evaluation of the Superintendent, the Board will strive to accomplish the following:

1. Clarify for the Superintendent his/her role in the school system as seen by the Board.
2. Clarify for all Board members the role of the Superintendent in light of his/her job description and the immediate priorities among the responsibilities agreed upon by the Board and the Superintendent.
3. Board of Education members will make every effort to participate in the Superintendent evaluation process, including being present at the annual evaluation meeting. Only Board of Education members who attend the annual evaluation meeting can participate in the evaluation process.
4. Develop harmonious working relationships between the Board and the Superintendent.
5. Provide effective administrative leadership for the school system.

(cf. 4115 – Evaluation)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-151b Evaluation by superintendents of certain education personnel.
(amended by PA 04-137, An Act Concerning Teachers' Evaluations and
P.A. 12-116 An Act Concerning Educational Reform)

Policy adopted: March 1, 2007
Policy revised: December 6, 2012
Policy revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut

Administration

Evaluation of Administrators

Evaluations of certified staff below the rank of Superintendent shall be conducted in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education under Connecticut General Statutes 10-151b, as amended and such other guidelines as are mutually agreed upon by the Board and the “teachers’ and administrators’ representative” under the Teacher Negotiations Act. Further, claims of failure to follow such guidelines shall be subject to the grievance procedure in collective bargaining agreements negotiated subsequent to July 1, 2004.

Administrators will be evaluated annually. The annual evaluation will consist of one of three parts:

- A. Development, implementation and evaluation of annual performance objectives.
- B. Professional growth.
- C. Appraisal of fulfillment of responsibilities contained within applicable job description.

Performance objectives for administrators will contain the following minimum essentials:

- A. Procedures for achieving the district's goals and objectives.
- B. A statement of specific local, division, school or department objectives and procedures for achieving those objectives.
- C. Appraisal.
- D. Procedures for involving staff members in instructional decision making (where applicable).
- E. Procedures for involvement of the community in division, school, or department activities and decisions related to the division, school or department program (where applicable).
- F. Procedures for program improvement, monitoring and evaluation (where applicable).

Conferences will be scheduled with the Superintendent or designee in June or July each year to discuss and evaluate the preceding year's job performance and personal growth plans; to discuss tentative and final job performance and personal growth plans for the succeeding year; and to discuss and sign the Superintendent's or designee's written evaluation summary. The Superintendent may invite members of the Superintendent's administrative team to assist in reviewing and evaluating the job performance plan.

The annual evaluation will be placed in the administrator's permanent personnel file.

Regulation approved:

March 1, 2007

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regulation revised:

December 6, 2012

New Fairfield, Connecticut

Regulation reviewed:

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

Introduction

In order to graduate from New Fairfield High School a student must earn a minimum of 26 credits in grades 9 through 12 (unless exceptions have been made by a duly convened planning and placement team, or otherwise in accordance with C.G.S. section 10-221a) and must have met the credit distribution requirements. When students participate in the Senior Enrichment Experience (SEE) program, they will earn graduation credits for all courses in which they have earned a passing grade at the start of their involvement in the program. Students who earn a passing grade for college coursework at accredited universities may submit official transcripts to the high school principal for consideration for credit approval. Students must also meet three performance standards: English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. These standards define the areas of literacy that the New Fairfield Public School District feels all students should know and be able to do.

Credit Distribution Requirement for the Classes of 2019 – 2022:

• English	4 credits
• Mathematics	3 credits
• Social Studies	3 credits
	(including at least ½ credit in Civics or American Government)
• Science	3 credits
• Health/Physical Education	2 credits
• World Language	1 credit
• School and Community Service	.5 credit
• Personal Finance	.5 credit
• Fine/Applied Arts	2 credits*
• Capstone (including SEE Project)	1 credit
• Electives	6 credits

* One credit may be earned if a student takes two world languages for four (4) years.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Credit Distribution Requirement for the Class of 2023 – 2025: ~~and beyond:~~

