

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair (absent)	J. Reed
L. Roche, Vice Chair	L. Gejda
C. McCubbin, Secretary	R. Bienkowski
R. Gaines (absent)	2 Staff
W. Hart (absent)	4 Public
K. Alexander	2 Press
J. Vouros	

Mrs. Roche called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and welcomed Dr. Reed.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved that the Board of Education add the Chalk Hill lease extension through June 30, 2016 to the agenda for discussion and possible action under New Business. Mr. McCubbin seconded. Vote: 4 ayes

Item 1 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes of April 9, 2013, the high school girls soccer team field trip, the donation of \$1,000 to Stephanie Dunshee's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class at Hawley School from Mr. & Mrs. Eric Burbank, a \$30 donation to Hawley School from Mr. & Mrs. Larry Call, a \$50 donation to Hawley School from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Banks, a donation of \$1,000 for the Sandy Hook library from the Weller Foundation, donations totaling \$800 from Taunton Press for Newtown High School, the donation of transportation services to Rhode Island from Kelly Transit Company for the Newtown High School Girls Soccer team, and various donations regarding Sandy Hook School in the amount of \$15,527. Also included are the resignations for retirement for Becky Virgalla, Sandy Hook language arts consultant, Jay Daly, Newtown High School department chair, Suzanne Perry, Sandy Hook teacher, Christina Welsh, Newtown Middle School teacher, and Pam Fagan, Middle Gate School math/science specialist, and the Newtown High School spring football coaches' roster. Mr. Vouros seconded. Vote: 4 ayes

Item 2 – Public Participation (none)

Item 3 – Reports

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Reed was grateful for the opportunity to be part of the school system again and is involved in the principal searches with 7 administrative vacancies to fill. Regarding the \$1.5M cut he feels the new items in the budget may have to be eliminated.

There are two types of superintendent searches. A rolling search targets a date to begin but if the consultant finds a superior candidate they will come to the board sooner. The other search is more traditional. He thinks it's a mistake to wait until January to begin. Having it now allows more time to search again in the spring if they don't decide on a candidate at that time. There are not a lot of search firms and he doesn't see the value of hiring one from out of state.

Another challenge is the future of Sandy Hook School. He questioned the long term plans for the pattern changes of the schools but would not make any recommendations. The enrollment projections are 3 years old. The question is whether moving students into other locations would

cause problems for them. Any growth in Newtown will be based on the growth of homes and the birthrate. He spoke with Nesdec today regarding an enrollment study but was told this was not an appropriate time to do this because the market is in the state of flux. There are a significant number of homes on the market which makes it difficult to know what will happen. The enrollment is all speculation. He feels research should be done on reorganizational plans for the district. The assumption that if Hawley was moved to another building would save money is not entirely correct because a number of staff from that school would still be needed.

Mr. Alexander said we previously asked about an enrollment study.

Dr. Reed said we don't know what the impact of the tragedy would be for this town and how it will impact sales. In good times people have more children but we don't expect the birth rate to surge. The estimated cost is \$6,240 which involves a comprehensive report. He suggested waiting for a year to see if the housing market changes. Mr. Gaines brought up an issue of the number of classes on grade level. The ed specs are preliminary but would be refined as needed. It's a question of where you want to put your future and not just closing schools.

Mr. Vouros was concerned that closing Reed School would be discussed at the meeting Friday night.

Dr. Reed said it was premature to assume Reed would close. The study with the Selectman's office was that once enrollment drops 1,500 students there would be another enrollment study. We could repurpose one of the current buildings. If a decision is made Friday night it would then come to back to the Board. The deadline for passage is June 7. The community needs to know we are trying to take advantage of the state being of significant assistance to get the students back into Newtown.

Correspondence: Mr. McCubbin said the Board received 38 emails with 22 miscellaneous and 16 with opinions on Sandy Hook School.

Dr. Reed stated that last August a request for information was made by a parent. We obtained information using a search for any place the student's name was listed. When the search generated over 10,000 pages and was put on a disc with the assumption it was refined with the student's information. The parent realized the volume exceeded what was requested and returned the disc to the school system. We decided to tell the parents by letter which was written just before the Sandy Hook School incident but it was forgotten about and the letter was mailed last Friday. We received numerous phone calls on Monday regarding the shared information. It will take up to 30 days to supply this for parents. A new letter is going out to the 800 high school families with apologies and that we would give them the information. We can't guarantee the information wasn't looked at but we believe that it was not viewed. We are sorry this happened and unfortunately the letter generated questions we could have answered in a more pro-active way.

