Board of Education Regular Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 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. **ELECTION OF NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS**

IV. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

IV.A. November 6, 2025 - Regular

V. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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.B.1. *The Anxious Generation* Update

VII.C. Student Representatives' Report

VII.D. Committee Reports

VII.D.1. Curriculum

VII.D.2. Policy *(Samantha Mannion)*

VII.D.3. Special Education Ad Hoc *(Kim LaTourette)*

VII.E. Liaison Reports

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

VII.E.2. Parks and Recreation Committee *(K. LaTourette, G. Flanagan)*

VIII. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

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

VIII.B. EduPlanet Launch

VIII.C. Baseball Field Recognition

VIII.D. Board of Education Policy *(Second Reading)*

VIII.D.1. Policy 1321.2 – Public Videotaping of Educational Activity

VIII.E. Board of Education Policies *(First Reading)*

VIII.E.1. Bylaw 9311 – Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies

VIII.E.2. Bylaw 9312 – Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Bylaws

VIII.E.3. Bylaw 9313 – Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Administrative Regulations

IX. **ACTION ITEMS**

IX.A. Personnel Report

IX.B. Board of Education 2026 Regular Meeting Dates

IX.C. NFEA Retirement Incentive

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. **ADJOURNMENT**

NEW FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

MINUTES – November 6, 2025

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

ABSENT: Stephanie Strazza

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Kristine Woleck, High School Principal James D'Amico, Middle School Principal Karen Gruetzner, Elementary School Principal Allyson Story, Director of Business and Operations Carrie DePuy, Grades 6-12 STEM Curriculum Instructional Leader Jean Gephart, and BOF member John Arizzi

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. October 16, 2025 - regular meeting - Approved by consensus.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Approved by consensus

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Maureen Kenny thanked everyone who ran for the BOE and congratulated the winners. She thanked everyone for volunteering their time. She noted that the play "Clue" at the high school was fantastic. She also spoke of safety concerns with the bus lot at the high school.

Jennifer Pappas spoke of receiving a phone call about walking around the high school during the Election Day voting hours.

Eileen Hacaj spoke of concerns with residents walking through the high school on Election Day without permission.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Chairman's Report - Dominic Cipollone thanked the community for re-electing him and his fellow BOE members. He encouraged everyone to act civilly and in the best interests of the students.

B. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Kenneth Craw spoke of the following:

- Thanked Dr. Woleck for organizing a great Professional Development Day held on Election Day.
- Veterans' Day will be celebrated during school on Tuesday, November 11th.
- There will be coffee and conversations for the book *The Anxious Generation* on Friday, November 14th at 9:15 a.m. at the Senior Center. - Open to the public
- Friday, November 21st at the high school - Open only to families of students.
- Tuesday, December 2nd 6:30 p.m. - Open to the public.

C. Student Representative Report

Senior Representative Ella Skogstrom spoke of the following:

- The play "Clue" at the high school was very successful.
- November 11th is the deadline for seniors to submit their bios for the yearbook.
- November 12th is the last day for seniors to submit name changes for their diplomas.
- Family ads for the yearbook are due on January 9th.

- AP contracts are due by November 10th. There is a $40 late fee if not submitted on time.
- The National Honor Society will hold a blood drive in the near future.
- The National Honor Society is offering peer tutoring by request.

Junior Representative Hailey Lafaro spoke of the following:

- The National Honor Society inducted 33 students recently.
- The NFHS World Language and Beta Club held a Fall Vendor Craft fair on November 1st.
- Information about the Junior Class trip to Washington, DC is forthcoming.
- DECA is hosting a food drive for the New Fairfield Food pantry.
- There will be a Powder Puff Football game between the Junior and Senior girls in memory of Alumni Thomas Ford to promote substance abuse awareness and to support a scholarship.
- The yearbooks will be on sale until January 1st.

D. Committee Reports

1. Business Operations/Resource Management - Greg Flanagan noted that this subcommittee met on November 6th. He noted that expenses are on track with the exception of the Special Education tuition expenses which has an overage of approximately $800,000. He spoke of internal controls to monitor special education expenses. Dr. Craw noted that some of this overage is due to a slight uptick in out placements.

2. Curriculum - Dominic Cipollone spoke of how Artificial Intelligence affects curriculum and K-12 digital literacy tools. Sue Huwer spoke of the importance of teaching keyboarding in the district.