- **Humanities** **9 credits**
 - English* *4 credits*
 - Social Studies* *3 credits*
 - *including 1 credit of United States History*
 - American Government* *.5 credit*
 - Fine & Performing Arts (FAPA)* *1 credit*
 - English, Social Studies, or FAPA** *.5 credit*
- **STEM** **9 credits**
 - Mathematics* *3 credits*
 - Science* *3 credits*
 - Career & Technical Education (CTE)* *1 credit*
 - Mathematics, Science, or CTE** *2 credits*
- **Physical Education & Health** **2 credits**
 - Physical Education & Wellness* *1 credit*
 - Health & Safety Education* *1 credit*
- **World Language** **1 credit**
- **Personal Finance** **.5 credit**
- **School & Community Service** **.5 credit**
- **Senior Enrichment Experience /** **1 credit**
 - Attributes of the Graduate* *NFPS Vision of the Learner*
- **Open Credits** **3 credits**

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

Credit Distribution Requirement for the Class of 2026 and beyond:

- **Humanities** **9 credits**
 - English* *4 credits*
 - Social Studies* *3 credits*
 - *including 1 credit of United States History*
 - American Government* *.5 credit*
 - Fine & Performing Arts (FAPA)* *1 credit*
 - English, Social Studies, or FAPA** *.5 credit*
 - **STEM** **9 credits**
 - Mathematics* *3 credits*
 - Science* *3 credits*
 - Career & Technical Education (CTE)* *1 credit*
 - Mathematics, Science, or CTE** *2 credits*
 - **Physical Education & Health** **2 credits**
 - Physical Education & Wellness* *1 credit*
 - Health & Safety Education* *1 credit*
 - **World Language** **1 credit**
 - **Personal Finance** **.5 credit**
- *To be applied towards credits required in Humanities or STEM requirements or as an elective credit.*
- **School & Community Service** **.5 credit**
 - **Senior Enrichment Experience /** **1 credit**
Attributes of the Graduate **NFPS Vision of the Learner**
 - **Open Credits** **3 credits** **To fulfill the total of 26 credits**

* If a student takes two world languages for four (4) years, one open credit in Humanities (English, Social Studies, or FAPA) or STEM (Mathematics, Science, or CTE) may be earned.

Per statute (C.G.S. 221a(f)) the determination of eligible credits is at the discretion of the Board of Education, provided the primary focus of the curriculum of eligible credits corresponds directly to the subject matter of the specified course requirements. The Board may permit a student to graduate during a period of expulsion if the Board determines the student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits. The graduation requirements shall apply to any student requiring special education except when the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) determines the requirement not to be appropriate.

A **credit is defined as** ~~shall consist of~~ not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or part of a credit toward high school graduation earned (1) at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or State Board of Education or regionally accredited, (2) through online coursework or (3) through a demonstration of mastery based on competency and performance standards, in accordance with guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Academic Advancement Program

The Board of Education permits students in grades eleven and twelve to substitute (1) achievement of a passing score on an existing nationally recognized examination, approved by the State Department of Education, or series of examinations approved by the State Board of Education, (2) a cumulative grade point average determined by the State Board of Education and (3) at least three letters of recommendation from school professionals (defined in 10-66dd), for the required high school graduation requirement. The State Board of Education will issue an Academic Advancement Program Certificate to any student successfully completing such program. The Academic Advancement Program Certificate shall be considered in the same manner as a high school diploma for purposes of determining eligibility of a student for enrollment at a Connecticut public institution of higher education.

All students must carry seven classes each semester. Seniors may carry six classes and petition for early release if they have 20 credits, are in good academic standing and have the approval of their parents/guardians.

Diplomas of Distinction

The Board of Education recognizes students who exceed the credit requirements for graduation by rewarding a Diploma of Distinction based on the requirements set forth below.

Beginning with the Class of 2023, Diplomas of Distinction may also be earned by students who complete the requirements of College and Career Pathways, as defined in the New Fairfield High School Program of Studies.

