

Please Note: These minutes are pending Board approval.
Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber in the Municipal Office Building at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Zukowski, Chair	L. Rodrigue
J. Vouros, Vice Chair	A. Uberti
D. Ramsey, Secretary	T. Vadas (absent)
R. Harriman	4 Staff
D. Cruson	30 Public
J. Kuzma	1 Press
J. Larkin	
C. Savo	
M. Irvine	

Mrs. Debbie Halstead, Town Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Election of Officers

Mrs. Halstead asked for nominations for chair.

Don Ramsey nominated Deborra Zukowski.

John Vouros nominated himself.

Dan Cruson nominated himself.

Mr. Ramsey nominated Ms. Zukowski because she is an impeccably honest person with tremendous strength and authenticity and is non-biased. She has a deep love for the community, loves children and has the ability to bring harmony among the different stakeholders.

Ms. Zukowski thanked Mr. Ramsey and said she would work hard for the success of the Board.

Mr. Vouros said he was entering his 11th year on the Board and has been there through a multitude of event such as a mass shooting, he has supported school security, was involved in academic self studies with continued work on school climate as well as policy review, contract negotiations and personnel searches. He feels a successful leader should model effective traits and earned the respect of the administration, staff, and parents.

Mr. Cruson said he has had a long relationship with Newtown Public Schools as a high school student and employee of central office. The last five years he has been on almost every subcommittee, the school closing and start time committees, searches and contract negotiations. His vision is of continuing growth. He hopes to build relationships with other boards for common goals.

Vote for Chair:

Ms. Zukowski – 4 votes

Mr. Vouros – 2 votes

Mr. Cruson – 1 vote

Ms. Zukowski was voted chair.

Ms. Zukowski thanked the Board for this position for the next two years and looks forward to working with each member. She asked for nominations for vice chair.

Mrs. Larkin nominated John Vouros

Ms. Zukowski nominated Dan Cruson.

Mrs. Larkin said Mr. Vouros is truly about the children and being a Newtown educator he is obviously about the teachers as well. He is the most gracious on Main Street and he has always maintained professionalism and courtesy. He is well-loved by students and parents and she likes his energy. He truly wants to work with every person on the Board.

Ms. Zukowski said she has worked with Mr. Cruson as a member of the Communications Subcommittee. He has the talent and expertise needed to transform the role of vice chair into a useful position.

Vote for Vice Chair:

Mr. Vouros – 5 vote

Mr. Cruson – 2 votes

Mr. Vouros was voted vice chair.

Nominations for Secretary:

Mrs. Kuzma nominated Don Ramsey.

Mr. Vouros nominated Dan Cruson.

Mrs. Kuzma said Mr. Ramsey is very dedicated and his experience will make him an asset as an official on the Board. He is well-loved and people have great things to say about him.

Mr. Vouros said Mr. Cruson was one of his students in the gifted program. It has been an honor and pleasure to work with him. He is extremely intelligent and well versed and would be a complete and total asset to the Board.

Vote for Secretary:

Mr. Ramsey – 4 ayes

Mr. Cruson – 3 ayes

Mr. Ramsey was voted secretary.

Item 3 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which includes the Newtown High School Ski Club trip January 7 to 9, 2022 and the correspondence report. Mrs. Harriman seconded.

MOTION: Ms. Zukowski moved that the ski trip be removed from the consent agenda. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Ms. Zukowski was concerned whether this trip should occur in this time of pandemic and questioned the guidelines for these trips.

Mr. Cruson said the administration has set guidelines which were discussed in the past.

Mr. Ramsey said trips of this type facilitate bonding between the students. He asked if there was any input from health officials in town.

Dr. Rodrigue has worked with the Director of Health and Anne Dalton. We are aware of COVID but don't want to impede students from traveling. We don't make these decisions lightly.

Mrs. Harriman called for a point of order.

Vote to move ski trip to the end of the agenda: 1 aye, 6 nays (Mr. Vouros, Mr. Ramsey, Mrs. Harriman, Mr. Cruson, Mrs. Kuzma, and Mrs. Larkin) Motion fails.

Vote on Consent Agenda: Motion passes unanimously.

Item 4 – Public Participation

Dan Delia 10 Brookwood Drive, spoke about the election and thanked everyone. It's a tremendous obligation and wished them all the best.

Christine Wilford, 30 Georges Hill Road, said yesterday she received an email to the high school parents stating there was an investigation at the school that was not a credible threat. No one will respond to her request of what was on the paper. We have a right to know. When there are threats in other districts it is all revealed but kept quiet in Newtown. Other parents are asking the same questions. There needs to be transparency for parents.

Item 5 – Reports

Chair Report: Ms. Zukowski said the First Selectman is coordinating an FOI meeting which we can attend. We also have an orientation meeting December 16 with Nick Caruso.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Rodrigue congratulated the new officers and Board members. There is an uptick in COVID cases in Connecticut and we are seeing that at the school level. There are 21 cases and 62 direct contacts. We use our screen and stay protocol which allows students to remain in school. We are working on the Hawley HVAC project and Bob Gerbert reported that Public Building and Site Commission had a discussion with Downs Construction about the timing for the bid. We have migrated to Blackboard and sent a test to staff and parents. She thanked the PEAC members who made that possible. She also reported on the staffing update.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Harriman noted the Policy Committee met and discussed the retaliation policy and those in the cue in the 4000 series.

Mr. Vouros spoke about the Curriculum and Instruction Committee and encouraged the members to read the notes sent to the Board and to contact him and Mrs. Uberti for any clarification. All preschools will be contacted to see what they have done to share with our kindergarten teachers. He wanted Wes Johnson to visit these meetings periodically. He visited the Project Adventure class and Kitchen Science classes in the middle school

Mr. Cruson said he was appointed by CABB to be the area director for Area 5 and to act as liaison between districts in our area. Dr. Ku was the previous director.

Students Reports:

Ms. Savo reported the Link Crew had a bagel event. The swim team had an incredible season and winter sports have begun. There will be a scholarship workshop for seniors December 9.

Mr. Irvine noted that there are many clubs offered with some dedicated to community service and there are also academic clubs and a health and mental awareness club. There is also the National Honor Society and Science Society.

Item 6 – Presentations

Cyrenius H. Booth Library:

Alana Bennison has been the Children's Librarian the past 25 years. She spoke about what the library offers to support and enrich a child's knowledge. We have equipment for children and adults.

Darcy Sowers is the Young Adult's Librarian and spoke about the makers corner which has printers and equipment for students and adults.

Item 7 – Old Business

Item 8 – New Business

December 14 Plans for the Day:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the use of a remote learning day for all students and staff on December 14. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Dr. Rodrigue spoke about the anonymous threats across Connecticut and yesterday the high school principal followed up on an incident the police did not deem it a credible threat. The investigation still includes finding whoever did this. Dr. Longobucco did an outstanding job in responding to every parent who contacted us. Three years ago we had to evacuate Sandy Hook School as students were in school on the anniversary. The likelihood this year of something happening on that day is far greater so she proposed doing a remote learning day on 12/14 using the compressed schedule starting an hour later and ending an hour earlier. Staff would be onscreen with students.