3. Policy - Samantha Mannion noted that two policies were tabled at the subcommittee meeting. Policy 1321.2 is on for tonight's meeting for First Reading.

E. Liaison Reports

1. Board of Finance - Ed Sbordone noted that the BOE had two subcommittee meetings recently: The Purchasing and Disbursement Subcommittee and the Medical subcommittee both met on Oct 20th. The BOF Regular monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, October 22nd.

Medical Update

The monthly budget for Medical is approximately $697,000. The net claims and fees for July were slightly under budget at $671,000. The net claims and fees for August and September were $452,000 and $431,000 respectively. It was noted that prescriptions, outpatient care, and office plans were higher than usual, but the rest of the report looked good.

Town Treasurer Terry Friedman explained the proposed policy for the Medical Reserve Fund to the subcommittee and noted that this proposed policy suggests that if the projected Medical Reserve Fund is expected to be below 20% of the current year's projected claims, at least 80% of the prior year's net remaining budget surplus, or the amount needed to fully restore the reserve to reach the 20% objective must be recommended by the Board of Finance to be allocated via appropriation from the Unassigned General Fund Balance to restore the Medical Reserve Fund. There was lengthy discussion among the BOF members about the goal of this draft policy and specifically the requirement of using 80% of the net budget surplus. A motion was made to adopt the Medical Reserve Fund policy as amended and to attach a Memorandum of Understanding to explain the implementation. This motion did not pass at the BOF meeting.

Purchasing and Procurement Policy Subcommittee

This subcommittee met on October 20th. They discussed the proposed policy draft and there were minor edits made at the meeting to make sure it was easily understood. Clarifications were made to the bid process. It was decided that the Finance Director will review and edit the document and then send to the BOE, BOS and ultimately to the BOF.

The BOF also discussed budget concerns for 2026-2027 and there were no updates at this time. The calendar for the 2026 meetings will be voted on at the next meeting on Wednesday, November 19th.

2. Parks and Rec Commission - Kimberly LaTourette noted that the Parks and Rec Commission met on October 20th and discussed the following:

- The fence at Memorial Field was fixed.
- There was a bid received for the irrigation system at Komlo Field.
- Minimum wage will increase in January 2026 from $16.35 to $16.94 and will affect summer wages. It was decided to keep the same formula as last year regarding increases for returning employees.

- The boards at the docks are being replaced.
- There was a discussion of who is responsible for the upkeep of the snack shack at Marty Morgan Field.
- There will be a water ski show before the Boat Parade on July 10th.
- Upcoming events include the Turkey Run on Sunday, November 23rd and Santa's Workshop on Saturday, November 29th.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Director of Business and Operations Carrie DePuy noted that playground has been fixed and is now open. Sunshades that were donated by the PTO are being installed.

B. K-12 Science Curriculum Renewal

Dr. Kris Woleck and Jean Gephart gave a brief presentation of the curriculum design and the guiding principles for Science for the entire district. They spoke of the framework for both teachers and students and how this model coincides with Next Generation Science Standards.

C. NESDEC Enrollment Projections

Dr. Craw spoke of enrollment projections based on October 1st enrollment that help to guide the district with planning and budgeting. He noted that New England School Development Council is extremely accurate with predicting enrollment. It was noted that the estimate for kindergarten students for 2026-2027 is expected to increase for that particular year.

D. Board of Education 2026 Regular Meeting Dates

The Board discussed the possibility of reducing the number of regular meeting dates for the year. The calendar will be voted on in the near future.

E. Board of Education Policies *(First Reading)*

1. Policy 1321.2 - Public Videotaping of Educational Activity

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 October 29, 2025, as recommended by the administration. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion.
IN FAVOR: Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

B. New Fairfield Public Schools 2026-2027 Calendar

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2026-27 school calendar as presented. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

C. Board of Education Policies

MOTION: Samantha Mannion made a motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the following Board of Education policies. Amy Johnson seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

1. Policy 5131.1 - Bus Contract
2. Policy 5118.2 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children
3. Policy 5144.12 - Challenging Behavior Response Policy

D. Acceptance of Donation

1. New Fairfield Diamond Club

MOTION: Greg Flanagan made a motion to recommend to the full Board to accept with gratitude the New Fairfield Baseball Club donation of $1,500 to purchase clay for the varsity softball field. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