~~Credit Distribution Requirement for Diploma of Distinction for the Classes of 2019 – 2022:~~

- English 4 credits
- Math 4 credits
- Science 4 credits
- Social Studies 3 credits
- World Languages 3 credits (in the same language at high school)
- Health & P.E. 2 credits
- Fine/Applied Arts 2 credits*
- School & Community Service .5 credit
- Personal Finance .5 credit
- Capstone (including SEE Project) 1 credit
- Additional 3, 4, or 5 weight elective .5 credit (during the senior year)
- Must earn a total of 26 credits

* One credit may be earned if a student takes two world languages for four (4) years.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Credit Distribution Requirement for Diploma of Academic **Distinction:** ~~for the Class of 2023 and beyond:~~

- **Humanities** **9 credits**
 - English* 4 credits
 - Social Studies* 3 credits
 - *including 1 credit of United States History*
 - American Government* 0.5 credit
 - Fine & Performing Arts (FAPA)* 1 credit
 - English, Social Studies, or FAPA** .5 credit
- **STEM** **9 credits**
 - Mathematics* 4 credits
 - Science* 4 credits
 - Career & Technical Education (CTE)** 1 credit
- **Physical Education & Health** **2 credits**
 - Physical Education & Wellness* 1 credit
 - Health & Safety Education* 1 credit
- **World Language** **3 credits (in the same language)**
- **Personal Finance** **.5 credit**
 - *To be applied towards credits required in Humanities or STEM requirements or as an elective credit.*
- **School & Community Service** **.5 credit**
- **Senior Enrichment Experience /** **1 credit**
 - Attributes of the Graduate* **NFPS Vision of the Learner**
- **Open Credits** **To fulfill the total of 26 credits**
1 credit

* If a student takes two world languages for four (4) years, one open credit in Humanities (English, Social Studies, or FAPA) or CTE may be earned.

To receive a Diploma with Highest Distinction a student in addition to all of the above, must complete the following:

~~For the Class of 2021 and 2022:~~

~~Earn a score in the top band of the Next Generation Science Assessment; and earn a 1280* on the SAT or a 26 Composite Score on the ACT.~~

~~*Equivalent to scoring in the top band of the SAT EBRW and Math sections as defined by Connecticut State Department of Education.~~

~~The Diploma of Highest Distinction will not be available beyond the Class of 2022.~~

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Diplomas of Distinction in a College and Career Pathway: ~~for the Class of 2023 and beyond:~~

Students may earn a Diploma of Distinction in the following areas, to be designated as such on their official transcript:

Diploma of Allied Health Distinction
Diploma of Arts & Design Distinction

The requirements of College and Career Pathways shall be:

- Meeting the credit distribution requirements for graduation from New Fairfield High School
- Meeting the pathway-specific course requirements set forth in the New Fairfield High School Program of Studies, including a minimum of one course in which post-secondary credit may be earned
- Completion of 30 hours of work immersion in the college and career pathway area
- Participation in co-curricular activities as approved by the New Fairfield High School administration and school counseling office

FAFSA Requirement for Classes Graduating in 2027 and Thereafter

Students graduating in 2027 and beyond are required to have satisfied one of the following prior to graduation:

- (1) completed a FAFSA;
- (2) for students without legal immigration status, completed and submitted to a public institution of higher education an application for institutional financial aid; or
- (3) completed a waiver of completion of the FAFSA and/or financial aid application, as applicable, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, signed by the student's parent or guardian or signed by the student if the student is eighteen or older.

On and after March 15 of each school year, a principal or designee ~~, school counselor, teacher, or other certified educator~~ may complete the waiver on behalf of any student who has not satisfied the above requirements if such principal or designee ~~, school counselor, teacher, or other certified educator~~ affirms that they have made a good faith effort to contact the parent/guardian and ~~or~~ student about completion of such applications.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

District's Performance Standards

English Language Arts (ELA)

Definition:

Students should be able to communicate effectively in a variety of ways, both verbally and in writing. As part of this goal, students must demonstrate proficiency at reading a variety of materials and responding appropriately. This may include making connections between a variety of sources, using problem-solving strategies, and interpreting and evaluating information.

Objectives: The student will be able to:

- read closely and analytically to comprehend a range of increasingly complex literary and informational texts.
- produce effective and well-grounded writing for a range of purpose and audiences.
- employ effective speaking and listening skills for a range of purposes and audiences.
- engage in research/inquiry to investigate topics, and to analyze, integrate, and present information.