The Board had approved two weather related days for distance learning. Schools will be open and teachers can teach from their classroom. It's the best decision for the community,

Mrs. Harriman wanted to be sure the new Board members knew that this has been a long and ongoing conversation on the anniversary. We are under a tremendous amount of stress and agreed this is the best thing to do.

Mr. Vouros completely agreed and asked how the staff was going to tell the students why they were not in school.

Dr. Rodrigue said we would have a consistent message for all schools and decide what kind of message to send.

Mr. Ramsey agreed with Mrs. Harriman.

Mr. Cruson said there were already plans in place for some extra security around 12/14. He was uncomfortable with the short timing for parents and that there's not a message in place to communicate this to students.

Dr. Rodrigue said we need time to get together so parents know how we will message this out.

Mr. Cruson noted that he didn't support the two remote snow days

Ms. Zukowski was also concerned about remote snow days, but in this case she fully supports this.

Motion passes unanimously.

Newtown High School Choir Trip to Disney:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the Newtown High School Choir trip to Disney May 19 to 22, 2022. Mrs. Harriman seconded.

Dr. Longobucco and Michelle Hiscavich spoke about the trip originally set for May 2020.

Mrs. Larkin was happy to talk about field trips again.

Mr. Vouros was behind this trip because the learning is great and it will be an enjoyable trip.

Mrs. Kuzma felt it was very exciting

Motion passes unanimously.

First Read of Policies:

Mrs. Harriman shared that we are authorized to vote on policies but not on regulations. The regulations are developed by the administration and at times they can change.

Policy 4118.239/4218.239 Required COVID-19 Vaccinations is a new policy from CAGE. It's a very basic policy stating we will follow the Governor's orders.

Mrs. Kuzma had a question on the regulation for testing for volunteers. They have been allowed in the schools without needing to verify vaccination and why there is a change.

Dr. Rodrigue said we wanted to be consistent with staff and in the fall a lot of volunteers were with outside programs. With the uptick we put it in the regulations as it could change. We can change that in the future.

Policy 4118.21 Academic Freedom and Responsibility:

Mrs. Harriman said this is also a new policy from CAGE which we feel is important. Mr. Johnson made the change in red.

Mr. Ramsey felt it needs some changes and asked if a Board member could attend the policy subcommittee. He was confused about the words "foster equity in perspective" and wanted clarification on what that means either tonight or at the subcommittee meeting.

Mrs. Harriman asked him to put his concerns in writing to the committee and we will further discuss at the Board level. The change to "fostering equity and perspective" was clear to her.

Mr. Ramsey said it implies to him the perspectives need to be the same regarding equity and suggested making the word perspectives plural.

Mrs. Harriman agreed with that.

Dr. Rodrigue also agreed.

Ms. Zukowski agreed with the contents of Mr. Johnson's addition but asked if it was possible to take the politically loaded words out of this policy to read "that encompasses student perspectives and fosters critical thinking."

Mrs. Harriman felt that's a large change and wants our coordinator to weigh in on that. She verified Ms. Zukowski wants to remove the words "partisan, diversity and equity" as loaded words. She feels not using that language will be a problem and would discuss this at the policy committee and with the coordinator.

Policy 4-109 Assignment, Transfer, or Suspension of Personnel for Cause

Mrs. Harriman said this policy is no longer necessary.

Standing Committees:

Ms. Zukowski asked the Board to review and send her their committee preferences.

The Communications Subcommittee hoped to have public forums twice a year and will plan the event.

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education authorize the Chair to form the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee in place of the Technology Subcommittee.

Mrs. Harriman seconded.

Mr. Cruson shared three items regarding the work of the DEI Committee which included quarterly meetings with the Coordinator, work with the Superintendent and Coordinator to ensure that actionable items are addressed while reflecting the Board of Education's mission, beliefs, and objectives, and to recommend to the Board of Education any action that needs their approval to support the DEI needs of staff and students. Regarding the Technology Subcommittee, it hasn't met in four years.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to split those two items into two parts and vote on them separately. Mr. Vouros seconded.

Ms. Zukowski said at the time of the Technology Committee our tech resources were quite new. Things have matured to a point it may not be as necessary.

Mr. Vouros felt the tech department is solid and consistently moving forward so it would be redundant to put someone on the committee as he doesn't think we need it.

Vote on splitting the motion: 4 ayes, 3 nays (Ms. Zukowski, Mr. Vouros, Mrs. Harriman)
Motion passes.

Regarding the DEI Committee, Mrs. Harriman was in favor of this motion.

Mr. Ramsey was not ready to vote on one of these committees and asked if it could be deferred.

Ms. Zukowski said it could with a postponement passed by the Board. She feels we need to identify what the breadth of the DEI coordinator is which is race, ethnicity, transgender, special education, and any students who because of who they are might be the subject of bullying.

Dr. Rodrigue said there are lot of components of the position. This committee is aligned with the resolution the Board passed and those commitments are part of that.

Vote on adding the DEI committee to the list: 5 ayes, 2 nays (Mr. Ramsey, Mrs. Kuzma)
Motion passes.

Vote on removing the technology subcommittee from the list: Motion passes unanimously.

2022 Schedule of Board of Education Meetings:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of November 16, 2021. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Minutes of November 16, 2021:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of November 16, 2021. Mrs. Harriman seconded.

Motion passes unanimously.

Mrs. Harriman clarified that even if someone was not a Board member at that meeting, new members can vote or abstain.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 9 – Public Participation

Erica Sullivan 127 Castle Hill Road, spoke about a book banning across the country. She expects the Board to support DEI efforts and was thrilled Mr. Johnson is here. To remove diversity, equity and inclusion from the policy is going to put us back to square one.

Linda O'Sullivan, 10 Farmery Lane, said a proposal was made to remove wording on the policy. The statement was unacceptable. Children are experience bullying. Mr. Johnson's purpose is to try to correct this and she support his efforts.

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education go into executive session regarding a personnel matter and invite Dr. Rodrigue. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 10 – Executive Session

Executive session 9:15 p.m.

