

**Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall at Newtown High School.

D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Reed
L. Roche, Vice Chair	L. Gejda
K. Hamilton, Secretary	R. Bienkowski
K. Alexander	10 Staff
J. Vouros	40 Public
D. Freedman	5 Press
M. Ku	

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting order at 6:32 p.m.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of January 7, 2014, the Newtown High School field trips, the donations to Sandy Hook School, the leave of absence for Orlando Callands, custodian, the leave of absence for Terry Dunn, security officer, and the resignation for Charles Dumais, principal of Newtown High School.

Mr. Alexander seconded.

Ms. Hamilton moved to remove the minutes of January 7, 2014. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Ms. Hamilton referred to page 5 and asked to change the wording at the end of the first sentence to read, “which went into effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.”

Mr. Freedman seconded.

Vote on amendment: motion passes unanimously.

Vote on minutes: motion passes unanimously.

Item 3 – Public Participation – None

Item 4 – Reports

Correspondence Report: Ms. Hamilton read the attached correspondence report.

Chair Report: Mrs. Leidlein said the Board agreed with the recommendation of Jonathan Costa to postpone the retreat. The Public Building and Site Commission requested a joint meeting with Svigals tentatively set for February 5 or 19 to see the plans for the new Sandy Hook School. She asked member to let her know if they can attend the Board meeting on February 18 as there were two members who could not be there.

Superintendent’s Report:

Dr. Reed stated that he would be meeting with Dr. Erardi next Friday.

There was a meeting this week regarding Connecticut school-based health centers and the possibility of having one in the Newtown schools. Jim Maloney is the director of this program in our area. This program may be looked at as a support structure after the SERV Grant ends. Regarding the high school principal search, he is recommending the Board hire a consultant to do the search.

Financial Report and Transfers:

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education approve the financial report and transfers for the month ending December 31, 2013. Mr. Vouros seconded.

Mr. Bienkowski reviewed the attached financial report and transfers. We spent \$5.5M during December and we expect to receive funds through excess cost and agency placement grants for out of district tuition.

Motion passes unanimously.

Dr. Reed acknowledged the resignation of Chip Dumais and thanked him for what he has done for Newtown High School. He is a profoundly intelligent person with a great work ethic who had a very comprehensive vision for Newtown High School which had an important impact on the improvement at the school. He wished him well.

Committee Reports:

Ms. Hamilton said the policy committee met January 21 and reviewed the comments from Dr. Reed and the administration. We will need to have a short meeting to address the committee charges and the high school graduation policy. There was no CIP meeting. She, along with Mr. Freedman and Mr. Faiella, attended the Legislative Council meeting when it was presented. She received a letter from the Legislative Council about the high school auditorium. Regarding the Sandy Hook School building project she received information from Julia McFadden regarding a new website where the public can find updates on the project. That website is <http://www.sandyhook2016.com/demo/index.html>.

Item 5 – New Business

Preschool Tuition:

MOTION: Mr. Freedman moved that the Board of Education approve the preschool program tuition rate of \$2,000 per year for a half-day, four-day a week program to begin with the 2014-2015 school year. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Dr. Reed stated that this was in the budget. Action was requested so parents could be notified well in advance of next year. Mr. Freedman moved that the Board of Education approve the preschool program tuition rate of \$2,000 per year for a half-day, four-day a week program to begin with the 2014-2015 school year. Mrs. Roche seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Mr. Vouros asked how many students attended the preschool program.

Mrs. Leidlein said there were 25 non-disabled and 29 special ed students in the program. We would look to enroll a similar number next year.

Ms. Hamilton hoped we would track ourselves with other programs offering the same to keep in line with the cost.

Motion passes unanimously.

Board of Finance Communication:

Mrs. Leidlein spoke about the communication from the Board of Finance asking for feedback regarding continuing a dialog with the Board of Selectman so that economies of service could be found. They provided a draft of a regulation for the nonlapsing account for the Board of Education. They also wanted us to provide enrollment data by grade and discuss data present at the Board of Finance meeting regarding enrollment, Board of Education spending over the last years and a timeline for the enrollment study. They asked when we could have a joint meeting with them. They have one on February 10.

Mr. Freedman was in favor of meeting with them.

Mr. Alexander felt we should wait until after our budget presentation to them which may answer their questions.

Mrs. Ku referred to their charts and graphs which we need to address before they are published. She wasn't sure she agreed with the way they have been presented. Ms. Hamilton felt it was beneficial to meet with them sooner. We should put together a package for a presentation to them. We need to make note of special requirements by grade. February 10 is not a good date for her. Mrs. Roche asked Dr. Reed's opinion.