Assessment:

Students will take the Connecticut SAT School Day in Evidence-based Reading and Writing. If a student does not take the SAT, s/he must create a piece of writing that follows the Writing Process Model and produce a publishable, superior product. This writing sample will then be evaluated using a locally created assessment rubric.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

District's Performance Standards

English Language Arts (ELA) (continued)

Implementation:

Students will have numerous opportunities in all English/Language Arts and Social Studies classes to produce writing samples using the Writing Process Model.

Assistance:

For assistance, students may go to the Learning Center, National Honor Society Tutorial Service, and/or receive one-on-one consultation with a classroom teacher.

Mathematics

Definition:

Students should become mathematical problem solvers, learn to communicate mathematically, learn to reason mathematically, learn to value mathematics, and become confident in their ability to do mathematics. While it is still important for students to be able to calculate and manipulate mathematical symbols, the focus is on technology and application of knowledge and skills.

Objectives: The student will be able to:

- explain and apply mathematical concepts and interpret and carry out mathematical procedures with precision and fluency.
- solve a range of well-posed problems in pure and applied mathematics, making productive use of knowledge and problem-solving strategies.
- clearly and precisely construct viable arguments to support their own reasoning and to critique the reasoning of others.
- analyze complex, real-world scenarios and can construct and use mathematical models to interpret and solve problems.

Assessment:

Students will take the Connecticut SAT School Day. If a student does not take the SAT, s/he must meet one of the following criteria for the standard:

- Achieve a C+ or better in three math courses required for graduation, or
- Complete a performance-based learning assessment demonstrating the above skills.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

District's Performance Standards

Mathematics (continued)

Implementation:

Students will have numerous opportunities in all mathematics classes to complete performance-based learning assessment activities.

Assistance:

For assistance, students may go to the Learning Center, National Honor Society Tutorial Service, and/or receive one-on-one consultation with a classroom teacher.

Science

Definition:

To meet graduation requirements in science, the student will be able to master scientific methodology as a basis of inquiry for all problem solving and decision making challenges.

Objectives: The student will be able to:

- define a problem and identify dependent and independent variables.
- form a hypothesis after gathering information about the problem.
- design an experiment.
- collect data through quantitative and qualitative observation.
- use the data to support or disprove the hypothesis.
- use technology to present the data in accordance with meeting the district technology standard.

~~For the Class of 2020 and beyond:~~

Students will take the Next Generation Science Assessment. If a student does not take the Science State Mastery Assessment, s/he must meet one of the following criteria for the standard:

Assessment:

- Achieve a C+ or better in three science courses required for graduation, or
- Conduct a field-based research project, or
- Complete a science research project and presentation.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

Science (continued)

Implementation:

Students will have numerous opportunities in all science activities to complete projects using the scientific method.

Assistance:

It is strongly recommended that students who are working on a field-based research project or science research project take a fourth year of science in order to work with a science teacher for help with his/her project. Students producing a field-based research project or science research project will use the Learning Center for mentoring in the implementation of their project.

Special Circumstances

- Transfer students – Consideration will be given to a student who transfers into New Fairfield after the first three years of high school.
- Special Education students – The IEP will outline the expected performance standards for a student in special education.
- 504 students – Considerations will be given to modifications provided by the appropriate 504 plan.
- The Board of Education shall award a high school diploma to any World War II veteran or veteran of the Korean Hostilities or Vietnam Era veteran requesting such diploma who left high school for military service as defined in the statutes.
- The Board of Education shall award a high school diploma to any person who (1) withdrew from high school prior to graduation to work in a job that assisted the war effort during World War II, December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946, inclusive, (2) did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such work, and (3) has been a resident of the state for at least fifty (50) consecutive years.

Notification:

Of teachers:

In September of each school year, or as soon as the scores are available, the School Counseling Department will provide a list of juniors and seniors who have not met performance standards for graduation. This list will be sent to Department Heads of each specific subject area.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Notification:

Of students:

At the end of the year, the School Counseling Department will notify all juniors who have not met a performance standard for graduation. At the beginning of each school year, the School Counseling Department will notify seniors as to their status relative to the performance standard requirements for graduation. They will include the options available for the student. Successful completion of a performance standard will be included on the final report period of the junior year or on the first report period it is met in the senior year.