Item 11 – Public Session for Possible Vote

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the leave of absence for Scott Kovack with a return date to be determined. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. Harriman moved to adjourn. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 12 – Adjournment

9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Donald Ramsey
Secretary



31 Pecks Lane
Newtown, CT 06470
(203) 304 - 9778
Fax: (203) 304 - 9776

Principal Approval: DM

Trip Through SKI 193 Trips Includes Bus/Hotel/Bfast
CHARTER BUS REQUEST Dinner
21:45 tax to Killington

Person requesting: TRENT HARRISON School: NHS

Class: SKI CLUB Date of trip: Jan 7th - 9th

Pickup time: 3³⁰ AM / PM Destination: RUTLAND VT

Address of destination: DAYS INN 401 US 7 South Rutland VT

Leave time from destination: 4 AM / PM Snow/Rain date: _____

Teacher in charge of trip: HARRISON

No. students: UP TO 40 No. staff: 4 No. parents (if applicable): could be 3 or 4

Do any students have special needs for transportation? Yes / No

If **yes**, what is required? (wheel chair, harness, etc): _____

If multiple students have special needs requirements, please list: _____

Party responsible for payment: SKI CLUB

Contact person: Trent Harrison Phone No.: 203 470 4232

If additional space required for listing, please include separate page

- A minimum of **two weeks** is needed to place a reservation. Please understand that availability of a date decreases the later you wait.
- Average capacity is 50 students per bus. Capacity decreases for older students and adult-sized passengers.
- Students with special needs requirements (wheel chair, harness) will require a Type II bus as full-size buses cannot accommodate.
- If trip is being paid through a grant, school is still **responsible for payment for service**.
- Please fax this request with all completed information. A confirmation will be faxed back to you with all costs.
- We reserve the right to have buses back in town for school dismissal schedule.
- Cancellation or postponement of a reserved trip requires a minimum of two hours' notice on a school day; one day prior if a weekend trip. Failure to notify may incur a cost for time bus ran.



SKI 93 TRIPS TOUR & TRAVEL

A Full Service Tour & Travel Agency

Trip Confirmation - Eastern

Date: 11/5/2021

Group Name: Newtown High School

Destination: Killington

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation:	Dattco Bus	Arrival Date:	1/7/22	Bus Size:
Departure Location:	12 Berkshire Rd, Sandy Hook, CT	Departure Date:	1/9/22	
Pickup Time:	3:30 PM			

ACCOMMODATING

Accommodation:	Comfort Inn, Rutland	Nights:	2	Lunches:	0
		Breakfasts:	2	Dinners:	1

DEPOSITS

Date	Amount

Transfers:

We have updated our cancellation policy and attached it to the email in which you received this confirmation. Please read, sign and return asap.

Total: 0.00

RATES

Guests	Rate	Description	Total
40	\$399.00	Quad occupancy package~	\$15,960.00
0	\$421.00	Triple occupancy package~	\$0.00
0	\$464.00	Double occupancy package~	\$0.00
0	\$132.00	Empty bus seat charge less than 40 paying guests~	\$0.00

4	Free Leaders	Total Cost:	\$15,960.00
40	Guests	Total Paid:	\$0.00
44	Total Guests	Balance Due:	\$15,960.00

SKI LIFTS

Date	Location	Tickets
1/8/22	Killington 2 day lift ticket~	44



A Full Service Tour & Travel Agency

COMMENTS

Thank you for your continued business! We are excited to be working with you again!
Bus driver gratuity not included though customary. We recommend \$2 per person, per day. Tour host gratuity optional. Rentals and lessons must be ordered and paid for with the final payment. Any rentals or lessons needed upon arrival will be at mountain rates. PLEASE ADVISE US OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES OR RESTRICTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! Rooming list due by December 10th, so that we can send your final bill in a timely fashion.

\$200 per person is due to hold rooms.

\$50 per person plus \$500 for the hotel deposit is completely NON-refundable.

Final payment due by 12/15/2021

All rates will be confirmed when 1st deposit is received.

Rates are based on 40 paying people.

Please make check payable to: Ski 93 Trips

Thank you *Abby Coy*



SKI 93 TRIPS
TOUR & TRAVEL

A Full Service Tour & Travel Agency

Payments/Cancellation Policy
Weekend Ski Trips

Payment Schedule:

- \$50 per person, non-refundable deposit due within 2 weeks of proposal
- \$200 per person due 90 days prior to trip date
- Balance due 3 weeks prior to trip

Cancellation Policy:

If you must cancel your reservation, your right to receive a refund is limited as set forth in the above payment section and in the following schedule:

- If your notice of cancellation is received outside of 90 days from departure, you will receive a full refund minus any vendor costs and/or whatever specified on your Payment Schedule.
- 90-60 days prior to departure, a full refund minus \$5 per person plus any applicable vendor penalties and/or whatever specified on your Payment Schedule.
- 59-45 days prior to departure, full refund minus \$10 per person plus vendor penalties and/or whatever specified on your Payment Schedule.
- 44-30 days prior to departure, full refund minus \$20 per person plus vendor penalties and/or whatever specified on your Payment Schedule.
- Within 30 days of departure, no refund.
- All cancellations and any trip component returns (lift tickets etc.) will result in a minimum of a \$50 per person service charge regardless of the cancellation date.

The following stipulations are valid for all tours arranged and/or organized by SKI 93 TRIPS:

1. SKI 93 TRIPS reserves the right to cancel or postpone any trip if balances are not received by the indicated due date.
2. All rates are subject to change.
3. SKI 93 TRIPS and its agents act only in the capacity of agents of the undersigned and assume no responsibility beyond making initial arrangements for hotel accommodations and/or transportation facilities.
4. SKI 93 TRIPS and its agents reserve the right to change any arrangements set forth in the confirmation should conditions necessitate offering substitutes of comparable value, or to cancel the operation of any scheduled tour on refund on monies paid.
5. Client acknowledges that there are inherent risks in the activity that is the subject of this agreement. Client agrees to hold harmless and indemnify SKI 93 TRIPS, its employees, agents, contractors, and officers, of and from any and all claims made against it by Client, other participants associated with Client, or the estate or other legal successor of same. Client acknowledges that it is at all times responsible for care and custody of person and property.
6. Persons hiring equipment of any kind from SKI 93 TRIPS use same at their own risk and assume any and all liability for personal injury and property damage resulting from said use.

P.O. Box 382 ~ Raymond NH 03077
603-665-9650 ~ 800-451-1830 ~ Fax: 603-665-9655



SKI 93 TRIPS
TOUR & TRAVEL

A Full Service Tour & Travel Agency

7. SKI 93 TRIPS reserves the right to list the contracting party as a client in public relations and promotional campaigns.
8. FORCE MAJEURE – The performance of this agreement by SKI 93 TRIPS is subject to acts of God, war, government regulations, disaster, civil disorder, or other emergency outside of SKI 93 TRIPS' control, making it illegal, inadvisable, or impossible for SKI 93 TRIPS to fulfill its obligations. SKI 93 TRIPS gives notice that all tickets are issued by them and all arrangements for transports or conveyance or hotel accommodations are made by them as agents upon the express condition that they shall not be liable for injury, damage, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any vehicle or through the acts of default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tourist, or otherwise in connection therewith, or of any hotel proprietor or servant. Such conveying etc., is subject to the laws of the country where the conveyance etc. is provided. The aforesaid companies can accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in flight, hotel or other services, sickness, weather, strikes, acts of war, quarantine, or other causes. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passengers. The right is reserved to decline or accept or retain any person as a member of any tour or to cancel or alter any tour if the circumstances require it. All rates shown in this program are based on current tariffs, taxes, etc. and are subject to adjustment in the event of changes therein, prior to tour departure. Baggage is at the owner's risk throughout the journey.

