

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on January 20, 2015 in the council chambers,  
3 Primrose Street.

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| K. Alexander, Chair    | J. Erardi     |
| L. Roche, Vice Chair   | L. Gejda      |
| K. Hamilton, Secretary | R. Bienkowski |
| D. Leidlein            | 1 Staff       |
| J. Vouros              | 2 Public      |
| D. Freedman            | 1 Press       |
| M. Ku                  |               |

Mr. Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss pending litigation and unaffiliated contract compensation and invite in Dr. Erardi, Attorney Floyd Dugas, Attorney Brian Smith and Mrs. Llodra. Mr. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 1 – Executive Session

Attorney Brian Smith and Ms. Llodra exited at 7:07pm.

The Board exited executive session at 7:36 p.m.

Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which included the minutes of January 6, 8 and 13, 2015, the high school field trips, the donations to Newtown High School from the Weller Foundation, and the correspondence report. Mr. Vouros seconded.

Mrs. Hamilton asked to take out the minutes of January 13 and wanted to make a modification to the minutes of January 6.

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved to amend the motion to remove the minutes of January 13 to which Mrs. Roche and Mr. Vouros agreed.

Ms. Hamilton requested to remove the forth sentence under Committee Reports and insert the following:

“Gino has all of the information for the school buildings that needs to be collected for the town buildings. Not much for the school personnel to do until the information is collected for the town buildings other than to figure out what to do with the school buildings.”

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Freedman moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of January 13, 2015. Mrs. Ku seconded. Vote: 6 ayes, 1 abstained (Ms. Hamilton)

Item 4 – Public Participation – None

## Item 5 – Reports

Chair Report: Mr. Alexander thanked Mrs. Ku for providing the location for the CAFE Legislative Breakfast on February 13. He attended the Legislative Council meeting for the CIP discussion but there were no questions for him or Ms. Hamilton. It was voted on later in the meeting and passed with the high school auditorium project included.

Mrs. Ku spoke about the items discussed at the Curriculum and Instruction Committee meeting which included math for Reed School, along with the kindergarten world language immersion class and the high school unified theater program which were approved to present to the full Board.

She and Ms. Hamilton attended the municipal facilities group meeting where two RFPs were discussed with one for the evaluation of three town buildings and the other for a space needs assessment for the Police Department, Social Services and the Arts Commission.

Ms. Hamilton said the RFPs were being presented to the Board of Selectman tonight and would be sent out if approved. The timeline with hiring is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Ku attended the Security meeting with updates on many improvements in the district including the training for security staff over the holidays. We may need to have an executive session at a future meeting to talk about security. She also provided the Board with a report from Education Connection which provided their professional development and student program information.

Ms. Hamilton said the policy committee met last Wednesday and reviewed the remaining 1000 series policies. The next meeting is January 29. There will also be a finance committee meeting to discuss routes with All-Star. She also mentioned the Board of Finance meeting where they spoke about costs of operating buildings and John Godin did an analysis using our budget information and presented what he thought was a conservative amount of what we could save if we closed a school. He did this on his own with no communication to Dr. Erardi or Mr. Bienkowski. She forwarded Mr. Bienkowski's analysis regarding closing a school which was done for the previous space study committee.

Mrs. Roche asked why they didn't ask the Board of Education.

Ms. Hamilton didn't know why.

Mrs. Ku asked what would be the continued discussion.

Ms. Hamilton said they are interested because they haven't heard from us.

Dr. Erardi thought he was clear at the joint meeting it was not his recommendation to consider closing a school for the 2015-2016 school year. He sent a message to the Board of Finance chair and the member who did the report and invited them to meet with him. It is essential that we work in partnership. This Thursday he has a long standing meeting but encouraged Board members to attend to hear the Board of Finance conversation. The chair wrote back saying it was early to set up a meeting and he has not hear from Mr. Godin.

Mr. Alexander said the Communications Committee sent out another newsletter today which includes a link to the budget and the Superintendent's presentation.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Erardi stated that the Facility Study timeline starts with a meeting on January 29 finishing with a Board presentation on June 16. He will meet with the senior community at the Senior Board of Education

Center at 2:30 p.m. on January 28 and asked every Board member and staff member to invite senior citizens they know to attend.

He met with trip advisors for the April high school trips to Spain, France and Greece regarding the unrest in Europe. Presently the trips will be held but he will bring this back to the Board in February and March.

He will be attending the high school mid-year graduation ceremony on February 3 and encouraged Board members to attend if possible.

The PTA sponsored forum is March 10 and is being held for all parents to better understand the Board endorsed budget.

Mr. Alexander asked if the Facility Study group would have Board members.

Dr. Erardi said the first two or three meetings will be organizational. On or around March 1 we will look for a liaison from the Board.

Mr. Freedman asked if there would be a consultant to help facilitate the study.

Dr. Erardi would not recommend a consultant as he is confident with staff members and their working knowledge we can do the work involved.

Megan Milano said that mid-term exams were completed. The Unified Basketball Team will have a game January 27 at 3:45 p.m. and the NHS tech team was hosting a tournament.

Rilind Abazi said the Career Center was having a scholarship workshop for seniors. Sign up is being held for the Battle of the Bands on February 27. The Debate Team was successful in the Lexington tournament.

Financial Report:

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved that the Board of Education approve the financial report for the month ending December 31, 2014. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Mr. Bienkowski presented his report. The three main problems in December are costs for professional services which includes legal fees and psychiatric evaluations with out of district tuition costs and electricity costs. These total approximately \$200,000.

Ms. Hamilton asked why our magnet school transportation costs are over by 300% compared to what is in the budget.

Mr. Bienkowski said the magnet school transportation grant will come in for \$62,400 which will offset that amount.

Mr. Freedman asked about the custodian at Parks and Rec.

Mr. Bienkowski said we have had a long standing arrangement with them. We pick up the first \$40,000 and they will pay us for anything over that.

Motion passes unanimously.

#### Item 6 – Old Business

2015-2016 School Calendar:

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 school calendar. Mr. Vouros seconded.

Dr. Erardi said we are piloting before school professional development for October 7 and have added two additional mornings on April 6 and May 4. The most recent change is moving the conference half days to earlier in November to stay away from the week before Thanksgiving. We also changed the language to include four additional snow days before we would remove days from the spring break.

Ms. Hamilton was concerned about fall conferences because the first week of November has Election Day and asked if there was any conversation about using the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> for all conferences.

Dr. Erardi said this was endorsed by all K-6 principals. The intent was to stay away from four days in a row. There was limited talk around Election Day.

Mrs. Roche asked why we didn't have March conferences on the calendar.

Dr. Erardi said there is an ongoing discussion for consideration that March conferences move to a non-mandated option.

Mrs. Roche asked for feedback on the November conferences before the next calendar is developed.

Mr. Vouros said it was important to parents who may not be awarded a conference by the teacher that they are given an opportunity to talk to the teachers.

Dr. Erardi said that would be the practice going forward.

Motion passes unanimously.

Mid-Year Review – Superintendent's Goals and Objectives:

Dr. Erardi wanted the community to see partnership at all levels. It is his personal belief that these represent the Board and leadership staff.

Mrs. Roche praised Dr. Erardi for everything he's done for the district.

Mr. Freedman asked if there were any goals he would want to reorganize.

Dr. Erardi said it was nearly impossible to have an intensive facilities study concurrently with a long term plan for the district. He would hold off on that and finish the facility study first. That would be his only adjustment to these goals.

Mrs. Ku spoke about the various groups Dr. Erardi has formed with staff members. She also feels it is important we that adhere to the strategic plan.

Dr. Erardi said we have a long term plan with the coherence plan. Those are the driving factors upon which we make our decisions.

Ms. Hamilton said we need to look at our facilities and usage. We won't be compromising education because of our building usage. She thanked him for the terrific communication to staff and community.

Proposed Operational Plan:

Ms. Hamilton asked Dr. Gejda to describe what is required of teachers for ongoing professional development and state requirements.

Dr. Gejda said that recently to maintain certification a teacher over five years had to accrue 90 Continuing Education Units. Recently state has modified that. The responsibility for

maintaining their professional development is up to the teacher. The district has to provide 18 hours of PD. The State said that the type of PD needs to be on a smaller scale and more personal to the teacher. We have to now plan opportunities to take PD more customized to what their need is. What has changed is PD should be in a small group or a one-to-one activity. We provide more online opportunities for teacher with BloomBoard and webinars. We also have the PLC days. Teachers are supposed to keep their own log which we previously had to maintain for the State. Administrators also are required to engage in hours for certification and evaluation.

Ms. Hamilton asked if the district was responsible to provide each teacher the 18 hours or could they decide on a course.

Dr. Gejda said they can take courses but we try to provide as much as we can.

Mr. Vouros said the district provides the 18 hours so teachers don't have to pay.

Ms. Hamilton said she understands the health insurance figures are based on staff population on January 1 and that small swings in staffing numbers don't really affect what the contribution should be for the district and the town. For the retirement incentive we booked for five teachers to take the incentive. The \$67,000 was for those teachers. She spoke to Bob Tait who pointed out that we are doing so well on our insurance that we don't need to book any additional money for next next year so the \$200,000 in the budget can go to zero.

Mr. Bienkowsk said we don't have any increase budgeted for health insurance next year. The \$67,000 is simply five anticipated retirees. The two options are to take the insurance or take \$7,500 for those two years. The insurance board will be meeting February 2 before the budget hearing. It would not concern him to eliminate the \$200,000. The town has their own dental plan which is an Anthem produce. Ours is managed by T.R. Paul. We have kept the dental rates flat for four years and are planning to use the \$24,000 to offset the dental plan. The net cost is \$269,000. We need to use the balance to offset what the employee makes.

Ms. Hamilton asked if the town's dental claims came out of their medical plan.

Mr. Beinkowski said that was correct. They also have a vision plan with their medical insurance.

Mrs. Roche asked how many teachers were trained in both readers and writers workshop.

Dr. Gejda said approximately 60 have had some experience with it. Prior summer workshops were offered. As they do the readers workshop now they also see the writing units.

Ms. Hamilton said we received a number of outplacements compared to other districts.

Dr. Erardi would continue to compile that information when Mrs. Haggard returns.

Mr. Vouros asked the plan to get the other teachers trained.

Dr. Gejda said Reed and middle school staff have another year working with Columbia. The elementary schools have at least one teacher trained in coaching so they will keep writers workshop going. Now we have to focus on getting elementary teachers trained in readers workshop which they should finish before going into writers workshop. We have a date for the readers workshop in July. They will be trained the following school year if they cannot attend.

Mr. Vouros referred to the students going into ninth grade and if the reading teachers know what is going on in this area.

Dr. Gejda said this year the teachers in grades kindergarten through third have been working on that transition. Abbey Marks and Kathy swift have been working on this along with middle school teacher Kate Dimoulas. We have three trained teachers. The administrators have also stepped up to do this.

Item 7 – New Business

Ellis Clark Regional Agriscience Program Relocation:

Dr. Erardi said that Bill Davenport, Director of Nonnewaug High School will attend a future meeting. The State of Connecticut is going to launch a new site at Shepaug High School in Washington, Connecticut. The Board must decide if we will still offer that option for our students considering the length of the drive.

Mr. Alexander said the Board policies would not be discussed tonight.

Item 8 – Public Participation – None

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

Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Kathryn Hamilton  
Secretary

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on January 6, 2015 in the council chambers,  
3 Primrose Street.

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| K. Alexander, Chair    | J. Erardi |
| L. Roche, Vice Chair   | L. Gejda  |
| K. Hamilton, Secretary | 16 Staff  |
| D. Leidlein            | 12 Public |
| J. Vouros              | 2 Press   |
| D. Freedman            |           |
| M. Ku                  |           |

Mr. Alexander called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Celebration of Excellence

Dr. Erardi spoke about the two-year contribution by John Jay College and Tony Gentile to the security of our schools. At no compensation he offered his assistance to our security committee and training for our guards. As his contribution will be coming to a close we wanted to acknowledge all he has done for our community.

