

**NEWINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CT 06111**

Newington Town Hall  
Helen Nelson Meeting Room  
Wednesday, April 22, 2020 (**Virtual**)  
7:00 p.m.

**To join the video meeting, click this link:  
<https://meet.google.com/ran-oiij-nud>  
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 385-393-4278 and enter  
this PIN: 573 001 168#**

**AGENDA**

- A. Call to Order
  - Pledge of Allegiance
  
- B. Presentations of Awards/Proclamations
  - 1. Resolution Honoring Newington Professional Secretaries
  - 2. Resolution Honoring Newington Teachers
  - 3. Resolution Honoring Newington Paraeducators
  - 4. Resolution Honoring Newington School Nurses
  
- C. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities  
**(In Person/Via Telephone: 860-665-8736)**
  
- D. Consent Agenda
  - 1. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2020
  - 2. Approval of Minutes – April 8, 2020
  
- E. Superintendent of Schools' Report
  
- F. New Business
  - 1. Update – Anna Reynolds School
  - 2. Action – Resolutions Honoring 2020 Valedictorian and Co-Salutatorians
  - 3. Action – Revisions to Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements
  - 4. Action – Revisions to Policy 6172.6 – Interactive Distance/Online Learning
  - 5. Discussion – 2020-2021 Budget
  
- G. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities  
**(In Person/Via Telephone: 860-665-8736)**
  
- H. Remarks by Board Members
  
  
- I. Adjournment

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEWINGTON, CT 06111**

Newington Town Hall  
Helen W. Nelson Meeting Room  
Wednesday, March 11, 2020  
7:00 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

PRESENT: Chairperson Paul Vessella, Michael Branda, Dr. Bruce Fletcher,  
Emily Guion, Beth Manke Hutvagner, Steven Silvia, Cindy Stamm,  
Robert Tofeldt, Jessica Weaver

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Maureen Brummett, Wendy Crouse, Stephen Foresi,  
Lou Jachimowicz

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Paul Vessella called the Regular Meeting of the Newington Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

B. Presentation of Awards/Proclamations

- Board Appreciation Month Recognition
- Presentation – Everyday Hero – Kim DePaolis, Lisa Abrams – John Paterson School
- Staples Donation – Arthur DeSisto, Manager
- CABE Communications Award Presentation

C. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities

D. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – February 26, 2020

MOTION: Steven Silvia moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.  
Dr. Bruce Fletcher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Superintendent of Schools' Report

- Presentation – Ruth Chaffee Team
- Presentation – Newington High School Team

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March 11, 2020

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Stephen Foresi left the meeting at 7:40 p.m. and returned at 7:47 p.m.

F. New Business

Standing Committee Information Items

- Report – Student Policy Committee
- Report – Finance Committee (February 18, 2020)
- Report – Facilities Committee
- Report – Curriculum Committee (February 12, 2020)
- Report – Student Representatives

1. Report – Enrollment Projections 2020-2021

Board member Robert Tofeldt left the meeting at 8:39 p.m. and returned at 8:41 p.m.

2. Action – Resolution Honoring School Secretaries

MOTION: Dr. Bruce Fletcher moved the Board of Education proclaim Wednesday, April 22, 2020 as Newington Professional Secretaries' Day to honor the school and central office secretaries' commitment to the students of the Newington Public Schools. Robert Tofeldt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Action – Resolution Honoring Teachers

MOTION: Emily Guion moved the Board of Education proclaim May 5, 2020 as Newington Teacher Appreciation Day to honor Newington teachers for their commitment to the children of Newington. Jessica Weaver seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Action – Resolution Honoring Paraeducators

MOTION: Emily Guion moved the Board of Education proclaim May 5, 2020 as Newington Paraeducator Appreciation Day to honor Newington paraeducators for their commitment to the children of Newington. Cindy Stamm seconded. The motion passed 8 – 1.

5. Action – Resolution Honoring School Nurses

MOTION: Michael Branda moved the Board of Education proclaim Wednesday, May 6, 2020 as School Nurses' Day to honor Newington nurses for their commitment to the health and well-being of our school age children. Emily Guion seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Action – Cancel March 25, 2020 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: Robert Tofeldt moved the Board of Education cancel the regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2020. Jessica Weaver seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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G. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities

H. Remarks by Board Members

I. Adjournment

MOTION: Michael Branda moved to adjourn. Emily Guion seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Silvia, Secretary

Debra O. Craig, Board Clerk

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Claudia Wilson, Student Council President  
Martin Kellogg Middle School

On behalf of Martin Kellogg Middle School staff and students, Miss Wilson thanked the Board for all their hard work. She noted that all their time was voluntary making all their work special.

Alyssa Dugas, Student Council President  
John Wallace Middle School

On behalf of John Wallace Middle School staff and students, Miss Dugas wanted to let the Board know how much they were appreciated.

Leigh Grande  
79 Tremont Street

As a past student, Newington resident and parent, she wanted to express thanks to the Board. She also had high praise for the outstanding educators in Newington. She feels the personal relationships teachers make with students says so much about the staff.

APR 22 2020

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEWINGTON, CT 06111**

Newington Town Hall  
Virtual  
Wednesday, April 8, 2020  
11:00 a.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

PRESENT: Chairperson Paul Vessella, Dr. Bruce Fletcher, Emily Guion, Steven Silvia, Cindy Stamm, Robert Tofeldt, Jessica Weaver

ABSENT: Michael Branda, Beth Manke Hutvagner

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Maureen Brummett, Wendy Crouse, Stephen Foresi, Lou Jachimowicz, Kristen Freeman

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Paul Vessella called the Meeting of the Newington Board of Education to order at 11:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

B. Presentation of Awards/Proclamations

C. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities

D. Standing Committee Information Items

1. Report – Finance Committee
2. Report – Facilities Committee (April 1, 2020; April 3, 2020)
3. Report – Student Policy Committee
4. Report – Curriculum Committee
5. Report – Executive Committee
6. Report – Student Representatives

E. Other Business Information Items

1. Update - Grading and Earning Credits During Distance Learning

Board member Robert Tofeldt left the meeting at 11:16 a.m. and returned at 11:21 a.m.

2. Discussion – Revisions to Policy 6172.6 - Interactive Distance/Online Learning

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Regular Meeting

April 8, 2020

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- 3. Discussion – Revisions to Policy 6146 - Graduation Requirements
- 4. Discussion – PSCIP 2020-21 Project Appropriation Request
- 5. Discussion/Possible Action - RFP Process

Board member Robert Tofeldt left the meeting at 12:10 p.m. and returned at 12:14 p.m.

MOTION: Cindy Stamm moved the Newington Board of Education authorize the hiring of Colliers as Owner’s Project Representative for the development of the Anna Reynolds “Renovate as New” grant application. In addition, the Newington Board of Education authorizes an encumbrance of \$45,000 from the BOE Operating Budget for Colliers fees for this work plus related professional services, if needed. Dr. Bruce Fletcher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

- Dr. Bruce Fletcher voted yes
- Emily Guion voted yes
- Steven Silvia voted yes
- Cindy Stamm voted yes
- Robert Tofeldt voted yes
- Paul Vessella voted yes
- Jessica Weaver voted yes

The motion passed unanimously.

6. Action - Health Benefit Fund Performance

MOTION: Emily Guion moved the Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools to notify the Town in writing no later than April 8th of the Board’s intent **to reduce** planned contributions to the HBF over the remainder of the current fiscal year by **\$0**, and that any credit that is ultimately realized from the September 30th “settlement” calculation be utilized to reduce HBF contributions for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. This settlement credit will be used in full, if possible, commencing with the HBF contributions due for October. Any residual credit will be fully used in the succeeding month until exhausted. Cindy Stamm seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

- Dr. Bruce Fletcher voted yes
- Emily Guion voted yes
- Steven Silvia voted yes
- Cindy Stamm voted yes
- Robert Tofeldt voted yes
- Paul Vessella voted yes
- Jessica Weaver voted yes

The motion passed unanimously.

F. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities

**BOARD OF EDUCATION - NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Regular Meeting

April 8, 2020

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G. Remarks by Board Members

H. Adjournment

MOTION: Dr. Bruce Fletcher moved to adjourn. Emily Guion seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Silvia, Secretary

Debra O. Craig, Board Clerk

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**DATE:** April 22, 2020

**April 22, 2020**

**E**

**TO:** Members of the Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT – APRIL 2020**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools**

The school district was quiet last week during Spring Break, as both the online learning program and the meal service were not running. However, much behind the scenes work was being done. Below are some of the work that was done last week:

**Parades:** both Elizabeth Green and John Wallace are planning car parades next week through their respective neighborhoods. Elizabeth Green will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday and John Wallace is scheduled for Thursday, time to be announced. For the first time buses will be included in the parade and will include signage about how much the bus drivers miss the students.

**Meal Service Statistics to Date:** Here is the data regarding the number of meals served to date in our program. As a reminder to the Board, meal service occurs at John Wallace, Elizabeth Green, and NHS from 12:00 -1:00 pm on Mondays and Thursday. Our in house cafeteria staff prepare the meals and they are served by bus drivers, administrators, nurses and security staff. Food Service Director, Dana Markovics, will be presenting to the Board on May 27, 2020 about her program.

Meal Program Numbers as of April 9, 2020:

30,755 meals served

16,854 breakfasts (the first week we only did breakfast)

13,901 lunches

**Graduation:** On Thursday, Terra Tigno, Mario Ficocelli and I met with Vego Productions who have developed a virtual graduation package. We were all impressed with the potential of the product and it would be well within our budget for graduation. After the meeting, I contacted Commissioner of Education, Miguel Cardona and we discussed the following regarding graduation planning and the reopening of school:

- He is aware that districts have short timelines regarding graduation preparation and he is pushing the governor to decide sooner rather than later. This is further complicated by the current coalition with New York and New Jersey as the governor's in these respective states are trying to synchronize their efforts. He is hoping the announcement about school status for the remainder of the year will be made by May 1.
- He did caution that even if schools reopen before the end of this school year, it will be unlikely that large gatherings such as a traditional graduation ceremony will be allowed as social distancing rules will still be in play.



- He mentioned that when he did his focus groups with high school seniors a few weeks ago, they all still seemed to want the traditional ceremony, even if delayed. He did admit he had no details of what a virtual ceremony could be like at that time. He also acknowledged that even an August ceremony is not a guarantee given all the medical uncertainty.
- We batted around some of the "live" ideas such as drive up diplomas, but we both acknowledged that we could have the best plan in the world and some parents may not "follow the rules", which could result in significant safety issues.

Terra, Mario, and I continue to gather input from all stakeholders and will be making a decision soon about how to proceed with graduation. However, it appears having a standard graduation with 3,000 attendees is very unlikely at this point.

**Grading and GPA for Credit Bearing Courses:** I have asked Kristen Freeman, Wendy Crouse and Seth Korn, who have worked tirelessly with teacher and administrative representatives to develop an equitable process for grading. They will present "draft" report to the Board on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- **Enrollment Summary:** The enrollment summary as of April 1, 2020 is attached.

The information that follows will highlight various activities in the different schools.

#### **OFFICE OF HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Stephen Foresi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools**

**Kim Davis, Director of Talent Management**

- Mr. Foresi held a negotiation meeting with the 085 Administrative Group on March 3.
- Administrative Technicians for the Office of HCD worked with staff members to complete I-9 Forms and Emergency Authorization information in the Frontline Central system throughout the month of March. This was prompted because of the guidance received from the New England School Development Council (NESDEC) warning of audits being conducted by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Deficiencies and violations found during the audit can range from \$200 to \$2,000 per violation.
- Mrs. Davis finalized athletic coach evaluations and met with the Athletic Director and Spring Coaches on March 11 to discuss the evaluation process.
- Both Mr. Foresi and Mrs. Davis were guest readers in elementary classrooms as part of the Read Across America program.
- In light of the COVID-19 impact, Mr. Foresi has worked tirelessly to help support Dr. Brummett with daily decisions that have come about such as adjusted work schedules, working from home, Memorandums of Understandings between the AFSCME, NASA and NTA unions, and the multiple miscellaneous items that surround these new working conditions
- Effective immediately, all components of the Educator Evaluation and Support Plan (EESP) have been waived by the Connecticut State Department of Education.
- Effective immediately, the Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification will extend the expiration date of ***all Initial and Provisional Certificates (including Interim) and 5-Year Coaching Permits with expiration dates between 3/15/20 and 12/31/20 for 1-year from the date of original expiration.***

## **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT**

**Wendy Crouse, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction**

**Kristen Freeman, Director of Curriculum & Instruction**

**John (Jay) Salerno, Director of Educational Technology**

- The close of school on the evening of March 12th marked the beginning of our shift to distance learning. The Curriculum Department quickly developed a distance learning plan to ensure ongoing, engaging learning opportunities for all students PK-12. The plan delineates expected hours of instruction for each grade level, roles and responsibilities of staff, and strategies to support engagement of students while working with them remotely.
- Curriculum leaders have been providing ongoing support throughout the implementation of distance learning. Leaders are facilitating professional learning community sessions, department meetings, and holding “open office hours” so that staff can easily access leaders with questions or concerns. Further, several resources have been developed to support staff during this time including FAQ documents, guidelines for assessment and grading, and rubrics to provide feedback to students and families about the level of engagement during distance learning.
- Following guidance from Connecticut Commissioner of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona, the Curriculum Department worked collaboratively with middle and high school principals, secondary educators, and high school students to develop a plan for grading for students in grades 5-12. The plan will be communicated with families on or about April 20th. The plan outlines the following:
  - Middle school report cards will be issued with pass/fail for year end grades for the 2019-20 school year. Teachers will continue to enter numerical grades for assessments during distance learning.
  - High school transcripts will show two grades for year-long classes. A letter grade will be issued for first semester performance while a Pass/No Credit will indicate the overall performance for the entire school year. Semester long classes (for second semester) will be graded as Pass/No credit.
  - GPA will only include performance from the first semester.
  - At the time of college admission, students may request a full grade report from 2019-20 school year be submitted.
- The Educational Technology Department has been busy ensuring that all families K-12 have access to the internet and a device in order to meet the needs of distance learning.
- In order to support distance learning, members of the Educational Technology Department have been supporting staff through the designing of activities, providing professional learning, and reaching out to families to provide assistance.
- The Educational Technology Department has been publishing a daily update called “Today in Educational Technology” to provide resources to teachers, celebrate accomplishments, and provide a little humor.

## **STUDENT SERVICES – Marilena Gulioso, Director of Student Services**

### **Transition Academy - Submitted by Kelsey Rich**

#### **Functional Academics**

- Students listened to KidNuz podcast and answered 4-5 questions about what they heard to practice understanding the news auditorily.
- Discussed levels of education and Connecticut's community colleges.
  - Researched the steps to applying to a community college.
  - Reviewed a community college application.
  - Explored community college programs students were interested in.
- Focused on learning about health topics students were interested in.
  - Anxiety: A student intern working NHS School Psychologist, Angie Magnano, spent a morning conducting the "Circle of Control" activity with students; discussing things they can control and things they cannot control.
  - Risky Behaviors: We read a social story and discussed positive decision making and peer pressures students their age may face. In addition, Transition Academy students attended the presentation done by Chris Herren at NHS.
  - Illness: We discussed how to determine when it is appropriate to come to school vs. when you need to stay home; i.e. being tired vs. having a fever
- Discussed and learned about independent transportation options:
  - Practiced using Google Maps
  - ADA Paratransit Services: Some students filled out the applications
- Updated resumes based on current internship placements

#### **Cooking**

- Breakfast tacos
- Cinnamon buns
- Fruit smoothies
- Rice Krispy treats
- Coffee cake
- Shepherd's Pie
- Baked brownies, cookies, and Chex mix for a party at the Senior Center

#### **Field Trips**

- Bowling with the Wethersfield, South Windsor, Berlin, and Rocky Hill transition academies.
  - Teachers put students into groups to encourage new friendships.
- Lunch at Stew Leonards: Students picked out their lunch and individually paid at the registers to get practice with money math.
- Grocery shopping at Stop and Shop after making a shopping list to make Shepherd's Pie. Students were assigned specific items to find and purchase for our recipe.
- The Claypen: Students picked out pieces of pottery to paint at the studio.
- Toured The Barker Character, Comic, and Cartoon Museum

**Special Education – Grades PK – 4 - Submitted by Alexandra Heslin**

- Distance learning is up and running. Special education case managers and related service staff are collaborating and planning along with the general education teachers and setting schedules to best accommodate families and student's needs.
- Continued conversations are being held regarding the use of para educators at this time.
- Teams are meeting to discuss the use of Board-Certified Behavior Analysts and Registered Behavior Technicians with students and families.

**MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL SERVICES (Plant Operations) – Dick Vida – Supervisor**

- Our custodial staff has been proactive and working diligently at sanitizing all areas of our schools from top to bottom during this COVID-19 virus situation.
- Kudo's to our entire custodial team of cleaning professionals who are demonstrating once again what our "WIN & WIT" philosophy is all about.

**MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL SERVICES (Maintenance Department) Dick Vida - Supervisor**

- Our maintenance staff continues to do an outstanding job in supporting our custodial teams and administrators in the fight to quell the COVID - 19 virus attack as well. Great job by our team of top trade professionals.
- The 6 month AHERA (ACM) reports have been completed for each school by our environmental safety consultant group.
- The John Wallace clogged grease trap pipe was cleared and cleaned from the cafeteria to the street by our plumber and the Drain Doctor.
- Roof repairs at Anna Reynolds, Newington High School, and Transportation Department have been completed as requested.
- Our roofing contractor and our in-house staff continue to monitor and apply preventative maintenance measures at Anna Reynolds by blowing of any ponding water located on low spots on the roof as needed after rain fall periods.
- Indoor air sampling at Anna Reynolds has been completed and a favorable IAQ report has been submitted by our environmental safety consultants.
- Our electrician has been working with our sound vendor to correct the PA & Bell system scheduling problems at some schools as requested.

**TRANSPORTATION – Dean Barnes, Director of Transportation**

- The CT DMV Disqualification List is checked weekly. There were no Newington drivers on the list.

**BUSINESS/NON-INSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS – Finance Office**

Monthly Expenditure Summary Report through March 31, 2020 follows.

BUDGET REPORT  
MARCH 31, 2020

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ACCT #	ACCT TITLE	TOTAL APPROP	MTD EXPEND	YTD EXPENDED	OUTSD ENCUM	UNENCUM BAL
1002	ART	\$740,844.00	\$54,319.26	\$440,642.71	\$273,721.69	\$26,479.60
1006	CTE	\$738,619.00	\$51,904.07	\$452,439.83	\$253,133.35	\$33,045.82
1008	EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY	\$1,661,825.00	\$114,697.01	\$1,059,804.61	\$595,671.07	\$6,349.32
1012	ENG/LANG ARTS	\$4,194,626.00	\$341,731.56	\$2,558,639.37	\$1,456,101.76	\$179,884.87
1014	WORLD LANG	\$1,356,687.00	\$107,067.60	\$861,978.85	\$475,446.02	\$19,262.13
1020	MATH	\$4,380,611.00	\$319,223.62	\$2,502,723.57	\$1,562,525.30	\$315,362.13
1022	MUSIC	\$1,207,168.00	\$92,108.89	\$733,604.28	\$426,461.91	\$47,101.81
1024	WELLNESS	\$1,540,399.00	\$117,877.07	\$948,337.66	\$559,749.12	\$32,312.22
1026	READING	\$4,015,020.00	\$320,986.21	\$2,509,547.65	\$1,450,124.03	\$55,348.32
1028	SCIENCE	\$3,462,300.00	\$260,823.54	\$2,122,042.71	\$1,256,632.94	\$83,624.35
1029	STEM	\$603,645.00	\$45,915.36	\$358,790.00	\$228,149.87	\$16,705.13
1030	SOCIAL STUDIES	\$3,516,575.00	\$271,503.76	\$2,193,203.64	\$1,284,567.96	\$38,803.40
1190	OTHER SALARIES	\$1,055,719.00	\$35,792.94	\$213,371.87	\$160,000.00	\$682,347.13
1200	SPECIAL ED.	\$10,096,334.00	\$953,845.41	\$6,957,421.30	\$3,652,014.91	(\$513,102.21)
1205	HOMEBOUND	\$79,200.00	\$2,506.38	\$45,161.51	\$7,500.00	\$26,538.49
1300	ADULT EDUCATION	\$104,461.00	\$4,718.95	\$64,446.41	\$18,123.55	\$21,891.04
2120	SCHOOL COUNSELING	\$1,170,920.00	\$87,861.32	\$750,823.90	\$418,839.60	\$1,256.50
2130	HEALTH SERVICES	\$659,206.00	\$46,097.64	\$364,088.04	\$186,923.88	\$108,194.08
2140	PSYCH SERVICES	\$1,257,029.00	\$90,138.36	\$704,028.49	\$441,771.27	\$111,229.24
2150	SPEECH & HEARING	\$690,636.00	\$46,428.68	\$417,270.60	\$233,676.91	\$39,688.49
2210	CURRICULUM DEV.	\$345,379.00	\$28,419.78	\$148,735.46	\$81,772.79	\$114,870.75
2220	MEDIA	\$828,765.00	\$60,334.06	\$514,406.36	\$278,966.35	\$35,392.29
2310	BOARD OF EDUC.	\$528,284.00	\$13,549.53	\$510,075.45	\$68,413.76	(\$50,205.21)
2320	CENTRAL DIR.	\$1,834,997.00	\$120,693.65	\$1,184,569.31	\$429,111.94	\$221,315.75
2410	BLDG DIR.	\$3,893,527.00	\$280,734.44	\$2,573,220.98	\$1,184,858.78	\$135,447.24
2590	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$269,357.00	\$10,939.47	\$109,078.66	\$87,831.00	\$72,447.34
2610	MAINTENANCE	\$2,215,045.00	\$197,343.60	\$1,274,326.53	\$479,714.11	\$461,004.36
2620	PLANT OPERATION	\$4,829,811.00	\$332,707.97	\$2,992,153.85	\$1,302,025.69	\$535,631.46
2700	TRANSPORTATION	\$3,271,712.00	\$302,803.67	\$1,915,253.75	\$921,325.10	\$435,133.15
2810	EVAL/PLAN/DEV	\$94,210.00	\$2,936.30	\$54,835.19	\$14,430.01	\$24,944.80
2900	INSURANCE	\$811,910.00	\$153,123.81	\$613,117.01	\$58,000.00	\$140,792.99
2950	BENEFITS	\$12,449,188.00	\$715,979.49	\$8,806,718.21	\$2,321,615.79	\$1,320,854.00
3210	NON-ATHLETIC	\$169,571.00	\$115.00	\$58,582.71	\$108,732.50	\$2,255.79
3220	ATHLETICS	\$596,670.00	\$99,565.94	\$365,960.28	\$190,933.80	\$39,775.92
3300	COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$97,761.00	\$2,037.24	\$91,036.42	\$9,001.50	(\$2,276.92)
	TOTAL APPROP.	\$74,768,011.00	\$5,686,831.58	\$47,470,437.17	\$22,477,868.26	\$4,819,705.57

### Newington Public Schools Total Enrollment For 4/1/2020

School	PK3	PK4	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total 4/1/20	Total 3/2/20	Change	Part Time *	Open Choice **
Elizabeth Green	5	2	48	55	58	67	52									287	288	-1	0	22
Anna Reynolds	13	14	74	76	68	77	88									410	406	4	3	0
Ruth Chaffee	0	4	63	62	59	74	59									321	320	1	3	2
John Paterson	19	19	85	82	64	66	72									407	405	2	4	26
Martin Kellogg								140	159	162	164					625	628	-3	0	10
John Wallace								161	160	170	174					665	667	-2	0	15
High School												338	325	309	332	1304	1304	0	6	19
<b>IN DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>4019</b>	<b>4018</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>94</b>

### Outplacement and Special Ed Magnet Student Enrollment For 3/2/2020

School	PK3	PK4	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total 4/1/20	Total 3/2/20	Change	Part Time *	Open Choice **
SE Out of District DCF/DDS/Court Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	5	5	0	0	0
SE Out of District LEA Placement	1	0	0	4	0	2	1	2	0	2	5	4	2	5	8	36	36	0	1	2
SE Out of District Parent (Magnet) Placement	1	2	3	3	1	1	0	5	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	23	23	0	0	0
<b>SE OOD TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

\* Included in totals. Part Time students do not attend the listed school for the full school day. This includes Pre-K Speech Only and Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Part-Time students.

