## Board of Education Newtown, Connecticut

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 3 Primrose Street.

- D. Leidlein, Chair L. Roche, Vice Chair K. Hamilton, Secretary (absent) K. Alexander J. Vouros
- J. Vouros
- D. Freedman
- M. Ku

J. Reed L. Geida

- R. Bienkowski
- 5 Staff
- 3 Public
- 3 Press

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Curriculum and Technology Budgets

Dr. Gejda spoke about the areas of curriculum, instruction and assessment. The budget drivers for staff and program development, the professional growth program, contracted services and textbooks are attached.

Mr. Freedman noted the textbook increase of \$26,000 and thought it was high number considering we are using computers.

Dr. Gejda said the cost of an online license may be the same as purchasing textbooks. It's not as cost free as it might appear to use online resources.

Mr. Alexander said the textbook increase has been lower. What is different for next year? Dr. Gejda stated that because we have new standards we waited before we purchased books for the intermediate school.

Mr. Freedman questioned the cost for Ipad training and why we couldn't use staff to train. Dr. Gejda said we aren't paying for the expert to come in and train. It is still part of the donation we received.

Mrs. Leidlein said that regarding the State's discussion about postponing the common core she asked how that will affect us and impact the teacher evaluation program.

Dr. Reed said the proposal pertaining to teacher evaluation has to be acted upon by the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if the State is postponing things was there was room for us to do the same. Dr. Gejda said we have a revision cycle regardless of what the standards are. We will take the field service test for SBAC.

## Technology:

Mrs. Amodeo spoke about her requested budget without equipment and salary which is a \$94,953 increase over last year. This increase is due to \$50,000 restored to contracted services that had been covered by a donation in the 2013-2014 school year and \$28,000 for our anti-virus software which expires in the 2014-2015 budget year. Requested money for equipment replacement includes \$287,150 for obsolete equipment, \$67,856 for Voice over IP

for one remaining school, \$76,750 for priority requests from building administration and \$15,000 for mobile technology to better position the district for the Smarter Balanced assessments.

Mrs. Ku asked if she had enough staff since there have been no staff increases over a number of years.

Mrs. Amodeo said they are stretched thin. The overtime is just enough to get through the summer. She said every piece of equipment is used on a daily basis. She added money for mobile units for the testing.

Mr. Alexander asked if the computers that need to be replaced due to obsolescence would support the testing.

Mrs. Amodeo said some are eight years old and would need to be replaced before the testing. Mrs. Leidlein asked if the testing required desktop computers or laptops.

Mrs. Amodeo said the middle school used laptops for NWEA. They also work for the testing.

#### Item 3 – General Services

Mr. Bienkowski said that general services includes all administrative functions to run the district including security, substitute teachers, degree changes for staff and salary allowances. We are down 11.92%.

Dr. Reed said we have been asked by the First Selectman for alternative funding for some continued police presence in each school. A plan is in place to use officers who would go through a special state training program and be armed. We are planning for nine of them. We would maintain the same number of security officers which is 17 that are presently in place. We've been asked to put this in a separate budget so everyone can work together to educate the public on this emerging cost center. We look for help with the various boards. We want to help the residents understand we are undertaking a new program and that security is a relatively new function. We assume the SRO's at Reed, the middle school and the high school will remain in place. He assumes there will be a problem-solving group, including First Selectman Llodra, to work on this. Our current budget has 11 security guards with six from the SERV Grant for a total of 17.

Mr. Alexander feels we are looking at security as a budget item and it's not. We have to figure out what we need. If we add a budget section for armed services it will be difficult to remove. He wants a longer discussion. He thinks officers in schools are more of a benefit than armed security but he recognizes the cost. Do we have a system in place to encourage students to feel more comfortable with the police? That's a benefit to the system which is not being discussed. The Board should discuss if it is acceptable to have non police officers in our schools.

Dr. Reed stated this is a well thought out recommendation predicated on the notification that having police in each school is not provided by the Selectman's 2014-2015 budget. Our security committee voted last May that this was a viable option to pursue.

Mr. Alexander questioned if the Board actually has a choice to make and if there needs to be a policy change.