Please sign to confirm that you have read and agree to the above Terms and Conditions: Agreed and accepted. Execution of this document indicates that the signer is duly authorized to execute the same on behalf of the client and that the signer has read and understood all of the terms and conditions in this agreement. Signature binds the Client to full compliance with all terms and conditions herein, specifically compliance in full with the required payment.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND AGREE TO THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE AS INDICATED ON THE RESERVATION FORM:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature _____

P.O. Box 382 ~ Raymond NH 03077
603-665-9650 ~ 800-451-1830 ~ Fax: 603-665-9655

Correspondence Report
11/16/2021 – 12/06/2021

Date	Name	Subject
11/16/21	Michelle Ku	Invitation (Italian Heritage Day)
11/16/21	Kathy June	Fwd: Attached Image (Enrollment Report)
11/16/21	Kathy June	Corrected Enrollment Report
11/16/21	Yanitza Wilburn	School records
11/17/21	Michelle Ku	Thank you
11/19/21	Kiley Gottschalk	BOF 11-22-21 Agenda
11/19/21	Michelle Ku	One last meeting
11/23/21	Michelle Ku	Setting an example
11/24/21	Deborra Zukowski	Re: Setting an example
11/24/21	Michelle Ku	Re: Setting an example
11/30/21	Michelle Ku	One more thing
12/3/21	Kathy June	BOE Mailing – December 7, 2021
12/3/21	Deborra Zukowski	The rumor mill
12/5/21	Michelle Embree Ku	Resources for your consideration
12/6/21	Kathy June	Revised Agenda
12/6/21	Kathy June	Revised Motions
12/6/21	Lorrie Rodrigue	Heads Up
12/6/21	Lorrie Rodrigue	Re: Heads Up

TO: Lorrie Rodrigue, Superintendent
FROM: Suzanne D'Eramo, Director of Human Resources
RE: Superintendent's Report – Certified Staffing Update for NOVEMBER 2021
DATE: November 29, 2021

NOVEMBER 2021

CERTIFIED RESIGNATIONS:

Bob Gendreau (effective Dec. 23, 2021)

Kristi Parille (effective Jan. 21, 2022)

CERTIFIED NEW HIRES:

Helenann McMahon – MGS SPED (PAL Program)

CERTIFIED OPEN POSITIONS:

NMS – SPED

NHS - Spanish

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT HIRING NOTES:

Here is a recap of all certified and non-certified staff hired for November:

Teacher = 1

Building subs/LT subs = 6

Custodian = 1

NELC = 1

Coach = 1

Of the 10 newly hired employees, 2 indicated a diverse ethnicity or race other than white. This equates to a total of 20% broken down as follows:

Hispanic or Latino = 2



PACKAGE PLAN

**NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR
DISNEY PERFORMING ARTS
4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS
May 19-22, 2022**

PACKAGE PLAN INCLUDES:

**\$1,245.00 per student
(Quad Occupancy)**

**\$1,348.00 per adult
(Double Occupancy)**

**\$1,278.00 per student
(Triple Occupancy)**

**\$1,557.00 per adult
(Single Occupancy)**

TRANSPORTATION

- Roundtrip non-stop airline flights from Bradley International Airport to Orlando International Airport (We have based the estimated airfare cost on \$350 pp. This may be higher or lower at the time of booking)
- Roundtrip motorcoach transfers from Orlando International Airport to Disney All-Star Resort Hotel
- Motorcoach transportation for day of Disney performance and workshop

ACCOMMODATIONS – 3 NTS

- 3-nights accommodations at a Disney All-Star Resort Hotel

ADMISSIONS/VISITS

- 3-Day park hopper admission ticket to the Walt Disney World Theme Parks (Note: If you would like to change to three (3) one day-one park admissions, we can deduct \$57 pp from the above prices)

BREAKFAST/DINNERS

- Disney Dining Card valid for three (3) breakfasts at the resort food court
- Disney Dining Card valid for two (2) dinners inside the parks
- Group Dinner at Rainforest Cafe

PERFORMANCES:

- Performance in the Disney Performing Arts program
- Disney Sings Workshop

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

- A travel insurance policy is included

OTHER

- Disney "Performing Arts" special keepsake
- Thank you gift for each director
- Baggage tags for each participant
- One (1) complimentary director packages (Based on a minimum of 25 paying students)
- One (1) complimentary adult package for every 25 paid students (Based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 50 paying students)
- All taxes and gratuities for package plan inclusions
- \$2,000,000 Professional Liability Insurance Coverage carried by MUSIC FESTIVALS/MUSIC TOURS UNLIMITED
- \$200,000 SYTA Consumer Protection Plan

*Please note that the above prices are based on an estimated cost for airfare. The final price may be a bit higher or lower depending on the actual airfare cost at the time of booking.

≡ Music Festivals

Package Plan

STUDENT BASIC

GROUP TRAVEL PROTECTION



TRAVEL INSURED INTERNATIONAL
A CRUM & FORSTER COMPANY

<u>Benefit</u>	<u>Maximum Limit</u>
Trip Cancellation	Trip Cost*
Trip Interruption	150% of Trip Cost
Travel Delay – 6 hours	\$750 (\$150/day)
Emergency Medical Evacuation, Medical Repatriation & Return of Remains	\$100,000
Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR)**	Optional
Non-Insurance Worldwide Emergency Assistance Services	Included

*Subject to the maximum benefit amount of \$10,000.

** CFAR coverage is 75% of the nonrefundable trip cost (subject to the maximum benefit amount in the Plan). CFAR is optional and available for purchase at the individual level. Trip cancellation must be 48 hours or more prior to scheduled departure. CFAR must be purchased at the time of original plan purchase and with or before the final payment for Your trip. You must have paid all non-refundable Trip Costs to the Travel Supplier prior to cancellation. For \$0 Trip Cost there is no CFAR. This benefit is not available to residents of New York State.

PER PERSON RATES

Cost of Trip	Plan Rates	With CFAR*
\$1 - \$200	\$9	\$13.50
\$201 - \$400	\$12	\$18.00
\$401 - \$600	\$15	\$22.50
\$601 - \$800	\$17	\$25.50
\$801 - \$1000	\$23	\$34.50
\$1001 - \$1500	\$30	\$45.00
\$1501 - \$2000	\$36	\$54.00
\$2001 - \$2500	\$47	\$70.50
\$2501 - \$3000	\$62	\$93.00
\$3001 - \$3500	\$71	\$106.50
\$3501 - \$4000	\$83	\$124.50
\$4001 - \$4500	\$95	\$142.50
\$4501 - \$5000	\$110	\$165.00

The above rates are for trips up to 30 days – for each day over 30 add \$1.50 per person per day.

*Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) benefit not available to residents of New York State.

All of the above rates are for the plan which includes insurance and non-insurance services.

Purchase up to final trip payment due date for Pre-Existing Condition Waiver!

The Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion will be waived if the protection plan is purchased at or before final payment due date for the trip, for the full non-refundable cost of the trip and you are not disabled from travel at the time you pay the plan cost.