Director of Business Report:

Mr. Bienkowski stated that we have restricted spending for the balance of the year. We learned our excess cost grant is down to a \$72 reimbursement for about \$70,000. We have had an administrator retire so we have to pay vacation accumulation. There has also been additional tutoring and homebound services plus \$40,000 in tuition. We don't know when the Serv Grant Board of Education

will be approved and reimburse us for expenses. That is the same for the Justice grant. We also have insurance costs and can't count on every dollar being reimbursed. We put a budget freeze in place today for anything that is not instruction related. The second insurance claim was put in today.

*Dr. Reed said this freeze is later than usual. Only items that must be purchased can go through. The Town of Newtown has spent its contingency so they don't have any money. We have \$89,000 in the capital nonrecurring fund which is a backup for the intent of repaving the middle school parking lot. The Justice Department Grant has funds to address some of the security task force recommendations. The Board of Education budget does not contain money for any security recommendations from the Security Committee. Attendance at conferences is on hold also.*

#### Item 4 – Old Business

##### Serve Grant:

Dr. Reed stated that Dr. Robinson felt confident that the money is forthcoming so we are advertising for the positions in that grant. They are not duplicated in the budget. There is nothing in our budget for the 13 positions. The Board and school system are undertaking a comprehensive program with services to Sandy Hook being provided by Yale and the Clifford Beers Institute. Wellmore will be contacted to work directly with the students and families. Newtown Youth Services will work with staff on mental health issues. We need to hire a project director. We purchased 40% of Melissa Brymer's time but most of the time she will not be on site. We have to hire 7 guidance counselors. One has been hired by the high school. We also need 3 social workers, 5 counselors and the Sandy Hook assistant principal position will remain. The project facilitator is critical and will work with Melissa Brymer. We also need a part time communications coordinator. The Town hired their own mental health consultant. An additional special education supervisor is needed along with some clerical staff assistance to keep track of the financial work on the grant which is for \$4M. The grant comes to the Board of Education but we hire for these positions. A big priority for us is to get the project director on board. This will set the tone for the next 3 years. We will follow all of the Sandy Hook students through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mr. Vouros asked if the project coordinator would report to him.

Dr. Reed stated that we would have to see what is stated in the grant. It could be collaborative with Julie Haggard. He's very grateful she is here and is supportive of all that she does.

##### Lease for Chalk Hill School:

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved that the agreement dated December 17, 2012 among the Town of Newtown, the Newtown Board of Education, and the Town of Monroe for the use and occupancy of the Chalk Hill School is hereby modified, in accordance with the "First Amendment To Agreement," which sets its term to June 2016. Mr. McCubbin seconded.

Mr. Bienkowski said that last evening the Board of Selectmen approved the lease modification between the Town of Monroe and Newtown and thought it best to extend it for 2 years but there is a clause that allows us to terminate the lease with 6 months notice. The terms of the original lease will be carried forward with some modification on police service costs and land use issues with town of Monroe. The Legislative Council in Monroe hopes to take action by May 13.

Mr. Alexander asked how we have been paying the Monroe Police Department.

Mr. Bienkowski said we haven't received invoice for their services. Monroe applied for a Justice Grant which we hope will pay for their services for us. They expect 2 federal grants also but they want some assurance that we would be responsible if that doesn't come through.

Dr. Reed said the cost has been about \$300,000 for Monroe police. Initially we wanted to submit the grant but they felt they wanted to.

Vote: 4 ayes

Item 5 – New Business

Mrs. Roche stated the discussion on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies curriculum would be postponed.

Minutes of April 24, 2013:

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of April 24, 2013. Mr. Vouros seconded. Vote: 3 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. McCubbin)

Item 6 – Public Participation

Caryn Holden, 68 Berkshire Road, welcomed Dr. Reed and thanked him for coming back to help the district and appreciated the updates.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to adjourn. Mr. Vouros seconded. Vote: 4 ayes

Item 7 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Cody McCubbin  
Secretary

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Robinson
L. Roche, Vice Chair	L. Gejda
C. McCubbin, Secretary	R. Bienkowski
R. Gaines	2 Staff
W. Hart	1 Public
K. Alexander	3 Press
J. Vouros	

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Item 1 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which included the minutes of April 2, 2013, various donations to Sandy Hook School and the district, the donation of equipment from Advanced Security Technologies valued at \$172,067, the resignation of Catherine Sosnowski, teacher at Newtown High School, the resignation of Eric Colon-Rodriguez, special education supervisor, and the resignation of Dorothea Panayotou, teacher at Newtown High School. Mr. Vouros seconded. Vote: 7 ayes

Item 2 – Public Participation - none

Item 3 – Reports

Correspondence: Mr. McCubbin stated that the Board received 8 miscellaneous correspondence.