Mr. Freedman also feels this needs a broader discussion. Security shouldn't be questioned. Dr. Reed feels for the next year or two it is imperative to maintain security in this or similar fashion.

Board of Education

Mrs. Roche said the security amount of \$216,000 is out there. If it's non-negotiable and the budget fails, we will have to find that money.

Dr. Reed said we need to be joined in a discussion with our partners.

Mrs. Leidlein said the idea was to have it separate because it was the result of an event. What is the total cost once we receive money from SERV and DOJ grants if we have armed security guards?

Mr. Bienkowski said that amount would be \$540,000 if there were no grants involved. If we only use the SERV Grant we would need \$65,000. With the DOJ Grant our cost would be \$7,000. If approved, the DOJ Grant would be for six months.

Mrs. Roche said if we assume this responsibility it will be with us forever. When we don't have the grant it will affect our bottom line for a long time.

Mrs. Ku feels we need public conversation on this important conversation. When we adopt the budget at what point do we address this? There needs to be time for the problem solving team to come together.

Dr. Reed said it's important to explain to the public how we have been spending.

Mr. Freedman hoped for a five-year plan.

Dr. Reed said it was important to concentrate on the needs and solutions that unifies us as a town. We expect the justice grant to be approved. The architects hired DVS for security recommendations for Sandy Hook School. They also are going to make recommendations for the other schools. We recently received the report from John Jay. There is a security committee going to look at the recommendations. This will be the next phase.

#### Item 4 – Plant

Mr. Alexander asked about the removal of two custodian positions.

Mr. Faiella said we would eliminate those at the elementary level and have a rotating schedule to compensate for those positions.

Dr. Reed said we've been fortunate because our custodians do additional work such as painting and some repairs besides the normal custodial work.

#### Item 5 – Benefits

Mr. Bienkowski provided an overview of the benefits area. We have an ASO program which provides administrative services and we self-fund claims for our employees. Being self-funded we save 8% to 10% each year. Over all savings has been approximately \$1.9M over the last three years. Savings over next year range between \$600,000 and \$800,000.

#### Item 6 - Transportation

Mr. Bienkowski said we will maintain a van used at the high school. All-Star has three years to go under their contract and the MTM contract will be up the end of this school year. A new item in this budget is to provide \$22,000 for late bus service at the middle and high schools.

Mrs. Leidlein asked the history of the number of buses we had and if a study could be done to see if the number of buses could be reduced with declining enrollment.

Mr. Bienkowski said the number of buses needed comes down to where students live and the schools they need to attend. If three students get off at a particular stop instead of four students, it does reduce mileage. This entire system was recalibrated last year with four less buses.

Board of Education

Item 7 – Information from Previous Board Meetings

Dr. Reed said we have the data that showed we moved up to 120<sup>th</sup> in per pupil expenditures. The change was made on line the night of the budget introduction. He used that statistic talking about a level of rankings over time. He used that statistic to infer we are a cost effective district and not that we are under-funded. The ranking changes mainly because of decline in enrollment and slightly because we began getting aide due to the tragedy.

Dr. Gejda provided the information that was requested at the previous meeting.

#### Item 8 – Public Participation

Michelle Hankin, 16 Greenleaf, stressed the need for the Board of Education to share the facts with the other boards and the community. They need to understand what they are supporting. Security is important. Our town together suffered. The Town and Board of Education should be sharing costs. Mrs. Llodra put \$200,000 into contingency for police officers. Also, the Town gave \$150,000 to private schools as a gift. Education shouldn't have to suffer because of the cost for security.

