

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

Newington Town Hall
Virtual
Wednesday, January 13, 2021
7:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

A G E N D A

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/fxq-zacd-pte

Phone Numbers

[\(US\)+1 240-812-1181](tel:+12408121181)

PIN: 244 477 686#

- A. Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
 - Roll Call
- B. Presentation of Awards/Proclamations
- Presentation – 2020 United Soccer Coaches Girls All American Team (Olivia Mullings)
 - Presentation – Everyday Hero
 - Presentation – Stephanie Kapper (*In Memoriam*)
- C. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities
- D. Standing Committee Information Items
1. Report – Finance Committee
 2. Report – Facilities Committee
 3. Report – Student Policy Committee (December 16, 2020)
 4. Report – Curriculum Committee
 5. Report – Executive Committee
 6. Report – Student Representatives
- E. Other Business Information Items
1. Action – Policy 1330-Community Relations: Use of School Facilities
 2. Discussion/Possible Action – Establishment of Firm Graduation Date
 3. Update – Mascot Change Process
 4. Update – COVID-19 Vaccinations
 5. Update – Child Care Program
- F. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities
- G. Remarks by Board Members
- H. Adjournment

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE

JAN 13 2021

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 (Virtual Meeting)

D

6:30 p.m.

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/oqx-knwc-dzb



- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Public Participation -None
- IV. Old Business

None

- V. New Business

The Committee discussed revisions to Policy 1330 - Community Relations: Use of School Facilities.

- VI. Public Participation - None
- VII. Adjournment

Committee Members:

Dr. Bruce Fletcher, Committee Chair

Mrs. Beth Manke Hutvagner

Ms. Jessica Weaver

JAN 13 2021

E I

DATE: January 8, 2021

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Stephen J. Foresi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **REVISIONS TO POLICY #1330 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES**

The Board of Education at the December 16, 2020 Board of Education meeting reviewed proposed revisions to Policy #1330 – Community Relations: Use of School Facilities. Attached is the revised policy #1330.

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 January 13, 2021 meeting.

Recommended Motion:

Move the Board of Education approve the revisions to Policy #1330 – Community Relations: Use of School Facilities as recommended.

Community Relations

Use of School Facilities and Grounds

Since school buildings and grounds are public property, the Board of Education may make them available for purposes other than education when they are not in use for school purposes.

The Board of Education shall grant the use of school facilities and grounds for activities of an educational, cultural, civic, social, recreational, governmental or general political nature and other non-commercial uses consistent with the public interest when such use does not interfere with school programs or school sponsored activities.

Consistent with this policy the Superintendent shall approve and schedule the use of school facilities and grounds by an individual or group and shall develop guidelines for community use of the schools. Fees shall be set annually by the Board of Education for the use of the facilities or grounds. Groups desiring continuing use of facilities or grounds must reapply annually.

The Boy Scouts of America, Big Sisters of America, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Future Farmers of America, Girl Scouts of America, Little League Baseball, Inc. and any other group intended to serve youth under the age of 21 listed in Title 36 of the U.S. Code may use school property upon payment of suitable fees and costs according to the Board approved fee schedule.

Types of Activities Which Will Not be Permitted

1. Any purpose in conflict with the mission or goals of the school district.
2. Activities which are unlawful in nature or violate a Town Ordinance or Board of Education policy.

(cf. [0000](#) - Mission and Function)

(cf. [0200](#) - Goals and Objectives)

(cf. 1314 - Soliciting Funds from and by School Personnel)

(cf. [1324](#) - Soliciting Funds from and by Students)

(cf. 3515 - Facilities Use)

(cf. 6145 - Extra-Class Activities: Limited Open Forum)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-239](#) Use of school facilities for other purposes

PA 97-290 An Act Enhancing Educational Choices and Opportunities

Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. ss 4071-4074

Good News Club v. Milford Central School, Sup.Ct., 6-11-01

20 U.S.C. 7905 (Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act contained in No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)

Policy adopted: September 22, 1999

Policy revised: December 10, 2008

Policy revised: TBD

NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Newington, Connecticut

Community Use of School **Grounds and** Facilities

School Grounds

1. ~~School property including athletic/recreation fields, and grounds are available throughout the year after school-related activities end.~~ **School grounds, including athletic/recreation fields, are available to the community throughout the year while school is not in session.**
2. **The use of school grounds, including athletic/recreation fields, is prohibited to community members:**
 - **During school hours,**
 - **During school-sponsored activities occurring before or after school hours; and**
 - **After sunset.**
3. **The Board reserves the right to deny access onto school grounds, or request removal from school grounds, to any community member violating a Town Ordinance, Board Policy or the law.**

Facilities Availability

1. Elementary schools may be available ~~two nights per~~ **during the** week until 10:00 p.m. for school-related activities; Monday - Friday until 5:00 p.m.; Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for gymnasium use only.
2. Middle school facilities are available until 10:00 p.m., Monday -Saturday.
3. High school facilities are available until 10:00 p.m.
4. The high school pool is available for use by the Parks and Recreation Department from the opening of school in September to a date in early April.