2. New Fairfield High School Class of 2025

MOTION: Kimberly LaTourette made a motion to recommend to the full Board to accept with gratitude the New Fairfield High School Class of 2025 donation of $4,510 to purchase patio furniture for NF High School. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

E. Ratification of the Agreement between the New Fairfield Board of Education and the New Fairfield Paraeducators of CSEA, Chapter 141 SEIU Local 2001, CTW - July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2029

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Members of the Board congratulated newly elected members to all the Town Boards and Commissions. Samantha Mannion thanked the community for their votes.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING DOCUMENTS RELATED TO PARAEDUCATORS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

MOTION: Greg Flanagan made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing documents related to paraeducators contract negotiations and to invite Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ken Craw and Director of Business and Operations Carrie DePuy into the Executive Session. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

MOTION: Greg Flanagan made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:48 p.m. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board to ratify the Agreement between the New Fairfield Board of Education and the New Fairfield Paraeducators of CSEA, Chapter 141 SEIU Local 2001, CTW - July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2029, and to authorize Kimberly LaTourette to sign the agreement. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

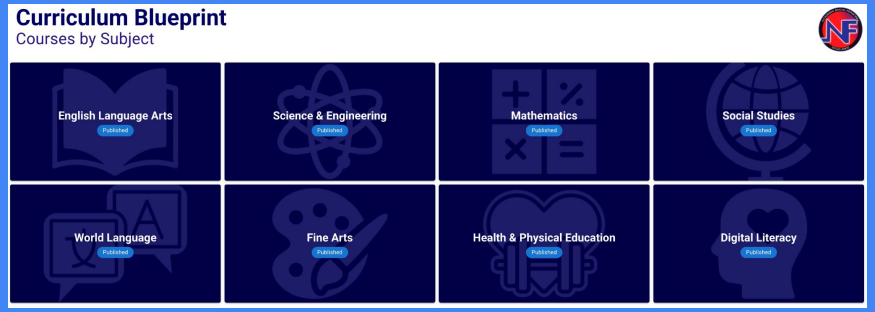
XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dominic Cipollone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Greg Flanagan seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, and Ed Sbordone

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos

Launching the NFPS Curriculum Blueprint

New Fairfield Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
December 4, 2025



New Fairfield Public Schools
Academic, Social and Personal Excellence

EXPLORE SCHOOLS TRANSLATE

OUR DISTRICT QUICK LINKS FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS BOARD OF EDUCATION MORE

BUDGET INFORMATION
TEACHING & LEARNING
NOTICES

BOE Policies
Calendars



Frozen, presented by the NF JR Rebel Players



Teaching & Learning

- NFPS Vision of a Learner +
- Curriculum +
- Instruction +
- Assessment +
- Supports for Learning +

The Mission of the New Fairfield Public Schools is to engage students, staff, and the community in a partnership to provide a collaborative, innovative, encouraging and safe environment where all members take an active role in supporting each other's learning while also helping students pursue their own passions.

Through our Teaching & Learning pages, you can find information about New Fairfield Public School's *Vision of a Learner*, curriculum, instruction, and assessment. You will find an overview of K - 12 curricula and learn about ways we assess students. You can also read about our instructional delivery model, intervention process and special programming to ensure that all students reach their fullest potential.

NFPS Curriculum Blueprint



Curriculum Blueprint

Courses by Subject

English Language Arts

Science & Engineering

Select page or grade level

Science and Engineering Overview | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12

Mathematics

Social Studies

World Language

Fine Arts

Health & Physical Education

Career & Technical Education

Philosophy

We believe that through the study of science and engineering, students become knowledgeable citizens who understand real-world phenomena and current events and are capable of making informed decisions. A high-quality education in science develops students' understanding of scientific principles and fosters their curiosity and skills through questioning, exploration, experimentation, and analysis.

Science classrooms must be safe and supportive environments that nurture students' ability to take risks and overcome failure, adopting a growth mindset. Instruction must lead students to explore engaging phenomena through inquiry, modeling, experimentation, and collaboration in order for them to gain knowledge of scientific principles and acquire the skills of problem-solving, evaluating claims, and providing relevant, supporting evidence of their thinking.

To meet the needs of every student, we must provide a welcoming environment that reaches students of all abilities through differentiated instruction, assessment and student expression.