Chair Report: Mrs. Leidlein attended the first task force meeting for Sandy Hook School which addressed the process for possible solutions for Sandy Hook School. It is important for as many Board members to attend as possible.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Robinson stated that 12 teams went to the Odyssey of the Mind competition held on April 6. Eight teams placed fourth or higher with five qualifying for the national competition in Michigan.

We are putting extra emphasis on transition meetings in schools and between schools and have added support with the larger group going into 9<sup>th</sup> grade. We will also have extra emphasis on 4<sup>th</sup> grade students going to 5th grade. Melissa Brymer would be here for these discussions.

Mr. Hart presented the plaque that he and Mr. Vouros received last Friday from Congregation Adath Israel commemorating the donation of 2,200 trees planted in Israel for those lost from Sandy Hook School.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if there were special considerations on how to divide Sandy Hook students in the clusters at Reed.

Dr. Robinson said this transition will have some assistance from the therapists who have been with us. We don't want to keep an identified group going in alone.

Mrs. Leidlein questioned whether some therapists would transition to Reed next year.

Dr. Robinson said they were. Wellmore is in charge of the mental health services at Reed.

## Financial Report and Transfers:

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved to approve the financial report and transfers for the month ending March 31, 2013. Mr. McCubbin seconded.

Mr. Bienkowski presented the financial report. All main object accounts are positive and there were limited transfers. The salary balance declined by over \$149,000 due to vacation accruals, departing administrators, the interim administrator position and a number of leaves for maternity. Estimated offsets include \$80,000 for insurance, \$167,000 from the Serv Grant in certified salaries, clerical and EA accounts, and \$58,000 anticipated from the Department of Justice. He recommended transferring \$15,000 from dental to professional services and \$24,000 from unemployment to workers comp. Regarding donations, when the town receives revenues they are deposited to other accounts for things like books, the Hawley School Project, the Sandy Hook School library and various others.

Mr. Vouros asked why we couldn't spend money for the schools and then get reimbursed from the Department of Justice Grant.

Mr. Bienkowski said that grant has different categories. One is for the immediate response to control the crisis such as police department overtime and traffic control. The next part was setting up another school. Some components will be eligible for that and also go for insurance. We also have to use other sources of revenue we have first such as insurance. Part of the delay is sequestration. The government reduced a lot of money going to different agencies. It's a slow turnaround process. We don't have the authority to just spend the money. There are procurement standards to abide by. Bob Tait was meeting with DOJ on Wednesday.

Mrs. Leidlein asked Mr. Bienkowski to send her a dollar amount for recommended improvements for the various schools that can't be accomplished due to lack of funds.

Vote: 7 ayes

Item 4 – Old BusinessProfessional Growth Plan:

Dr. Robinson introduced Mr. Dumais who is the facilitator of this project. This is the draft of the new teacher evaluation plan which was mandated by the state and will be submitted in May. The committee includes teachers, administrators and central office. This is a teacher growth plan which will show some element of growth each year. It is an enhanced support program for teachers.

Mr. Vouros asked wanted to know the impact on the high school if an assistant principal was not added.

Mr. Dumais said with the current structure it is overwhelming to perform observations but the new plan with increased observations will put more of a burden on the existing staff.

The state will send feedback on our plan in May.

Mrs. Leidlein asked to see the final plan that is sent to the state.

Policy 3-202 Budget Procedures and Major Object Code Transfers:

MOTION: Mr. McCubbin moved that the Board of Education approve the revisions to Policy 3-202 Budget Procedures and Major Object Code Transfers as discussed.

Mr. McCubbin said this requires our check registers to be put on line.

Mr. Bienkowski said Trumbull's report is by vendor but does not list what the expense was for. His current list has more information. We have to be careful to eliminate student information. We do check runs a minimum of three times per month the alternate weeks to payroll processing.

Mr. McCubbin said the current schedule was fine or could be expanded to six weeks or two months.

After some discussion Mr. Bienkowski felt the financial reports automatically go on our web site for the public. We will just add the check registers.

The following sentence was added to the fourth paragraph:

*The financial report and check registers will be published on the district website.*

Mr. Bienkowski said this would take the place of sending it to the Board.

Vote: 7 ayes

Serv Grant Update:

Dr. Robinson said we have had some issues with allowable fees for some sub-contractors but changes have been made to meet the federal guidelines. The final budget was sent in yesterday but it had a mistake and was sent back. Hopefully it will be fixed by tomorrow to be sent in. We expect a quick turnaround as we have remediated everything they brought up. The reimbursement for everything from December 14 through this summer will be in the first immediate needs grant. The second immediate needs Serv grant will be from August. We had requested it for years 3 and 4 but they asked us to request those years separately. The amount was \$4M for 3-1/2 years. We expected to have a clean copy tomorrow and will send it to the Board.