Travel Insured International
844-440-8113
groups@travelinsured.com
www.travelinsured.com

GENERAL LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

Insurance benefits are not payable for any loss due to, arising or resulting from: 1. suicide, attempted suicide or any intentionally self-inflicted injury of You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member or Business Partner booked to travel with You, while sane or insane; 2. an act of declared or undeclared war; 3. participating in maneuvers or training exercises of an armed service, except while participating in weekend or summer training for the reserve forces of the United States, including the National Guard; 4. riding or driving in races, or speed or endurance competitions or events; 5. mountaineering (engaging in the sport of scaling mountains generally requiring the use of picks, ropes, or other special equipment); 6. participating as a member of a team in an organized sporting competition (does not apply to Trip Cancellation); 7. participating in bodily contact sports, skydiving or parachuting, hang gliding or bungee cord jumping; 8. piloting or learning to pilot or acting as a member of the crew of any aircraft; 9. being Intoxicated as defined in the Plan, or under the influence of any controlled substance unless as administered or prescribed by a Legally Qualified Physician; 10. the commission of or attempt to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation; 11. normal childbirth or pregnancy (except Complications of Pregnancy) or voluntarily induced abortion; 12. dental treatment (except as coverage is otherwise specifically provided); 13. amounts which exceed the Maximum Benefit Amount for each coverage as shown in the Plan's Schedule of Benefits; 14. due to a Pre-Existing Condition, as defined in the Plan. The Pre-Existing Condition Limitation does not apply to the Emergency Medical Evacuation or return of remains coverage; 15. medical treatment during or arising from a Trip undertaken for the purpose or intent of securing medical treatment; 16. a mental or nervous condition, unless hospitalized for that condition while the Plan is in effect for You; 17. due to loss or damage (including death or injury) and any associated cost or expense resulting directly from the discharge, explosion or use of any device, weapon or material employing or involving chemical, biological, radiological or similar agents, whether in time of peace or war, and regardless of who commits the act and regardless of any other sequence thereto.

The following limitation applies to Trip Cancellation: All cancellations must be reported to the Travel Supplier within 72 hours of the event causing the need to cancel. If the event delays the reporting of the cancellation beyond the 72 hours, the event should be reported as soon as possible. All other delays of reporting beyond 72 hours will result in reduced benefit payments.

PLEASE REFER TO THE PLAN DOCUMENTS FOR A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF COVERAGE.

This document contains highlights of the plans, which include travel insurance coverages underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company under form series T210 et. al. and TP-401 et. al. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services provided by C&F Services through Active Claims Management (2018) Inc., operating as Active Care Management. The cost of your plan is for the full plan. The Crum & Forster group of companies is rated A (Excellent) by AM Best 2019. C&F and Crum & Forster are registered trademarks of United States Fire Insurance Company. **Insurance coverages are subject to the terms, limitations and exclusions in the plan, including an exclusion for pre-existing conditions.** Coverages may vary and not all coverage is available in all jurisdictions. In most states, your travel retailer is not a licensed insurance producer/agent, and is not qualified or authorized to answer technical questions about the terms, benefits, exclusions, and conditions of the insurance offered or to evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. Your travel retailer may provide general information about the plans offered, including a description of the coverage and price. The purchase of travel insurance is not required in order to purchase any other product or service from your travel retailer. CA DOI toll free number: 800-927-4357. MD Insurance Administration: 800-492-6116 or 410-468-2340. Individuals looking to obtain additional information regarding the features and pricing of each travel plan component, please contact Travel Insured: 855 Winding Brook Drive, Glastonbury, CT 06033; 800-243-3174; customer care@travelinsured.com; California license #0113223.

Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified

Required COVID-19 Vaccinations

The Newtown Board of Education (the “Board”) recognizes the importance of protecting the health and safety of students, staff and the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order, the Board authorizes the administration to develop a regulation concerning vaccination against COVID-19. ~~requires that all staff within District schools, as defined by this policy, are required to receive at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by September 27, 2021. Those not vaccinated by such date due to certain exemptions are required to be tested for COVID-19 on a weekly basis.~~

Legal Reference Connecticut General Statutes
10-145 Certificate necessary to employment. Forfeiture for noncompliance. Substitute teachers.
Governor’s Executive Order No. 13G, September 10, 2021
Governor’s Executive Order No. 14, September 28, 2021
Governor’s Executive Order No. 14a, September 30, 2021

Policy adopted:

Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified

Required COVID-19 Vaccinations

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

“Fully vaccinated” means at least 14 days have elapsed since a person has received the final dose of a vaccine approved for use against COVID-19 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or as otherwise defined by the Centers for Disease Control.

“School Board” refers to the operator of any public or non-public pre-K through grade 12 school.

“Contract Worker” means any person who provides service to the Board requiring such person to make regular and frequent visits to Board district schools or to have regular or frequent contact with students or staff, but who is not employed by the Board, excluding any person who visits a Board school only to provide one-time or limited-duration repairs, services, or construction, or a volunteer.

“Covered Worker” refers to all employees, both full and part-time, contract workers, contractors, providers, assistants, substitutes, and other individuals working in ~~a public or non-public pre-K to grade 12~~ a district school including individuals providing operational or custodial services or administrative support or any person whose job duties require them to make regular or frequent visits to any ~~such~~ district schools or to have regular or frequent contact with students or staff.

Covered Worker does not include a contractor or employee of an outside vendor who visits a ~~public or non-public pre-K through grade 12~~ district school only to provide one-time or limited-duration repairs, services, or construction, or a volunteer.

“Contractor” refers to any person or business entity, including a vendor of support services or subcontractor, that provides the personnel who function as contract workers, ~~state employees,~~ ~~state hospital employees,~~ or covered workers for the Board. ~~to a covered state agency, school board, or child care facility.~~

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements

Vaccines shall be required as provided below.

Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified

Required COVID-19 Vaccinations

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements (continued)

~~On and after September 27, 2021~~, school boards (the Board) shall, prior to extending an offer of employment to, or entering into a contract for the in-person services of, a covered worker or an entity that employs a covered worker, require that any covered worker:

- ~~1. is fully vaccinated against COVID-19,~~
- ~~2. has received the first dose and has either received a second dose or has an appointment for the second dose in a two-dose series vaccination, such as Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or has received a single dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine,~~
- ~~3. is exempt from this requirement because a physician, physician's assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse determined that the administration of COVID-19 vaccine is likely to be detrimental to the covered worker's health, or the covered worker objects to vaccination on the basis of a sincerely held religious or spiritual belief, and the covered worker is able to perform their essential job functions with a reasonable accommodation that is not an undue burden on the school board or child care facility; provided that any covered worker claiming such exemption shall apply for an exemption on the basis of medical conditions or sincerely held religious or spiritual beliefs.~~

~~Each request for an exemption will be considered on an individualized, case by case basis. Employees who have applied for an exemption must provide appropriate supporting documentation upon request.~~

- ~~4. A covered worker who is hired before September 27, 2021 may, as an alternative to vaccination, and regardless of whether such worker has a medical or religious exemption, comply with the testing requirements contained within this policy.~~

On and after September 27, 2021, the Board shall not employ, or maintain a contract for the provision of in-person services of, any covered worker or an entity that employs a covered worker, unless such covered worker:

1. is fully vaccinated against COVID-19,
2. has received the first dose and has either received a second dose or has an appointment for the second dose in a two-dose series vaccination, such as Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or has received a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine, or

Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified

Required COVID-19 Vaccinations

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements (continued)

3. is exempt from this requirement because a physician, physician's assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse determined that the administration of COVID-19 vaccine is likely to be detrimental to the covered worker's health, or the individual objects to vaccination on the basis of a sincerely held religious or spiritual belief, and the covered worker is able to perform their essential job functions with a reasonable accommodation that is not an undue burden on the school board or child care facility; provided that any school board or childcare facility employee claiming such exemption shall apply for an exemption due to medical conditions or sincerely held religious or spiritual beliefs.