Transfer Goals

Students will use their learning to:

- Question and seek answers as they make sense of real-world phenomena.
- Model processes and systems from multiple perspectives for understanding and communication to others



Science - Grade 8

In **MS Science 8: Exploring Forces, Energy, and Earth's Systems,** students become scientific investigators, exploring fundamental questions about the world through five interconnected units.

Students dive into collision physics and safety engineering, investigate heat transfer and matter behavior, examine chemical reactions and energy use, analyze weather and climate patterns, and explore human impact on climate change.

Through authentic scientific practices, including **experimentation, mathematical modeling, data analysis, and engineering design**, students develop both a deep understanding of science and practical problem-solving skills that bridge classroom learning with real-world phenomena and today's most pressing global challenges.

Units



Unit 1: Forces, Motion, and Energy in Action

In Unit 1: Forces, Motion, and Energy in Action, students investigate "Why do some collisions cause more damage than others?" by exploring Newton's Laws and energy principles through real-world collision analysis, hands-on experiments, and mathematical calculations. Building on their 6th-grade foundation, students use simulations, force diagrams, and laboratory investigations to understand how forces affect motion and how energy transfers during collisions. The unit culminates in an engineering design challenge where students apply their knowledge to create protective devices, connecting scientific principles to real-world safety solutions and preparing them for future units on heat transfer and particle motion.

VIEW

Unit 2: Heat and Physical Changes



Students delve into the invisible world of particles and energy through hands-on experiments, measuring density, modeling particle behavior in different states of matter, and investigating how heat is transferred through conduction, convection, and radiation. Using hot air balloon demonstrations as their central phenomenon, students conduct laboratory work involving heating and cooling experiments, mathematical calculations of density changes, and create scientific models to build understanding of how particles behave when thermal energy is added or removed and how this affects the properties of matter. This phenomenon-based learning approach helps students understand fundamental concepts, such as particle motion, the distinction between heat and temperature, and energy transfer, which apply to numerous real-world situations, including weather patterns, cooking, engineering, and climate science. As they construct scientific explanations supported by evidence and data, students develop critical thinking skills. The energy transfer concepts learned in this unit provide the foundation for upcoming investigations into chemical reactions and how heat drives changes in matter.



Forces, Motion, and Energy in Action

Unit Description

Unit 1: Forces, Motion, and Energy in Action

n Unit 1: Forces, Motion, and Energy in Action, students investigate "Why do some collisions cause more damage than others?" by exploring Newton's Laws and energy principles through real-world collision analysis, hands-on experiments, and mathematical calculations. Building on their 6th-grade foundation, students use simulations, force diagrams, and laboratory investigations to understand how forces affect motion and how energy transfers during collisions. The unit culminates in an engineering design challenge where students apply their knowledge to create protective devices, connecting scientific principles to real-world safety solutions and preparing them for future units on heat transfer and particle motion.

Stage 1: Learning Goals

Established Goals

Standards

Next Generation Science Standards

Performance Expectations: Middle School Physical Sciences

- Apply Newton's Third Law to design a solution to a problem involving the motion of two colliding objects. *(MS-PS2-1)*
- Plan an investigation to provide evidence that the change in an object's motion depends on the sum of the forces on the object and the mass of the object. *(MS-PS2-2)*
- Construct and interpret graphical displays of data to describe the relationships of kinetic energy to the mass of an object and to the speed of an object. *(MS-PS3-1)*
- Construct, use, and present arguments to support the claim that when the kinetic energy of an object changes, energy is

Transfer

Long-Term Transfer Goals

What kinds of long-term, independent accomplishments are desired? Students will be able to independently use their learning to...

- Students will use their learning to engage in innovative thinking and design processes that can lead to solutions for complex problems in our world. *(T1)*

Meaning

Understandings

What specifically do you want students to understand? What inferences should they make? Students will understand that...

- Forces and motion are interconnected, and changes in motion depend on the magnitude, direction, and interaction of forces, as well as the mass and speed of the

Essential Questions

What thought-provoking questions will foster inquiry, meaning making, and transfer? Students will keep considering...

- How do balanced and unbalanced forces affect the motion of objects, and what patterns can we observe in their interactions? *(Q1)*



Curriculum

NFHS Program of Studies +

The Role of Curriculum

We are committed to providing all students the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. Clearly articulated curriculum is a systematic way to ensure that teachers provide students with equitable access to standards and key content within and across grade levels. District curriculum provides a cohesive instructional framework that supports student growth and development within the discipline and towards our mission and Vision of a Learner.