Laura expressed concern that the Board has not seen it and it didn't make sense to not be involved.

Dr. Robinson said Melissa Brymer met with Mrs. Leidlein regarding the grant. We were told to keep it confidential.

Mr. Alexander asked that if the things we are requesting in the Serv grant are not provided if we would need them in our budget. It would be helpful to know this before the budget vote.

Dr. Robinson feels the changes we made would be eligible for coverage.

Mr. Vouros asked about the private schools.

Dr. Robinson said they told us we were required to work with our private schools to get what they needed. They have greater concerns about hardening their facilities. One school didn't want to be included and two asked for mental health services. She isn't sure how much money they would get but would research that information.

#### Item 5 – New Business

Minute of April 4, 2013:

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved to approve the minutes of April 4, 2013. Mr. McCubbin seconded.

Vote: 5 ayes, 2 abstained (Mr. Gaines, Mr. Alexander)

Funding Authorization:

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved that the Board of Education authorize an expenditure of \$60,000 from the Sandy Hook Special Revenue Fund, town account #33 402, for the purpose of providing a school building facilitator/consultant and that said expenditure may be reduced by any future corporate donations to this fund. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Mr. Hart questioned why this was coming for Board approval as this is on the town's books.

Mr. Bienkowski deposited \$120,616.50 in the Sandy Hook School account from donations the town received.

Mrs. Roche said the original fee was \$75,000 plus expenses but was reduced to \$60,000 plus expenses. Another \$20,000 was applied to this donation.

Mr. Hart questioned the \$12,000 fee per meeting and how many of their staff was involved.

Mrs. Leidlein said this money was for meetings of the Sandy Hook Task Force composed of 28 members to move forward with a decision for Sandy Hook School.

Mr. Alexander asked for clarification on what this money was for and a specific name.

Mr. McCubbin said it was for the Harwood Institute.

Mrs. Leidlein said Mr. Tait sent her the cost. It was voted on at a Board of Selectman meeting.

Mr. Bienkowski said a town account can be designated for school purposes. They could have turned it over to us. For convenience purposes they commingled the money into one fund.

They want the Board's direction in agreeing to spend the money for this purpose.

Mrs. Leidlein stated that Mr. Tait said the \$20,000 has been approved by the Board of Selectman. The rest is for the Sandy Hook line item for Board of Education approval.

Mr. Hart felt it was a large amount of money to facilitate five meetings.

Mrs. Leidlein said it also includes pre-meetings and focus group meetings.

Mr. Hart requested more detail.

Mr. Alexander was concerned because people donated money but didn't specify where it should go. He feels this amount should come out of the undesignated item.

Mrs. Leidlein stated these meetings are specific to Sandy Hook School.

Mr. Gaines said the meetings are about what to do with Sandy Hook School and he posed an amendment that the Board of Education request the town authorize an expenditure of \$60,000 from the Sandy Hook Special Revenue Fund, town account #33 402, for the purpose of providing a facilitator/consultant for the Sandy Hook School Task Force and associated activities and that said expenditure may be reduced by any future individual/corporate donations to this fund.

Mr. McCubbin saw the concern that we didn't hire these people but have to pay for them.

Mr. Hart felt we didn't have a budget for this and was concerned about what else may be needed.

Mr. Alexander seconded the amendment. It makes more sense to have the town authorize the money.

Mr. Bienkowski said the town builds for the district and controls the process. This amendment would have to go back to the Board of Selectman who already acted and it is set to go to the Legislative Council. It would set them back if we don't approve it. They are looking at us to help expedite this process.

Mr. Alexander said they need to provide sufficient detail.

Attorney Floyd Dugas stated we are being asked to accept the funds for the designated purpose.

Mr. Alexander said the disagreement is over the word authorize. He wants to assure the public that the Board of Education didn't spend \$60,000 they didn't know about.

Mr. Hart was opposed to the amendment if we use the word authorize.

Amended motion: Mr. Gaines moved to amend the motion to move that the Board of Education request the town authorize an expenditure of \$60,000 from the Sandy Hook Special Revenue Fund, town account #33 402, for the purpose of providing a facilitator/consultant for the Sandy Hook School Task Force and associated activities and that said expenditure may be reduced by any future individual/corporate donations to this fund.

Vote: 1 aye, 6 nays (Mrs. Leidlein, Mrs. Roche, Mr. McCubbin, Mr. Hart, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Vouros) Motion fails.

Additional amended motion:

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to amend the motion to move that the Board of Education authorize an expenditure of up to \$60,000 from the Sandy Hook Special Revenue Fund, town account # 33 402, for the purpose of providing a school building facilitator/consultant for the Sandy Hook School Task Force and that said expenditure may be reduced by any future individual/corporate donations to this fund. Mr. Gaines seconded.