\*\* Included in totals. Currently 2.4% of students are Open Choice

### Regular Ed Magnet and Other Out of District Student Totals (As of Oct. 2019 PSIS reporting)

School	PK3 †	PK4 †	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total 10/1/19
CREC Magnet	3	13	6	8	6	7	4	4	5	2	1	4	1	4	11	79
LEARN Magnet	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6
Other LEA Magnet	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
Hartford Reg. Magnet †	5	9	3	16	5	7	6	3	5	0	6	9	2	8	4	88
Technical School †	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	3	2	13
Home Schooled † ‡	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	8
<b>RE OOD TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>197</b>

† No billing for HREM, Technical School, or Home Schooled Students. No billing for all PK3 or PK4 students

‡ Only Home Schooled students who have confirmed with the district this year are included.

DRAFT

## Grading Plan during Distance Learning (Spring 2019-20) Newington High School

Newington Public Schools remains deeply committed to our students during this difficult and unprecedented time. Even though our students are sorely missed inside our schools and classrooms, they remain at the forefront of our decision-making. While our mission to provide students with “high-quality learning experiences by challenging and actively engaging them in their education” is unwavering, our first priority remains the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our students. In collaboration with central office administration and Newington High School staff and with feedback from our students and families, we believe that our plan for pass/no credit (fail) grading, transcripts, and calculating GPA carefully balances our educational mission and our priority for student well-being.

Pass/No Credit will be used to grade overall averages for the year and second semester (for semester-long classes). Numerical grades on assessments will continue to be entered into PowerSchool even though credits will be issued as Pass/No Credit. Credit will be issued:

- For year-long classes in which the yearly average earned is 60 or higher.
- For semester classes taken in Semester Two in which the semester average earned is 60 or higher.

Incompletes will be given to students if the school principal or designee determines that a student needs an extension to complete coursework based on extenuating circumstances.

GPA will *not* include grades earned during the second semester of 2019-20.

### Details on Grading, Calculating GPA, and Transcripts

#### How are yearly or semester averages calculated?

Year long classes:		Semester classes:	
Quarter 1	20%	Quarter 3	50%
Quarter 2	20%	Quarter 4	50%
Midterm Exam	10%		
Quarter 3	25%		
Quarter 4	25%		

#### What considerations were weighed when making decisions about grading, GPA, and transcripts?

During our discussions and planning about grading, we considered the following:

- Guidance from Connecticut Commissioner of Education, Dr. Miguel A. Cardona
- Guidance from the University of Connecticut (UConn), the Connecticut State College and University System (CSUS), and the Connecticut Conference of Independent

## DRAFT

Colleges (CCIC) which represents certain CT private colleges and institutions including University of Hartford, Quinnipiac, Trinity College, Fairfield University, Wesleyan University, and Yale University

- Guidance from NCAA regarding student athletes
- Guidance from college admissions officers and New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- Potential impact on college admissions
- Potential impact, both positive and negative, on student GPA including three years of historical trend data on student performance at Newington High School
- Various issues of equity including:
  - Ability of teachers to fairly and accurately assess student achievement during distance learning across all subject areas
  - The mental and emotional well-being of our students, families, and staff
  - Variations in students' home environments
  - Potential impact of distance learning on students with disabilities and/or barriers to accessing online learning platforms
  - Potential impact of distance learning on student motivation

### **Why is Newington High School using pass/no credit grading?**

We are committed to supporting our students' social, emotional and mental wellness so that effective and engaging learning can take place. We believe that a Pass/No Credit grading system will help alleviate some of the stress caused by the uncertainty and upheaval of our environment. While our teachers have quickly adapted to new platforms for instruction, designing assessments remains incredibly challenging. It is difficult to confirm the integrity of assessments and it is impossible to ensure the equity of learning environments for our students. We believe that a consistent Pass/No Credit policy for all will be the most equitable means of implementing grading at this time.

### **How will GPA be calculated?**

The guidance issued to all Connecticut superintendents by the Commissioner of Education is that GPA should be calculated using grades issued only when school was in session. GPA will be calculated using only Semester One grades from the 2019-20 school year. However, for full year courses, only 0.5 of the quality points will be averaged into the GPA. In other words, the grades from full-year courses taken in 2019-20 count half as much toward GPA compared to all other year-end grades.

### **What will the transcript look like?**

For year-long classes, students will receive a grade for first semester and a Pass/No Credit (P/NC) for the year. As shown in the examples below, the first grade will represent the student's first semester letter grade, *which is included in the GPA*. The second mark (P/NC) represents whether or not the student earned credit for the class. For example:



## DRAFT

**Example 1:** A student earned a B- for the first Semester, passed the second semester, and also passed for the full year:

English 10	B-	.5 credit <sup>1</sup>
English 10	P	.5 credit <sup>2</sup>

**Example 2:** A student earned a B- for the first Semester, failed the second semester, but still passed for the full year:

English 10	B-	.5 credit <sup>1</sup>
English 10	P	.5 credit <sup>2</sup>

**Example 3:** If a student earned a B- for the first Semester, failed the second semester, and also failed for the full year:

English 10	B-	0 credit <sup>3</sup>
English 10	NC	0 credit <sup>2</sup>

**Example 4:** If a student failed the first Semester, but earns an average in the second semester to raise the yearly average to 60 or above:

English 10	F	.5 credit <sup>1</sup>
English 10	P	.5 credit <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>This grade is embedded in the yearly pass/no credit average and counts toward GPA

<sup>2</sup> Pass/No Credit is representative of full-year achievement. All averages 60 or above earn credit.

<sup>3</sup> No half credits will be awarded for full year courses, regardless of grade in first semester. Further, the grade from first semester is *not* counted toward GPA when credit is not awarded.

*Note:* Newington High School administration is currently drafting a statement about grading to be shared with colleges at the time of application. This statement will explain the context for grading for 2019-20 and the factors considered in our decision-making.

### **Did administration consider allowing students to choose Pass/No Credit or traditional grades?**

Yes, but all the issues around a disruptive and chaotic third quarter and teachers' ability to fairly assess would *not* be addressed in this scenario. Further, students might feel immense stress about having to choose Pass/No Credit and have a difficult time explaining to their college of choice why they did not opt for grades. We envisioned that some students might start distance learning with the intention to earn grades but then be unable to put forth

## DRAFT

their best efforts for a multitude of reasons beyond their control, including, but not limited to:

- Student gets sick and misses a large amount of schoolwork
- Student's family member gets sick or even passes
- Student's family is asking them to help take care of the household, siblings and/or grandparents
- Student is not able to adequately access the internet either because there are issues with their connectivity at home, or their parents' work uses the available bandwidth

In the end, we wanted to avoid any situation that could increase student stress (which in the case of illness, might even impede their recovery). Both stress and anxiety hamper student cognition and without school in session, our students are not able to access resources including school counselors, social workers, school psychologists, and their own peer groups as they typically would.

### **What specific considerations were weighed with respect to college admissions?**

Universities and colleges across the country are recognizing that applications next year may look very different from those in the recent past, and have made it clear that students will not be penalized for posting Pass/No Credit transcripts for this semester. They recognize that in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools have closed and switched to distance learning. In addition, in a Pass/No Credit environment, colleges can lean heavily on past and subsequent grades as well as an official document called the School Profile. School Profiles explain circumstances to colleges, including graduation requirements, grade point average calculations, honors courses, average SAT/ACT scores, and other elements that make schools unique. Newington High School will include a clear explanation of grading practices during the COVID-19 pandemic that will be included with college applications.

On April 14, 2020, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) hosted a forum on grading and college admission during the COVID-19 pandemic. This forum included the following panelists:

- Erik S. DeAngelis, Senior Associate Director, Office of College Admission, Brown University
- Leykia Nulan, Dean of Admission, Mount Holyoke College
- Michael C. Iorio, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment & Director of Admission, Saint Anselm College
- Erin W. Earle, Ed.D. Director, Campus Visit Experience, The University of Rhode Island

These out-of-state admission officers echoed the message from Connecticut colleges and universities regarding transcripts, GPA, and college admissions; high school students (particularly juniors) will not be negatively affected by Pass/No Credit grading. The admission officers shared the following:

## DRAFT

“Student applications will not be affected by the choice made by their high school [for grading.] We do not compare students from one high school to another high school.”

“We are more than happy to honor transcripts with pass/fail.”

“Juniors will not be at a disadvantage for a situation beyond their control.”

“Everyone is in the same boat and admissions officers will work hard to make the admissions process fair and just for all students.”