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved to adjourn. Mr. Alexander seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

<u>Item 9 – Adjournment</u> The meeting adjourned at 11:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Debbie Leidlein Chair

# Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment

## 2014-15 Drivers

# **Budget Book Page 218**

Staff and Program Development funding supports:

Teacher training in Readers Writers Workshop (Focus: Teachers in grades 5-8)

Teacher training in **Developmental Designs** (Focus: Teachers in grades 5-8)

Teacher training in the use of iPads/tablets in instruction (Focus: Teachers in grades 9-12)

Curriculum development/revision (K-12)

District Curriculum Review Committee meetings (K-12)

District mentors for new teachers

Professional Growth Programs are focused on:

Readers Workshop Staff Developers (Columbia Teachers College: Summer institute and inclass lessons, co-teaching and demonstrations)

Developmental Designs Staff Developers (summer institute)

Educator Evaluation (teachers and administrators)

Various workshops connected to district initiatives or individual needs or responsibilities (also Powerschool training)

Contracted Services include:

Curriculum mapping program (Rubicon atlas)

Surveys that solicit student, staff and parent feedback on school climate

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) to monitor student performance in English/Language arts and mathematics (Up to 3 times per year; grades K-10)

Textbooks/resources:

Math resource for Reed grades 5-6

Algebra I

#### DISTRICT SECURITY SERVICES

	2010-11 Expended	2011-12 Expended	2012-13 Expended	2013-14 Budget	2014-15 Proposed	2014-15 Un-Armed	2014-15 Local Source	Notes
BOE GENERAL FUND								
Director of Security	66,596	67,955	68,634	73,507	73,507	73,507	0	
Security Staff	62,005	58,827	63,475	64,446	67,136	67,136	0	
Staff Training	1,571	365	3,344	4,000	5,402	5,402	0	
Security Services	3,438	1,890	1,984	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	
Equipment Repairs	2,300	704				, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	0	
Staff Mileage	2,695	855	25	300	3,000	3,000	0	
Security Supplies	1,568	7,005	2,886	2,900	2,280	2,280	0	
Equipment	0	1,730	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	140,172	139,331	140,348	153,153	159,325	159,325	0	
Security Staff Headcount	3	3	3	3	3	3		
ADDITIONAL NEEDED DUE TO 12/14 Equipment W/E security & Summer School Armed Security Staff (6) Armed Security Differential (3) Unarmed Security Staff (8) Total Additional	0	0	<u>61,204</u> 61,204	<u>227,150</u> 227,150	165,200 165,200	<u>Armed</u> 15,035 15,852 161,406 14,728 174,216 381,237	<b>15,035</b> 15,852 <b>161,406</b> <b>14,728</b> <u>9,016</u> 216,037	Armoring Equipment W/E @ \$9,120, summer @ \$6,732 6 guards @ \$26,901 annually 3 guards rate differential from unarmed to armed 8 guards rate differential from \$20,650 to \$21,777
21+2000/07/2012/07/2012/07/2012/07/2012/07/2012/2012	0	0	01,204	22/,150	105,200	381,23/	210,037	191,169 Needed for armed guards
Additional Security Staff			8	11	8	14		
Total Costs	140,172	139,331	201,552	380,303	324,525	540,562	216,037	Funding from Local Sources - TBD
Total Security Staff	3	3	11	14	11	17	6	

#### LESS: POTENTIAL GRANT FUNDING SOURCES

	2010-11 Expended	2011-12 Expended	2012-13 Expended	2013-14 Budget	2014-15 Proposed	2014-15 Mix	2014-15 Local Source	Notes
SCHOOL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO	VIOLENCE GRANI		(101,335)	(143,680)	(151,158)	(151,158)	(151,158)	4 armed, 2 unarmed guards
BOE FUNDED AFTER SERV	140,172	139,331	100,217	236,623	173,367	389,404	64,879	Funding from Local Sources - TBD
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT				(117,234)	(57,866)	(57,866)	(57,866)	4 unarmed for 6 months
BOE FUNDED AFTER BOTH GRANTS	140,172	139,331	100,217	119,389	115,501	331,538	7,013	Funding from Local Sources - TBD

This amount is to be determined as application for SERV Extended Services Grant submission will begin in near future.

The DOJ grant budgets listed here represent an optimistic interpretation of what we have been told would be covered. Any shortfalls in these grants will become part of other local sources.