The Curriculum Blueprint link will be "live" the week of January 5th.

NFPS Curriculum Blueprint →

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812
Phone: 203 312-5770 www.newfairfieldschools.org

Kenneth G. Craw, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

December 4, 2025

Re: Baseball Field Naming Request

Dear New Fairfield Board of Education Members,

Introduction
There is an information item on tonight's agenda regarding the pending request to name the NFHS Baseball Field in honor of former NFHS baseball coach Mike Garbowski. I would like to provide you with additional information and outline several options for your consideration consistent with Policy 7000 that was revised and approved by the Board on June 5, 2025.

In evaluating the request to name the NFHS Baseball Field after former coach Mike Garbowski, the Board may consider the below options. Each option is supported by Board Policy 7000(d)(3) and has clear precedent in the district's past practice. As your advisor, I want to clearly outline the available options, which are listed in no particular order, for evaluating and resolving the naming request.

Board Options for Responding to the Naming Request

Option 1: Hall of Honor Nomination
Policy 7000(d)(3) designates the Hall of Honor as *"the preferred forum to honor individuals and groups who have made significant contributions to the school community."* This route has longstanding precedent: Over the years, many individuals (39) have been recognized through induction into the Hall of Honor for their impact on New Fairfield Athletics. Under this option, the request would be encouraged to proceed as a Hall of Honor nomination rather than a facility naming.

Note 1: Mike Garbowski is not currently in the Hall of Honor; however, his son, Joe Garbowski; former NFHS baseball player and current NFHS baseball coach, was inducted into the Hall of Honor in the early 2000s..

Option 2: Name the NFHS Baseball Field After Mike Garbowski
Policy 7000(d)(3) affirms that naming school facilities is within the Board's prerogative when the Board determines *the need and appropriateness of doing so, establishes guidelines, and seeks community input."*
This option also has precedent. For example, Marty Morgan Field was named to honor the accomplishments of the NFHS lacrosse coach, demonstrating that the Board has previously

chosen to name outdoor athletic facilities for individuals who have made extraordinary contributions.

Note 2: If the Board selects this option, you will need to determine whether the naming recognizes Mike Garbowski alone, or both Mike and Joe Garbowski, the current coach.

Option 3: Approve a Recognition Plaque (Policy 7000(d)(3)

Policy 7000(d)(3) states that *"no plaques, signs or memorials…shall be placed in or on any school facility without the recommendation of the Superintendent and the approval of the Board."* This pathway also has clear precedent. For example, a plaque at the NFHS Stadium Field recognizes longtime educator and football coach John Zinser, demonstrating the Board's use of plaques to honor individuals without naming facilities.

Note 3: Under this option, the Board may approve a plaque recognizing Mike Garbowski's service and contributions, to be placed at an appropriate location near the baseball field.

Additional Background Information Regarding Donations and Facilities Naming

Policy 9000(d)(3) also states that *"if the Board chooses to recognize a major donor in its naming of the facilities, the Board will incur no obligation to the donor beyond the agreed upon recognition."* While this is not the avenue being sought in the current request, the District has precedent for this approach. John John Pendergast Field (JJP), the turf "box field" located behind the Marty Morgan Field, was built in 2017 entirely through taxpayer donations made in memory of John John Pendergast.

In accordance with the terms established at the time, the field's ongoing maintenance and upkeep are funded through a separate field-fees account. The Board of Education is not responsible for funding the replacement of the turf. If the reserve account lacks sufficient funds to cover turf replacement, it is understood that the field will not be replaced using Board of Education funding.

Conclusion

At tonight's meeting, the Board's role is to review these options, ask any clarifying questions and determine whether there is a consensus on a preferred direction. No action is required this evening. Should the Board wish to proceed with one of the options, formal action can be scheduled for an upcoming Board of Education meeting, consistent with Policy 7000 and standard Board procedure.

Sincerely,



Kenneth G. Craw, Ed. D.

