

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the board room at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair	L. Gejda
L. Roche, Vice Chair	R. Bienkowski
C. McCubbin, Secretary	1 Staff
R. Gaines late	14 Public
W. Hart	5 Press
K. Alexander	
J. Vouros	

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Item 1 – Public Hearing on the 2013-2014 Budget

Michelle Hankin, 16 Greenleaf Farms, public safety needs have changed and she appreciates officers at the schools and supports SROs in the buildings.

Amy Roman, 58 Taunton Hill Road, was pleased that everyone supports protection in the schools but we also need parental support. She offered help at anytime.

Christie Hatcher, 14 Chimney Swift Drive, supports additional funding to address high achieving students for the Gates program. Students will be able to achieve more with specialized training. We need a program where advanced students can be challenged.

Michelle Ku, Platts Hill Road, thanked the Board for their work recently. At the September 4 meeting the Board voted against a .2 position to provide services for a gifted child and two months later that money paid for professional services. She asked the Board to designate \$12,000 to \$15,000 to the Gates program to reinstate programs lost a few years ago. She also requested Board commitment to those needs. She suggested the appointment of an advisory committee of administrators, parents and teachers to meet regarding the continuity of educators of the gifted program and to keep the students academically challenged. She read a letter from Juli Pankow, Hoseye Coach Road, who could not attend the meeting. She has a 6<sup>th</sup> grader in the Gates program and supports money to meet those needs. It should not be attached to a program.

Carla Barzetti, 16 Beaver Dam Road, spoke on behalf of security guards and having 2 armed guards at each school. Security is paramount. We have a lot of talented parents in the community who can volunteer to help in the schools so funds can be used for security.

Kinga Walsh, 21 Horseshoe Ridge Road, addressed the budget. There have been a lot of cuts in years past and now there are safety issues in the schools. It is good for the public to understand where the Board stands. One thought would be to send it through and let the public decide. She is proud of the way people have worked together.

Karyn Holden, 68 Berkshire Road, is the mother of a first grader at Sandy Hook School. She agrees that we need security officers at our school. We need cell service and a generator and they all fall under security. We lost a strong advocate for the full day kindergarten program. This is something the children and town can take advantage of and the Board should strongly

consider keeping it in budget. With all that we add to this budget we need to make sure the children can still be children and go out onto the playground. She wants her 6-year-old to be a 6-year-old again.

#### Item 2 – Budget Discussion

Mr. Gaines said a recommendation from the security committee would come to the Board at the meeting on Thursday to add SROs for the elementary schools. They also want them added to the budget and implement immediately additional unarmed security officers in the district with one at each elementary school.

Mrs. Leidlein suggested taking additional time to adopt the budget so there is time to review everything as they will be receiving additional information. She had requested an analysis of the past early retirement plan completed in the fall.

Mr. Vouros felt we needed to see who they are, what positions they hold and what the probability is of finding someone who will sustain the quality of education. Some positions can't be easily replaced. This retirement package shows us where we can possibly save money and we have to be careful that when we do this it shows that we honor these teachers and offer them something that comes close to measuring the success they have had and dedication to the children.

Mrs. Leidlein asked for additional costs since December 14.

Mr. Bienkowski stated he had a meeting the next day with the insurance representatives to see what we are eligible for.

Mrs. Leidlein asked for material on anything including substitutes so they can apply for grants where needed.

Mr. Alexander asked if the staffing information was just until the end of this school year would they be part of the grant and if we will need to pay for anything in the current budget.

Mr. Bienkowski said there are a lot of unknowns and has received bills for approximately \$90,000 so far from Board funds. There may be some positions he isn't sure of. Special ed funds will come from the IDEA grant for the TESOL teacher. Seven of the substitutes and the educational assistants are not in the budget for next year. The TESOL teacher will be in the budget for next year.

Mrs. Roche asked if there was more staff being requested for the end of the year.

Dr. Gejda said there were none she was aware of.

Mr. Vouros feels there should be a separate list of what we will need to add to the \$6.5M for next year. He feels no positions should be removed from the list.

Mrs. Leidlein referred to the enrollment information and stated she had requested actual enrollment figures for Reed and the middle school also, not Chung's numbers.