Vote on amendment: 7 ayes

Vote on main motion: 6 ayes, 1 nay (Mr. Hart)

Mr. Hart questioned one consultant getting \$12,000 per meeting.

Item 6 – Public Participation

Karyn Holden, 68 Berkshire Road, thanked the Board for the emails on the budget and asked if another could be sent prior to the vote to explain the budget again and any implications of the \$\$750,000 removed by the Board of Finance. She also said there was a rumor that full day kindergarten had been taken off the table.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to go into executive session to discuss the personnel item Superintendent's contract and invited Dr. Janet Robinson and Attorney Floyd Dugas.

Mr. McCubbin seconded. Vote: 7 ayes

Item 7 – Executive Session

Executive session began at 9:40 p.m.

Item 8 – Public Session

The Board moved out of executive session at 11:10 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. McCubbin moved that the Board shall enter into an amendment of the superintendent's contract stating the following: The Superintendent will begin vacation effective May 6<sup>th</sup> through June 28<sup>th</sup> and will be paid out for 21 days of unused vacation time at the end of her employment. Dr. John Reed will be the acting superintendent and take over all the roles and responsibilities of the Superintendent from May 6<sup>th</sup> through June 28<sup>th</sup>. The Board chair is authorized to enter into an MOU with the Superintendent memorializing these terms.

Mrs. Roche seconded. Vote: 7 ayes

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

Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Cody McCubbin  
Secretary

\*No Bus needed



using charter service \*

# FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM



Teacher Making Request: Marc Kenney Date: 4/23/13

Other Staff Involved: Laura McLean, Gregg Simon

Date of Proposed Field Trip: October 5 - Saturday

Class/Group Involved: Girls Soccer Team

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 22

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): none at this time

Destination: Newport, Rhode Island

Place and Time of Departure: NHS, 9:00 am 10/5

Estimated Time of Return: Sunday 10/6 3:00

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.): overnight trip

Estimated Cost of Transportation: —

Estimated Cost per Student: —

Other Information: Team will leave Saturday and return to Newtown Sunday afternoon.

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 04/24/13

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations  
4/16/13

SHES

Big Tree Elementary, Hamburg, NY	\$	150.00	
Da Silva, Harris	\$	67.00	
Hand in Hand, BC, Canada	\$	600.00	(Canadian Dollars)
Centola Family	\$	50.00	
Various donors (BofA Matching)	\$	1,125.00	
Seitz, LLC	\$	1,113.00	
MacDonald, R.	\$	1,000.00	
Meyers, Harrison & Pia, CPA--New Haven, CT	\$	<u>5,300.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>9,405.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,405.00</b>

SHES Library

Shenango Valley School	\$	208.00	
Shenango Valley Schools	\$	<u>1,497.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>1,705.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,705.00</b>

Newtown Public Schools

Help the Hook Foundation (S. Magan)	\$	3,350.00	
Th Nick Foundation	\$	167.00	
S. Swistak	\$	25.00	
Maggie's Kids Foundation	\$	<u>875.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>4,417.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,417.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>15,527.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,527.00</b>

To BOE for Approval on May 7, 2013

April 25, 2013

Dear Dr. Robinson,

Stephanie Dunshee, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher here at Hawley received a monetary gift from a family in her class. Please submit to the board for approval.

\$1,000.00 for classroom use.

Sincerely,

Jo-Ann Peters-Edmondson

Kathy -

...to brighten the days ahead.

What a thoughtful idea to  
honor the victims of  
Sandy Hook.

Please accept this gift towards  
your efforts.

Wishing you peace &  
happiness.

Love,  
Larry & Carole Call



Larry R Call  
Carole L Call  
40701 Saint Louis Dr  
Clinton Twp, MI 48038-7128  
586-412-1996

74-347724 1542

Date 3/2/2013

Pay to the Order of Hawley Elementary School \$ 30.00

thirty 4/100 Dollars

HUNTINGTON  
WWW.HUNTINGTON.COM

Memo Memorial Carole R. Call

MP

⑆072403473⑆ 02386422067⑈ 1542

©2005 Artistic Checks 1-800-224-7621 www.artisticchecks.com #216 Lady Liberty

23 February 2013

Kathy,

Please accept this donation for work that you intend to do on the Nature Trail and Flower Garden at Hawley Elementary.

I am a Member of Happy Tails Pet Therapy here in Atlanta and know Linda Bolterstein through this organization. She has been keeping us up to date with how you are doing and how we could help.