Community Relations

Public Videotaping ~~of Educational Activity~~

The Board of Education (Board) hereby establishes limits on the use of recording equipment in order to minimize disruption and protect instructional time essential to improving student achievement. Any recording activity, even activity permitted under this policy, will be prohibited if the activity creates a disruption to the education process, or creates a safety and security risk. If an individual is unsure whether videotaping is permitted in a particular situation, they are encouraged to consult with a building administrator in advance.

Definitions

Visual Recording*:* Registering visual images on film, tape, digitally or by other mechanical or electronic means.

Audio Recording*:* Registering sounds on tape, digitally or by other mechanical or electronic means.

Outside Entity: Any individual, group, organization or corporation other than the administration, officers, staff or students of the District or individuals authorized to act on behalf of the District.

Recording by Outside Entities

The Board prohibits the use of video or audio recording equipment on District property or at District activities by outside entities without permission from the Superintendent or his/her designee unless authorized by law.

This prohibition shall not apply to:

1. Performances or activities to which the general public is invited, such as athletic competitions, concerts and plays.
2. Recording of staff for the sole purpose of professional training or development.
3. Open meetings of the Board or committees appointed by or at the direction of the Board.
4. Outside entities, including student-initiated groups, using or renting District facilities in accordance with Board policies and established administrative procedures.

Recording by District Personnel

The District may make audio or visual recordings to provide security, to maintain order, for professional staff development use or for other purposes related to furthering the educational mission of the District. This may include the use of video equipment in school buildings and on District transportation. No recording equipment will be placed in areas of the building where the occupant would have a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as restroom facilities or locker rooms. Recordings by and on behalf of District personnel that include students and are considered student records will be maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws.

Community Relations

Public Videotaping ~~of Educational Activity~~ (continued)

Recording by Students

The District limits the use of video or audio recording equipment on District property or at District activities by students unless:

1. Required by a school-sponsored class or activity.
2. At performances or activities to which the general public is invited such as athletic competitions, concerts and plays.
3. At open meetings of the Board of Education or committees appointed by or at the direction of the Board.
4. As otherwise permitted by the Building Principal or classroom teacher.

Recording of Meetings

The Board of Education recognizes a parent's/guardian's right to record a PPT meeting held pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The Board prohibits the use of audio, video, or other recording devices at other meetings held between District employees and parents/guardians. Exceptions to this prohibition will be made only in accordance with Board policy and law. Requests for such exceptions must be made within a reasonable period of time prior to the scheduled meetings. This prohibition does not apply to conversations held within view of District security cameras or devices.

(cf. 1112 – News/Media Relationships)
(cf. 1112.6 – Video Taping of Staff/Students)
(cf. 5125 – Student Records; Confidentiality)
(cf. 5131.11 – Video Cameras on School Buses)
(cf. 5131.111 – Video Surveillance)
(cf. 9320 – Board Meetings)
(cf. 9322 – Public and Executive Sessions)
(cf. 9326 – Taping of Meetings)

Legal Reference: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§1400-1487, 34 C.F.R. Part 300

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g 34 C.F.R. Part 99

Policy adopted: November 17, 2011
Policy amended: June 21, 2018
Policy revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut

Bylaws of the Board

Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies

The New Fairfield Board of Education considers policy development its chief function, along with periodic review through its policies. It is through the development and adoption of written policies that the Board shall exercise its leadership in the operation of the school system; and it is through study and evaluation of reports concerning the execution of its written policies that the Board shall exercise its control over school operations.

It is the intent of the Board to develop policies and put them in writing so that they serve as guidelines and goals for the successful and efficient functioning of the public schools.

Written policies serve as guidelines for the discretionary actions of all district employees and as a source of information and guidance for all persons who are interested in, and affected by, the district schools.

Changes in needs, conditions, purposes, and objectives will require revisions, deletions, and additions to the policies of present and future Boards. Thus policy development is an ongoing process.

Policy Adoption

Adoption of new policies and changing existing policies are solely the responsibility of the Board.

Policies will, barring emergencies, be adopted or amended after consideration ~~for at least thirty days~~ for not less than three (3) weeks by the Board of Education. The time between Board meetings shall permit further study, and also provide an opportunity for interested parties to be heard on the matter. Regarding matters of unusual urgency, the Board may waive the above procedures and take immediate action to adopt or revise existing policies. When such immediate action is necessary, the Superintendent shall inform interested groups or individuals as to the reasons for the waiver for this procedure.