# Security Projects - Projected Costs and Funding Sources Through December 31, 2014

			Funding S	ource	
curity Personnel	Estimated Cost	BOE	Grants	Donations	Local
Un-Armed Security Personnel	\$365,103	\$365,103	\$260,914		\$0 \$143,680 currently funded by SERV grant
Staff Training	\$4,000	\$4,000			\$0 \$117,234 anticipated to be funded under DOJ grant
Security Services	\$8,000	\$8,000			\$0 Total \$260,914
Staff Mileage	\$300	\$300			\$o
Security Supplies	\$2,900	\$2,900			\$O
Total Security Personnel	\$380,303	\$380,303	\$260,914	\$0	\$o
ilding Hardening					
Interior Door Locksets	\$731,000		\$390,700 \$340,300		Part of the \$511,016 to Town surplus in fiscal 2012-1
Total Lock Sets	\$731,000		\$731,000		Anticipated to be received from DOJ grant
Two-way Radios	\$163,322		\$99,767	\$63,555	\$0 In progress
Emergency Drills - all schools	\$18,000			\$18,000	\$0 Completed 9/17/13
Emergency Drills - all schools	\$13,000				\$13,000 Scheduled 5/14/14
Exterior Alert System	\$47,457		\$65,831		-\$18,374 Under discussion
Protective Film for Windows	\$347,500		\$305,000	\$30,000	\$12,500 Partially Completed
Bollards	\$23,000		\$25,002		-\$2,002 Pending
Surveillance Cameras (NMS, RIS, HAW, HOM, MG)	\$336,099			\$336,099	\$0 In progress
Hub Switching for Cameras	\$52,680		\$52,680		\$0 In progress
Keyless Entry	\$136,512			\$136,512	\$0 Completed
Labor	\$62,000			\$62,000	\$0
(NMS, RIS, HAW, HOM, MG)				<i>Ф02,000</i>	φυ
VOIP for RIS & NMS	\$121,793		\$121,793		\$0 Half completed Dec. 2013, remainder in progress
Ready Packs for ERT - All Schools	\$1,500		\$1,500		\$o
Maintenance & Licensing for radios, surveillance cameras and keyless entry	\$12,000		\$12,000		\$0 Pending
NHS Surveillance Camera Upgrade	\$37,866		\$37,866		\$0 Pending
NHS Surveillance Cameras - Exterior	\$101,607		\$101,607		\$0 Pending
NHS Surveillance Cameras - Interior	\$137,991		\$137,991		\$0 Pending
NHS Surveillance Cameras - Stadium	\$65,571		\$65,571		\$0 Pending
Total NHS Cameras	\$343,033		\$343,033		\$0
Fencing	\$31,754				\$31,754 Funding Needed
Total Building Hardening	\$2,440,650	\$0	\$1,757,606	\$646,166	\$36,878
			94/0/1000	0040,100	030,070

	Estimated Cost	BOE	Grants	Donations	Local
uilding Hardening					
Interior Door Locksets	\$731,000	\$390,700			Part of the \$511,016 to Town surplus in fiscal 201
	\$731,000	\$340,300			Anticipated to be received from DOJ grant
Total Lock Sets	\$731,000	\$731,000			Anticipated to be received from DOJ grant
	\$751,000	\$731,000			
Projects					
Project A	\$163,322	\$99,767	\$63,555	\$0	In progress
	\$336,099	\$99,707	\$336,099		In progress
	\$52,680	\$52,680	\$330,099		In progress
	+3=,000	¢ <u>j</u> =,000			in progress
Project B	\$18,000		\$18,000	\$0	Completed 9/17/13
			\$20,000	φ0	oompicted 9/1//13
	\$136,512		\$136,512	\$0	Completed
	\$62,000		\$62,000	\$0	
			+00,000	ψŪ	
Project C	\$13,000			\$13,000	Scheduled 5/14/14
	+-0,000			φ.3,000	50110duled 3/ 14/ 14
Project D	\$47,457	\$65,831		-\$18,374	Under discussion
		+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++		¢20,0/4	
Project E	\$347,500	\$305,000	\$30,000	\$12,500	Partially Completed
	43 (7)3-4	+0-0,	+0=j===	¢11,000	
Project F	\$23,000	\$25,002		-\$2,002	Pending
	\$121,793	\$121,793			Pending
	\$1,500	\$1,500		\$0	
	\$12,000	\$12,000			Pending
	\$37,866	\$37,866			Pending
	\$101,607	\$101,607			Pending
	\$137,991	\$137,991			Pending
	\$65,571	\$65,571			Pending
Total Building Hardening	\$2,408,896	\$1,757,606	\$646,166	\$5,124	
					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