I grew up in NJ and Long Island, went to college in Hoboken, NJ. I still have relative and friends throughout the tri-state area so I always feel a connection to the area. Please know and your colleagues are in our thoughts and prayers.

The Banks Family *Scott*  
Scott, Jan, Anna and Megan.

**Georgia Tech** **Research Institute**

**SCOTT C. BANKS**  
*Branch Head, Software Test*

Electronic Systems Laboratory  
Electronic Systems Integration Division  
400 10<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0800  
PHONE: 404.407.6110 FAX: 404.407.9111  
EMAIL: scott.banks@gtri.gatech.edu  
WEB: www.gtri.gatech.edu

5482  
64-22/610 8311  
1010143972738

SCOTT C BANKS  
JANICE M BANKS  
6166 MOUNTCREEK PLACE NW  
NORCROSS, GA 30092

*FEB. 21, 2013*  
Date

Pay to the Order of Hawley School \$ 50.00  
Fifty and 00/100 Dollars

WELLS FARGO Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Georgia wellsfargo.com

For Donation *Scott C Banks* MP

006 1000 2271 1010143972738 05482

# THE WELLER FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED

Box 1145, Woodbury, Connecticut 06798 / Telephone (203) 263-0229

May 1, 2013

Donna Page  
Principal  
Sandy Hook Elementary School  
375 Fan Hill Road  
Monroe, CT 06468

Subject: Library Donation

Dear Ms. Page:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Trustees at its April 23, 2013 Board Meeting approved a \$1,000 donation to your elementary school library. The purpose of this donation is to provide assistance to your school in the purchase of educational books for your library.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to enclose Foundation Check #3974 made payable to the Sandy Hook Elementary School Library in the amount of \$1,000.

The Foundation requests that:

- The funds be used exclusively for the purchase of educational books,
- The books be identified (in writing, label, or stamp) as having been donated by The Weller Foundation, Incorporated, and
- The Foundation be furnished with the titles and quantities of the books purchased.

The Foundation is proud to support your school in providing a quality education for your students.

Cordially,

  
Michael J. Smith  
Chairman

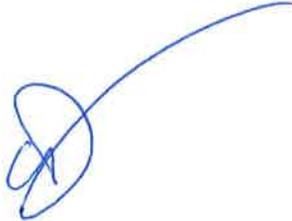
Enclosure - Check #3974

cc: Dr. Janet Robinson - Superintendent of Schools, Newtown Public Schools

April 24, 2013

TO: Janet Robinson

FROM: Charles S. Dumais



Please accept the donation of \$200 from The Taunton Press to The Newtown High School DECA Chapter.

Thank you.

*Attach.*

May 1, 2013

TO: Janet Robinson

FROM: Charles S. Dumais

Please accept the donation of \$200 from The Taunton Press to The Newtown High School Orchestra Parents, the donation of \$200 from The Taunton Press to The Newtown High School AFS Program, and the donation of \$200 from The Taunton Press to The Newtown High School Yearbook Program

Thank you.

*Attach.*

May 1, 2013

TO: Janet Robinson

FROM: Charles S. Dumais

Please accept this donation from Kelly Transit Company to the Newtown High School girl's soccer program. Kelly transportation offered to donate the cost of transporting the Newtown Soccer Girls to Portsmouth High School in Rhode Island the weekend of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This is a very generous donation to the Newtown High Soccer program. Thank you.

*Encl.*



**NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL**  
**12 BERKSHIRE ROAD**  
**SANDY HOOK, CT 06482**  
**(203) 426-7646**  
**FAX (203) 426-6573**

NEWTOWN SUCCESS-ORIENTED SCHOOL MODEL

All  
Children  
Can and  
Will  
Learn  
Well



May 1, 2013

Corrine Nason  
Nason Partners LLC  
Dba Kelley Transit Company  
P.O. Box 237  
Torrington, CT 06790

Dear Corrine;

The tragic events of December 14 have left an indelible impact on the Newtown community. We have been so moved by the outpouring of support from so many people to help us begin to cope and to move forward. To that end, we are grateful for your generous donation of a charter bus trip to Newport, Rhode Island for a girls' soccer game between Newtown High School and Portsmouth High School to benefit the victims of Sandy Hook Elementary School on Saturday, October 5, 2013.

Besides the obvious benefits to our community, this game will serve as a great experience for the student-athletes of both high schools. It will help them see the opportunity to use sports as a vehicle to foster compassion and to see beyond the competition that we are one world.

Although acceptance of any donation is contingent upon Board approval, this letter acknowledges your offer of round trip charter bus service to Newport on Saturday, October 5 through Sunday, October 6. Newtown Soccer will provide meals and lodging for your driver.