Mark Pompano said that on behalf of the security and safety committee and himself he thanked Mr. Gentile for his wisdom and guidance in putting together an outstanding security and safety plan for the children of this town.

Tom Kuroski stated how wonderful it was having someone of this caliber with us since day one. He also introduced others who helped us become more aware of how to run our schools in the safest manner and thanked him on behalf of the staff and students.

Mr. Alexander thanked him on behalf of the Board of Education for his special help in the important area of security. He presented a plaque from the district.

Mr. Gentile expressed his thanks and his only regret was meeting under these circumstances.

Item 4 – Public Participation

Julia Conlon, Old Castle Drive, thanked the Board for their work. She was disappointed that last year's budget was additionally reduced. Many education supporters cannot attend meetings but rely on Board members to do right by our children.

Item 3 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of December 16, 2014, the high school field trip to Boston, the donations to Sandy Hook School and the correspondence report. Mr. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 5 – Reports

Chair Report: Mr. Alexander asked that all Board members receive subcommittee agendas.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Erardi referred to his mid-year goals for the Board to review. He shared pictures of the school based health center at the middle school and mentioned the value of the grant-funded Unified Theater program which will be offered at the high school.

A community forum will be held for seniors at the Senior Center on January 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Megan Milano said high school mid-term exams are next week. There is a fund raiser with the Harlem Wizards on January 15.

Rilind Abazi shared that the wrestling team is in first place standing with their next match this Wednesday at 7 p.m. There is also an art competition open to students.

#### Committee Reports:

Ms. Hamilton attended the Municipal Buildings Strategic Plan Advisory Committee meeting.

This committee is looking at the conditions of the town buildings. Geralyn Hoerauf is leading the group. Mr. Faiella has all of the information for the school buildings that needs to be collected for the town buildings. Not much for school personnel to do until the information is collected for the town buildings other than to figure out what to do with the school buildings.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if a consultant was being hired to look at the town and Board of Education buildings.

Ms. Hamilton said they are just looking at the town buildings with the first being the Hook and Ladder building, multi-purpose building and Town Hall South.

Mr. Alexander said the communication committee met and worked on the newsletter.

Ms. Hamilton stated the finance committee met with Dr. Erardi and Mr. Bienkowski regarding the bus routes and what four tiers would cost. They would like All-Star to attend for further discussion to optimize costs. The policy committee will meet next Thursday.

#### Item 6 – Old Business

MOTION: Mrs. Ku moved to approve the grade 7 math, grade 7 accelerated math and grade 8 math curricula. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Mrs. Leidlein had questions regarding the math program at the last meeting and asked when Dr. Gejda would provide a presentation for the Board.

Dr. Gejda said before a presentation would be made to the full Board there would be an ongoing conversation with the Curriculum and Instruction committee who she would work with to put the presentation together.

Mrs. Leidlein requested to table this conversation until we see that presentation.

Mrs. Ku said there are legitimate issues and we need to review the curriculum. The Curriculum and Instruction committee feels these curricula are appropriate for Newtown. The questions are if students are qualified to go into the program.

Ms. Hamilton said the other concern was more the vertical alignment, the paths students take and how they get there.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if these were the only math courses offered at the middle school and what the protocol was for students to go above these courses.

Dr. Gejda said we recently offered geometry and last year algebra II. These three curricula are for most of our students and we want them in place as they address alignment. We need to look at our whole K-12 program. The passing of these curricula would not have the other concerns go away.



Mrs. Leidlein wanted to have an explanation of the math courses and the percentage of students taking each course.

Mr. Vouros said the math program allows for students to move up if they can meet the academic rigor. The Curriculum and Instruction committee is monitoring this as to how it is administered and to who, which is another thing that will continue to be discussed. It's not just math we need to look at.

Ms. Hamilton asked what the specific curricula address.

Dr. Erardi said there is clear evidence we will have students taking all three courses. He suggested that February 10 we bring to the Board the math curriculum from 4<sup>th</sup> grade through the high school.

Ms. Leidlein respectfully asked to table this until we have the full picture.

MOTION: Mrs. Leidlein moved to table the vote on the grade 7 math, grade 7 accelerated math and grade 8 math curricula until the February 10 presentation. Mr. Freedman seconded.

Dr. Gejda said we have SBAC test this spring. Part of the curriculum process is identifying assessments. Teachers will continue to work following state guidelines. The middle school is piloting some materials. Until they have a curriculum to be approved by the Board that process might be held up.

Mr. Freedman asked what the timeline was for this curriculum implementation.

Dr. Gejda said this is a forward look to next year. Teachers would be able to move forward with curriculum they worked on.

Ms. Hamilton didn't think delaying a month would cause any significant problems.

Mrs. Leidlein appreciates what the middle school teachers have done. She wants to see the big picture for the math program in the district.

MOTION: Mrs. Leidlein moved to table the vote on the grade 7 math, grade 7 accelerated math and grade 8 math curricula until the February 10 presentation. Mr. Freedman seconded.

Vote: Mrs. Ku – no  
Mr. Freedman – yes  
Mr. Vouros – no  
Mrs. Leidlein – yes  
Ms. Hamilton – yes  
Mrs. Roche – no  
Mr. Alexander – no

Motion failed.

Vote on main motion: 4 ayes, 3 nays (Ms. Hamilton, Mrs. Leidlein, Mr. Freedman)

Motion passes.

Mrs. Leidlein hoped that this will continue to be a discussion going forward on academic rigor in this district.

#### Item 7 – New Business

Item 8 – Superintendent’s Overview of the Proposed 2015-2016 Budget

Dr. Erardi presented the proposed operating budget plan for 2015-2016. The budget amount is \$72,399,186 which is a 1.48% increase.

Ms. Hamilton asked about the world language program for kindergarten students.

Dr. Erardi had conversations with principals who are all in favor of this program. This will provide 30-minute classroom sessions.

Ms. Hamilton referred to the Danbury magnet school where students learn Spanish and asked if we would consider it in 6<sup>th</sup> grade for students returning.

Dr. Erardi said there is a decreasing interest in that school and we have decreased the number for the next school year. We looked to start in kindergarten as an opportunity to continue through the grade levels.

Mrs. Roche asked if we have it in kindergarten would we offer it to those students in first grade the following year.

Dr. Erardi said after a mid-year report on the program would move it to first grade for those students.

Ms. Hamilton asked about the proposed academic officer position at the high school.

Dr. Rodrigue said the assistant principals and department chairs are involved in observations. The academic officer will have a teacher leadership role also working with students, helping coach teachers in the classrooms and assist struggling students. This has a lot to do with the NEASC requirements.

Dr. Erardi supports this position to assure no students are falling through any cracks at the high school. A critical piece to the leadership team is to perform best practices for the students.

Mr. Vouros said that last year the Board of Finance suggested technology be put on a five year plan and asked if that was in this budget.

Dr. Erardi said there was a discussion on the cycle. This budget shows us moving forward with hardware replacement which is being addressed by the technology committee.

Item 9 – Elementary Schools Budgets

Ms. Gasparine stated she was comfortable this year and their work with Dr. Erardi was a team effort.

Dr. Erardi said that Head O’Meadow would have an additional section for 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Ms. Gasparine asked to consider moving the preschool class and its office so she could use those rooms next year.

Mr. Freedman asked for feedback on transportation.

Ms. Gasparine said it ran smoothly this year and she appreciated working with Mr. Colangelo who is a great communicator. All principals agreed.

Ms. Hamilton asked if the schedules were the same in each elementary school, to which Dr. Erardi said they were.

Ms. Hamilton asked for that information and a list of paraprofessionals and their hours in each elementary school.

Mr. Alexander liked the points of pride sections and the good things being done in the schools.

Item 10 – Reed Intermediate School

Mr. Freedman was concerned about the reduction in physical education.

Dr. Erardi said the reduction was the reflection of tightening the teacher schedules.

Mrs. Ku asked why there were more reading specialists than math specialists.

Mrs. Uberti said there was more language arts support than math so last year through reallocation she increased math support by .8 and writing to full time.

Ms. Hamilton asked Mr. Bienkowski to provide an accounting of the budget similar to the budget detail line items.

Item 11 – Public Participation

Michele Hankin, 16 Greenleaf Farm, said that regarding budget year comparisons it is important to make the public aware of why we need what we want. Having advanced math is critical in the middle school. She supports the arts and athletics but suggested looking at all the extra-curricular activities outside of athletics so there is equity in what the costs are for the students to participate.

Dr. Erardi said there is a budget increase for performing arts and regarding athletics he agrees there should be a balance.

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

Item 12 - Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Kathryn Hamilton  
Secretary

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on January 8, 2015 in the council chambers,  
3 Primrose Street.

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| K. Alexander, Chair     | J. Erardi |
| L. Roche, Vice Chair    | L. Gejda  |
| K. Hamilton, Secretary  | 5 Staff   |
| D. Leidlein (8:20 p.m.) | 3 Public  |
| J. Vouros               | 1 Press   |
| D. Freedman             |           |
| M. Ku                   |           |

Mr. Alexander called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Erardi referred to three questions from the previous meeting. Regarding the cost for world language in the elementary schools, the investment over two years would be a full time teacher. The paraeducator hours in the elementary schools also includes children in need of extra support.

The last question was regarding equity and assurances for the number of minutes for specials and core areas of instruction. All of our cuts around art, music and PE have no program effect on students next year. He will post this information tomorrow and send to all elected officials.

Ms. Hamilton said that she was looking for the actual number of paras working and their number of hours. She asked for Mr. Bienkowski's document to be sent to the Board electronically.

Item 2 – Newtown Middle School Budget

Mr. Einhorn spoke briefly about the middle school budget.

Mrs. Ku asked about the contracted services increases.

Mr. Einhorn stated they purchased a new writing program which has an online application used in all subjects and there were also replacement uniforms for sports teams. He is also looking for grant opportunities.

Mrs. Roche asked about the 7/8 gold cluster.

Mr. Einhorn said that will continue next year. These teachers volunteered for this cluster

Mr. Freedman asked for costs regarding the health center.

Mr. Einhorn stated there is no line item because it's self-sustaining. We just provide lighting, heat and janitorial services.

Dr. Erardi said the delay is waiting for needed furniture. It should open in three or four weeks.

Mrs. Roche asked about technology in the middle school.

Mr. Einhorn said they have received a lot of help from the technology department this year along with getting additional Smartboards. He is looking for additional computers for testing from a pilot perspective which will help reduce the time for testing. There are four dedicated labs outside the library.

Mr. Freedman wanted to know if there was any thought to combining extracurricular stipend positions. He requested a list of stipend positions and where they were split between two people.

Ms. Hamilton questioned the cost of the saxophone and if all instruments were owned by the students.

Mr. Einhorn said some own their instruments and some use ours.

Dr. Erardi said the cost of the saxophone is \$5,190. The need is to replace two for \$10,380.

Mr. Alexander noted the item for world language textbooks and thought they were out of Dr. Gejda's budget.

Mr. Einhorn said it has been an ongoing cost in instructional supplies.

Ms. Hamilton asked Mr. Bienkowski to give the Board the formula for each level for textbooks and instructional supplies.

### Item 3 – Newtown High School Budget

Dr. Rodrigue said her focus is on instructional support and athletics. Regarding the academic officer this is a teacher leader position to help students in the regular education program. This position will design intervention programs, help teachers, as well as personalize instruction.

Ms. Hamilton asked how different this position was from a guidance counselor and department chair.

Dr. Rodrigue said counselors work with students on a daily basis. The new position will have a greater oversight in working with students who need individualized programs. We need differentiation at the high school. Department chairs will oversee those teachers in their departments.

Mr. Freedman said that struggling with student enrollment and the high school's going down in the next years he needs to understand the importance of this position.

Dr. Erardi said we should sample survey other high schools. Many have four, not three, assistant principals to be involved with a similar number of students.

Mr. Alexander said that for many years we have had the request for an additional assistant principal. With this not being a full time position, how will this help the assistant principals.