“This [COVID-19 pandemic] is a moment in time... we will rely on recommendations, strength of the curriculum ... and continue to use a holistic review process, including past grades.”

“We will continue to treat students with fairness and give them a benefit of doubt. We look for students who will thrive and add to our community.”

“We will rely on recommendations from teachers and counselors on how hard students are working, despite pass/fail grades.”

“We ask that [high school officials] give the context of the school community [during the COVID-19 pandemic] to fully explain grading.”

College admissions officers also stressed that there is no “perfect answer” to managing grades during distance learning and recognized that “these are uncharted waters for everyone.” Lastly, admissions officers encouraged families to reach out to them directly with any questions.

### **Why aren't quarter three grades being averaged into GPA?**

For the safety of our entire community, school closed abruptly on the evening of March 12, 2020 with no advance notice. This left students and teachers with no time to prepare or plan for closing out the marking term, or instructional units, as they typically would.

Consequently,

- Several students were unable to make up work from excused absences.
- Several students could not complete planned retakes.
- Assessments planned for March 13 and the following week that would have factored heavily toward the Quarter 3 average were never administered. Some student averages in those classes reflect only in-class activities and small-scale assessments.
- Some teachers were able to provide assessments during the distance learning portion of quarter three while some were not.

Implementing pass/no credit for our students will be the most equitable means of grading for quarter three.

## **DRAFT**

### **How will AP and UConn/ECE Classes be treated?**

Teachers of AP classes will develop guidelines for “passing” Quarter 4 during distance learning. The guidelines may include the following (or a combination):

- Maintaining a minimum HoW average until the AP exam
- Taking the AP exam
- Meeting minimum performance expectations on assessments
- Completing a project or performance task in lieu of the AP test

Guidelines will be approved by the Superintendent of Schools or designee.

Extending the Pass/Fail to UConn ECE students is not in students’ best interest, as determined by the UConn ECE program director. While credits earned through the UConn ECE program have a very high rate of transfer (87%), receiving institutions have broad freedoms to accept or deny these credits. To ensure the success of our students, teachers will continue grading their UConn ECE students with numeric or letter grades and submit these grades to UConn. However, the Newington High School transcript will be recorded according to the guidelines for all other classes.

Capital Community College will accept pass/fail but we are still awaiting guidance from Manchester Community College. Until that time, teachers will continue to use numerical grades in PowerSchool.

### **How can students, especially juniors, demonstrate their full achievement from this school year when they apply to colleges?**

During the college admission process, students will also have the opportunity to report all grades from the 2019-20 school year including grades from quarters one and two, January midterm exam, and quarters three and four. We believe that this option reduces stress for students by allowing them to take a “wait and see” approach regarding the second semester but also allows choice to reveal grades later at the time of college admission.

APR 22 2020

DATE: April 17, 2020

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ANNA REYNOLDS SCHOOL**

FI

The Anna Reynolds Project continues to move forward. The Facilities Sub Committee together with the Anna Reynolds Building Committee have chosen Colliers International as the Owner's Project Manager. This means that Colliers will be analyzing the needs at Anna Reynolds School in order to formulate an estimate of the cost for this project. The Board approved at their regular meeting held (April) to appropriate (insert amount) for Phase 1 of the project. Colliers was contacted on April 9 and notified of their selection.

On Monday, April 13, Lou, Dick and I participated in a kickoff phone call with representatives from Colliers. The essential needs for the Anna Reynolds Renovate as New project were discussed. Colliers was pleased with some of the items already completed such as the Town Council approval of schematic drawings and authorization to apply for the state grant as well as the Board's approval of the initial Education Specifications. An aggressive timeline was established for all activities that need to be completed prior to the submission of a grant application to the state on or before June 26, 2020. While I have requested a 60 day extension for grant submission, we are operating under the assumption that this extension may not be granted.

On Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2 members of Colliers' staff visited Anna Reynolds to start their field work on the facility assessment of Anna Reynolds Elementary School. This work is the first step in the process of building the grant application. During their visit, the Colliers' representatives did a comprehensive tour of the building and grounds with the intent of familiarizing themselves with the potential issues at the school. In total, over 500 photographs were taken of existing conditions. A preliminary report about Anna Reynolds conditions should be available within 2 weeks. The details of their visit(s) will be reviewed during the next two working sessions with the BOE Administrative Team. Colliers will be meeting with the BOE administrative team every Monday until the grant is submitted.

On Tuesday, April 14, 2020 the Town Council appropriated \$50,000 towards the Owner's Project Manager cost. While they acknowledged that based on all the bids received, this would not cover the entire cost, they understood the need to move the project forward. During the same meeting, they also discussed the Anna Reynolds roof. They were pleased to hear the ongoing roof repairs have been holding up well even with the severe storm on Monday, April 13.

APR 22 2020

F 2

DATE: April 17, 2020  
TO: Members of the Board of Education  
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: **VALEDICTORIAN AND CO-SALUTATORIANS**

Each year, the Board of Education presents a resolution to the Newington High School Valedictorian and Salutatorian(s). Normally, the resolutions are presented at the Scholars' Breakfast by the Board Chairperson.

**Recommended Motion:**

Move the Board of Education proclaim Fiona Duong as Valedictorian for the Newington High School Graduating Class of 2020 and Hannah Siegel and Lyla White as Co-Salutatorians for the Newington High School Graduating Class of 2020.



**RESOLUTION HONORING**  
**FIONA DUONG**  
**NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIAN**  
**CLASS OF 2020**

**WHEREAS,** Fiona Duong has been named Valedictorian for the Newington High School graduating Class of 2020, ranking number one in a highly competitive class of 322 students; and

**WHEREAS,** Fiona is an exceptional scholar enrolled in a rigorous program including Advanced Placement Statistics, Advanced Placement European History, Advanced Placement Biology, and Advanced Placement Calculus BC. During her four year high school career she has taken 10 AP courses, 12 honors courses, and a member of the music department. Fiona has been distinguished as a Connecticut Governor's Scholar Semi-Finalist, Rensselaer Medal Recipient, and an AP Scholar with Distinction; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to her academic work, Fiona is an active leader in the NHS community. She holds membership in numerous NHS organizations including elected President of the NHS Peer Tutoring Club, Secretary of the NHS DECA chapter, Captain of the NHS Math Team, and Flute Section Leader in the NHS Marching Band. In addition, Fiona is involved in the NHS Key Club volunteering on average 50 hours a school year in the Newington community. Fiona is a member of the National Honor Society with additional involvement in the English, Math, Science, Spanish, Social Studies, and Tri-M Honor Societies; and

**WHEREAS,** Fiona has had a tremendous impact on the NHS Peer Tutoring Club. This has been an accomplishment she is most proud of. The program has allowed students to connect with other students as a resource to support their learning. She was part of renovating a former computer lab into a student friendly tutoring room that is actively used by students throughout the school day. Her efforts, time, and genuine passion for the project has had a meaningful aspect on the NHS school community; and

**WHEREAS,** Fiona will be attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the fall majoring in Biological Engineering.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**  
That the Newington Board of Education hereby extends its sincere congratulations to Fiona Doung for her outstanding achievement in academic excellence and wishes her continued success in the future.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**  
That the Secretary of the Newington Board of Education is directed to provide a suitable copy of this resolution to Fiona Doung.