Facility Permits

1. During the regular school year, permits for the use of school facilities must be procured from the building Principal's office. At other times, permits may be obtained from the central office building of the education department.
2. All building and school property permits requests must be submitted to the Principal's office of the school in which the requested facility is located at least seven days prior to the requested date.
3. **Cancellation by Permittee:** In the event of cancellation, the Principal's office should be advised by noon of the day the facility was to have been used.
4. **Cancellation by School Department:** All permits are issued with the understanding that school activities subsequently scheduled may take precedence in the use of the facility. Cancellation of a permit under this paragraph requires approval of the Superintendent of Schools. Such cancellation shall not be approved within thirty days of the scheduled use unless an emergency exists.

Custodian Service Rules

1. Special custodian is required to be on duty during the use of any school facility if the Principal and head custodian deem it necessary.

2. A special custodian is required for all activities, regardless of size, if a regular custodian is not on duty.
3. The Supervisor of Custodians will assist in making final determination, if necessary, for use of special custodian after consulting with Principal and Head Custodian.
4. Custodial services include opening and closing the building, operating room lights (no theatrical lighting), heating, operating ventilation equipment, and normal cleanup. Custodians will not be required to help load or unload equipment.
5. Person in charge of using facilities must contact custodian when entering building and also on leaving. The custodian's time is counted from one-half hour before the activity starts until necessary cleaning up is completed after the activity ends.

Responsibilities of Users of Facilities

1. Organizations using the school facilities are requested to be considerate. Repair expenses for any damage beyond normal wear and tear will be charged to your organization. Any accident or damage occurring during use of facility by any group must be reported to the principal's office within forty-eight hours.
2. Organizations using the facilities are responsible for removing decorations and cleaning up facilities used. Custodians or cafeteria workers will supervise and assist in these operations.
3. Violations of rules and regulations will be considered as reason to refuse or revoke future permits.
4. At least seven days prior to the school use, the applicant should review the use requirements with the building Principal or designee.
5. No school facility is to be used for any other purpose or in any other way than its design use without expressed written permission.
6. No programs of the Parks & Recreation Department are to be held unless they are supervised by recreation personnel.
7. All permits are subject to immediate cancellation if it is discovered that information given on an application is misrepresented. If the use of the facility is discovered to be contrary to any policies, rules, and regulations of the Board of Education, the permit is subject to immediate cancellation.

Equipment

1. The cafeterias may be used. All equipment, other than range or kettle for heating water or making beverages, must be used under the direction of cafeteria personnel. Arrangements must be made by the group through the director of cafeterias for the use of the kitchens and/or equipment other than that specified above.
2. *Projectors, microphones, light control boards, risers and other stage equipment may be used only with permission of the Principal of the school being used. Also, when audio-video equipment owned by the school department is used, a qualified person from the school department must be hired to run or*

supervise the use of audio-visual equipment.

3. Pianos must not be moved from their present location without permission from the custodian. If moved with permission, they must be returned to original place by group moving it.
4. Materials and stage properties in storage rooms at middle and high schools are the property of the Dramatic Club and are not available for public use. Each group should supply their own.
5. All equipment used, i.e. chairs, desks, etc., must be returned to original position. (Exception: in some cases it may be desirable following their use that chairs in auditorium be left. Custodian in charge will have this information.) All areas must be left as found.

Decorations

1. Decorations may be used for activities if under adequate and constant supervision of an adult. This supervision means an adult in each area of building being used. Clean-up must be done within the hours designated by custodian and meet with the custodian's approval, otherwise charges will be made for extra time used. Decorations must be of fire resistant materials and meet fire code regulations and the approval of the building Principal.
2. Organizations wishing to set up stage scenery must check with the Principal's office to see that scenery to be used does not conflict with school activities or other uses during time it will be set. If it is necessary to construct stage scenery, it should be done outside the school building.