Dr. Rodrigue said this leadership position will report to her and work side by side with the APs.

Mr. Freedman referred to the stipend position listing and asked if an analysis had been done to possibly consolidate some of the areas.

Dr. Rodrigue said some are split positions. Coaching depends on the sport as safety is an important issue.

Dr. Erardi will provide the same breakdown for stipend positions at the high school.

Mrs. Roche wants to understand what each high school club or team has to pay and what parents have to pay out of pocket.

Dr. Rodrigue said the cap per family is \$450. Parents have to pay out of pocket for clubs like Debate when they attend a tournament

Mrs. Ku asked about travel costs for athletics and if we provide transportation for clubs like Debate.

Dr. Rodrigue said we usually provide buses with parents also contributing.

Ms. Hamilton asked where the pay for play money went.

Mr. Bienkowski said the bookkeeping is taken care of at the high school. After each sports season he will request a check for the amount to forward to the town. Anything beyond what goes to the town will stay in a high school account for other costs like referees.

Mrs. Ku referred to the additional coaches.

Dr. Erardi said the indoor tack position is needed for instruction and safety. There is a need to fund the boys' volleyball program, gymnastics and golf.

Mrs. Ku noted that there were 14 boys and 15 girls' sports and was concerned about Title IX equity.

Dr. Erardi said Title IX encourages equity. Cheerleading is the swing sport.

#### Item 4 – Pupil Personnel, Special Education and Health Budgets

Mrs. Haggard spoke about the increase each year in special education referrals and the need for the additional special education supervisor at the high school. Out of district placements have stayed in the 30s. Additional budget drivers are professional development.

Mrs. Roche noted that preschool enrollment is declining and asked if that was due to charging a fee this year.

Mrs. Haggard said we needed less peers so that would have affected the amount we brought in.

Ms. Hamilton asked for a comparison to other districts regarding out-placed students.

Mrs. Haggard said that information is not readily recorded but she feels we are probably lower than most around us. As we proceed to our recovery we could get close to 7%. She would call districts for comparisons.

Mrs. Haggard said October 1<sup>st</sup> we had 471 identified students with 157 referrals last year for students to be evaluated. 60% of requests are coming from parents.

Dr. Erardi said the percentage of parents making request at the secondary school level is staggering.

Mrs. Haggard said the per pupil expenditure for these students has increased to \$67,000.

Dr. Erardi said the key to this formula is the percentage of reimbursement which is based on where the state is at that moment.

Mr. Vouros asked why there was an 8.2 reduction in paraprofessionals.

Mrs. Haggard said we are looking to increase the teaching model, reallocate positions and look at the IEPs.

Dr. Erardi is confident we are in a good space with this reduction.

Mr. Vouros asked how the GATES program was developing and how the additional personnel in the elementary schools would be used.

Mrs. Haggard said there would be more understanding of the identification process for third graders.

Dr. Erardi listed the information requested by the Board to include para FTE counts, talking points to ensure the community that art, music and PE are not program reductions, look at middle school stipends being split, the formula for purchasing texts and supplies, DRG search and State search regarding students at the high school and the number of administrators in those schools, look at high school stipends being split, club and activities costs per students, the

breakdown of world language enrollment, the DRG comparison of out-placed students and the request for Mr. Bienkowski's document to be sent to the Board electronically.

Item 5 – Public Participation

Kinga Walsh, 21 Horseshoe Ridge, was concerned about removing the help needed for the students in middle and high school activities. There will be a large range of costs for the various activities.

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

Item 6 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Kathryn Hamilton  
Secretary

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on January 13, 2015 in the council chambers,  
3 Primrose Street.

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| K. Alexander, Chair             | J. Erardi     |
| L. Roche, Vice Chair            | L. Gejda      |
| K. Hamilton, Secretary (absent) | R. Bienkowski |
| D. Leidlein                     | 5 Staff       |
| J. Vouros                       | 2 Public      |
| D. Freedman                     | 2 Press       |
| M. Ku                           |               |

Mr. Alexander called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Erardi addressed the Board questions from the previous meeting.

Mrs. Ku asked about stipends and if we knew what parents and the booster club contributes to sports and activities.

Dr. Erardi said many school districts have multiple support groups at the high school for the various activities. It would be a good practice for us at the end of the school year to see what they've done financially. We could not run our programs without parent support. Stipends are contractual and ours looks like most other high schools. He would gather parent contribution information.

Mr. Vouros suggested dividing the money equally among all of the people involved in the sports and activities.

Dr. Erardi said there is equity among co-ed sports coaches. Some seasons are longer than others which involves the length of the programs and the number of participants. The stipends are part of the NFT contract.

Item 2 – Curriculum Budget

Dr. Gejda spoke about her part of this budget.

Mr. Vouros asked if there was enough money to keep programs moving forward and for staff training also.

Dr. Gejda said we've trained teacher in readers workshop and will support the elementary staff. Staff developers from Columbia continue to come in for the Reed and middle schools. We were able to provide materials and books to get the program started. She will also pick up the writing units for grades K-7 and a summer writers workshop training.

Mr. Freedman asked about the summer workshop and summer institute.

Dr. Gejda said these are open to every K-8 teacher. The summer institute provides three trainers from Columbia.

Mr. Freedman asked if we could have teachers trained in order to train others in the district.

Dr. Gejda said we are doing that with readers workshop at Columbia.

Mr. Freedman asked about the number of hours per year for professional development.

Dr. Gejda stated that the district provides 18 hours of opportunities for teachers to participate in some type of professional development.



Mr. Freedman referred to the various meetings involving teachers and asked for a breakdown of the number participating.

Mrs. Leidlein asked what the expectation or requirement was for teachers to attend training in grades K-8 for reader's and writers workshops.

Dr. Gejda said the focus is on the English and language arts areas. Teachers can train voluntarily during the summer and we can also require them to attend training during the school day. We have summer training for grades 5-8 teachers. We encourage teachers in other content areas to attend summer training also. Middle school social studies and science teachers collaborate as a team in looking at strategies in English as they apply to their subject areas.

Mr. Vouros asked what we pay teachers in the summer.

Dr. Gejda said by contract it is \$150 per day for six hours of training.

Mr. Alexander referred to the reduction in enrollment at the Danbury magnet school.

Dr. Gejda said the budget allows for 27 places for next year because not all allotted seats were being utilized.

Dr. Erardi said we have the flexibility each year to decide the number of seats for the next year. We project eight fewer seats for next year.

Mrs. Roche asked how many teachers are not trained in writers workshop.

Dr. Gejda said when she started we offered this training. We should revisit it for everyone if possible and break it down into two years.

Mr. Freedman asked about the Powerschool training for two staff members and if it included support for parents.

Dr. Gejda said Pearson runs updates which may cause interruptions to the Parent Portal. Her budget supports the professional development for the district database administrator. The high school also has someone who could use the training.

Mr. Vouros wanted to know the number by grade level of who has not been trained in writers workshop summer offerings are nice but many don't sign up because of the pay. We need to find a solution because they all need to be trained.

Dr. Gejda said the language arts consultants are coaching the readers and writers workshops. If teachers cannot train during the summer, we will bring them in during the year or the following summer.

### Item 3 – Technology Budget

Mr. Vouros spoke about the \$160,000 removed from the budget and asked what that would have been used for.

Mrs. Amodeo said she had two opportunities to replace some of that money. One was from an RFP from the state for testing and also because of a change in the E-rate funding which may return some funds.

Mr. Freedman asked if this budget takes into account the decreased enrollment.

Mrs. Amodeo said it did impact the technology budget because we have to meet the needs of the required testing.

Mr. Freedman referred to changing obsolescence from seven to six years.

Mrs. Amodeo said we've had replacement every seven years but the older the equipment the longer it takes to accomplish tasks. We're looking to lessen the age of our equipment to operate better.

Mrs. Leidlein asked that with online testing if there were adequate personnel in each school to deal with any issues during the testing.

Mrs. Amodeo said we had a tech person in each school last year and there were also key people to float between the labs to provide assistance.

#### Item 7 – Plant Budget

Mr. Faiella spoke about equipment and furniture increases.

Mr. Freedman asked about the water fountain requested in the Reed cafetorium and if Chartwells could help with that expense.

Mr. Bienkowski said that wouldn't fall under their responsibilities.

#### Item 4 – General Services

Mrs. Leidlein referred to the Board of Education portion of the audit expense increasing 2% and if we met with them each year.

Mr. Bienkowski said there was an initial meeting and we received a copy of the completed audit which is a report of all of the accounts for the town. We are a department within the town as a line item. There were no meetings for us to go over the report.

Mrs. Leidlein asked how much the town pays for the auditing expenses.

Mr. Bienkowski said we pay \$25,000 and the town pays approximately \$50,000.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if other town departments contributed, to which Mr. Bienkowski said they did not.

Mr. Freedman referred to the organizational chart listing a number of the same positions in the Board of Education and town offices and if there were any discussions about partnering with the town on other areas.

Mr. Bienkowski said he communicates closely with Bob Tait but there are differences in the educational and municipal accounting systems. For the Board of Education to be on the town platform was very costly. They came over to our system. We also work cooperatively in the maintenance area.

Mr. Freedman said the town and Board of Education have payroll, insurance and accounts payable and asked if there has been any conversation about not duplicating services on both sides.

Dr. Erardi said we will discuss options with our goals but we are obligated to be cost efficient. This will be explored.

Mr. Freedman was concerned that the legal cost of \$40,000 was not enough and we should figure out a way to have more in that account.

Dr. Erardi said we are looking at contract negotiations and litigation to be resolved. In our partnership with Cirma we are confident they will present outstanding legal counsel. We are responsible for the first \$10,000.

Mr. Bienkowski stated that Cirma is a division of CCM that insure municipalities and school districts exclusively. They have a substantial reserve developed over the years.

Mr. Alexander mentioned the extra training for the tabletop exercise.  
Mr. Pompano said the tabletop exercise was put on by MHA Consulting in Arizona. This involves the simulation of an incident in real time and we've had two so far.

Mrs. Ku referred to the request for monitors.  
Mr. Pompano said we have exterior and interior cameras in schools. The current computers we have don't have what we need to view the cameras. The ten computers are for each school, one for him, one for Dr. Erardi and one for the town.

#### Item 5 – Continuing Education

Mr. Alexander asked what level of continuing education is required by the state.  
Mrs. Gellis said that would include GED, ESL, and adult mandated basic education. We pay a portion of those mandated services.

Mr. Freedman asked about the bookkeeper and computer assistant positions.  
Mrs. Gellis said they were 52 weeks but not full time positions and are in the secretaries' contract.  
Mr. Freedman asked their function September through December.  
Mrs. Gellis said during that time we work on the community brochures for adult education.

Mrs. Ku asked about the summer of 2013 program for Sandy Hook School which was also run last summer.  
Dr. Gejda said that was the booster program run through the SERV Grant.  
Dr. Erardi said we would run that program again next summer.

#### Item 6 – Benefits

Mr. Freedman asked a question for Ms. Hamilton which was if we were saving \$67,000 in benefits which Bob Tait mentioned at the Board of Finance meeting.  
Mr. Bienkowski said when we know what the final tally is for early retirement we would be in a better position to answer that question.

Dr. Erardi said the early retirement incentive final date to submit is February 5 so we will have that information at the following meeting.

Mr. Alexander asked if it was correct that regarding medical self-funded, if we have a decline in staff we don't get a direct decline in the amount we put into the fund.

Mr. Bienkowski said that was correct. Initially, it was based on the number of employees. The true number is much higher because it's based on the current year.

Mr. Freedman asked another question from Ms. Hamilton. Is there a possible \$200,000 savings in dental?  
Dr. Erardi said the timeline is the same as we are waiting for the incentives.

#### Item 8 – Transportation

Mr. Bienkowski said the budget for transportation is \$4,096,000. Our costs are still lower than four years ago. Next year is last year of a five-year contract.