12/11/2013 DECEMBER EMERGENCY REP	PAIRS			
SCHOOL	EMERGENCY/UNANTICIPATED REPAIRS	COST	VENDOR	TRANSACTION DATE
HAWLEY	ALARM REPAIRS	\$11,815.00	ALARMS BY PRECISION	11/5/2013
HEAD O MEADOW	BOILER OIL PIPE REPLACE	\$12,011.91	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	12/4/2013
REED	BOILER SECTION REPLACEMENT	\$8,918.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	11/27/2013
REED	RE-GASKET DOMESTIC HW BOILER	\$8,180.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	11/27/2013
REED	REPLACE APEX ON BMS	\$1,540.00	ABS	11/27/2013
REED	HEAT CIRCULATOR PUMP COUPLINGS	\$1,943.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	12/5/2013
MIDDLE SCHOOL	REPLACE LEAKING DRUM NIPPLES ON BOILER	\$8,533.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	11/27/2013
HIGH SCHOOL	INSTALL TEMPORARY OIL TANK	\$1,334.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	11/27/2013
HIGH SCHOOL	UST CLEANING FRONT 2000 GAL TANK	\$3,598.00	HUGHS MECHANICAL	11/8/2013
HIGH SCHOOL	GYM BACKSTOP REPAIRS	\$1,280.00	HUSSEY SEATING	12/5/2013
MIDDLE GATE	INTERNAL OIL LEAK REPAIR ON BOILER-SOLENOID	\$3,419.70	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	12/5/2013
1/16/2014 JANUARY EMERGENCY REPA	NIRS			
HAWLEY	FRONT DOOR EMERGENCY REPLACEMT (PAINTING PORTION)	\$4,650.00	DECKWORKS CLEAN	
HEAD O MEADOW	BOILER REPAIRS	\$2,686.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	
HIGH SCHOOL	DOMESTIC WATER LINE LEAK	\$3,552.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	1/10/2014
RIS / NHS	GATOR REPAIRS	\$2,004.00	WEST END POWER	1/17/2014
SH	BOILER RELIEF VALVE REPLACE	\$3,786.00	MCKENNEY MECHANICAL	1/22/2014
NMS	TIE IN PAGING / INTERCOM TO NEW PHONE SYSTEM	\$4,305.00	AUTO HOME COMMERCIAL	1/9/2014
MAINT	SNOW PLOW REPAIR	\$475.00	BROOK FARM METALWORKS	1/21/2014
RIS	DOMESTIC HOT WATER REPAIR	\$3,720.00	GLOBAL MECHANICAL	1/9/2014
NHS	REPAIR AND REPAINT IN LOBBY PIPE LEAK AND ROOF LEAKS	\$4,850.00	DECKWORKS WORK DONE IN January	2/12/2014
		\$30,028.00		
		Ş30,028.00		