Each request for an exemption will be considered on an individualized, case by case basis. Employees who have applied for an exemption must provide appropriate supporting documentation upon request.

4. A covered worker who is hired before September 27, 2021 may, as an alternative to vaccination, and regardless of whether such worker has a medical or religious exemption, comply with the testing requirements contained within this policy.
5. ~~On and after September 27, 2021,~~ The Board will not employ, or contract for the provision of services from, any covered worker or entity that employs a covered worker subject to the conditions above and is not exempt who has received the first dose of a two-dose series vaccination but fails to receive the second dose on the appropriate date as recommended by CDC or at the scheduled appointment without good cause.

~~On and after September 27, 2021, the Board will not employ, or contract for the provision of services from, any covered worker or entity that employs a covered worker subject to the conditions above and is not exempt who has received the first dose of a two-dose series vaccination but fails to receive the second dose on the appropriate date as recommended by CDC or at the scheduled appointment without good cause.~~

Vaccination Verification and Testing for Covered Workers

The school board shall authenticate, or where applicable require that the contractor providing the services of a covered worker authenticate, the vaccination status of covered workers, maintain documentation of vaccination or exemption of such covered workers and report compliance with this order, in a form and manner directed by the Department of Public Health.

~~Through this policy, or where applicable the Board direction to a contractor of a covered worker to implement a policy,~~ Beginning September 27, 2021, covered workers who have not demonstrated proof of either full vaccination are required to submit to COVID-19 testing one time per week on an ongoing basis until fully vaccinated. Adequate proof of the test results on a weekly basis shall be presented to the school board. Board in a form prescribed by the Board. This requirement shall take effect on September 27, 2021.

Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified

Required COVID-19 Vaccinations (continued)

Vaccination Verification and Testing for Volunteers

While we appreciate and recognize community members who want to volunteer in our schools, we also want to keep our staff and students safe. As of January 15, we will be asking volunteers to present proof of COVID-19 vaccination OR a negative COVID test result within the previous 72 hours of the time a volunteer will be working in the school. If a volunteer will be present in the school beyond one week (5 school days) from the date of the negative test, he or she would be asked to test again for each subsequent week.

Acceptable Proof of Vaccination

Covered workers may demonstrate proof of vaccination by providing one of the following:

1. A valid CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or photo of the Vaccination Record Card;
2. Documentation from a health care provider or electronic health care records;
3. ~~State Immunization Information record;~~ A certificate from the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS), if the individual received vaccination through the VAMS system; or
4. ~~Other documentation prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health.~~ A copy of the individual's official immunization record from the Connecticut Immunization Information System, CT WiZ.

Covered workers must also complete and sign a Declaration Attesting to the Authenticity of an Individual's COVID-19 Vaccination Record, provided by the Board. Proof of vaccination will not be deemed valid unless accompanied by the individual's signed declaration. The District reserves the right to authenticate a Vaccination Record Card in a manner consistent with any binding standards issues by the Commissioner of Public Health for such authentication.

Personal attestation will not be accepted as an acceptable form of proof of a COVID-19 vaccination. (*The Commissioner of Public Health may promulgate binding standards for authentication of a Vaccination Record Card.*)

All proof of vaccination must contain the name and date of birth of the individual, the manufacturer of the COVID-19 vaccine that was administered, and the date(s) on which the vaccine was administered. Employees must not include any additional medical or genetic information with proof of vaccination.

Violations and Enforcement

Any covered worker who fails to comply with this policy shall not be allowed on the premises of the school board until the individual provides adequate proof of compliance or without prior written authorization of the school board.

Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified

Required COVID-19 Vaccinations (continued)

The school board recognizes that it will be in violation of this policy, based on the Governor's Executive Order, when it permits a covered worker who has not complied with this policy to be in a pre-K through grade 12 school, to make regular or frequent visits to any such school facility, or to have regular or frequent contact with children in child care, students, or staff.

The school board also commits a violation if it fails to authenticate the vaccination status of a covered worker or contract worker, maintain documentation of vaccination, testing, or allowable exemptions as required.

The Board recognizes that if the State Department of Education (SDE) determines that the Board is not in compliance with the requirements of this policy, the SDE may require Board to forfeit a portion of the total sum which is paid to the school board from the State Treasury in an amount to be determined by the Commissioner of Education, which amount shall be not less than one thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars.

Any forfeited amount shall be withheld from a grant payment, as determined by the Commissioner, during the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which noncompliance is determined. (The Commissioner of Education may waive such forfeiture if the Commissioner determines that the failure of a school board to comply with such a provision was due to circumstances beyond its control.)

Policy Duration

This policy shall remain in effect through February 15, 2022 unless earlier modified or terminated by the Board. ~~of Education based upon a subsequent executive order of the Governor or by the expiration of its enabling executive order.~~

Personnel – Certified

Academic Freedom and Responsibility

Academic freedom, the freedom to teach and to learn, is essential to the fulfillment of the purposes of the school system.

Schools should teach students how to think, not what to think. To study an idea is not necessarily to endorse an idea. Public school classrooms are forums for inquiry, not arenas for the promulgation of particular viewpoints.

The Board will make every effort to maintain an atmosphere of academic freedom within the schools that are without partisan, embrace diversity of thought, foster equity in perspective and inclusion of ideas.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

53a-193 through 53a-200

Keyishian v. Board of Regents, 395 U.S. 589, 603 (1967)

Perry v. Sindermann, 408 U.S. 593 (1972)

Pickering v. Board of Education, 391 U.S. 563 (1968)

Sterzing v. Fort Bend Independent School District, 376F. Supp. 657 (S.D. Tex 1972)

Grayned v. City of Rockford, 408 U.S. 104 (1972)

Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973)

Amendment to U.S. Constitution, Article I

Connecticut Constitution, ARTICLE FIRST, Declaration of Rights, Sections 4, 5

Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of Education, 9/8/81)

ASSIGNMENT, TRANSFER, OR SUSPENSION OF PERSONNEL - FOR CAUSE

The Superintendent is authorized temporarily to assign, transfer, or suspend a Board of Education employee for cause. The provisions of statutes or employee contracts will govern the procedures for this administrative action. The Superintendent will notify the Board of Education in a timely manner of the temporary assignment, transfer, or suspension.