Mr. Bienkowski said there was no difference in the numbers. Looking at Reed there is very little change. He would provide a separate chart with actual numbers. He said we did a persistence rate on our own numbers and it was decided to use Chung's numbers for the budget.

Mrs. Leidlein didn't understand using Chung's numbers when the actuals are more accurate. They are higher than we've seen in our schools.

Mr. Hart asked about the variance at Head O'Meadow School.

Mr. Bienkowski said they suggest having 71 in grade 1 and 60 in kindergarten.

Mrs. Roche requested the enrollment information be part of the minutes and read a proposed bill regarding ESC grants amounts and the number of children enrolled in half-day kindergarten programs, which is also attached.

Mr. McCubbin explained that currently we have part time kindergarten students that are counted as full time students. We would get a reduced amount from the reimbursement grant when we have full day kindergarten.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to adjourn. Mrs. Roche seconded. Vote: 7 ayes

Item 3 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Cody McCubbin  
Secretary

**ADDITIONAL STAFFING POST 12/14/12**

**NEW POSITIONS**

**2012-13  
SALARY**

**SANDY HOOK**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

12/17/2012  
1 20 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR  
1 20 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR  
1 20 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR  
1 20 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR

CATHY MAZZARIELLO  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$62,034.00  
\$4,660.04  
\$4,660.04  
\$4,660.04  
\$4,660.04

BUILDING SUBSTITUTES

4  
1 \$75/DAY  
7

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$18,640.16  
\$6,675.00  
\$6,675.00  
\$6,675.00  
\$6,675.00  
\$6,675.00  
\$6,675.00  
\$6,675.00

\$46,725.00  
\$127,399.16

**MIDDLE GATE**

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT  
SECURITY GUARD

1 SP. ED. 22.5 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR  
1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$5,242.55  
\$10,042.76  
\$15,285.31

**HEAD O'MEADOW**

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT  
SECURITY GUARD

1 PRE-SCH 13 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR  
1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$3,029.03  
\$10,042.76  
\$13,071.79

**HAWLEY**

SECURITY GUARD

1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$10,042.76

**REED INTERMEDIATE**

SECURITY GUARD

1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$10,042.76

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

SECURITY GUARD

1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$10,042.76

**HIGH SCHOOL**

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT  
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR  
SECURITY GUARD

1 PRE-SCH 13 HR/WK @\$13.09/HR  
1 1.0 FTE  
1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR  
1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR  
1 35 HR/WK @\$16.12/HR

ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS  
ESTIMATED 89 DAYS

\$3,029.03  
\$28,309.61  
\$10,042.76  
\$10,042.76  
\$10,042.76

BASED ON M-6

\$30,128.28  
\$61,466.92

\$247,351.46

**EXTRA/INCREASE FTE/HOURS**

**SANDY HOOK**

.75 TO 1.0 FTE

NANCY ROGERS-DUFFY  
KRISTEN MATTERA  
KRISTINA PIERCE

\$474.96 YTD  
\$450.00 FORMER SHS TEACHER  
\$1,504.70 SHS TEACHER ON LOA  
\$2,429.66

**HIGH SCHOOL**

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

PRE-SCH. 13HR/WK TO 26HR/WK

MARIANNE NADRICZNY

\$3,403.40 STARTED 1/17/13

\$5,833.06

**ADDITIONAL STAFFING POST 12/14/12**

\$253,184.52

**DISTRICT**

TESOL TEACHER

.4 TO 1.0 FTE

NANCY CONRON

\$16,993.62

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ENROLLMENTS AND STAFFING

GUIDELINE	HAWLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL						SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL						MIDDLE GATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL						HEAD O'MEADOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL						
	ACTUAL 2012-13			PROJECTED 2013-14			ACTUAL 2012-13			PROJECTED 2013-14			ACTUAL 2012-13			PROJECTED 2013-14			ACTUAL 2012-13			PROJECTED 2013-14			
	GRADE	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS	STUDENTS	TEACHERS	CLASS			
20 PER CLASS	K	49	2	12	50	3	16	72	2	17	73	4	18	72	2.5	13	64	4	16	60	2	14	43	3	14
				12		-1.5	17			17		+2	18			14		+2	16			15		+1.5	14
				12			17			19			18			15			16			15			15
			13						19			19			15			16			16			15	
25 PER CLASS	1	73	4	18	67	4	16	78	5	15	93	5	18	85	5	17	82	5	16	72	4	17	59	3	19
				18			17			15			18			17			16			18		-1	20
				18			17			16			19			17			16			18			20
				19			17			16			19			17			17			19			+1
				19			17			16			19			17			17			19			
	2	79	4	19	67	4	16	94	5	18	78	4	19	103	6	17	85	5	17	61	4	15	62	4	15
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## Enrollment Update

### Principal Submissions:

**HAW** Slight variances to projected, no teacher staffing impact.

**SHS** Using same numbers, less 20; one less teacher.

**MGS** Slight variances to projected; no teacher, staffing impact.  
Lowering class sizes can add three teachers.

**HOM** Increase in all grades, suggest plus one grade 1 teacher and remove one grade 3 teacher. Net impact, no change.

Overall all elementary schools are down by 1 teacher at SHS.  
Compare chart to budget page 50.

**RIS** Variance of -10 in projected, slight increase will have no impact on teacher count. Using current 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> will result in a decrease.

**MS** Variance of -5 in projected, no impact on teacher count. Using current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> will result in a decrease.

**HS** Variance of -73 using Chung numbers, to -10 using current classes moved forward.  
Staffing needs accounted for by HS principal.

## Projected Enrollment and Staffing for Hawley 2013-2014

Kindergarten – 1 FTE for 3 FDK classes, I believe we could have more than 50 students.

Grade 1- 68 students based on an average of 18 new students each year.

Keep four teachers. That would be classes of 17, 17, 17, 17.

**3 special education students**

Grade 2 – 75 students based on an average of 4 new students each year.

Keep four teachers. This would be classes of 18, 19, 19, 19.

**5 special education students**

Grade 3 – 87 students based on an average of 4 new students each year.

Keep four teachers. This would be classes of 21, 22, 22, 22.

**5 special education students**

Grade 4 – 72 students based on an average of 1 new student each year.

Keep four teachers. This would be classes of 18, 18, 18, 18.

**\*\*11 special education students (class size should be smaller based on needs)**

### Projections for 2013-2014

Grade 1 – 48 k plus 18 new = 68 67

Grade 2 – 71 1<sup>st</sup> plus 4 new = 75 67

Grade 3 – 83 2<sup>nd</sup> plus 4 new = 87 80

Grade 4 – 71 3<sup>rd</sup> plus 1 new=72 81

Net Staffing Change = 0

HAWLEY ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS 2013-2014					
AVERAGE					
Grade	Current Students	Incoming	Projected Enrollment	Spec. Ed. Students	504 Students
Kindergarten					
K into Grade 1 **with 4 teachers	48	*18	68 17,17,17,17	3	4
Grade 1 into Grade 2 **with 4 teachers	71	*4	75 18,19,19,19	5	2
Grade 2 into 3 **with 4 teachers	83	*4	87 21,22,22,22	5	8
Grade 3 into 4 **with 4 teachers	71	*1	72 18,18,18,18	6 + 2 being evaluated	11
*Average incoming students-past 6 years at Hawley					

MG

Grade	Current	Sections	Class sizes	Projected* 2013-14	Sections	Class Sizes
Kindergarten	72	5	15, 14, 15, 14, 14 14.4 avg	64* ✓	5 sections (12.8 avg) 4 sections (16 avg) ✓	13, 13, 13, 13, 12 16, 16, 16, 16
Grade 1	84	5	17, 17, 16, 17, 17 16.8 avg	86* ✓ 82	5 sections (17.2 avg) ✓	17, 17, 17, 17, 16
Grade 2	102	6	17, 17, 17, 17, 17, 17, 17 avg	84 ✓ 85	5 sections (16.8 avg) ✓	17, 17, 17, 17, 16
Grade 3	97	4	25, 24, 24, 24 24.25 avg	102 ✓ 101	6 sections (17 avg) 5 sections (20.4 avg) ✓	17, 17, 17, 17, 17, 17 21, 21, 20, 20, 20
Grade 4	94	4	24, 24, 23, 23 23.5 avg	97 ✓ 91	5 sections (19.4 avg) 4 sections (24.25 avg) ✓	20, 20, 19, 19, 19 25, 24, 24, 24
<b>449 total</b>				<b>433 Total</b>		
updated 01/22/13						
K = Dr. Chung's number						
Grade 1 = current K plus typical enrollment						
Grades 2-4 = current numbers advanced on grade level						