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*Paul J. Vessella, Chairperson*

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*Robert Tofeldt, Vice Chairperson*

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*Steven Silvia, Secretary*

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*Michael Branda, Member*

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*Bruce Fletcher, Member*

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*Emily Guion, Member*

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*Beth Hutvagner, Member*

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*Cindy Stamm, Member*

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*Jessica Weaver, Member*



RESOLUTION HONORING

HANNAH SIEGEL

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CO-SALUTATORIAN

CLASS OF 2020

WHEREAS,

Hannah Siegel has been named Co-Salutatorian for the Newington High School graduating Class of 2020, ranking number two in a highly competitive class of 322 students; and

WHEREAS,

Hannah has been enrolled in a very rigorous academic program with ten Advanced Placement courses on record, including AP Chemistry, AP US History, AP Statistics, AP English Language, AP U.S. Government & Politics, AP/ECE European History, AP Physics, AP/ECE English Literature, AP Environmental Science and AP Psychology. In addition, Hannah has taken AP Calculus BC and AP Physics C as independent studies during her junior and senior year. Hannah has challenged herself by earning credit in a total of six additional college courses through Newington High School's Dual Enrollment programs at both CCSU and University of Hartford, which she began pursuing the fall of her freshman year, at the very start of her high school career. As a senior, Hannah is taking Differential Equations and Multivariable Calculus through the University of Hartford, and over previous years she has taken French I and II and Arabic I and II at CCSU; and

WHEREAS,

Throughout her high school career, Hannah has received numerous accolades due to her academic achievements. They include being the recipient of the Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award, multiple AP Scholar recognitions, and Academic All Conference. Hannah is a member of the National Honor Society, and maintains active roles in the Science, Math and English Honor Societies, as well as the French Honor Society, of which she is the president; and

WHEREAS,

Outside of the classroom, Hannah has been involved in numerous activities that showcase her strong leadership qualities. She has participated in NHS Cheerleading for the past three years, and during her senior year has been working as a Newington Knights cheer coach with younger students in the district. While coaches must be at least 18, Hannah has been given a great deal of responsibility through this role. Hannah's involvement in the Debate Club, this year as co-president, has required her to research and explore new topics to dissect during meetings, as well as deal with the organizational elements of holding an office, such as analyzing data and moderating debates. Perhaps most notable is the time and effort Hannah spends tutoring other students, either as a member of the NHS Peer Tutor Club, or outside in the community. Hannah's willingness to give help to others is undoubtedly one of her best qualities, and one that will serve her well in her post-secondary pursuits.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Board of Education hereby extends its sincere congratulations to Hannah Siegel for his outstanding achievement in academic excellence and wishes him continued success in the future.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the Secretary of the Newington Board of Education is directed to provide a suitable copy of this resolution to Hannah Siegel.

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*Paul J. Vessella, Chairperson*

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*Robert Tofeldt, Vice Chairperson*

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*Steven Silvia, Secretary*

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*Michael Branda, Member*

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*Bruce Fletcher, Member*

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*Emily Guion, Member*

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*Beth Hutvagner, Member*

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*Cindy Stamm, Member*

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*Jessica Weaver, Member*





RESOLUTION HONORING

LYLA WHITE

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CO-SALUTATORIAN

CLASS OF 2020

- WHEREAS,** Lyla White has been named Co-Salutatorian for the Newington High School graduating Class of 2020, ranking number two in a highly competitive class of 322 students; and
- WHEREAS,** Lyla has been enrolled in a rigorous academic program taking a total of ten Honors courses along with ten AP courses including AP Calculus, AP Physics, AP English Literature and AP US Government and Politics. Lyla's academic and leadership achievements have earned her membership in the National Honor Society as well as four other Honor societies; English, Math, Science and Latin; and
- WHEREAS,** Along with her academic accomplishments, Lyla has chosen to be involved in activities that are especially meaningful. She is an active member of Key Club, Latin Club, and Math Team where she is able to participate and compete with like-minded students from across the state. Furthermore, Lyla is proud to have re-established the Debate Club with a friend. As co-presidents, they organize and run each meeting and are instrumental in researching topics and moderating debates; and
- WHEREAS,** Lyla is an active member of "Temple Sinai" where she serves as a madricha (teacher's aide) and is currently the president of the congregation's youth group. Her hard work and dedication to teaching and leading have earned an award for being "uniquely effective". Lyla is especially proud of boosting membership and preserving the traditions of the group. In addition, Lyla has served as a camp counselor at both Camp Shalom and Winding Trails. Both of these experiences have helped Lyla become masterful at planning, leading and supervising activities for young people.
- WHEREAS,** Lyla plans to attend the University of Connecticut to begin her pursuit of a degree in Pre-Pharmacy.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Newington Board of Education hereby extends its sincere congratulations to Lyla White for his outstanding achievement in academic excellence and wishes him continued success in the future.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Secretary of the Newington Board of Education is directed to provide a suitable copy of this resolution to Lyla White.

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*Paul J. Vessella, Chairperson*

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*Robert Tofeldt, Vice Chairperson*

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*Steven Silvia, Secretary*

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*Michael Branda, Member*

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*Bruce Fletcher, Member*

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*Emily Guion, Member*

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*Beth Hutvagner, Member*

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*Cindy Stamm, Member*

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*Jessica Weaver, Member*

APR 22 2020

F 3

DATE: April 17, 2020  
TO: Members of the Board of Education  
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: **REVISIONS TO POLICY 6146 – GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Student Policy Committee met on April 3, 2020 and members of the Board of Education met on April 8, 2020 and discussed revisions to Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements.

The Board of Education procedure for adoption of Board of Education policies requires the proposal to be discussed at two successive Board of Education meetings. There were no additional comments or recommended changes based on discussion at the last Board of Education meeting; therefore, this policy can be adopted at the April 22, 2020 meeting.

**Recommended Motion:**

Move the Board of Education approve the revisions to Policy #6146 – Graduation Requirements as recommended.

## Instruction

### Graduation Requirements

In compliance with Connecticut General Statute [10-221a](#), High School Graduation Requirements, the Board requires that students must satisfactorily complete a minimum of twenty-five credits, commencing for the graduating class of 2021 and beyond, in order to graduate and be granted a diploma.

In addition, the Board of Education will provide adequate student support and remedial services for students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of the high school graduation requirements, previously listed, or end of the school year examinations, if such student is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher education, (3) allowing students who received a failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and (4) allowing those students whose individualized education plans state that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through success on such alternate assessment.

The fulfillment of the mandated credit requirement can include the successful completion of a high school level course in grades six, seven, or eight, and for students in grades 9-12, externally from an accredited or district approved institution, summer program or online course successfully completed, or **through a demonstration of mastery based on competency and performance standards**.

All credits earned toward meeting any of the graduation requirements through the successful completion of **interactive distance/online** courses must fulfill the requirements established in policy [#6172.6](#), "**Interactive Distance/Online Learning**."

The Board of Education shall permit a student to graduate from high school upon the successful completion of the above requirements. A student must complete all Board of Education requirements for a high school diploma to participate in commencement exercises.

In addition, the Board of Education, in recognition of its responsibility for the education of all students in the school system, including those who do not successfully complete the assessment criteria listed above, and those who drop out of school, shall make available to all students a course of study for meeting standards that will enable them to acquire a high school credit diploma or prepare for a General Educational Development test (GED).

(cf. [6111](#) - School Calendar)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-14n](#) Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for re-examination. Limitation on use of test results.

[10-16\(1\)](#) Graduation exercises.

[10-221a](#) High school graduation requirements, as amended by PA 10-111 and PA 11-135.

01-166 An Act Concerning High School Graduation and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test.

P.A. 15-237: An Act Concerning High School Graduation Requirements

(add in [P.A. 17-42: An Act Concerning High School Graduation Requirements](#))

**R6146**

## **Instruction**

### **Graduation Requirements**

#### **Approved Alternatives for Fulfilling Graduation Credit Requirements**

Effective June 2017, the approved alternatives for fulfilling graduation credit requirements in Newington Public Schools have changed to provide students more flexibility regarding courses offered during the summer and school year for credit recovery, attendance matters, advancement and enrichment. Rising 9th graders may only enroll in a summer course for enhancement or a course for enrichment.

The changes are explained in the chart below and all courses must be approved by the Principal and Director of School Counseling.

**Credit Recovery for Failing:** If a student failed a course during the school year s/he may enroll in either Newington or West Hartford summer school programs for 120 hours to repeat the course and earn credit upon successful completion.

**Credit Recovery for Attendance:** If a student failed a course during the school year due to attendance, she/he may enroll in an approved summer school program for 60 hours to repeat the course and earn credit upon completion.

**Enhancement-** This is an opportunity for students who want to relearn skills and concepts from a previous course which the student struggled to pass and may still be at risk for future success.

**Advancement -** This is an opportunity for students who want to get ahead in their course of study so advanced courses may be taken at Newington High School. An example is a student takes Geometry over the summer in order to take Algebra II the following year.

Enrichment is defined as courses which Newington High School does not offer in their Program of Studies.

Please see coursework choice/options chart below regarding awarding credit and quality points based on the approved alternatives for fulfilling graduation credit requirement.