#### **NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL** GRADE 9 - 12

#### SUMMARY BY OBJECT

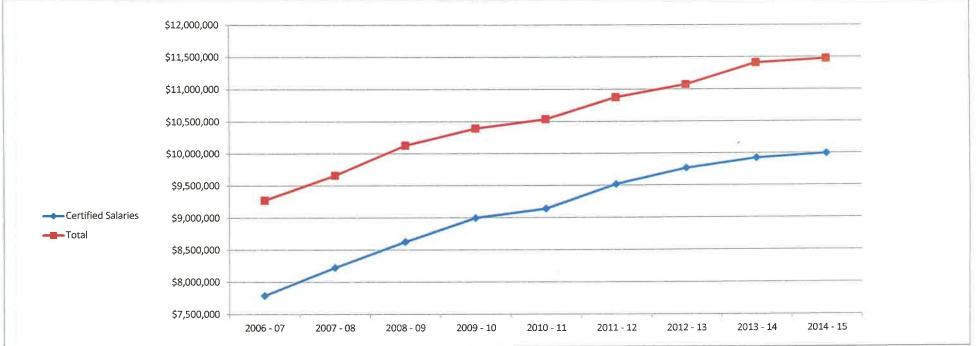
		2006 - 07	2007 - 08	2008 - 09	2009 - 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 - 13	2013 - 14	2014 - 15		
	Object	Expended	Current	Proposed	\$Change	Change						
111	Certified Salaries	7,790,429	8,228,255	8,631,303	9,002,229	9,143,088	9,521,430	9,771,078	9,926,505	9,997,892	71,387	0.72%
112	Non-Certified Salaries	339,653	355,109	377,522	392,111	403,133	406,271	420,617	439,464	445,749	6,285	1.43%
300	Professional Services	23,500	25,000	28,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	- %
322	Staff Training	29,383	26,527	30,878	22,209	23,885	33,766	23,471	29,020	28,850	(170)	-0.59%
430	Equipment Repairs	57,014	58,312	63,047	49,561	65,965	56,004	55,505	66,211	63,761	(2,450)	-3.70%
442	Equipment Rental	90,370	88,582	79,135	79,186	78,149	71,163	80,879	83,219	81,719	(1,500)	-1.80%
500	Contracted Services	97,128	81,756	98,196	80,272	39,140	33,399	35,009	41,845	39,410	(2,435)	-5.82%
529	<b>Athletic Activities Insurance</b>	8,900	8,900	8,900	8,900	9,567	27,200	24,556	24,556	26,450	1,894	7.71%
530	Communications	14,800	15,450	15,540	15,000	16,000	9,199	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
550	Printing Services	21,977	20,778	22,581	22,119	17,940	18,878	17,122	19,602	20,352	750	3.83%
560	<b>Tuition - Out Of District</b>	52,632	62,944	45,960	53,952	48,563	71,310	90,330	123,439	128,677	5,238	4.24%
580	Student Travel & Staff Mileage	139,596	144,049	146,428	162,698	192,536	169,107	126,672	166,355	167,760	1,405	0.84%
611	Supplies	458,928	446,048	469,388	457,052	438,235	404,666	394,911	433,546	418,518	(15,028)	-3.47%
641	Textbooks	116,874	51,638	62,428	33,226	43,371	38,097	10,125	30,574	30,322	(252)	-0.82%
734	Equipment	22,872	33,720	35,789	0	2,926	0	0	0	0	0	- %
810	Memberships	9,400	9,995	11,480	11,804	11,474	12,433	17,409	19,269	19,319	50	0.26%

Total

9,273,456

9,657,063 10,126,575 10,390,319 10,533,971 10,872,923 11,072,684 11,408,605 11,473,779

65,174 -



0.57%

### **Assistant Principal**

The Newtown High School Assistant Principals implement organizational structures and support the goals of Newtown High School and district for student achievement and personal success.

The high school student enrollment is currently **1716** with over **204** faculty and staff members. With a caseload of over 570 students per administrator, Newtown High School is at the bottom of the DRG whether you compare the average number of students supervised per administrator or the average number of teachers overseen per administrator.

Under the new *district Professional Growth Plan* (guided by new State requirements), formal observations are done in pairs and the administrators participate in approximately 260 scheduled formal observations, post instructional conversations, and approximately 100 classroom check-ins. This year, as we continue to expand the development and implementation of the instructional rounds protocol for teachers, we now have over 75 teachers participating in internal rounds followed by formal conversation with school administrators. Translated into instructional hours, the administrative team spends over 600 hours in instruction observing and discussing instructional practice annually.

In addition to instruction and staff professional growth, each assistant principal is responsible for managing student academics, well-being, behavior, and discipline. Administrative responsibilities include the oversight of specific grade-related functions; oversight of departments and non-certified staff; academic interventions (IEP, 504); graduation requirements; school climate; non-instructional duty assignments; standardized testing and (inter)national assessments; master scheduling; international relations and student programming; student life and events; alternative education programs; academic support centers; accreditation; coverage of public and after-school student events.