Reference: CGS 10-151b

Adopted 11/23/76

Amended 10/10/95

Standing Committees of the Newtown Board of Education

2021

The following are standing committees of the BOE, expected to make regular reports to the BOE as a whole. Meetings will be posted and will be open to the public. The Committee Chairperson will be responsible for calling meetings, setting agendas, and moving committee work forward. The Committee Chairperson will ensure that agendas and minutes are posted in a timely manner consistent with FOI requirements. The Board Chair, with the approval of the Board, may also appoint additional standing committees as may be needed.

CIP/FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. Financial Responsibilities
 - a) Time permitting, review monthly line item expenditure report from the BOE Business Director;
 - b) Time permitting, review all budget transfers between line items and make recommendations for such transfers;
 - c) Review financial reporting mechanisms and yearly budget documentation for clarity and content and present any recommendations;
 - d) Review contracts prior to recommendation to the Board;
 - e) Review reports from contracted services as needed.

2. CIP/Facilities Responsibilities
 - a) Review capital expenditures and proposals for the Town's five and ten year capital improvement plan (CIP) in accordance with the Town's CIP Regulation timeline;
 - b) Review quarterly, building and maintenance needs with the Building and Grounds Facility Director.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Work with the Superintendent and the Board to communicate effectively with the education community and the community as a whole about school matters;
2. Produce fact-based newsletters and documents as directed by the Board

CONTRACT NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE

1. Develop a consistent body of expertise regarding union contract negotiations at the Board level;
2. Committee members will split specific union negotiations among themselves, and members should reflect a variety of skills and length of service on the Board. Additional Board members may be assigned by the Board Chair to fill out representation for specific negotiations.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

1. Ensure that the direction of the curriculum reflects the Board of Education mission, beliefs and objectives at both the course-specific and K-12 vertical alignment level;
2. Meet with administration and staff to review goals, curriculum updates, new textbooks, proposed or changed courses and programs and make recommendations regarding these items.

POLICY COMMITTEE

1. Review and propose revisions to Board policies as needed to ensure consistency with the District mission statement, best practices and for compliance with state and federal laws;
2. Develop new Board policies as appropriate.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

1. Meet with district technology representatives to review technology needs and status of inventory;
2. Review availability of technology for standardized testing and educational needs;
3. Review practices used to ensure the safety and security of the district's digital information.

LIAISONS

School. Connect with school administration and PTA to offer attendance at meetings or events when possible.

Boards and Committees. Attend meetings when possible to help keep the Board of Education informed of the activities of outside agencies.

INFORMATIONAL

BOE Committee Assignments, 2021

STANDING COMMITTEES

CIP/Facilities/Finance Committee

Dan Delia – Chair
Debbie Leidlein
Deborra Zukowski

Communication Committee

Dan Cruson - Chair
Deborra Zukowski

Contract Negotiation Committee

Michelle Embree Ku
Debbie Leidlein
Rebekah Harriman
Dan Delia

Curriculum and Instruction Committee

John Vouros – Chair
Michelle Embree Ku

Policy Committee

Rebekah Harriman – Chair
Dan Cruson

Technology Committee

Debbie Leidlein - Chair
Dan Cruson

LIAISONS

Schools

NHS - John Vouros

NMS – Deborra Zukowski

RIS – Debbie Leidlein

HAW – Rebekah Harriman

HOM – Dan Cruson

MG – Michelle Embree Ku

SHS – Dan Delia

Boards and Committees

Hawley HVAC – Engineering and Design – Dan Delia, Deborra Zukowski

NFT Culture and Climate Committee – Rebekah Harriman

Para Culture and Climate Committee – John Vouros

District Safety and Security Team – Daniel Cruson, Jr.

EdAdvance – Dan Delia

CABE – Michelle Embree Ku

**NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
2022 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

Meetings will be held in the Newtown Municipal Center Council Chamber, 3 Primrose Street, at 7:00 p.m. with the exception of those which will be held in the Reed Intermediate School library as indicated below.

January 4
January 18 (budget overview) – ***Reed Library***
January 20 (budget) – ***Reed Library***
January 25 (budget)
January 27 (public hearing & discussion)
February 1 (regular/budget adoption)
February 15
March 1
March 15
April 5
April 19
May 3
May 17
June 7
June 21
July 12
August 23
September 6 – ***Reed Library***
September 20
October 5 – ***Reed Library***
October 18
November 1
November 15
December 6
December 20

January 3, 2023 – ***Reed Library***
January 17, 2023 – ***Reed Library***

Approved December 7, 2021

**Please Note: These minutes are pending Board approval.
Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on November 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Office Building Council Chamber at 3 Primrose Street.

M. Ku, Chair	L. Rodrigue
D. Delia, Vice Chair	A. Uberti
D. Cruson, Secretary	T. Vadas
D. Leidlein	4 Staff
J. Vouros	5 Public
R. Harriman	
D. Zukowski	
C. Savo (absent)	
M. Irvine	

Dr. Ku called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Celebration of Excellence

Dr. Rodrigue said tonight's celebration is bittersweet as we say farewell to three Board members. On behalf of the staff, students, administrators and entire school community she thanked Dr. Michelle Ku, Mr. Dan Delia, and Mrs. Debbie Leidlein for their dedicated years of service on the Board. Dr. Ku served for eight years, Mr. Delia for four years, and Mrs. Leidlein for twelve years. Dr. Rodrigue also thanked them for their ongoing support and counsel. Plaques were presented and a reception followed.

Item 3 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve the correspondence report, the donation to Hawley School, and the donations to Hawley, Head O'Meadow, Middle Gate and Sandy Hook Schools from the Newtown Education Foundation. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 4 – Public Participation

Trent Harrison, 59 Platts Hill Road, was concerned about Policy 4-601 Staff Conduct and Dress to be rescinded because it addresses freedom. He asked if there was another dress policy that will be brought to the Board. He thanked the three Board members for what they have done for the students and community.

Item 5 – Reports

Chair Report: Dr. Ku said she and Dr. Rodrigue would meet with new board members before December 1 and provide them with information before they begin their term. She shared her respect for the hard work this Board has done and thanked them for being such good Board members and showing respect for each other.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Rodrigue reported that per the DPH we are in a good position related to COVID cases in our area. The State today is 4.3% which increased from 2.89% on Monday. We continue to do well at the school level. Transportation continues to be an issue. We have three potential drivers coming on board. We are beginning the transition to Blackboard Communications from School Messenger. If any issues arise we will have School Messenger for the rest of the year. She thanked all of the schools for the programs they had in place for Veteran's Day last week.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Harriman reported the policy committee continues to discuss the COVID vaccination policies for staff and review personnel policies.

Student Reports:

Mr. Irvine congratulated the high school band and guard for winning the State Championship and for the field hockey team for taking the SW title. The high school play "Puffs" will be held this week. The Veteran's Day ceremony was held last week in the auditorium and bag lunches were provided. The PTSA reflections contest is being held for students to create an original art piece to reflect "I will change the world by..." We had a great Spirit week. AP Government classes are holding a mock election and getting the whole school involved.