Mr. Freedman asked another question from Ms. Hamilton. She wanted to know the status of the requested meeting with All-Star.

Dr. Erardi said a subcommittee meeting took place. We will bring management to a future Board meeting.

Mr. Bienkowski said we have an administration meeting next week to see if certain things are possible and then will set up the finance committee meeting.

Dr. Erardi said the subcommittee meeting with All-Star will take place prior to the February 17 Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Alexander asked to go through the expenditures and details behind out of district placements.

Mr. Bienkowski said the information is based on where they are expected to be next year. We also have to pay for the paraprofessionals. The DOJ grant was paying for one high cost transport and tuition through Dec. 31, 2014 so that will be our expense going forward. The summer programs transportation costs have also gone up.

Item 9 – Public Participation

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

Item 10 - Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Keith Alexander  
Chair



# FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: Lawrence Saladin Date: 1/09/15  
 Other Staff Involved: Jennifer Dellasega  
 Date of Proposed Field Trip: 1/29/15 - 2/1/15  
 Class/Group Involved: Student Govt  
 Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 18 students  
 Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): none

Destination: Washington D.C. - Leadership Conference  
 Place and Time of Departure: NHS - 10:00 AM 1/28/15  
 Estimated Time of Return: 5:00 PM - 2/1/15  
 Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.): WE NEEDED A BUS TO GET TO N.H. Train Station

Estimated Cost of Transportation: \$3500  
 Estimated Cost per Student: \$425<sup>00</sup>  
 Other Information: We are taking Amtrak from New Haven. We need a bus to take us to the train and pick up

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: Lorrie Robinson DATE: 1-12-15  
 OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP BOE APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Billing Information

Bill to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Pricing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours @ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour = \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Miles @ \_\_\_\_\_ per mile = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum Charge: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Charge per Bus: \_\_\_\_\_

### Confirmation

Information taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recorded in Book: \_\_\_\_\_



# FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: Eckhardt Date: 1/13/15

Other Staff Involved: Carley

Date of Proposed Field Trip: 1/30 - 1/31

Class/Group Involved: Jazz Ensemble

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 28

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): \_\_\_\_\_

Destination: Berklee Jazz Festival - Boston, MA

Place and Time of Departure: NHS 3pm 1/30/15

Estimated Time of Return: 11pm - 1/31/15

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Cost of Transportation: \$3080

Estimated Cost per Student: \$110

Other Information: Overnight at Holiday Inn Express Boston

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: Louie Rodriguez DATE: 1-15-15

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP BOE APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## Billing Information

Bill to: \_\_\_\_\_

Pricing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours @ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Miles @ \_\_\_\_\_ per mile = \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Charge: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Charge per Bus: \_\_\_\_\_

## Confirmation

Information taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recorded in Book: \_\_\_\_\_



# FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: Eckhardt Date: 1/13/15

Other Staff Involved: Carley

Date of Proposed Field Trip: ~~2/20/15~~ 2/21-2/22

Class/Group Involved: Wind Ensemble

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 50

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): Carley, Michele Buzzi -  
more TBD

Destination: Boston, MA - US Bands Concert Band Festival

Place and Time of Departure: NHS - 3pm 2/20/15

Estimated Time of Return: - 11pm 2/22/15

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Cost of Transportation: \$3000

Estimated Cost per Student: \$50

Other Information: Overnight at Holiday Inn Express - Boston

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: Lorie Rodrigue DATE: 1-15-15

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP BOE APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Billing Information

Bill to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pricing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours @ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Miles @ \_\_\_\_\_ per mile = \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Charge: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Charge per Bus: \_\_\_\_\_

### Confirmation

Information taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recorded in Book: \_\_\_\_\_



# FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: Eckhardt Date: 1/13/15

Other Staff Involved: Carley

Date of Proposed Field Trip: 3/13 - 3/14/15

Class/Group Involved: Jazz Ensembles

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 52

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): Michele Buzzi - More TBD

Destination: University of New Hampshire - Durham, NH

Place and Time of Departure: 3pm - NHS 3/13/15

Estimated Time of Return: 12 midnight 3/14/15

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Cost of Transportation: \$ 3100

Estimated Cost per Student: \$ 60

Other Information: Overnight at the Holiday Inn Express - UNH

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: Terrie Rodrigue DATE: 1-15-15

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP BOE APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Billing Information

Bill to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pricing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours @ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Miles @ \_\_\_\_\_ per mile = \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Charge: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Charge per Bus: \_\_\_\_\_

### Confirmation

Information taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recorded in Book: \_\_\_\_\_





# FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: Eckhardt Date: 1-13-15

Other Staff Involved: Findley / Whittington /

Date of Proposed Field Trip: 4-15-15 - 4-18-15

Class/Group Involved: Color Guard

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 18

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): Mr. & Mrs. Gaudett,

Robbin Allen, Cheryl Englis

Destination: Dayton, Ohio - World Color Guard Championship

Place and Time of Departure: NHS 5am 4-15-15

Estimated Time of Return: 12:00 am 4-18-15

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.) YLS

Estimated Cost of Transportation: \$3500

Estimated Cost per Student: included in participation fee

Other Information: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: Lorrie Rodriguez DATE: 1-15-15

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP BOE APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## Billing Information

Bill to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pricing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours @ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Miles @ \_\_\_\_\_ per mile = \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Charge: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Charge per Bus: \_\_\_\_\_

## Confirmation

Information taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recorded in Book: \_\_\_\_\_

January 5, 2015


TO: Dr. Erardi

FROM: Lorrie Rodrigue


Please accept the donations from The Weller Foundation to The Newtown High School music/performing arts department and the industrial arts department. Newtown High School students will certainly benefit from these very generous donations.

Thank you.

*L. Rodrigue*

 **THE WELLER FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED**  
P.O. BOX 1145 PH. 203-263-0229  
WOODBURY, CT 06798


Date: December 15, 2014 4241  
51-7218/2211  
80225

**PAY to the order of** Newtown High School \$ 500.00  
Five hundred and 00/100 Dollars  Security Features Details on Back


**People's United Bank**  
peoples.com

2014  
For Music/Performing Arts Grant *John E. Davis*

⑆221172186⑆ 0314085547⑈ 4241

 **THE WELLER FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED**  
P.O. BOX 1145 PH. 203-263-0229  
WOODBURY, CT 06798

Date: December 15, 2014 4246  
51-7218/2211  
80225

**PAY to the order of** Newtown High School \$ 500.00  
Five hundred and 00/100 Dollars  Security Features Details on Back

**People's United Bank**  
peoples.com

2014  
For Industrial Arts Grant *John E. Davis*

⑆221172186⑆ 0314085547⑈ 4246

BOE Communications Report, 1/20/2015  
 Kathy Hamilton, Board of Education Secretary

| From                    | Date      | Description   |
|-------------------------|-----------|---|
| Kinga Walsh             | 1/8/2015  | Budget Questions:<br>1) MS Art, PE & Music Reductions<br>a) Explain rationale<br>b) Will this affect the student schedule/class time?<br>c) Will this affect the student/teacher ratio?<br>2) Nursing salary decrease – is this due to contractual agreements?<br>3) Non-certified reductions – please specify exact reduction area.<br>4) Early retirement<br>a) How many took it?<br>b) Which schools?<br>c) How many will be replaced? |
| Mary Burnham (2 Emails) | 1/14/2015 | Reading Instruction in Kindergarten (2)   |
| Mary Burnham            | 1/16/2015 | Article by Nancy Bailey, “Are Today’s Children Developmentally Different from Children in the Past?”, 1/13/2015   |
|                         | 1/18/2015 | Common Core - Question About Communication with SDOE & SBOE   |

# Administrative Report

January 20, 2015

## 1. Facility Study Timeline

Start Date: Thursday, January 29

BOE Presentation: Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>

## 2. Senior Community Forum Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> (Attach #1)

## 3. Trans-Atlantic Trips: Spain, France, Greece

## 4. Midyear Graduation Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Attach #2)

## 5. PTA Sponsored Forum Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> - 7PM

## 6. Expanding Continuing Education (Attach #3)

  
1/20/15


## **Superintendent's Community Forum: A "Senior" Message**

Dr. Joseph V. Erardi, Jr., superintendent of schools, will be holding a one hour community forum on Wednesday, January 28th, starting at 2:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Newtown Senior Center.

The design of this hour gathering is to share information on the present state of Newtown Schools and to also share information on how the community can be an active partner with teaching and learning. In addition, Dr. Erardi will share the many new initiatives that the Board of Education has introduced within the 2014-2015 school year.

The forum is open to all community members; however, the information will be most relevant for senior members in Newtown.

Questions regarding this ongoing Board of Education community connection can be answered by calling 203-426-7621 during normal business hours.



Please join us to recognize  
the accomplishments  
of our students  
as they complete their  
graduation requirements

February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015  
5:00- 6:00 PM

(Snow date- February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015)

Newtown High School  
Cafetorium

*Refreshments Provided*

R.S.V.P. by January 30<sup>th</sup> to  
Suzanne Tyler at 426-7651 or  
tylers@newtown.k12.ct.us

**Board of Education Questions**  
**January 13, 2015**

1) What is the fiscal breakout of Object #131 - \$54,587 for committee meetings?  
 (reference budget book p.200)

| Committee                | Estimated Cost  |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Language Arts            | \$10,200        |
| Social Studies           | \$6,630         |
| Science                  | \$7,656         |
| Math                     | \$7,656         |
| Curriculum Council       | \$3,825         |
| Technology               | \$5,604         |
| TEAM                     | \$5,100         |
| District PLC Planning    | \$2,295         |
| Professional Growth Plan | \$3,825         |
| Professional Learning    | \$1,796         |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$54,587</b> |

2) Number of administrators (assistant principals) in schools comparable in size to NHS (added column for student enrollment)

| School Name                    | Principal | Head Master | Asst Head Master | Assistant Principal | Dean of Students | House Master | Total FTE Administrators | Enrollment | Administrators Average # of Students | Total FTE AP | APs Average # of Students |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Granby Memorial High School    | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 759        | 253.00                               | 2.0          | 379.50                    |
| Brookfield High School         | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 918        | 306.00                               | 2.0          | 459.00                    |
| New Fairfield High School      | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 1010       | 336.67                               | 2.0          | 505.00                    |
| Guilford High School           | 1         |             |                  | 1                   | 2                |              | 3.0                      | 1070       | 356.67                               | 3.0          | 356.67                    |
| Avon High School               | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 1083       | 361.00                               | 2.0          | 541.50                    |
| Masuk High School              | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 1227       | 409.00                               | 2.0          | 613.50                    |
| Daniel Hand High School        | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 1255       | 418.33                               | 2.0          | 627.50                    |
| Pomperaug Regional High School | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 1259       | 419.67                               | 2.0          | 629.50                    |
| Farmington High School         | 1         |             |                  | 2                   |                  |              | 3.0                      | 1322       | 440.67                               | 2.0          | 661.00                    |
| South Windsor High School      | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1409       | 352.25                               | 3.0          | 469.67                    |
| Fairfield Ward High School     |           | 1           |                  |                     | 3                | 3            | 5.5                      | 1418       | 257.82                               | 6.0          | 236.33                    |
| Hall High School               | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1475       | 368.75                               | 3.0          | 491.67                    |
| Cheshire High School           | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1514       | 378.50                               | 3.0          | 504.67                    |
| Conard High School             | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1542       | 385.50                               | 3.0          | 514.00                    |
| Fairfield Ludlowe High School  |           | 1           |                  |                     | 3                | 3            | 5.5                      | 1552       | 282.18                               | 6.0          | 258.67                    |
| Simsbury High School           | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1559       | 389.75                               | 3.0          | 519.67                    |
| Amity Regional High School     | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1621       | 405.25                               | 3.0          | 540.33                    |
| Newtown High School            | 1         |             |                  | 3                   |                  |              | 4.0                      | 1760       | 440.00                               | 3.0          | 586.67                    |
| Trumbull High School           | 1         |             |                  | 3                   | 1                |              | 4.5                      | 2195       | 487.78                               | 4.0          | 548.75                    |
| Glastonbury High School        | 1         |             |                  | 4                   |                  |              | 5.0                      | 2239       | 447.80                               | 4.0          | 559.75                    |
| Greenwich High School          |           | 1           | 1                |                     | 1                | 5            | 7.5                      | 2678       | 357.07                               | 7.0          | 382.57                    |

3) How many staff members have yet to be trained for workshop?  
(Writers Workshop, see Curriculum Budget)

| <b>Level</b> | <b>Language Arts Teachers to be Trained*</b> |
|--------------|--|
| Elementary   | 39   |
| Intermediate | 14   |
| Middle       | 8  |
| Total        | 61   |

\*These numbers are for classroom/LA teachers. However, it is important that special education teachers should also be included in training when appropriate.



**NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

**SUMMARY**

The sixth financial report of the 2014-15 fiscal year to date is attached. In the month of December, the Board of Education spent approximately \$5.4M; \$3.5M on salaries, \$1.9M for all other objects.

This report continues with “Anticipated Obligations” which reflect the best current estimate for expenditures beyond active encumbrance. The entries included here represent the estimated amounts for the offsetting receipts related to the excess cost and agency placement grants, based on the first estimate of what the districts’ expected expenses are that have been reported to the State on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The estimate is based on a reimbursement rate of 75% which is subject to change.

All the main object accounts remain in a positive balance position for this month with the exception of ‘Other Purchased Services’ which includes the Out of District Tuition account. The excess cost will cover part of this shortfall.

Professional Services which include legal services, psychological and medical evaluations is now exceeding budgeted by \$95,000, Tuition - Out-of-District is in an excess position of \$45,000, and electricity due to the higher price will exceed the budget by \$63,000. About half of this total expected shortage of over \$200,000 will be covered by various naturally occurring balances, while the rest will need to be covered by targeted spending restrictions such as in the supply accounts and holding on building and site improvement projects.

This budget is extremely lean and needs to be carefully monitored. Forecasting anticipated obligations will be ongoing from now on and will modify the balances required to end the fiscal year within the allotted budget.

**EXPENSE CATEGORY CONDITIONS**

**100 SALARIES**

The total salary budget is expected to be adequate to continue all the planned services for the balance of the year with a projected balance in certified salaries from substitutes and a similar surplus in non-certified primarily from the custodial and maintenance salaries account.

## **200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

Current estimates are on track with the EAP (Employee Assistance Plan) and medical expenses expected to produce a slightly improved balance.

## **300 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Psychological and medical evaluations along with legal services will cause this line item to exceed budget by about \$95,000 at this time. Significant increased activity in these areas may very well continue increasing the need here even more.

## **400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES**

This group of accounts provides services necessary to keep the buildings running, along with classrooms repairs and rentals. Several emergency repairs occurred at the schools including the following: Hawley – exterior door repair \$802, plumbing repairs \$1,310, tamper switch \$1,275, snake main line \$305; Sandy Hook School – boiler fittings \$500, elevator repairs \$367; Middle Gate – lighting repairs \$1,047, kitchen exhaust repairs \$850, roof leak \$2,402, boiler repair \$1,882, telephone lines \$575; Head O’Meadow – heating valve repair \$2,083, repair light poles \$680; Reed – repair chain link fence \$1,150; Middle School – repair chain link fence \$3,200; High School - replace humidifier tank \$2,416, repair intercom system \$849, debris removal from pumps \$1,125.

## **500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES**

Transportation looks like it will provide positive balance of approximately \$10,000. Insurance goes over slightly due to a policy need for our underground storage tanks. The Tuition – Out of District account is currently in the red and will continue to be underfunded after taking the excess cost grant into account. Additional tuitions and mediated settlements are responsible for these additional costs. This account will need to be monitored closely as additional expenses here will fall to the bottom line.

## **600 SUPPLIES**

This group of accounts includes the electricity, gas, and fuel along with supplies, materials and textbooks. Electricity will be short by \$63,000 due to the rise in prices and the new contract. Natural gas currently is within budget and fuel oil purchases are priced protected based on our fixed price and quantity contract. The fuel for vehicles (diesel and gasoline-buses) is currently projecting a favorable balance of approximately \$23,000. This is a result of the new bid for out of district transports beyond what was originally anticipated. All other supply accounts can be controlled to reserve funding for other budgetary overages.

### **700 PROPERTY**

Current estimates continue to be on track with no change.

### **800 MISCELLANOUS**

Current estimates continue to be on track with no change.

The budget will continue to be carefully monitored as it is very tight and any subsequent issues or opportunities will be presented as necessary.

### **REVENUE**

No revenues were received during the month of December.

### **OFFSETTING REVENUE**

No changes in this report since last month.

Ron Bienkowski  
Director of Business  
January 13, 2015

## **TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

The Newtown Board of Education's Monthly Financial Report provides summary financial information in the following areas:

- Object Code – a service or commodity obtained as the result of a specific expenditure defined by eight categories: Salaries, Employee Benefits, Professional Services, Purchased Property Services, Other Purchased Services, Supplies, Property, and Miscellaneous.
- Expense Category – further defines the type of expense by Object Code
- Expended 2013-14 – actual (unaudited) expenditures of the prior fiscal year (for comparison purposes)
- Approved Budget – indicates the town approved financial plan used by the school district to achieve its goals and objectives.
- YTD Transfers - identified specific cross object codes requiring adjustments to provide adequate funding for the fiscal period. This includes all transfers made to date.
- Current Transfers – identifies the recommended cross object codes for current month action. (No current transfers indicated)
- Current Budget – adjusts the Approved Budget calculating adjustments (+ or -) from transfers to the identified object codes.
- Year-To-Date Expended – indicates the actual amount of cumulative expenditures processed by the school district through the month-end date indicated on the monthly budget summary report.
- Encumbered – indicates approved financial obligations of the school district as a result of employee salary contracts, purchasing agreements, purchase orders, or other identified obligations not processed for payment by the date indicated on the monthly budget summary report.
- Balance – calculates object code account balances, subtracting expenditures and encumbrances from the current budget amount, indicating unobligated balances or shortages.
- Anticipated Obligation – is a column which provides a method to forecast expense category fund balances that have not been approved via an encumbrance, but are anticipated to be expended or remain with an account balance to maintain the overall budget funding level. Receivable revenue (i.e., grants) are now included in this column which has the effect of netting the expected expenditure.

- Projected Balance – calculates the object code balances subtracting the Anticipated Obligations. These balances will move up and down as information is known and or decisions are anticipated or made about current and projected needs of the district.

The monthly budget summary report also provides financial information on the State of Connecticut grant reimbursement programs (Excess Cost and Agency Placement Grants and Magnet Grant Transportation). These reimbursement grants/programs are used to supplement local school district budget programs as follows:

Excess Cost Grant – this State of Connecticut reimbursement grant is used to support local school districts for education costs of identified special education students whose annual education costs exceed local prior year per pupil expenditure by 4 ½. Students placed by the Department of Child and Family services (DCF) are reimbursed after the school district has meet the prior year’s per pupil expenditure. School districts report these costs annually in December and March of each fiscal year. State of Connecticut grant calculations are determined by reimbursing eligible costs (60%-100%) based on the SDE grant allocation and all other town submittals. Current year receipts results from the state reporting done in December. We receive notice of what we are eligible for in early April.

Magnet Transportation Grant – provides reimbursement of \$1,300 for local students attending approved Magnet school programs. The budgeted grant is \$62,400 for this year while the expected receipt is now \$67,600.

The last portion of the monthly budget summary reports school generated revenue fees that are anticipated revenue to the Town of Newtown, Fees include:

- High school fees for three identified programs with the highest amount of fees anticipated from the high school sports participation fees.
- Building related fees for the use of the high school pool facility, and
- Miscellaneous fees.

## NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING 12/31/2014

| OBJECT<br>CODE                    | EXPENSE CATEGORY         | EXPENDED<br>2013 - 2014 | YTD                |                          |                      |                   | YTD<br>EXPENDED | ENCUMBER      | BALANCE      | ANTICIPATED<br>OBLIGATIONS | PROJECTED<br>BALANCE |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                                   |                          |                         | APPROVED<br>BUDGET | TRANSFERS<br>2014 - 2015 | CURRENT<br>TRANSFERS | CURRENT<br>BUDGET |                 |               |              |                            |                      |
| <b><u>GENERAL FUND BUDGET</u></b> |                          |                         |                    |                          |                      |                   |                 |               |              |                            |                      |
| 100                               | SALARIES                 | \$ 45,029,126           | \$ 44,999,627      | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 44,999,627     | \$ 18,422,571   | \$ 25,444,104 | \$ 1,132,952 | \$ 1,097,912               | \$ 35,040            |
| 200                               | EMPLOYEE BENEFITS        | \$ 10,633,809           | \$ 11,169,344      | \$ (18,000)              | \$ -                 | \$ 11,151,344     | \$ 5,836,381    | \$ 4,393,333  | \$ 921,630   | \$ 902,003                 | \$ 19,627            |
| 300                               | PROFESSIONAL SERVICES    | \$ 863,909              | \$ 749,083         | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 749,083        | \$ 463,423      | \$ 235,094    | \$ 50,566    | \$ 144,586                 | \$ (94,020)          |
| 400                               | PURCHASED PROPERTY SERV. | \$ 2,418,651            | \$ 2,139,419       | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 2,139,419      | \$ 1,175,422    | \$ 326,207    | \$ 637,790   | \$ 556,399                 | \$ 81,391            |
| 500                               | OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES | \$ 6,809,463            | \$ 7,197,647       | \$ 5,600                 | \$ -                 | \$ 7,203,247      | \$ 3,916,357    | \$ 3,652,833  | \$ (365,943) | \$ (335,687)               | \$ (30,256)          |
| 600                               | SUPPLIES                 | \$ 4,619,171            | \$ 4,480,093       | \$ 12,400                | \$ -                 | \$ 4,492,493      | \$ 2,021,569    | \$ 172,422    | \$ 2,298,502 | \$ 2,310,474               | \$ (11,972)          |
| 700                               | PROPERTY                 | \$ 552,547              | \$ 534,735         | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 534,735        | \$ 403,330      | \$ 5,436      | \$ 125,968   | \$ 125,958                 | \$ 10                |
| 800                               | MISCELLANEOUS            | \$ 71,445               | \$ 75,356          | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 75,356         | \$ 52,301       | \$ 335        | \$ 22,720    | \$ 22,300                  | \$ 420               |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET</b>  |                          | \$ 70,998,119           | \$ 71,345,304      | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 71,345,304     | \$ 32,291,354   | \$ 34,229,764 | \$ 4,824,186 | \$ 4,823,945               | \$ 241               |
| 900                               | TRANSFER NON-LAPSING     | \$ 47,185               |                    |                          |                      |                   |                 |               |              |                            |                      |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                |                          | \$ 71,045,304           | \$ 71,345,304      | \$ -                     | \$ -                 | \$ 71,345,304     | \$ 32,291,354   | \$ 34,229,764 | \$ 4,824,186 | \$ 4,823,945               | \$ 241               |

**NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT**  
 FOR THE MONTH ENDING 12/31/2014

| OBJECT<br>CODE | EXPENSE CATEGORY                | EXPENDED<br>2013 - 2014 | YTD                  |                          |                      |                      | YTD<br>EXPENDED      | ENCUMBER             | BALANCE             | ANTICIPATED<br>OBLIGATIONS | PROJECTED<br>BALANCE |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                |                                 |                         | APPROVED<br>BUDGET   | TRANSFERS<br>2014 - 2015 | CURRENT<br>TRANSFERS | CURRENT<br>BUDGET    |                      |                      |                     |                            |                      |
| <b>100</b>     | <b>SALARIES</b>                 |                         |                      |                          |                      |                      |                      |                      |                     |                            |                      |
|                | Administrative Salaries         | \$ 3,013,832            | \$ 2,969,510         | \$ 11,950                |                      | \$ 2,981,460         | \$ 1,519,339         | \$ 3,142             | \$ 3,147            | \$ (5)                     |                      |
|                | Teachers & Specialists Salaries | \$ 30,557,381           | \$ 30,434,118        | \$ (88,828)              |                      | \$ 30,345,290        | \$ 11,724,856        | \$ 18,567,552        | \$ 52,882           | \$ 47,762                  | \$ 5,120             |
|                | Early Retirement                | \$ 16,000               | \$ 32,000            | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 32,000            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -                       | \$ -                 |
|                | Continuing Ed./Summer School    | \$ 85,584               | \$ 89,175            | \$ 763                   |                      | \$ 89,938            | \$ 67,639            | \$ 22,189            | \$ 110              | \$ -                       | \$ 110               |
|                | Homebound & Tutors Salaries     | \$ 388,172              | \$ 243,875           | \$ 1,405                 |                      | \$ 245,280           | \$ 118,495           | \$ 107,388           | \$ 19,396           | \$ 31,069                  | \$ (11,673)          |
|                | Certified Substitutes           | \$ 599,679              | \$ 641,325           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 641,325           | \$ 194,912           | \$ 84,570            | \$ 361,844          | \$ 338,537                 | \$ 23,307            |
|                | Coaching/Activities             | \$ 524,130              | \$ 529,749           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 529,749           | \$ 146,049           | \$ 2,387             | \$ 381,313          | \$ 380,600                 | \$ 713               |
|                | Staff & Program Development     | \$ 172,357              | \$ 199,768           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 199,768           | \$ 80,771            | \$ 83,677            | \$ 35,320           | \$ 35,320                  | \$ 0                 |
|                | <b>CERTIFIED SALARIES</b>       | <b>\$ 35,357,135</b>    | <b>\$ 35,139,520</b> | <b>\$ (74,710)</b>       | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 35,064,810</b> | <b>\$ 13,823,700</b> | <b>\$ 20,387,102</b> | <b>\$ 854,007</b>   | <b>\$ 836,435</b>          | <b>\$ 17,572</b>     |
|                | Supervisors/Technology Salaries | \$ 628,445              | \$ 634,244           | \$ 10,632                |                      | \$ 644,876           | \$ 307,321           | \$ 302,486           | \$ 35,069           | \$ 35,000                  | \$ 69                |
|                | Clerical & Secretarial salaries | \$ 1,961,645            | \$ 2,001,381         | \$ 9,090                 |                      | \$ 2,010,471         | \$ 937,768           | \$ 1,072,086         | \$ 617              | \$ 2,427                   | \$ (1,810)           |
|                | Educational Assistants          | \$ 2,007,432            | \$ 1,957,487         | \$ 136,710               |                      | \$ 2,094,197         | \$ 920,494           | \$ 1,185,713         | \$ (12,010)         | \$ (138)                   | \$ (11,872)          |
|                | Nurses & Medical advisors       | \$ 647,415              | \$ 658,255           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 658,255           | \$ 306,744           | \$ 355,598           | \$ (4,087)          | \$ (6,351)                 | \$ 2,264             |
|                | Custodial & Maint Salaries      | \$ 2,807,655            | \$ 2,857,565         | \$ (3,753)               |                      | \$ 2,853,812         | \$ 1,367,219         | \$ 1,448,759         | \$ 37,834           | \$ 23,000                  | \$ 14,834            |
|                | Non Certified Salary Adjustment | \$ -                    | \$ 66,716            | \$ (30,670)              |                      | \$ 36,046            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 36,046           | \$ 36,046                  | \$ -                 |
|                | Career/Job salaries             | \$ 112,160              | \$ 222,898           | \$ (22,342)              |                      | \$ 200,556           | \$ 96,482            | \$ 92,659            | \$ 11,415           | \$ 10,875                  | \$ 540               |
|                | Special Education Svcs Salaries | \$ 727,151              | \$ 928,549           | \$ (25,150)              |                      | \$ 903,399           | \$ 410,157           | \$ 491,520           | \$ 1,722            | \$ (7,184)                 | \$ 8,906             |
|                | Attendance & Security Salaries  | \$ 381,784              | \$ 209,824           | \$ 193                   |                      | \$ 210,017           | \$ 92,428            | \$ 105,692           | \$ 11,898           | \$ 10,255                  | \$ 1,643             |
|                | Extra Work - Non-Cert           | \$ 76,137               | \$ 69,825            | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 69,825            | \$ 51,469            | \$ 2,489             | \$ 15,867           | \$ 14,500                  | \$ 1,367             |
|                | Custodial & Maint. Overtime     | \$ 280,772              | \$ 210,363           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 210,363           | \$ 96,916            | \$ -                 | \$ 113,447          | \$ 113,047                 | \$ 400               |
|                | Civic activities/Park & Rec     | \$ 41,394               | \$ 43,000            | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 43,000            | \$ 11,872            | \$ -                 | \$ 31,128           | \$ 30,000                  | \$ 1,128             |
|                | <b>NON-CERTIFIED SALARIES</b>   | <b>\$ 9,671,991</b>     | <b>\$ 9,860,107</b>  | <b>\$ 74,710</b>         | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 9,934,817</b>  | <b>\$ 4,598,871</b>  | <b>\$ 5,057,002</b>  | <b>\$ 278,945</b>   | <b>\$ 261,477</b>          | <b>\$ 17,468</b>     |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL SALARIES</b>        | <b>\$ 45,029,126</b>    | <b>\$ 44,999,627</b> | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 44,999,627</b> | <b>\$ 18,422,571</b> | <b>\$ 25,444,104</b> | <b>\$ 1,132,952</b> | <b>\$ 1,097,912</b>        | <b>\$ 35,040</b>     |

## NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING 12/31/2014

| OBJECT<br>CODE | EXPENSE CATEGORY                   | EXPENDED<br>2013 - 2014 | YTD                  |                          |                      |                      | YTD<br>EXPENDED     | ENCUMBER          | BALANCE           | ANTICIPATED<br>OBLIGATIONS | PROJECTED<br>BALANCE |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                |                                    |                         | APPROVED<br>BUDGET   | TRANSFERS<br>2014 - 2015 | CURRENT<br>TRANSFERS | CURRENT<br>BUDGET    |                     |                   |                   |                            |                      |
| <b>200</b>     | <b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>           |                         |                      |                          |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                            |                      |
|                | Medical & Dental Expenses          | \$ 8,206,890            | \$ 8,736,119         | \$ (18,000)              |                      | \$ 8,718,119         | \$ 4,268,411        | \$ 41,510         | \$ 37,446         | \$ 4,064                   |                      |
|                | Life Insurance                     | \$ 87,200               | \$ 87,337            | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 87,337            | \$ -                | \$ 45,357         | \$ 45,357         | \$ 0                       |                      |
|                | FICA & Medicare                    | \$ 1,357,437            | \$ 1,335,674         | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 1,335,674         | \$ -                | \$ 763,668        | \$ 763,000        | \$ 668                     |                      |
|                | Pensions                           | \$ 458,311              | \$ 441,667           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 441,667           | \$ 10,441           | \$ 1,340          | \$ 1,200          | \$ 140                     |                      |
|                | Unemployment & Employee Assist.    | \$ 61,034               | \$ 83,560            | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 83,560            | \$ -                | \$ 64,449         | \$ 55,000         | \$ 9,449                   |                      |
|                | Workers Compensation               | \$ 462,937              | \$ 484,987           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 484,987           | \$ 114,482          | \$ 5,305          | \$ -              | \$ 5,305                   |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>  | <b>\$ 10,633,809</b>    | <b>\$ 11,169,344</b> | <b>\$ (18,000)</b>       | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 11,151,344</b> | <b>\$ 4,393,333</b> | <b>\$ 921,630</b> | <b>\$ 902,003</b> | <b>\$ 19,627</b>           |                      |
| <b>300</b>     | <b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>       |                         |                      |                          |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                            |                      |
|                | Professional Services              | \$ 660,280              | \$ 540,851           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 540,851           | \$ 197,701          | \$ (41,786)       | \$ 53,186         | \$ (94,972)                |                      |
|                | Professional Educational Ser.      | \$ 203,629              | \$ 208,232           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 208,232           | \$ 37,393           | \$ 92,353         | \$ 91,400         | \$ 953                     |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL PROFESSIONAL SVCS</b>  | <b>\$ 863,909</b>       | <b>\$ 749,083</b>    | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 749,083</b>    | <b>\$ 235,094</b>   | <b>\$ 50,566</b>  | <b>\$ 144,586</b> | <b>\$ (94,020)</b>         |                      |
| <b>400</b>     | <b>PURCHASED PROPERTY SVCS</b>     |                         |                      |                          |                      |                      |                     |                   |                   |                            |                      |
|                | Buildings & Grounds Services       | \$ 653,698              | \$ 651,600           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 651,600           | \$ 204,950          | \$ 66,503         | \$ 65,500         | \$ 1,003                   |                      |
|                | Utility Services - Water & Sewer   | \$ 113,321              | \$ 117,000           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 117,000           | \$ -                | \$ 66,416         | \$ 66,000         | \$ 416                     |                      |
|                | Building, Site & Emergency Repairs | \$ 503,610              | \$ 460,850           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 460,850           | \$ 13,063           | \$ 205,302        | \$ 205,000        | \$ 302                     |                      |
|                | Equipment Repairs                  | \$ 275,163              | \$ 270,433           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 270,433           | \$ 42,790           | \$ 92,781         | \$ 91,000         | \$ 1,781                   |                      |
|                | Rentals - Building & Equipment     | \$ 300,843              | \$ 305,536           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 305,536           | \$ 65,404           | \$ 56,890         | \$ 56,000         | \$ 890                     |                      |
|                | Building & Site Improvements       | \$ 572,017              | \$ 334,000           | \$ -                     |                      | \$ 334,000           | \$ -                | \$ 149,899        | \$ 72,899         | \$ 77,000                  |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL PUR. PROPERTY SER.</b> | <b>\$ 2,418,651</b>     | <b>\$ 2,139,419</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 2,139,419</b>  | <b>\$ 326,207</b>   | <b>\$ 637,790</b> | <b>\$ 556,399</b> | <b>\$ 81,391</b>           |                      |



## NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING 12/31/2014

| OBJECT<br>CODE | EXPENSE CATEGORY                   | EXPENDED<br>2013 - 2014 | YTD                 |                          |                      |                     | YTD<br>EXPENDED     | ENCUMBER            | BALANCE             | ANTICIPATED<br>OBLIGATIONS | PROJECTED<br>BALANCE |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                |                                    |                         | APPROVED<br>BUDGET  | TRANSFERS<br>2014 - 2015 | CURRENT<br>TRANSFERS | CURRENT<br>BUDGET   |                     |                     |                     |                            |                      |
| <b>500</b>     | <b>OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES</b>    |                         |                     |                          |                      |                     |                     |                     |                     |                            |                      |
|                | Contracted Services                | \$ 363,526              | \$ 427,574          | \$ -                     | \$ 427,574           | \$ 265,946          | \$ 87,216           | \$ 74,412           | \$ 72,000           | \$ 2,412                   |                      |
|                | Transportation Services            | \$ 3,714,217            | \$ 3,891,158        | \$ -                     | \$ 3,891,158         | \$ 1,659,487        | \$ 1,856,828        | \$ 374,843          | \$ 364,395          | \$ 10,448                  |                      |
|                | Insurance - Property & Liability   | \$ 297,870              | \$ 319,261          | \$ 5,600                 | \$ 324,861           | \$ 255,273          | \$ 69,535           | \$ 53               | \$ 1,077            | \$ (1,024)                 |                      |
|                | Communications                     | \$ 120,492              | \$ 118,143          | \$ -                     | \$ 118,143           | \$ 69,647           | \$ 35,451           | \$ 13,045           | \$ 11,560           | \$ 1,485                   |                      |
|                | Printing Services                  | \$ 32,365               | \$ 39,782           | \$ -                     | \$ 39,782            | \$ 13,801           | \$ -                | \$ 25,981           | \$ 25,100           | \$ 881                     |                      |
|                | Tuition - Out of District          | \$ 2,074,030            | \$ 2,177,958        | \$ -                     | \$ 2,177,958         | \$ 1,567,258        | \$ 1,528,469        | \$ (917,768)        | \$ (872,819)        | \$ (44,949)                |                      |
|                | Student Travel & Staff Mileage     | \$ 206,963              | \$ 223,771          | \$ -                     | \$ 223,771           | \$ 84,945           | \$ 75,334           | \$ 63,492           | \$ 63,000           | \$ 492                     |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL OTHER PURCHASED SE</b> | <b>\$ 6,809,463</b>     | <b>\$ 7,197,647</b> | <b>\$ 5,600</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 7,203,247</b> | <b>\$ 3,916,357</b> | <b>\$ 3,652,833</b> | <b>\$ (365,943)</b> | <b>\$ (335,687)</b>        | <b>\$ (30,256)</b>   |
| <b>600</b>     | <b>SUPPLIES</b>                    |                         |                     |                          |                      |                     |                     |                     |                     |                            |                      |
|                | Instructional & Library Supplies   | \$ 906,748              | \$ 911,614          | \$ -                     | \$ 911,614           | \$ 570,475          | \$ 64,068           | \$ 277,071          | \$ 259,000          | \$ 18,071                  |                      |
|                | Software, Medical & Office Sup.    | \$ 175,444              | \$ 210,966          | \$ -                     | \$ 210,966           | \$ 91,840           | \$ 64,453           | \$ 54,674           | \$ 50,000           | \$ 4,674                   |                      |
|                | Plant Supplies                     | \$ 351,501              | \$ 375,100          | \$ -                     | \$ 375,100           | \$ 247,955          | \$ 28,931           | \$ 98,214           | \$ 94,300           | \$ 3,914                   |                      |
|                | Electric                           | \$ 1,406,552            | \$ 1,406,127        | \$ 12,400                | \$ 1,418,527         | \$ 634,911          | \$ -                | \$ 783,616          | \$ 846,616          | \$ (63,000)                |                      |
|                | Propane & Natural Gas              | \$ 319,537              | \$ 338,737          | \$ -                     | \$ 338,737           | \$ 82,897           | \$ -                | \$ 255,840          | \$ 255,000          | \$ 840                     |                      |
|                | Fuel Oil                           | \$ 662,339              | \$ 528,038          | \$ -                     | \$ 528,038           | \$ 184,330          | \$ -                | \$ 343,708          | \$ 343,708          | \$ 0                       |                      |
|                | Fuel For Vehicles & Equip.         | \$ 531,906              | \$ 452,503          | \$ -                     | \$ 452,503           | \$ 61,165           | \$ -                | \$ 391,338          | \$ 367,850          | \$ 23,488                  |                      |
|                | Textbooks                          | \$ 265,144              | \$ 257,008          | \$ -                     | \$ 257,008           | \$ 147,997          | \$ 14,970           | \$ 94,041           | \$ 94,000           | \$ 41                      |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL SUPPLIES</b>           | <b>\$ 4,619,171</b>     | <b>\$ 4,480,093</b> | <b>\$ 12,400</b>         | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 4,492,493</b> | <b>\$ 2,021,569</b> | <b>\$ 172,422</b>   | <b>\$ 2,298,502</b> | <b>\$ 2,310,474</b>        | <b>\$ (11,972)</b>   |

## NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING 12/31/2014

| OBJECT<br>CODE | EXPENSE CATEGORY              | EXPENDED<br>2013 - 2014 | YTD                  |                          |                      |                      | YTD<br>EXPENDED      | ENCUMBER            | BALANCE             | ANTICIPATED<br>OBLIGATIONS | PROJECTED<br>BALANCE |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                |                               |                         | APPROVED<br>BUDGET   | TRANSFERS<br>2014 - 2015 | CURRENT<br>TRANSFERS | CURRENT<br>BUDGET    |                      |                     |                     |                            |                      |
| <b>700</b>     | <b>PROPERTY</b>               |                         |                      |                          |                      |                      |                      |                     |                     |                            |                      |
|                | Capital Improvements (Sewers) | \$ 124,177              | \$ 124,177           | \$ -                     | \$ 124,177           | \$ 124,177           | \$ -                 | \$ 0                | \$ -                | \$ 0                       |                      |
|                | Technology Equipment          | \$ 329,592              | \$ 378,900           | \$ -                     | \$ 378,900           | \$ 256,309           | \$ 5,436             | \$ 117,155          | \$ 117,155          | \$ (0)                     |                      |
|                | Other Equipment               | \$ 98,778               | \$ 31,658            | \$ -                     | \$ 31,658            | \$ 22,845            | \$ -                 | \$ 8,813            | \$ 8,803            | \$ 10                      |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL PROPERTY</b>      | <b>\$ 552,547</b>       | <b>\$ 534,735</b>    | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ 534,735</b>    | <b>\$ 403,330</b>    | <b>\$ 5,436</b>      | <b>\$ 125,968</b>   | <b>\$ 125,958</b>   | <b>\$ 10</b>               |                      |
| <b>800</b>     | <b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>          |                         |                      |                          |                      |                      |                      |                     |                     |                            |                      |
|                | Memberships                   | \$ 71,445               | \$ 75,356            | \$ -                     | \$ 75,356            | \$ 52,301            | \$ 335               | \$ 22,720           | \$ 22,300           | \$ 420                     |                      |
|                | <b>SUBTOTAL MISCELLANEOUS</b> | <b>\$ 71,445</b>        | <b>\$ 75,356</b>     | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ 75,356</b>     | <b>\$ 52,301</b>     | <b>\$ 335</b>        | <b>\$ 22,720</b>    | <b>\$ 22,300</b>    | <b>\$ 420</b>              |                      |
|                | <b>TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET</b>     | <b>\$ 70,998,119</b>    | <b>\$ 71,345,304</b> | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ 71,345,304</b> | <b>\$ 32,291,354</b> | <b>\$ 34,229,764</b> | <b>\$ 4,824,186</b> | <b>\$ 4,823,945</b> | <b>\$ 241</b>              |                      |

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING 12/31/2014

| OBJECT<br>CODE | EXPENSE CATEGORY | EXPENDED<br>2013 - 2014 | YTD                |                          |                      | YTD<br>EXPENDED | ENCUMBER | BALANCE | ANTICIPATED<br>OBLIGATIONS | PROJECTED<br>BALANCE |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                |                  |                         | APPROVED<br>BUDGET | TRANSFERS<br>2014 - 2015 | CURRENT<br>TRANSFERS |                 |          |         |                            |                      |

|                                     | 2014-15<br>APPROVED<br>BUDGET | RECEIVED           | BALANCE            | %<br>RECEIVED |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b><u>SCHOOL GENERATED FEES</u></b> |                               |                    |                    |               |
| HIGH SCHOOL FEES                    |                               |                    |                    |               |
| NURTURY PROGRAM                     | \$8,000                       | \$8,000.00         | \$0.00             | 100.00%       |
| PARKING PERMITS                     | \$20,000                      | \$20,000.00        | \$0.00             | 100.00%       |
| PAY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS     | \$84,800                      | \$38,711.00        | \$46,089.00        | 45.65%        |
|                                     | \$112,800                     | \$66,711.00        | \$46,089.00        | 59.14%        |
| <b><u>BUILDING RELATED FEES</u></b> |                               |                    |                    |               |
| ENERGY - ELECTRICITY                | \$313                         | \$0.00             | \$313.00           | 0.00%         |
| HIGH SCHOOL POOL - OUTSIDE USAGE    | \$500                         | \$0.00             | \$500.00           | 0.00%         |
|                                     | \$813                         | \$0.00             | \$813.00           | 0.00%         |
| MISCELLANEOUS FEES                  | \$150                         | \$345.00           | (\$195.00)         | 230.00%       |
| <b>TOTAL SCHOOL GENERATED FEES</b>  | <b>\$113,763</b>              | <b>\$67,056.00</b> | <b>\$46,707.00</b> | <b>58.94%</b> |

## NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING - DECEMBER 30, 2014

## OFFSETTING REVENUE INCLUDED IN ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS

| OBJECT                           | EXPENSE CATEGORY                | BUDGETED       | BUDGETED       | RECEIVED | EXPECTED       | BALANCE     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|-------------|
| 100                              | SALARIES                        | \$ (105,874)   | \$ (105,874)   | \$ -     | \$ (72,163)    | \$ (33,711) |
| 200                              | EMPLOYEE BENEFITS               | \$ -           | \$ -           | \$ -     | \$ -           | \$ -        |
| 300                              | PROFESSIONAL SERVICES           | \$ (69,991)    | \$ (69,991)    | \$ -     | \$ (64,789)    | \$ (5,202)  |
| 400                              | PURCHASED PROPERTY SERV.        | \$ -           | \$ -           | \$ -     | \$ -           | \$ -        |
| 500                              | OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES        | \$ (1,102,170) | \$ (1,102,170) | \$ -     | \$ (1,155,436) | \$ 53,266   |
| 600                              | SUPPLIES                        | \$ -           | \$ -           | \$ -     | \$ -           | \$ -        |
| 700                              | PROPERTY                        | \$ -           | \$ -           | \$ -     | \$ -           | \$ -        |
| 800                              | MISCELLANEOUS                   | \$ -           | \$ -           | \$ -     | \$ -           | \$ -        |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET</b> |                                 | \$ (1,278,035) | \$ -           | \$ -     | \$ (1,292,388) | \$ 14,353   |
| <b>100</b>                       | <b>SALARIES</b>                 |                |                |          |                |             |
|                                  | Administrative Salaries         | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Teachers & Specialists Salaries | \$ (23,564)    | \$ (23,564)    |          | \$ (22,506)    | \$ (1,058)  |
|                                  | Early Retirement                | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Continuing Ed./Summer School    | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Homebound & Tutors Salaries     | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Certified Substitutes           | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Coaching/Activities             | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Staff & Program Development     | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | <b>CERTIFIED SALARIES</b>       | \$ (23,564)    | \$ (23,564)    | \$ -     | \$ (22,506)    | \$ (1,058)  |
|                                  | Supervisors/Technology Salaries | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Clerical & Secretarial salaries | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Educational Assistants          | \$ (11,353)    | \$ (11,353)    |          | \$ (8,138)     | \$ (3,215)  |
|                                  | Nurses & Medical advisors       | \$ (20,301)    | \$ (20,301)    |          | \$ (14,351)    | \$ (5,950)  |
|                                  | Custodial & Maint Salaries      | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Non Certified Salary Adjustment | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Career/Job salaries             | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Special Education Svcs Salaries | \$ (50,656)    | \$ (50,656)    |          | \$ (27,168)    | \$ (23,488) |
|                                  | Attendance & Security Salaries  | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Extra Work - Non-Cert           | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Custodial & Maint. Overtime     | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | Civic activities/Park & Rec     | \$ -           | \$ -           |          | \$ -           | \$ -        |
|                                  | <b>NON-CERTIFIED SALARIES</b>   | \$ (82,310)    | \$ (82,310)    | \$ -     | \$ (49,657)    | \$ (32,653) |
|                                  | <b>SUBTOTAL SALARIES</b>        | \$ (105,874)   | \$ (105,874)   | \$ -     | \$ (72,163)    | \$ (33,711) |