# FTE Increase -2005-2013

Department	FTE	Reason
Department Chair	0.40	PE Department Chair
Art	0.40	Enrollment
Athletics	1.00	Trainer
Business	1.20	Enrollment/Graduation Requirement
CWE	0.20	Enrollment
Culinary	0.90	Enrollment
Flex	1.00	Math/Science Teacher
Guidance	2.00	NEASC
Social Studies	2.80	Enrollment
In-School Supsension	-0.40	Duty
Math	0.80	Enrollment
PE/Health	1.60	Health Curriculum
Science	5.05	Enrollment/Graduation Requirement
Tech Ed	-0.40	Enrollment
	16.55	

2009-2010

# **Requirements for Graduation**

Satisfactory completion of a yearlong course earns one credit; a semester course earns one-half credit.

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students must carry a minimum of six courses each semester. Twelfth grade students must carry a minimum of five courses each semester. Only students with a minimum of thirteen credits will be designated a senior. Beginning with the class of 2011, only students with a minimum of fifteen credits will be designated as seniors.

Students in the class of 2010 must earn a minimum of 20 credits, meet the four graduation standards and satisfying the senior health requirement. Beginning with the class of 2011, an additional science and elective credit will be required, totaling 22 credits. Also, Western Studies is required (instead of Modern European History).

Credit requirements must be distributed as follows:

Subject	Credit	Specific Requirements
English	4	1 credit – English I 1 credit – English II 1 credit – English III (American Lit) 1 credit – Senior English Courses
History & Social Science	3	5 credit - Modern European History or Western Studies 5 credit - Area Studies Course 1 credit - US History 5 credit - Economics 5 credit - American Government
Mathematics	3	Any math fulfills the requirement - completion through Integrated III is recommendeed
Science	2 (+1)	1 physical (earth science or physics), 1 life (biology). 1 elective – any science class)
World Language		World Language is not a requirement for graduation, however many colleges prefer a minimum of 2 –3 years of the same language
Fine & Applied Arts	1	This requirement can be fulfulled by courses in any of the following area: Art, Business, Family & Consumer Sciences, Music or Technology
PE & Health	1.5 *	PE/Health 9th, PE/Health 10th and PE/Health 11th or Weight Training
Electives	5.5 (+1)	Any course not required
Total Required	20 (22)	

\*No more than two credits of physical education/health credits will count toward graduation

# Meeting the graduation standards

Each student will demonstrate competency of the required standards in written and spoken communication, problem-solving, and information literacy. Through classroom performance, students will successfully complete a task in each of the standards. The tasks will be scored against a district approved analytical rubric. Students will be given multiple opportunities each year beginning with the sophomore year to meet each standard through classroom performance until the standards are met. Students can also meet the standards through performance on identified portions of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). All standards in the following areas must be met unless waived through a Planning and Placement Team process which develops an Individual Education Plan or uses 504 procedures:

## 1. Written Performance

- a. Critical thinking The student takes and supports a position about information and ideas
- b. Written performance The student conveys information and ideas in a variety of written formats such as narrative, expository, or descriptive.

## 2. Spoken Communication

a. Spoken performance - The student conveys information and ideas to others in a presentation using spoken language, non-verbal languages and multi-media.

**Note**: The alternate method to meet the communication set of standards is to reach state goal on both the reading and writing portions of the CAPT.