The agenda and minutes shall be marked to indicate policy matters. The formal adoption of policies shall be by majority vote of the Board of Education in attendance and the action shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board of Education. Only those written statements so adopted and so recorded shall be regarded as official policy.

Bylaws of the Board

Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies (continued)

Policy Dissemination

The Superintendent is directed to establish and maintain an orderly plan for making pertinent policies of the Board known to staff members, students, and others affected by them.

The Superintendent shall arrange to disseminate to staff members all new policies that affect them and their work and shall also provide easy access to an up-to-date policy collection for all employees of the school system and members of the Board.

The Board's policy manual shall be considered a public record and shall be open for inspection at the Board offices.

Reference: Robert's Rules of Order, Revised

Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 23, 1999
Bylaw readopted: May 3, 2007
Bylaw revised: April 1, 2021
Bylaw revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut

Bylaws of the Board

Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Bylaws

Proposed new bylaws and suggested amendments to or revision of existing bylaws must be adopted by a majority vote of all members of the Board of Education. This adoption will usually occur during the second of two regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Education, not less than three (3) weeks apart ~~that four (4) weeks apart~~ in the calls for which meeting the proposed additions, amendments, or revisions shall have been described in writing.

Reference: Robert's Rules of Order

Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 23, 1999
Bylaw readopted: May 3, 2007
Bylaw revised: April 1, 2021
Bylaw revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut

Bylaws of the Board

Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Administrative Regulations

The Board of Education does not adopt administrative regulations unless specifically required to do so by law, or unless requested to do so by the Superintendent. Adoption and amendment of such Board of Education-adopted regulations shall be by the same procedure as that specified for policies in 9311.

The Board of Education reserves the right to review and direct revisions of administrative regulations should they, in the Board of Education's judgment, be inconsistent with the policies adopted by the Board of Education.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 23, 1999
Bylaw readopted: May 3, 2007
Bylaw reviewed: April 1, 2021
Bylaw reviewed:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut

New Fairfield Board of Education
3 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

NEW FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS
2026

January 15	June 4
February 5	June 11
March 5	August 20 - Remote
March 19 - Remote	September 17
April 6* *(*This meeting occurs on the first Monday of April.)*	October 15
May 7	November 5
May 21 - Remote	December 3

The Board of Education is scheduled to meet at 7:00 p.m. on a regular basis. There are no meetings scheduled for July. Unless otherwise posted, all meetings will be held in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will change to remote and a virtual link will be provided on our website and distributed.

New Fairfield Board of Education
3 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

SPECIAL EDUCATION AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE
SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS
2026

February 5

April 6*
*(*This meeting occurs on the first Monday of April.)*

June 4

October 1 - Remote

December 3

The Special Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 p.m. prior to the first regular Board of Education meeting of the month. There are no meetings scheduled for January, March, May, July, August, September, and November. Unless otherwise posted, all meetings will be held in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will change to remote and a virtual link will be provided on our website and distributed.

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BUSINESS OPERATIONS/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS
2026

January 15

February 19 - Remote

March 19 - Remote

April 22*- Remote
*(*This meeting occurs on the fourth Wednesday of April.)*

May 21 - Remote

September 17

October 15

November 5
*(*This meeting occurs on the first Thursday of November.)*

December 17 - Remote

The Business Operations/Resource Management Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. There are no meetings scheduled for June, July, and August. Unless otherwise posted, all meetings will be held in the New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will change to remote and a virtual link will be provided on our website and distributed.

New Fairfield Board of Education
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CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE
SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS
2026

February 23

March 23

April 27

May 26*
*(*This meeting occurs on the fourth Tuesday of May.)*

September 28

October 26

November 23

December 21*
*(*This meeting occurs on the third Monday of December.)*

The Curriculum/Instruction Subcommittee is scheduled to meet at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. There are no meetings scheduled for January, June, July and August. Unless otherwise posted, all meetings will be remote.

New Fairfield Board of Education
3 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS
2026

January 28

February 25

March 25

April 22

May 27

June 10*
*(*This meeting occurs on the second Wednesday of June.)*

September 23

October 28

November 18*
*(*This meeting occurs on the third Wednesday of November.)*

December 9*
*(*This meeting occurs on the second Wednesday of December.)*

The Policy Subcommittee is scheduled to meet at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month. There are no meetings scheduled for July and August. Unless otherwise posted, all meetings will be remote.