	<b>Credit Recovery</b> <i>Failed course at NHS*</i>	<b>Credit Recovery</b> <i>Passed course at NHS but lost credit due to attendance*</i>	<b>Enhancement</b> <i>Passed course at NHS*</i>	<b>Advancement</b>	<b>Enrichment</b>
<b>Location/ seat time of course</b>	Newington or West Hartford (120 hrs.)	Various Locations (60 hrs.)	Various Locations (60 hrs.)	Various Locations (Approx. 120 hrs.)	Various Locations (Approx. 120 hrs.)
<b>Credit awarded on transcript</b>	Yes	Awarded from original course grade	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Grade/Quality points awarded toward GPA</b>	No	Awarded from original course grade	No	No	No
<b>Course reflected on transcript</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Approval needed from Director of School Counseling and Principal + Coordinator Approval Needed</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes +	Yes

\* Refer to Policy [6172.6](#) for online learning options.

**Newington High School Graduation Requirements: Class of 2020, Class of 2021 & 2022, Class of 2023+**

<b>CONTENT AREA</b>	<b>Comprehensive Class of 2020</b>
<b>HUMANITIES</b>	<b>7 CR</b>
English	4.0
Social Studies 1 credit in U.S. History 0.5 credit in Civics	3.0
<b>STEM</b>	<b>5 CR</b>
Math 1 credit in Algebra I 1 credit in Geometry	3.0
Science 1 credit in Physical Science 1 credit in Life Science	2.0
<b>CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS</b>	<b>2.5 CREDITS</b>
Wellness	1.5

Academy Course	
Internships	
<i>**Students are able to earn a maximum of 1.0 internship credits.</i>	
Arts and Vocational Education <i>Art, Business Education Child Development, Culinary, Music, Technology</i>	1.0
<b>ELECTIVES</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION</b>	<b>21</b>

CONTENT AREA	Comprehensive Class of 2021 & 202
<b>HUMANITIES</b>	
<b>English</b>	4.0
<b>Social Studies</b> 1 credit in U.S. History 0.5 credit in Civics	3.0
<b>Humanities Elective</b> <i>English, Social Studies, World Language, Art, Music</i>	1.0
<b>STEM</b>	
<b>Math</b> 1 credit in Algebra I	3.0
<b>Science</b> 1 Credit in Physical Science 1 credit in Life Science	3.0
<b>CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS</b>	<b>2.5 CREDITS</b>
Wellness	1.5
Academy Course	
Internships	
<i>**Students are able to earn a maximum of 1.0 internship credits.</i>	
Arts and Vocational Education <i>Art, Business Education, Child Development, Culinary, Music, Technology</i>	1.0
<b>ELECTIVES</b>	<b>8.5</b>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION</b>	<b>25</b>

CONTENT AREA	
<b>HUMANITIES</b>	
<b>English</b>	
<b>Social Studies</b> 1 credit in U.S. History 0.5 credit in Civics	
<b>Fine Arts</b> <i>Art, Music</i>	
<b>Humanities Elective</b> <i>English, Social Studies, World Language, Art, Music</i>	
<b>STEM</b>	
<b>Math</b> 1 credit in Algebra I	
<b>Science</b> 1 credit in Biology	
<b>STEM Elective</b> <i>Math, Science, CTE</i>	

*CTE electives concurrent with Academy requirements	
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b>	
<b>WELLNESS</b>	
Physical Education	
Health And Safety	
<b>ACADEMY INTERNSHIP</b>	
**Students are able to earn a maximum of 1.0 internship credits.	
<b>MASTERY BASED DIPLOMA ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>ELECTIVES</b>	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION</b>	

**Requirements to fulfill 1.0 credit mastery-based diploma assessment:** All Newington Schools students, beginning with the Class of 2023, will complete a minimum of twenty-five credits, including a one (1) credit of mastery-based diploma assessment in order to graduate. This credit is divided into two parts.

*Part I.* The Newington Public School Portrait of a Graduate identifies the college, career, and citizenship-ready skills that students must demonstrate for this credit. These skills include:

*Communicator:*

- Express oneself (speak, write, perform, and create) for authentic purposes
- Read for a variety of purposes
- Actively listen to advance understanding, build consensus, and collaborate
- Use a variety of media including contemporary digital tools to explore, exchange and express ideas

*Thinker:*

- Inquire to define a problem
- Analyze information and discriminate resources
- Synthesize information and identify solutions and conclusions
- Reflect on processes and products to assess and redesign

*Citizen:*

- Recognize and understand multiple and diverse perspectives
- Contribute to the classroom, local, and global community\*
- Act responsibly and ethically\*

*\*May be assessed through Habits of Work*

Students will demonstrate competency on each of the performance indicators of the Newington Public Schools Portrait of a Graduate. Performance indicators align to curriculum-based assessments in required and elective classes in all subject areas. Generally, competency will be demonstrated during junior-level or third-year classes in most subject areas. Demonstration of competency on the curriculum-based assessments, as demonstrated by passing grades in these courses, is **equivalent to 0.5 credits**.

Additionally, students will be required to complete and earn a passing grade on a reflective writing assignment as part of their junior-level English class. The writing assignment may also be substituted by the student’s college essay.

*Part II.* Students must also meet at least one requirement each in both STEM and Humanities from the options below to earn **0.5 credits** of the mastery-based diploma assessment:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STEM</b> (Science, Math, CTE, STEM)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Humanities</b> (English, Social Studies, World Language, Arts)</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet SAT College and Career Readiness benchmark (530) on the math portion of the PSAT/NMSQT or SAT</li> <li>2. Score 3 or higher on AP test in a STEM area</li> <li>3. Score 2.0 (73) or higher on a competency-based measurement in upper-level STEM courses</li> <li>4. Score of 1099 (Level 3) on NGSS assessment</li> <li>5. Score 2.0 (73) or higher in any STEM-related course bearing college credit<sup>1</sup></li> <li>6. Complete a course internship in a field of study, employment opportunity, extra-curricular activity, or volunteer role that requires junior-level skills in an area of STEM*</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet SAT College and Career Readiness benchmark (480) on the ERW portion of the PSAT/NMSQT or SAT</li> <li>2. Score 3 or higher on AP test in a Humanities area</li> <li>3. Score 2.0 (73) or higher on a competency-based measurement in upper-level Humanities courses</li> <li>4. Score 2.0 (73) or higher in any Humanities-related course bearing college credit</li> <li>5. Proficiency or higher on LAS links for students who have lived in the country for five or fewer years</li> <li>6. Seal of Biliteracy</li> <li>7. Complete a course internship in a field of study, employment opportunity, extra-curricular activity, or volunteer role that requires junior-level skills in an area of humanities*</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup>Competency-based performance tasks have been identified for upper-level Humanities and STEM courses such as Geometry, Algebra II, Probability and Statistics, English 11, American Government, Year 3 World Language, Chemistry, and Matter and Motion.

\*Must be approved by principal

### **Physical Education and Health & Safety Requirement**

Beginning with the Class of 2023, students will be required to complete 1.0 credit in Physical Education and Wellness and 1.0 credit in Health and Safety.

Requirements are as follows:

#### Physical Education and Wellness:

- 0.5 credits in PE1 (Grade 9)
- 0.5 credits in PE2 (Grade 10 or 11)

#### Health and Safety:

- 0.5 credits in Health (Grade 9 or Grade 10) or 0.5 credits in Medical Science II (class cannot be used to fulfill any other graduation requirements)
- 0.5 credits earned by one of the following options in grades 7-12:
  - Lifeguard Certification
  - Driver's Education course that includes topics on distracted driving and driving under the influence



- Self-directed online digital citizenship course (must meet minimum standard on the summative assessment)
  - This course will also be integrated into 7th grade beginning in 2020-21 for the Class of 2026. In order to earn credit, students must meet a minimum standard on the summative assessment.
- Work, volunteer, or community experience requiring high school level safety training (must be approved by the principal)
- Achievement of Eagle Scout or Girl Scout Gold Award
- Elective performance-based health course offered at Newington High School

<b>GRADE PROMOTION</b>		
<b>Class</b>	<b>2018-2020</b>	<b>2021+</b>
<b>Sophomore</b>	5	6
<b>Junior</b>	10	12
<b>Senior</b>	15	18

APR 22 2020

F 4

DATE: April 17, 2020  
TO: Members of the Board of Education  
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: **REVISIONS TO POLICY 6172.6 – INTERACTIVE DISTANCE/ONLINE LEARNING**

Student Policy Committee met on April 3, 2020 and members of the Board of Education met on April 8, 2020 and discussed revisions to Policy 6172.6 – Interactive Distance/Online Learning.

