

**BOE Policy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 29, 2020 Virtual
Meeting 8:30 A.M.**

In consideration of public health, open meetings and the Governor’s Executive Order No. 7B dated March 10, 2020 regarding PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES; this meeting will include an option for the public to phone in to listen to the audio of the meeting. Please note that public comment will be received by phone at the beginning and end of this meeting.

**Joining Info: Join by phone
+1 304-691-0274 (PIN: 865 079 555)**

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Newtown Board of Education member Deborra Zukowski will be on the phone listening to the meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to approve the minutes of March 11, 2020 Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
<p>Policy 3171.1 – Non Lapsing R.Harriman-Stites recommends changing the specific percentage in this policy and have it more open-ended because it may change from year to year. R. Bienkowski agreed that he would be fine with the change and will keep the committee up to date with any legislative changes. The first paragraph will now read: <i>“The Newtown Board of Education (Board) may request the Town’s Board of Finance deposit into a non-lapsing account any unexpended funds from the Board’s prior fiscal year general operating budget, provided such amount does not exceed <u>the percentage</u> of the total budgeted appropriation for education for such prior fiscal year <u>as referenced in C.G.S. 10-248a.</u>”</i> D. Cruson brought up issues the public has with not knowing where the money is going. L. Rodrigue and R. Bienkowski agree that putting more specificity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy to J.Morris to put on the CIP agenda. • S. Connell will bring this policy back for final review from the committee.

on this policy will actually make more issues for Newtown and propose putting it in a Regulation. R. Harriman-Stites agreed and would like to put guidelines into the Regulation.	
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R. Bienkowski also recommended this edit: <i>“The Board will expend these funds for such previously designated specific purpose except that they may also be used for other <u>planned</u>, extraordinary or emergency expenditures which may be necessary but not otherwise budgeted.”</i>	
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UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

L. Rodrigue that Newtown is doing well with their distant learning but recommends that the policy committee should re-review the Virtual Online Policy later this year. Rebekah agreed. Dan made the point that Newtown is a good place because the committee reviewed this policy in the past year or two but agreed that it is important to make any necessary changes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Non-Lapsing Education Fund

The Newtown Board of Education (Board) may request the Town's Board of Finance deposit into a non-lapsing account any unexpended funds from the Board's prior fiscal year general operating budget, provided such amount does not exceed ~~one percent (1%)~~ **the percentage** of the total budgeted appropriation for education for such prior fiscal year ~~pursuant to~~ **as referenced in** C.G.S. 10-248a.

Prior to any expenditure from the Non-Lapsing Education Fund the Board of Education shall vote to authorize such spending. The transfer of monies shall follow the process as laid out in policy 3160 (Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers).

The Board may designate these funds for a specific purpose. The Board will expend these funds for such previously designated specific purpose except that they may also be used for other **planned**, extraordinary or emergency expenditures which may be necessary but not otherwise budgeted.

The account shall be subject to the annual audit as required by State statute. The Board shall review the fund balance on an annual basis.

(cf. 3160 – Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-222 Appropriations and budget
10-248a Unexpended education funds account