Of parent/guardian(s):

At the beginning of each school year, the School Counseling Department will notify, in writing, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of any senior who has not yet met one or more of the performance standards for graduation. Successful completion of a performance standard will be included on the final report period of the junior year or the first report period it is met in the senior year.

Appeals

- Students should submit their appeal to the Principal within 20 days of receiving their score. The appeal should include the rubric along with a statement explaining why the student feels the score is incorrect. An independent assessor will score the performance standard.
- The Chief Academic Officer or his/her designee will name the independent assessor.
- The outcome of this assessment will be sent to the Principal who will share this information with the student and parent(s)/guardian(s).

Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy

~~Commencing with the graduating class of 2018, and for each graduating class thereafter, the~~
The Board of Education, utilizing criteria established by the State Board of Education, may/shall affix the “Connecticut State Seal of Biliteracy” to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in English and one or more foreign languages. “Foreign language” means a world language other than English and includes American Sign Language and any other language spoken by a ~~federally recognized~~ Native American tribe. The Board of Education shall include on such student’s transcript a designation that the student received the “Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy.”

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Student Success Plans

The Board shall create a student success plan for each enrolled student, beginning in grade six. Such plan shall include a student's career and academic choices in grades six to twelve, inclusive. Beginning in grade six, such student success plan shall provide evidence of career exploration in each grade including, but not limited to, careers in manufacturing. The Board shall utilize the Department of Education's issued and revised guidance regarding changes to such student's success plan. In creating such student success plan, consideration shall be given to career and academic choices in computer science, science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

~~On or after July 1, 2021, the student success plan shall be created, if possible, in collaboration with each student and the student's parent/guardian. On or after July 1, 2022, the~~

The student success plan shall, to the extent that it does not conflict with the career choices of the student or his/her parent/guardian, include an academic plan that is in compliance with the Board's challenging curriculum policy.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-5 State high school diploma; "honors diploma." Payment of fees; exceptions. (as amended by PA 17-29)

10-5c Board examination series pilot program. Issuance of certificate (as amended by P.A. 13-247 and P.A. 14-230).

10-14n Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results.

10-16(1) Graduation exercises. (As amended by P.A. 96-108, An Act Concerning Student Use of Telecommunication Devices and the Appeals Establishment of Graduation Dates).

10-221a High school graduation requirements as amended by P.A. 08-138, P.A. 11-135, An Act Concerning Implementation Dates for Secondary School Reform, P.A. 13-57, An Act Concerning Honorary Diplomas for Vietnam Veterans, P.A. 13-122, An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to the Education Statutes and P.A. 13-247, Budget Implementer Bill, P.A. 15-237, An Act Concerning High School Graduation and P.A. 16-4(SS), section 310, P.A. 17-42, An Act Concerning Revisions to the High School Graduation Requirements, P.A. 17-29, An Act Concerning Connecticut's Seal of Biliteracy, P.A. 19-58 An Act Promoting Careers in Manufacturing to Public School Students and P.A. 21-199 Section 4, An Act Concerning Various Revisions to the Education Statutes.

P.A. 13-108, An Act Unleashing Innovation in Connecticut Schools.

P.A. 13-247, An Act Implementing Provisions of the State Budget.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements (continued)

Policy adopted: December 2, 2004
Policy revised: December 7, 2006
Policy revised: April 3, 2008
Policy revised: November 6, 2008
Policy revised: November 17, 2011
Policy revised: March 6, 2014
Policy revised: October 30, 2014
Policy revised: April 21, 2015
Policy revised: March 3, 2016
Policy revised: November 2, 2016
Policy revised: March 2, 2017
Policy revised: June 15, 2017
Policy revised: March 1, 2018
Policy revised: March 7, 2019
Policy revised: May 6, 2021
Policy revised: January 6, 2022
Policy revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut

MISSION STATEMENT

New Fairfield High School strives to provide a safe educational environment in which students *respect* the right for all to become *engaged* learners and responsible citizens who *belong, excel* and *lead* within a diverse society and changing world.