In closing, we appreciate your generosity and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Charles Dumais  
Principal  
Newtown High School

*"Our collective strength will serve as an example to the rest of the world."*

20 Silver Brook Lane  
Newtown, CT 06470

APR 29 2013

April 29, 2013

Dr. Janet Robinson  
Superintendent of Schools  
Newtown Public Schools  
3 Primrose Street  
Newtown, CT 06470

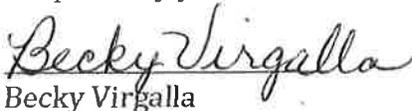
Dear Dr. Robinson:

Please accept this letter of retirement from my position as Language Arts Consultant at Sandy Hook Elementary School, effective July 1, 2013.

I have been an educator for 35 years. I first taught in the classroom for the Trumbull Public Schools for 20 years before coming to Newtown, in 1998, as a reading teacher and later, becoming a Language Arts Consultant. I will be forever grateful for the professional growth opportunities that I experienced here. I thank Donna Pagé for her inspiring leadership, and for believing in me and encouraging me to be all I could be. I also thank Dawn Hochsprung for introducing me to the wonders of Reading Workshop and, most especially, for saving my life on 12/14.

I have enjoyed working with the most professional faculty and staff for the past 15 years of my teaching career, and am now ready to begin the next chapter of my life. I will always be proud of my tenure at SHS and will never forget the valiant heroes, still there, who continue to put the best interests of their children first, each and every day.

Respectfully yours,



Becky Virgalla  
Language Arts Consultant  
Sandy Hook School



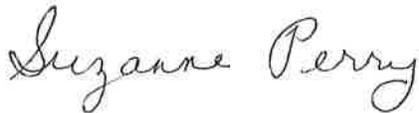
April 10, 2013

APR 11 2013

Dear Dr. Robinson,

I am writing to inform you of my intention to retire from teaching at Sandy Hook School at the end of the 2013 school year. I have told Mrs. Page of my decision, and contacted the State Retirement Board. I would appreciate it if you, or someone in your office, would let me know of anything else I need to do either now, or at any time before my final day, which I understand to be June 25, 2013. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Perry".

Suzanne Perry  
Sandy Hook School

4 King Street  
Newtown, CT 06470  
April 23, 2013

Dr. Janet Robinson, Superintendent  
3 Primrose Street  
Newtown, Connecticut 06470

Dear Dr. Robinson-

After 35 years of teaching I will be retiring from the profession at the end of this school year. Teaching has always been more than a career for me; working with young minds has been a passion. I remember looking at my first pay check as a teacher and thinking "Wow, and I even get paid for doing what I love!"

Most of my teaching years were spent in Norwalk, only the last six in Newtown. This time working in Newtown has been some of the best years of my career. How lucky I have felt to give back to my home community in such a personal way.

Retiring was a bitter sweet decision. My husband will also be retiring from a long teaching career and together we plan to pursue a joint passion...travel! I wonder if I will be able to kick the teacher habit of collecting "stuff" to share with students wherever I go?

It certainly has been a pleasure to work for you and with you.

Sincerely,



Christina Welsh

April 26, 2013

Dear Dr. Robinson,

This note is to let you know that I have decided to retire at the end of this school year as the Math/Science Specialist at Middle Gate.

I would appreciate being considered if a part-time position at the elementary level becomes available.

Sincerely,

Pam Fagan

Math/Science Specialist

Middle Gate School

**Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the special Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in conference room #1 at 3 Primrose Street.

Present:	D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Reed
	L. Roche, Vice Chair	R. Bienkowski
	K. Alexander	R. Mitchell
	J. Vouros	2 Press

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education authorize an expenditure of up to \$65,000 from the Sandy Hook Special Revenue Fund, Town Account #33 402, for the purpose of providing pre-construction services for the Sandy Hook School and that said expenditure will be reimbursed by the project. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Mr. Mitchell explained that the hiring of the firm to do the pre-construction planning would allow for the process to be expedited in order to bring our students back to Newtown as soon as possible. The state has agreed to work with us and this firm will help us to meet the requirements of the building process.

Mr. Bienkowski explained that there are no other accounts for this money to come from and that the donations to this account were meant to help with the Sandy Hook School. The monies are 100% reimbursable with a grant, but we need to start the process now.