|            |                                      |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|------------|--------------------------------------|----|-------------|----|---|----|-------------|----|-------------|--------|
| <b>200</b> | <b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>             |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>    | \$ | -           | \$ | - | \$ | -           | \$ | -           | \$     |
| <b>300</b> | <b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>         |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | Professional Services                | \$ | (69,991)    |    |   | \$ | (69,991)    | \$ | (64,789)    | \$     |
|            | Professional Educational Ser.        | \$ | -           |    |   | \$ | -           |    |             | \$     |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL PROFESSIONAL SVCS</b>    | \$ | (69,991)    | \$ | - | \$ | (69,991)    | \$ | -           | \$     |
| <b>400</b> | <b>PURCHASED PROPERTY SVCS</b>       |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL PUR. PROPERTY SER.</b>   | \$ | -           | \$ | - | \$ | -           | \$ | -           | \$     |
| <b>500</b> | <b>OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES</b>      |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | Contracted Services                  | \$ | (1,596)     |    |   | \$ | (1,596)     | \$ | -           | \$     |
|            | Transportation Services              | \$ | (277,990)   |    |   | \$ | (277,990)   | \$ | (265,391)   | \$     |
|            | Insurance - Property & Liability     | \$ | -           |    |   | \$ | -           |    |             | \$     |
|            | Communications                       | \$ | -           |    |   | \$ | -           |    |             | \$     |
|            | Printing Services                    | \$ | -           |    |   | \$ | -           |    |             | \$     |
|            | Tuition - Out of District            | \$ | (822,584)   |    |   | \$ | (822,584)   | \$ | (890,045)   | \$     |
|            | Student Travel & Staff Mileage       | \$ | -           |    |   | \$ | -           |    |             | \$     |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL OTHER PURCHASED SER.</b> | \$ | (1,102,170) | \$ | - | \$ | (1,102,170) | \$ | -           | \$     |
| <b>600</b> | <b>SUPPLIES</b>                      |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL SUPPLIES</b>             | \$ | -           | \$ | - | \$ | -           | \$ | -           | \$     |
| <b>700</b> | <b>PROPERTY</b>                      |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL PROPERTY</b>             | \$ | -           | \$ | - | \$ | -           | \$ | -           | \$     |
| <b>800</b> | <b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>                 |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             |        |
|            | Memberships                          |    |             |    |   | \$ | -           |    |             | \$     |
|            | <b>SUBTOTAL MISCELLANEOUS</b>        | \$ | -           | \$ | - | \$ | -           | \$ | -           | \$     |
|            | <b>TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET</b>            | \$ | (1,278,035) | \$ | - | \$ | (1,278,035) | \$ | -           | \$     |
|            |                                      |    |             |    |   |    |             |    | (1,292,388) | \$     |
|            |                                      |    |             |    |   |    |             |    |             | 14,353 |

Excess Cost and Agency placement Grants were budgeted at 75%. The estimated grant is calculated at the same percentage.

## Goals: Midyear Update – January 2015

### Superintendent's Goals for the 2014-2015 School Year

Superintendent's Goals Representing the Commitment of the Newtown Board of Education

#### 1. To provide focused, systematic, and sustainable funding for the improvement of student learning:

- On or before August 1<sup>st</sup> meet with the newly reconstituted curriculum subcommittee of the NBOE to establish goals and priorities for the 2014-2015 school year:
  - Examine both horizontal and vertical alignment of instruction paying close attention to transition grades 4/5, 6/7, 8/9.  
**Ongoing:** The NBOE Curriculum and Instruction Committee was reconstituted for the opening of the new school year and has met regularly with numerous agenda items focusing on K-12 alignment. Most specifically, math sequencing has been reviewed, realigned, and adjusted to meet the needs of the learner. The committee will continue to meet regularly during the second semester of this school year for further review of core areas of teaching and learning.
  - Review recently established (2013-2014) all-day kindergarten.  
**Completed:** A central office review, committee review, and a board presentation took place during the first semester of this school year. There will be continued attention paid to this area; however, at this particular time it appears that the move to a full day setting has offered great benefit to students and has been well received by educators, the board of education, and parents.
  - Review recently established pedagogy with Columbia's Readers and Writers Workshop.  
**Ongoing:** The NPS' continues with its transition to the workshop model as professional development has been offered to staff throughout the first semester of this school year. In addition, proposed funding within the superintendent's 2015-2016 operational plan includes K-8 summer training for Readers Workshop.
  - Explore and recommend to the NBOE findings pertaining to K-12 world language.  
**Completed:** A site visit to better understand the acquisition of World Language (grade K) took place during the first semester of this school year. In addition, a detailed presentation about global learning (NICE) was part of the December 16, 2014 BOE's agenda. Thus, included within the superintendent's proposed operational plan are funds to launch Spanish in grade K (.5 FTE) and to fund NICE leadership (\$10,000).
  - Review present framework for homebound instruction.  
**Ongoing:** During the first semester of this school year under the leadership of the Director of Pupil Personnel a program and cost analysis of homebound instruction was presented to the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. In January of 2015 the superintendent and Director of Business and Finance will be meeting with program providers to fully understand existing contracts and to negotiate future agreements.
  - Continue to monitor and review the K-12 GATES program.  
**Ongoing:** Multiple meetings at multiple layers of the NBOE organization (building, central office, Curriculum and Instruction Committee) have been ongoing throughout the first semester of this school year. Within the proposed 2015-2016 proposed operational plan there will be an increase of a 1.0 FTE educator to better support the emerging work at the elementary school level.
  - Explore the virtual learning framework at NHS in both a personalized and blended protocol.  
**Ongoing:** To date, the superintendent and assistant superintendent have facilitated two professional development sessions (personalized / blended) with the district's leadership team. The work will continue to unfold during the second semester of this school year.

- Review present alternative programming and report back to the NBOE with findings on or before February 1, 2015.  
**Emerging:** Second semester discussions will continue with a February Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting agenda item. The investigation will look at the student profile, present offerings, and student success.
- Recommend to the NBOE a complete professional development needs assessment prior to the adoption of the 2015-2016 school calendar.  
**Ongoing:** Details of the 2015-2016 professional development needs will be presented within the Superintendent's proposed 2015-2016 operational plan.
- On or before October 1st complete the design and the membership of the district's long term planning committee with a target date to report findings back to the NBOE on or before May 2015.  
**Delayed / Emerging:** In combination of the Governor's Sandy Hook Commission, Child Advocacy Commission, and multiple unforeseen safety threats (bomb scare SH, social media NHS / St. Rose) there was a need to stabilize the district and to hold on this initiative. In January 2015 former long term planners will be assembled to review the present plan and to offer insight to future planners. Administration will update the NBOE in May with progress pertaining to this initiative and will look to complete the plan in the 2015-2016 school year.
- On or before December 1, 2014 report back to the Newtown Board of Education with the results of the ongoing enrollment study.  
**Completed:** The enrollment study was completed in November and presented to the school board shortly after the administrative review.
- On or before January 1, 2015 report back to the NBOE with an update of the joint facility study in partnership with the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.  
**Ongoing:** In October 2014 two board members and the superintendent (ex-officio) became active with the Board of Selectmens' appointed Facility Advisory Committee. Multiple meetings have taken place and will continue to take place during the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year. Timely reports have been made by the appointed members to the board-at-large and these reports will continue on an as-needed basis for the remainder of this school year.

## 2. To enhance educational partnerships throughout the Newtown Community.

- On or before October 1, 2014 establish partnerships with senior citizens and the Senior Citizen Center.  
**Ongoing:** An introductory meeting with the leadership of the Senior Citizen Center took place in October 2014. This partnership will continue to move forward with an already scheduled January 2015 "Community Forum" to be held at the Center for all interested senior citizens.
- On or before September 1, 2014 produce a monthly broadcast on the local access station to better inform the community about its school system.  
**Completed:** Monthly productions have been in place since September 2014 with both staff and student features. The monthly show will continue throughout the 2014-2015 school year.
- Throughout the 2014-2015 school year meet and speak to civic organizations in Newtown to better inform their membership of the mission / vision / philosophy of the Newtown Board of Education.  
**Ongoing:** Keynotes have been delivered to the Rotary and to the Chamber with strong partnerships continuing to emerge with the Veterans, Newtown Youth Academy, and with the Senior Center. In addition, strong relationships continue to emerge with multiple foundations in the community.

- On or before September 1, 2014 establish a strong partnership with police and fire to ensure safe schools:
  - Maintain a positive relationship with the Newtown and Monroe Police Department  
**Completed / Ongoing:** Within both jurisdictions extraordinary support has been provided by safety officials.
  - Facilitate the Newtown Safety Committee.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** The design and fidelity of this committee could/should serve as a national model for public schools.
  - Monitor the recently established retired officer armed security program.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** Multiple meetings throughout the school year have taken place to ensure outcomes for teaching and learning to take place in an optimal environment.
  - Meet monthly with the district's security director.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** Weekly meetings with the director take place and will continue throughout this and subsequent school years.
  
- On or before September 1, 2014 meet with all stakeholders that will continue to support the recovery process for the NBOE staff, students and their parents:
  - Establish a weekly meeting with the SERV grant director to fully understand and support all mental health recovery issues.  
**Completed:** This challenging objective (change in leadership from original hire to interim to most recent permanent appointment) remains a daily/weekly discussion. The complexity of this work is reflected in the superintendent's proposed 2015-2016 operational plan as SERV funds diminish during the upcoming school year.
  - On or before December 1, 2014 report to the NBOE the ongoing recovery of the district as supported by the Department of Justice and the Department of Education.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** Dr. Melissa Brymer, the district's advisor to the SERV grant, reported to the NBOE (November) an update and an analysis of both the Department of Education and the Department of Justice funding and programming opportunities.
  
- On or before September 1, 2014 create a mentoring program for the district's at-risk children.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** In August 2014, within the Superintendent's Convocation address, the mentoring challenge was launched to all staff. This challenge will be measured by the aspiring administrators in February 2015 with a NBOE presentation in May / June of 2015.
  
- Throughout the 2014-2015 school year regularly attend school PTA meetings to support administration and the parents of the Newtown Public Schools.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** Strong relationships have been developed with parents at all levels of the organization. Monthly meetings are held with PTA presidents and keynotes have been made to three PTA's throughout the first semester of this school year. Quality time will continue to be dedicated to enhancing this partnership.
  
- Hold quarterly "town meetings" for the community to fully understand the opinion and the pulse of all stakeholders pertaining to teaching, learning, safety, and security.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** In partnership with central office staff, community meetings have been held throughout the first semester of this school year. Town meeting settings have attracted a wide range of stakeholders (September meeting attracting nearly 200 attendees) to discuss numerous topics. Agendas have included offering insight to the new superintendent, better understanding teaching and learning, and two additional sessions were held to ensure accurate information to all pertaining to school safety threats.

### 3. To enhance the district's Technology Plan for students and staff.

- On or before the submission of the 2015-2016 proposed operational plan present to the NBOE a three year technology phase-in program that would move the district forward for optimal teaching and learning.  
**Ongoing:** The first of a three year recovery/enhancement plan will be presented to the NBOE in January within the upcoming budget workshops.



**4. To create a student / staff *Celebration of Excellence* program throughout the district.**

- The Newtown Board of Education will recognize outstanding student and staff achievement at its monthly meetings.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** This initiative has been in place since the start of the school year and has been well received by all stakeholders.
- The Board of Education office will showcase exceptional work created by K-12 students.  
**Ongoing:** Staff and administration routinely share student exemplars with central office resulting in personal acknowledgement from the district's leadership team to individual learners.
- A quarterly newsletter will be shared with staff recognizing outstanding contributions within the Newtown Public Schools' community.  
**Completed / Ongoing:** The November staff newsletter received high praise from staff and this initiative will continue to emerge with a second quarter newsletter targeted for staff and the community.
- Develop an annual end-of-year *Profiles in Professionalism* program for all certified and non-certified staff which will recognize a dozen hard working employees who simply do outstanding work with little fanfare or recognition.  
**Ongoing:** The *Profiles in Professionalism Program* will be showcased as an end-of-the-year celebration recognizing a dozen staff members for exceptional work.
- Honor the Top 10 Scholars at Newtown High School with a recognition luncheon sponsored by the superintendent.  
**Ongoing:** The *Scholars' Luncheon* will be a signature end-of-the-year event which will highlight the Newtown High School Class of 2015.