Ron Bienkowski < bienkowskir@newtown.k12.ct.us >

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**updated enrollment**

1 message

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**Christopher Geissler** < geisslerc@newtown.k12.ct.us >

Wed, Jan 23, 2013 at 10:19 AM

To: Ron Bienkowski < bienkowskir@newtown.k12.ct.us >

Cc: Jo-Ann Peters < petersj@newtown.k12.ct.us >, Barbara Gasparine < gasparineb@newtown.k12.ct.us >, Janet Robinson < robinsonj@newtown.k12.ct.us >, Linda Gejda < gejdal@newtown.k12.ct.us >, Laura Altieri < altieril@newtown.k12.ct.us >

Attached is the updated enrollment for Middle Gate School (with projections for next year). I am also creating a version with notations to detail other considerations (ex. special needs, behavioral concerns) should there be questions or possible shifts in staffing.

Thanks,  
Chris



**Enrollment as of 012213.xls**

33K

Enrollment and Staffing for HOM Projected for 2013-14

Kindergarten:

Add 1 FTE for 3 FDK classes. I believe I will have more than 43 students. If we do not have FDK, I still would be surprised if we did not have enough students for 4 sessions. But, you never know.

Grade 1: 60 Students <sup>current</sup> ✓. 59

+1

Keep 4 teachers in this grade. That will give HOM 15 students per classroom with room for incoming new from private schools, as we typically get.

Grade 2: 72 Students ✓. 62

Keep 4 teachers. That will give HOM 18 per classroom.

Grade 3: 62 Students ✓. 75

-1

Keep 3 teachers. That will give us classes of 20, 21, 21.

Grade 4: 58 Students ✓. 51

Reduce this grade level by 1 teacher. That will give us classes of 19, 19, 20.

Net Change=0

Enrollment for Head O'Meadow School 2013-14  
with Projections

Grade	Current Students	Average Incoming	Average Not Returning	Possible Students	Included Students
Kindergarten				***43-60	
<b>K into Grade 1</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>13*</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>71 v. 59</b>	<b>4</b>
✱ With 4 Teachers	15,15,15,15			17,18,18,18	
With 3 Teachers ✓	20,20,20			23,24,24	
<b>Grade 1 into Grade 2</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>6*</b>	<b>1*</b>	<b>77 v. 62</b>	<b>8</b>
With 4 Teachers	18,18,18,18			19,19,19,20	
With 3 Teachers ✓	24,24,24			25,26,26	
<b>Grade 2 into Grade 3</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6*</b>	<b>1*</b>	<b>67 v. 75</b>	<b>5</b>
With 3 Teachers	20,20,21			22,22,23	
With 2 Teachers	31,31			33,34	
<b>Grade 3 into Grade 4</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>5*</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>61 v. 51</b>	<b>9</b>
With 4 Teachers	14,14,15,15			15,15,15,16	
With 3 Teachers ✓	19,19,20			20,20,21	
				***Total=337-354	
***Preschool=18 as of 1/18/13					
* Average of past 6 years at HOM					

+1 Teacher

same

-1 Teacher

same



General Assembly

***Proposed Bill No. 160***

*January Session, 2013*

LCO No. 815

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:

SEN. BYE, 5th Dist.

***AN ACT CONCERNING ECS GRANT AMOUNTS AND THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN HALF-DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS.***

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

That section 10-262h of the general statutes be amended to reduce a town's total equalization aid grant by an amount equal to the number of students enrolled in a half-day kindergarten program in such town multiplied by one-half the per pupil equalization aid grant for such town.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To better align education cost sharing grants for towns with the amount of classroom instruction offered to kindergarten students.