Vote: 4 ayes

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved to adjourn. Mr. Alexander seconded. Vote: 4 ayes

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Debbie Leidlein  
Chair

Additional Consent Agenda Item:

NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL  
SPRING FOOTBALL COACHES ROSTER  
2013

NAME	SPORT
STEVE GEORGE	FOOTBALL
CARL PATERNOSTER	ASSISTANT FOOTBALL
MIKE LAGO	JV FOOTBALL
BOB PATTISON	ASSISTANT FOOTBALL
KEVIN BELLINOT	FRESHMAN FOOTBALL
IAN SUTER	VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL
ANDREW KIRNER	VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL
MATT PELLICONE	VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL
MIKE KEARNS	VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL
CORY FISHER	VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL

MEMO: All Principals/Secretaries  
DATE: May 7, 2013  
FROM: Ron Bienkowski, Director of Business  
RE: NOTICE OF BUDGET FREEZE

Reviewing the district's current financial position it is now evident that we need to institute an immediate budget freeze while we continue to analyze all accounts.

While my previous directive was to have all necessary items encumbered by May 14<sup>th</sup>, this directive supersedes that one. What this means is that you may only process requisitions that must be ordered for instructional program needs to the end of the school year.

All consortium bid orders should be delayed at this time and will have to go out after July 1<sup>st</sup> pending budget referendum results and Board of Education action on identifying the \$1.5 million which was reduced.

I regret having to inform you of this action but it is essential at this time.

Should conditions improve you will be notified.

Please contact me directly should you need to.

cc: John R. Reed, Interim, Superintendent  
Dr. Linda Gejda, Assistant Superintendent  
Gino Faiella, Director of Facilities  
Carmella Amodeo, Director of Technology  
Dr. Julie Haggard, Director of Pupil Services

```
); var secondTracker = _gat._getTracker("UA-22358543-1"); secondTracker._trackPageview
( );
```

9/3/13

To: BOE  
FYI Check registers  
placed on-line since last  
meeting. Under financials.  
we will continue going forward  
and backward as well.  
Rom

[Home](#)   [Schools](#)   [District Information](#)   [Departments](#)   [Parents](#)   [Staff](#)

### Financial Payments by Date for 2012-2013

#### January 2013 Check Registers

[January 18, 2013](#)

[January 31, 2013](#)

#### February 2013 Check Registers

[February 7, 2013](#)

[February 15, 2013](#)

[February 28, 2013](#)

#### March 2013 Check Registers

[March 7, 2013](#)

[March 15, 2013](#)

[March 28, 2013](#)

#### April 2013 Check Registers

[April 12, 2013](#)

[April 26, 2013](#)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT  
DATED DECEMBER 17, 2012**

**THIS AMENDED AGREEMENT** made this \_\_\_\_ day of May, 2013, by and among the Town of Newtown, Connecticut, a municipal corporation with its office at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, Connecticut (“Newtown”), the Newtown Board of Education, with an office at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, Connecticut (“Newtown Board of Education”), and the Town of Monroe, Connecticut, a municipal corporation with its office at 7 Fan Hill Road, Monroe, Connecticut (“Monroe”).

**WHEREAS**, the parties hereto entered into an Agreement on or about December 17, 2012, for the use by Newtown and the Newtown Board of Education of the Chalk Hill Middle School in Monroe; and

**WHEREAS**, the parties desire to amend the Agreement to provide for an extension thereof for an additional year, and to more specifically define the obligation for the expenses relative to the occupancy of the Chalk Hill Middle School by the Newtown Board of Education.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual premises hereinafter contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Article 2.1 of the Agreement is amended to extend the termination date to June 30, 2016. Newtown and the Newtown Board of Education shall have the option, provided they have fully and faithfully performed all of their obligations hereunder to terminate this Agreement prior to the June 30, 2016 date. Newtown and the Newtown Board of Education must notify the Town of Monroe of its intention to exercise this option in writing at least six (6) months prior to the termination date of June 30, 2016 as set forth in this Amendment.

2. Article 11.1 of the Agreement is amended by the addition of the following sentence: "All costs for security at the Chalk Hill Middle School (inside the school and the grounds around it) including, but not limited to, salaries and overtime incurred by the Monroe Police Department, shall be the responsibility of Newtown and the Newtown Board of Education."

3. The following new paragraph entitled "Article XVII" shall be added to the Agreement:

**"ARTICLE XVII**  
**Land Use Requirements**

17.1 Land Use Requirements: Newtown and the Newtown Board of Education shall make applications, if necessary or in conjunction with the Town of Monroe, to the applicable land use (regulatory) Commissions of the Town of Monroe for approval of the Chalk Hill Middle School as an elementary school, and for the construction of a new playground on the Chalk Hill Middle School premises. Newtown and the Newtown Board of Education shall be responsible for the legal notice expenses associated with pursuing the aforesaid applications and all other application fees and costs shall be waived by Monroe in association with said applications."

4. In all other respects, except as modified herein, the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

TOWN OF MONROE

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen J. Vavrek  
First Selectman

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

By: \_\_\_\_\_

E. Patricia Llodra  
First Selectman

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Debbie Leidlein  
Chairman