# **Requirements for Graduation**

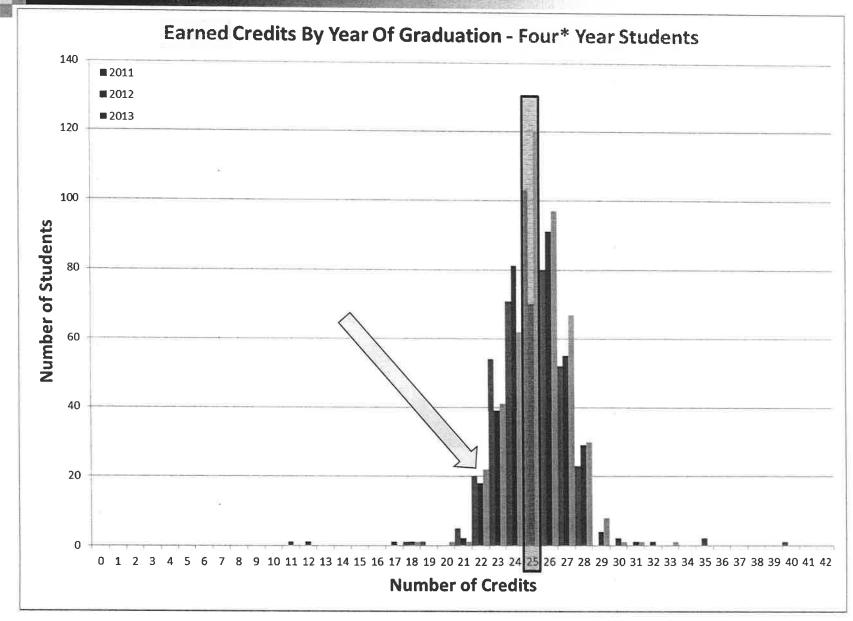
Satisfactory completion of a yearlong course earns one credit; a semester course earns one-half credit.

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students must carry a minimum of six courses each semester. Twelfth grade students must carry a minimum of five courses each semester. Promotion from grade to grade is determined on credits earned and is as follows:

For promotion to Grade 10	5.5 credits
For promotion to Grade 11	11 credits
For promotion to Grade 12	16.5 credits
For graduation	22 credits

Students must earn a minimum of 22 credits, meet the four graduation standards and satisfy the senior health requirement. Credit requirements must be distributed as follows:

Subject	Credit	Specific Requirements
English	4	1 credit – English I 1 credit – English II 1 credit – English III (American Literature) 1 credit – Senior English Courses
History & Social Science	3	.5 credit -Western Studies .5 credit – Area Studies Course 1 credit – U.S. History .5 credit – Economics .5 credit – American Government
Mathematics	3	Successful completion of any math course fulfills the requirement but completion through Algebra 2 is recommended
Science	3	Successful completion of any science course fulfills the requirement but at minimum the following is recommended:1 physical (earth science or physics), 1 life (biology), 1 elective (any science class)
World Language		World Language is not a requirement for graduation, however many colleges prefer a minimum of 2–3 years of the same language
Fine & Applied Arts	1 (1.5 *)	1 credit can be fulfilled by courses in any of the following areas: Art. Business, Family & Consumer Science, Music or Technology. *Beginning with the class of 2016, students must complete a course in Personal Financial Literacy, resulting in 1½ credits in Fine and Applied Arts and 6 credits in electives.
PE & Health	1.5	PE 9th, Health 9th, PE 10th, PE 11th or Weight Training, and Health 11th
Electives	6.5 (6*)	Any course which is not required
Total Required	22	



C. Dumais, Newtown High School, December 2013

6

# Average Number Of Earned Credits By Grade

	9	10	11	12	Total
2011	6.38	6.30	6.42	5.50	24.62
2012	6.29	6.40	6.49	5.58	24.76
2013	6.48	6.56	6.43	5.49	24.96
Average	6.39	6.42	6.45	5.52	24.78

C. Dumais, Newtown High School, December 2013

8



FTE, Enrollment Only

	1716	1600	1500	1400	1300
19	10.7	3.1	-3.5	-10.0	-16.6
19.5	7.8	0.4	-6.0	-12.4	-18.8
20	5.1	-2.1	-8.4	-14.6	-20.9
20.5	2.5	-4.6	-10.7	-16.8	-22.8
21	0.0	-6.9	-12.8	-18.8	-24.7

# FTE, Enrollment Plus Graduation Requirements

	1716	1600	1500	1400	1300
19	22.6	13.7	5.8	-2.1	-10.0
19.5	19.7	11.0	3.2	-4.5	-12.2
20	16.7	8.1	0.6	-6.9	-14.4
20.5	13.8	5.5	-1.9	-9.2	-16.6
21	11.0	2.9	-4.3	-11.4	-18.6

C. Dumais, Newtown High School, December 2013