

# ***NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS***

**NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **May 13, 2020 – Informational Meeting**

### **Presentation of Awards/Proclamations**

Mr. Vessella virtually presented plaques to Logan Dumas and Lindsay Forauer, student representatives on the Board, for participating in the Newington Board of Education meetings and their leadership within the school community and for demonstrating exemplary leadership skills

Mr. Foresi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, presented teachers who have served as mentors to new staff members during the 2019-2020 school year with special recognition. The Board expressed appreciation for the commitment of the mentors to assisting new teachers entering the profession.

### **Business Information Items**

Ms. Freeman and Mrs. Crouse reviewed results of the Distance Learning survey, as well as action steps the administration is taking with staff, were shared at the Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Foresi reviewed updated instructional guidelines spanning grades K-8. These updates comply with state and federal mandates; and position our ability to instruct students within optimal levels of time in each subject area.

The Board voted not to increase the building use fee for the 2020-2021 school year in light of current circumstances with the COVID shutdown.

The Board of Education approved the following meeting dates for the 2020-2021 school year: September 16, 2020; September 30, 2020; October 14, 2020; October 28, 2020; November 11, 2020; December 16, 2020; January 13, 2021; January 27, 2021; February 10, 2021; February 24, 2021; March 10, 2021; March 24, 2021; April 7, 2021; April 21, 2021; May 12, 2021; May 26, 2021 and June 2, 2021.

The Board of Education approved moving the first day of school from Wednesday, August 26, 2020 to Thursday, August 27, 2020. August 26, 2020 would be an additional Professional Development day for all staff.

The Board of Education approved eliminating the PL/Early Release “Orange” Hours (HS: 12:45 pm; MS: 1:20 p.m.; ES: 1:55 p.m.) and replace PL/Early Release with the “Yellow” Hours (HS: 12:20 p.m.; MS: 1:00 p.m.; ES: 1:35 p.m.). This change would provide consistency on PL/Early Release days to families, staff and Transportation Services as well as additional PL time for teachers.

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The Board of Education adopted the 2021-2022 school calendar as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

The Board discussed a process for naming school property and will continue discussions.

The Board reviewed three new books. The Board will take action on this item on May 27, 2020.

An update on graduation was provided.