Use of Tobacco, Alcohol, and Refreshments

1. Smoking or use of tobacco products is not permitted in school buildings or on the grounds.
2. Use or possession of alcoholic beverages of any kind is prohibited at all times on school property.
3. Refreshments must be held to a minimum and contained within the area being used for the activity or the cafeteria and also must be under constant adult supervision. Refreshments should normally be served in the cafeteria. Exception to this rule must be cleared with the building Principal.

Rules and Regulations Controlling the Use of School Property

The following activities are prohibited on school property by the general public:

1. The use or possession of alcoholic beverages.
2. The kindling of fires.
3. The curbing of dogs.
4. To walk any animal on a leash longer than six feet, or to permit any animal to roam without a leash.
5. To wade or swim in any pond or brook.
6. The playing or practicing of golf.
7. The driving of motor vehicles and motorcycles on grassed areas or sidewalks.
8. The driving of motor bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles or any other self-propelled vehicle.

9. To sell, offer, or solicit for sale any goods or merchandise without the authorization of the school Principal.
10. The use of facilities for other than their designed purpose.
11. The parking of motor vehicles or motorcycles in unauthorized areas.
12. The use of play areas when school is in session without the authorization of the school Principal.
13. To be on any school grounds between sundown and sunrise without permission from the building Principal.

Fee Schedules

Priority List and Respective Charges

A. Newington Sponsored Activities (at no charge)

1. School sponsored activities
2. Official town business
3. Parent-Teacher Association
4. Political Caucuses plus committees
5. Approved educational oriented programs
6. Approved parent support groups - High School

B. Newington Parks and Recreation Department (P & R pays cost of special custodian as follows: 1. at any time if school administration requires; or 2. any activity when regular custodian is not on duty regardless of number of people).

1. Parks and Recreation Department operated activity (nonprofit organization).
2. Approved recreation programs of clubs or leisure oriented organizations (nonprofit organizations - for example: scouts).

C. Newington, Connecticut groups other than A & B (charged according to rates listed in Schedule C).

1. Approved youth group activities not sponsored by school, PTA, or Recreation Department.
2. Civic, charitable, religious, and fraternal activities to which no admission is charged.
3. Meetings sponsored by Newington groups for discussion of matters of general, local, or national interest.
4. Clubs that are educational or recreational oriented.

D. Other organizations (charged according to rates listed in Schedule D Profit-making).

For example: Theater groups

Regulation approved: September 5, 2001

NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JAN 13 2021

E 2

DATE: January 8, 2021
TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM GRADUATION DATE

Due to legislation that was effective July 1, 2019 (copy attached), I am requesting that the Board of Education approve June 8, 2021 as a firm graduation date for students in grade 12 for the graduating class of 2021 at Newington High School subject to any changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislation does not require students graduating at such ceremonies to attend any regular school sessions scheduled after such graduation date.

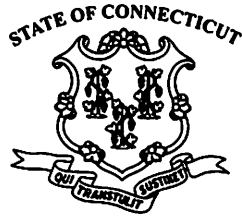
Public Act No. 19-195. This Act took effective on July 1, 2019 and includes:

Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [to the contrary,] a local or regional board of education may establish for any school year a firm graduation date for students in grade twelve which is earlier than the one hundred [eighty-fifth] eightieth day noted in the school calendar originally adopted by the board of that year. [,except that a board on or after April first in any school year may establish such a firm graduation date for that school year which at the time of such establishment provides for at least one hundred eighty days of school.]

Recommended Motion:

Move the Newington Board of Education approve June 8, 2021 as a firm graduation date for students in Grade 12 at Newington High School subject to any changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

MLB:skp



Substitute House Bill No. 7258

Public Act No. 19-195

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM GRADUATION DATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 10-16*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [to the contrary,] a local or regional board of education may establish for any school year a firm graduation date for students in grade twelve which is no earlier than the one hundred [eighty-fifth] eightieth day noted in the school calendar originally adopted by the board for that school year. [, except that a board on or after April first in any school year may establish such a firm graduation date for that school year which at the time of such establishment provides for at least one hundred eighty days of school.]

Approved July 12, 2019

JAN 13 2021

E 3

DATE: January 8, 2021
TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON MASCOT COMMITTEE**

At the January 13th Board of Education meeting, an update will be provided on the progress of the Mascot Committee.

MLB:skp

JAN 13 2021

E 4

DATE: January 8, 2021
TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**

At the January 13th Board of Education meeting, an update will be provided on COVID-19 vaccinations.

MLB:skp

JAN 13 2021

E 5

DATE: January 8, 2021
TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: **CHILD CARE PROGRAM UPDATE**

At the January 13th Board of Education meeting, Mr. Stephen Foresi will provide an update on the Child Care Program.

MLB:skp