The Board of Education procedure for adoption of Board of Education policies requires the proposal to be discussed at two successive Board of Education meetings. There were no additional comments or recommended changes based on discussion at the last Board of Education meeting; therefore, this policy can be adopted at the April 22, 2020 meeting.

**Recommended Motion:**

Move the Board of Education approve the revisions to Policy #6172.6 – Interactive Distance/Online Learning as recommended.

## **Instruction**

### **Interactive Distance/Online Learning**

The Newington Board of Education supports learning through accredited Interactive Distance Learning courses as an effective means of alternative instruction for students. A virtual course is an educational organization that offers courses at various grade levels through electronic and optical means, such as Internet or Web-based methods. These courses can be used to enrich, supplement, or enhance the existing curriculum and can also provide an alternative means of instruction. Interactive Distance/Online Learning does not require the student to be physically present in the same location as the instructor or other students.

Learning courses are part of this District's educational offerings to increase accessibility to learning opportunities and flexibility in the delivery of instruction. In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students in the District may earn credit through Interactive Distance Learning courses.

All Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses will be consistent with the District's instructional goals and aligned with Connecticut's academic standards, frameworks, and assessments. The administration shall periodically review instructional materials of Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses to ensure they meet program and district instructional standards. The District will not use Interactive Distance/Online Learning course as the sole medium for instruction in any required subject area for students in grades K-12.

The District will make every effort to integrate Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses as part of the regular instruction program for grades K-12.

Credit from Interactive Distance/Online Learning may be earned only in the following circumstances:

1. The course is not offered at the District's Middle/High school;
2. The course will serve as a supplement to extended homebound instruction;
3. The District has expelled the student from the regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued;
4. The Principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents/guardians, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment;

5. A student has failed a course and wishes to recover credits in that course area;
6. The student's PPT or Section 504 Team has determined it to be an appropriate means of instruction.
7. Successful participation in distance learning during State or locally identified emergency crisis situations; using guidelines determined by the Superintendent of Schools or designee. Guidelines will take into account the issues of equity and accessibility of distance learning.

Students shall apply for permission to take Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses by doing the following:

1. Complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity and skill level needed to function effectively in an Interactive Distance/Online Learning course;
2. Obtain the written approval of the Principal or his/her designee before a student enrolls in an Interactive Distance/Online Learning course; and
3. Adhere to District policies regarding the use of technology and the Internet (to the extent applicable).

Middle/High School students may earn academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses through agencies approved by the Board of Education. The District must receive an official record of the final grade before awarding credit toward graduation. Only approved Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses shall be posted on student transcripts. The District is not required to pay the tuition fee for students seeking credit recovery.

The District shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and monitoring of students taking Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses. Students will have access to sufficient library media resources such as a "virtual library" available through the World Wide Web, laboratory facilities, technical assistance, and hands-on training and information.

### **District Review Committee**

The District Review Committee, composed of the Deputy Assistant Superintendent for Schools Curriculum and Instruction, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Director of School Counseling and Student Assessment, Middle School and/or High School Principal or designee, and Curriculum Coordinators shall review all Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses prior to use by the District. The Newington Board of Education will be informed of Interactive Distance/Online Learning course being used by the District.

## Evaluation

The District Review Committee will evaluate the educational effectiveness of the Interactive Distance/Online Learning courses and the teaching/learning process to include assessments based on state curriculum standards as well as student satisfaction. The District will use this evaluation to decide whether to grant credit for the course or to continue or discontinue the use of an Interactive Distance/Online Learning course.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

[10-221a](#) High school graduation requirements. (as amended by P.A. 00-124, An Act Concerning High School Diplomas and Veterans of World War II, P.A. 00-156, An Act Requiring A Civics Course for High School Graduation and P.A. 08-138, An Act Concerning High School Credit for Private World Language Courses ,Other Subject Areas) and P.A. 10-111, An Act Concerning Education Reform in Connecticut.

**Policy adopted: March 26, 2014**

NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Newington, Connecticut



Keith Chapman  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

## Finance Department

APR 22 2020

F5

Janet Murphy  
Director of Finance

### Memorandum

**To:** Keith Chapman, Town Manager  
**From:** Janet Murphy, Director of Finance  
**Date:** April 8, 2020  
**Re:** Budget Adjustments

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After our discussion regarding the \$1.5 million budget surplus that the Board of Education will have for the 2019-20 fiscal year, I went back and made the following changes to the proposed budget:

- Increased the BOE Operations proposed budget to their request - \$77,358,346. This is an increase of \$590,335.
- Increased the amount being taken from fund balance from \$2.5 million to \$3.5 million. The \$1,000,000 increase will offset the expense increase from the Board of Education and the decrease in revenue that we will be seeing for both Tax Collection Interest of \$150,000 and Interest Income of \$175,000

As per the revised budget page one document that I have also attached, the new mill rate would be 39.10 just a slight decrease from our original proposed mill rate of 39.14. Also, based on an average assessment, Newington Residents would see a combined reduction for both home and auto of \$56.17 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

2018-19 REVISED BUDGET	2019-20 REVISED BUDGET	TOWN OF NEWINGTON  GENERAL FUND BUDGET SUMMARY	2020-2021		\$ CHANGE  FROM PREVIOUS BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE  FROM PREVIOUS BUDGET
			MANAGER PROPOSED	TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTED		
		<b>BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS:</b>				
36,556,591	37,581,156	Town Government Operations	38,374,098	0	792,942	2.11%
72,803,285	74,768,011	Board of Education Operations	77,358,346	0	2,590,335	3.46%
4,348,900	4,466,300	Metropolitan District Comm. Payment	4,823,600	0	357,300	8.0%
476,660	1,225,889	Debt Service - Town's Share (1)	1,756,927	0	531,038	43.3%
309,421	299,342	Debt Service - Education's Share (1)	725,671	0	426,329	142.4%
2,795,000	4,958,740	Capital Improvements & Equip. Res. - Town's Share (2)	3,035,604	0	-1,923,136	-38.8%
1,313,828	313,828	Capital Improvements - Education's Share (2)	125,000	0	-188,828	-60.2%
69,700	69,700	Empl. Leave Liability Res. Fund (3)	15,300	0	-54,400	-78.1%
<u>23,200</u>	<u>23,200</u>	Empl. Leave Liability Res. Fund - Education's Share (3)	<u>51,700</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,500</u>	<u>122.8%</u>
118,696,585	123,706,166	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS - TOWN AND BOARD</b>	<b>126,266,246</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,560,080</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
		<b>LESS:</b>				
18,351,197	20,270,460	Estimated Revenues from Non-Tax Sources	20,698,679	0	428,219	2.1%
0	0	Estimated Revenues from Motor Vehicle Tax	0	0	0	0.0%
		<b>LESS:</b>				
1,100,000	1,100,000	General Fund Balance Applied	3,500,000	-	2,400,000	218.2%
99,245,388	102,335,706	<b>AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY CURRENT TAXES</b>	<b>102,067,567</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-268,139</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>
2,624,408,027	2,640,574,930	<b>NET GRAND LIST</b>	<b>2,657,248,824</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,673,894</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
0	0	LESS: Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0.0%
10,000,000	10,000,000	LESS: Est. Value of Legal Corrections & Exemptions	10,000,000	0	0	0.0%
2,614,408,027	2,630,574,930	<b>NET ADJUSTED GRAND LIST</b>	<b>2,647,248,824</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,673,894</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
2,577,806,315	2,593,746,881	<b>NET ADJUSTED COLLECTIBLE GRAND LIST</b>	<b>2,610,187,340</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,440,459</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
		(\$ VALUE OF ONE MILL = \$2,610,187)				
38.50	39.45	<b>MILL RATE</b>	<b>39.10</b>		<b>-0.35</b>	<b>-0.88%</b>

(1)Total Debt Service appears on page 8 of Gen. Govt. operations summary

(2)Total CIP appears on page 8 of Gen. Govt. operations summary

(3)Total ELLR appears on page 8 of Gen. Govt. operations summary

<u>Old Taxes</u>	<u>Old Taxes</u>	Per Capita Tax Increase Calculation:		<u>New Taxes</u>	<u>Increase</u>	
		Average Assessment:				
\$0.00	\$5,804.52		\$147,136	\$5,753.54	(\$50.98)	-0.9%
\$0.00	\$591.75		\$15,000	\$586.55	(\$5.20)	-0.9%
\$0.00	\$6,396.27			\$6,340.09	(\$56.17)	-0.9%