CORE VALUES & BELIEFS STATEMENT

New Fairfield High School is committed to all students achieving high academic standards and personal wellness, enabling continuous growth through authentic, flexible pathways. By prioritizing connectedness and compassion, we empower all members of our learning community to take ownership of our individual and collective development as we foster the *Attributes of the Graduate* **VISION of the Learner.**

ATTRIBUTES of the GRADUATE VISION of the LEARNER

(21st Century Learning Expectations)

DELETE THIS CHART

<u>Critical Thinker</u>	<u>Problem Solver</u>	<u>Effective Communicator</u>	<u>Productive Citizen</u>
<i>Improves the quality of understanding by skillfully analyzing, assessing, and constructing new knowledge within different contexts.</i>	<i>Engages in the process and act of finding the best solution(s) to a difficult or complex issue.</i>	<i>Uses a variety of methods to communicate persuasively and effectively, including written, spoken, visual, or audio discourse, appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.</i>	<i>Actively participates, demonstrates, and contributes in the responsibilities related to classroom, community, state, national and global issues.</i>
A. Synthesize and make connections through analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of collected information, including prior knowledge from multiple disciplines.	A. Observe and evaluate situations in order to define problems and specify successful outcomes.	A. Organize and express thoughts and ideas in a concise and purposeful manner, supported by spoken and textual evidence and logic.	A. Demonstrate a commitment to personal and community health and wellness.
B. Construct, justify, and refute arguments using sound reasoning and evidence to draw conclusions.	B. Conduct background research to collect artifacts/information related to problem.	B. Use appropriate language and mode(s) of communication for the given audience, context and purpose.	B. Listen to, interact with and respect the varying perspectives of others.
C. Engage in the process of analyzing, reconsidering, and questioning understandings by considering different perspectives, biases, and opinions within a broad context of issues.	C. Generate possible solutions and use evidence to choose a solution(s).	C. Integrate and synthesize information gathered from multiple sources including active speaking and listening.	C. Recognize and demonstrate ethical values and behavior in both the academic environment and the greater communities.
	D. Develop and carry out a plan to implement the chosen solution(s).	D. Use the conventions of standard English language, including grammar, syntax, punctuation, and vocabulary.	D. Demonstrate digital responsibility appropriate to task.
	E. Evaluate the best solution and persevere in attempting to solve challenging problems.		E. Volunteer to enhance community life.

ADD THIS CHART

<p>Knowledgeable Scholars</p> 	<p>Talented Communicators</p> 	<p>Critical & Creative Thinkers</p> 	<p>Engaged Global Citizens</p> 	<p>Self-determined & Self-reliant Individuals</p> 
<p>Pursue their interests and make meaning 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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Access, evaluate and apply information to solve problems, pursue their curiosities and make decisions. They will grow their creativity through experiences within the fine and performing arts which will further support their ability to think critically and creatively.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>

It is the goal of New Fairfield High School to develop multiple valid and reliable assessments along with the flexible pathways necessary for students to demonstrate ~~the Attributes of the Graduate~~ **the Vision of the Learner**. At this time, attaining ~~the Attributes of the Graduate~~ **the Vision of the Learner** is not a graduation requirement. However, it is the intention of the Board of Education to require attaining ~~the Attributes of the Graduate~~ **the Vision of the Learner** prior to graduation in the future.

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

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

This form must be completed and submitted for all in-kind and monetary donations to a school or the district. Donations valued at \$1,000 or more require BOE approval before acceptance of the donation or depositing of funds. A letter of acceptance will be sent by the appropriate staff member with a copy to the superintendent's office.

DATE: January 3, 2025

SCHOOL: New Fairfield High School

TYPE OF DONATION AND QUANTITY: Monetary - \$1,800

CONDITION/AGE OF ITEM DONATED: N/A

DONOR: New Fairfield Community Thrift Shop, Inc.

SCHOOL'S PLAN FOR USE OF ITEM(S): Field trip to France for French students, including \$207 per family for required insurance reimbursement, \$760 for transportation, \$67 per student towards tips for tour guides

APPROXIMATE VALUE: \$1,800

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.