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve the financial report and transfers for the month ending October 31, 2021. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Mrs. Vadas spoke about the report and noted that the American Rescue Plan or ESSER III was officially approved October 19 in the amount of \$1,253,726. This grant was designed to address specific educational priorities and learning gaps created by the pandemic.

Mr. Cruson asked that regarding transportation if we would be getting credits towards routes that were cut.

Mrs. Vadas said they are trying to come up with a system for everyone but she didn't have an answer yet.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 6 – Old Business**Health I Curriculum:**

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve the Health I Curriculum. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Health II Curriculum:

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve the Health II Curriculum. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Policy 3160 Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers:

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve Policy 3160 Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Mrs. Harriman noted there was some discussion about changing language around the non-lapsing account. We felt better to stay with this wording until after the non-lapsing policy is approved by the other boards.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 7 – New Business**Screen and Stay Procedures:**

Dr. Ku felt it was appropriate to bring this issue to the Board as a discussion with Dr. Rodrigue making the decision. It was developed to provide immediate relief of the ongoing quarantining.

Dr. Rodrigue presented this strategy to reduce quarantine away from school. It allows students and staff who are unvaccinated to partially vaccinated to remain in school after close contact with a COVID-19 case

Mrs. Harriman hopes that parents do screenings every day. Maybe there's a way to have a little bit of accountability such as having parents go online and submit information in a google doc each day.

Dr. Rodrigue felt that logistically that would be an issue and we will hear from parents. They are doing the honor system now.

Mrs. Dalton said some districts send a daily reminder to parents.

Mrs. Harriman stated that some sort of reminder to parents on quarantining would be good instead of just being on the honor system.

Dr. Rodrigue said the reminder would be appropriate.

Mrs. Dalton said this needs to be checked daily.

Dr. Ku understands the idea of trusting people to follow the protocol. There are vaccinations available for all students and being vaccinated is one way of not having to quarantine.

NHS Winter Percussion:

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve Newtown High School students participating in the Trumbull High School winter percussion program. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Dr. Longobucco said we don't have enough students to run our winter percussion program and five students are interested in participating in the Trumbull program. Parents will transport on their own and students will ride the bus to performances with Trumbull students. This is separate from winter guard which is fully functioning. U.S. Band requires a letter form the Board giving permission.

Motion passes unanimously.

Dr. Longobucco thanked the Board members who were leaving.

Policy 4-601 Staff Conduct and Dress:

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education rescind Policy 4-601 Staff Conduct and Dress. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Mrs. Harriman said legal counsel recommended that we rescind this policy because it is vague and outdated. We have policies to look at and discuss with the Culture and Climate Committee. It will not be replaced. The Board had approved the Freedom of Speech Policy where a lot of this policy has been covered.

Dr. Rodrigue said this doesn't take away freedom and the rights of others.

Motion passes unanimously.

Minutes of November 3, 2021:

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of November 3, 2021. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Minutes of November 9, 2021:

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of

November 9, 2021. Mr. Cruson seconded. Vote: 4 ayes, 1 abstained (Mrs. Leidlein)
Motion passes.

Item 8 – Public Participation

Jenn Padilla, 32 Glen Road, said the Screen and Stay procedures are a positive way to keep students in school. She believes it needs something beyond the honor system for families. Parents send students to school with the flu. Daily reminders are good but there should also be a one-time test on day five. There should be further consideration of safety measure during winter months.

Mrs. Leidlein spoke about her time on the Board and thanked all the teachers and staff for their service to a wonderful community which has meant so much to her family and will be missed.

MOTION: Mr. Delia moved to adjourn. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p. m.

Respectfully submitted:

Daniel J. Cruson, Jr.
Secretary

NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Newtown, Connecticut

Nov 30

ENROLLMENT REPORT AS OF November 30, 2021

	<u>Current Monthly Enrollment</u>				<u>Cumulative Year-to-Date</u>			
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Oct(e)</u> <u>2021</u>	<u>Added</u>	<u>Left</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2021</u>	<u>Sept 8th</u> <u>2021</u>	<u>Added</u>	<u>Left</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2021</u>
K	286	2	1	287	284	5	2	287
1	276	0	4	272	275	2	5	272
2	263	1	1	263	265	2	4	263
3	284	2	2	284	282	7	5	284
4	275	3	1	277	271	7	1	277
Total Elementary	1,384	8	9	1,383	1,377	23	17	1,383
5	277	0	2	275	278	1	4	275
6	301	0	0	301	301	0	0	301
Total Intermediate	578	0	2	576	579	1	4	576
7	294	0	1	293	294	3	4	293
8	288	0	1	287	288	1	2	287
Total Middle	582	0	2	580	582	4	6	580
9	346	2	2	346	346	3	3	346
10	333	0	4	329	336	0	7	329
11	358	1	1	358	359	1	2	358
12	359	0	3	356	359	1	4	356
Total High	1,396	3	10	1,389	1,400	5	16	1,389
<u>Special Education</u>								
Pre-Kdg	68	1	2	67	64	7	4	67
NCP, RISE, PAL	31	0	1	30	33	0	3	30
Out-of-Town	39	0	1	38	39	0	1	38
Total Enrollment	4,078	12	27	4,063	4,074	40	51	4,063
	=====	===	===	=====	=====	===	===	=====
<u>ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL</u>								
Hawley	299	6	1	304	301	6	3	304
Sandy Hook	380	0	1	379	372	9	2	379
Middle Gate	389	2	2	389	391	2	4	389
Head O' Meadow	316	0	5	311	313	6	8	311
Total	1,384	8	9	1,383	1,377	23	17	1,383
Reed Intermediate	578	0	2	576	579	1	4	576
Middle School	582	0	2	580	582	4	6	580
High School	1,396	3	10	1,389	1,400	5	16	1,389
<u>Special Education</u>								
Pre-Kdg	68	1	2	67	64	7	4	67
NCP, RISE, PAL	31	0	1	30	33	0	3	30
Out-of-Town	39	0	1	38	39	0	1	38
Total Enrollment	4,078	12	27	4,063	4,074	40	51	4,063
	=====	===	===	=====	=====	===	===	=====

(e) = End Of Month

check 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

**NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Newtown, Connecticut**

Nov 30

ELEMENTARY CLASS SIZES AS OF November 30, 2021

Grade	Hawley	Sandy Hook	Middle Gate	Head O' Meadow	Reed	TOTAL	check
Pre K		67				67	0
K	16 17 16 16	18 18 18 18 15	18 16 18 14 17	17 17 18			
Total K	65	87	83	52		287	0
1	19 20 18	14 18 16 15	16 18 15 17 18	16 18 17 17			
Total 1	57	63	84	68		272	0
2	20 20 19	17 20 19 19	19 19 19 19	18 18 17			
Total 2	59	75	76	53		263	0
3	21 20 20	18 19 19 18	18 17 18 19	20 20 19 18			
Total 3	61	74	72	77		284	0
4	21 20 21	21 20 19 20	17 19 19 19	20 20 21			
Total 4	62	80	74	61		277	0
Total K-4	304	379	389	311		1,383	0
<i>check</i>	0	0	0	0		0	