Dr. Reed stated that the Board of Education has committed to conduct an enrollment study to be contracted in June. The study will be completed by November 1. The Board of Education in their goals is going to engage in strategic planning a part of which will be to define the future space needs of the school system. Upon completion, which is March 2015, the Board will be in a position to plan the use of unused space with the other Boards. He expects a tremendous turnout of people as we begin to define the impact of enrollment on Newtown schools. Space solutions will be debated regarding the possible alternative uses. He cautioned that the impact of 12/14 on this year's enrollment data make it more difficult to make inferences about enrollment trends. He thinks fewer people moved here because of the tragedy and we experienced some families withdrawing children because of the aftermath of the tragedy.

Mrs. Ku said if we schedule a joint meeting we need to meet as a whole to decide what we want to do on several of these issues. Mrs. Leidlein would poll the Board for potential meeting dates.

Item 6 – Presentation of Superintendent's Recommended Budget

Dr. Reed spoke about the students taping the meeting. There were students from the Tech Club and Austin McChord who is a graduate of Newtown High School and owner of one of the fastest growing businesses in Connecticut. He has six students from our high school who are working for him with more expected. Dr. Reed began his presentation which is attached.

Item 7 – Elementary School Budgets

Principals attending include Barbara Gasparine, Christopher Geissler, Kathy Gombos and Hawley Lead Teacher, Roxanne Melaragno, in Jo-Ann Peter's absence.

Ms. Gasparine said these are status quo budgets which preserve current programs. No new programs or staffing are requested. She acknowledged that enrollment has declined and prior to identifying the location of the two unspecified teaching positions to be eliminated we need to see enrollment data through June and early July before decisions are finalized. Head O'Meadow just enrolled seven new students. We have a significant need for support staff for the SERV Grant and security staff is greatly valued.

Dr. Gombos said our budgets are focusing on teacher growth and student learning with sensitivity to the social and emotional growth of the children.

Mr. Vouros asked about the kindergarten program this year.

Mr. Geissler was satisfied with kindergarten this year which also includes explained time for various programs.

Ms. Hamilton asked what projected numbers we were using for kindergarten next year.

Dr. Reed said we are using our numbers which is 116 students less than Dr. Chung's middle range projection.

Ms. Hamilton said there was a 20% increase in the number of students from kindergarten to first grade at Hawley and Head O'Meadow as asked for data to support this increase.

Dr. Reed stated that we use the persistence factor based on five years. This budget reflects the reality of experiences that some of our students have had. The trauma at Sandy Hook School was different. Class size in some grade levels will be lower at Sandy Hook.

Mrs. Ku questioned the professional development growth shifting from outside to spending more time inside school.

Dr. Gombos said that part of the State mandate is that it be more individualized and in small groups. We use substitutes to allow teachers to observe other teachers teach. We do a lesson study planning and teach the lesson. There is a lot of collaboration between teachers during the school day.

Item 8 – Reed Intermediate School Budget

Anne Uberti, principal, said that declining enrollment is the biggest change in her budget. She will lose three teaching positions. The mental and physical well being and safety of students and staff is being met. Professional development was reduced because there are workshops in-house. Teachers need more time for collaboration and professional conversations. This is particularly important because of the impact of 12/14.

Mrs. Roche asked about the schedule for next year.

Mrs. Uberti said it was not completely finished and feels she has been able to improve the schedule by reallocating a position.

Item 9 – Public Participation – None

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

Item 10 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Hamilton
Secretary

**Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Reed
L. Roche, Vice Chair	L. Gejda
K. Alexander	R. Bienkowski
J Vouros	4 Staff
D. Freedman	2 Press
K. Hamilton	
M. Ku	

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board go into executive session to discuss school security goals and invited Dr. Reed, Ron Bienkowski, Joni Capocitti, Carmella Amodeo, Gino Faiella and Mark Pompano. Mr. Alexander seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 1 – Executive Session

Exited executive session at 7:35 p.m.
The public session began at 7:50 p.m.

Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to approve the consent agenda which included the high school debate team and jazz ensemble field trips, and donations to Sandy Hook School, the high school automotive repair class and the Newtown school district. Mr. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 4 – Public Participation

Item 5 – Reports:

Correspondence Report: Ms. Hamilton said correspondence was received from Kathy Hamilton regarding the Board vote on committee structure, Duckfish Electronics regarding IT needs which was forwarded to Carmella Amodeo, Kathy Hamilton regarding the Board of Finance liaison, committee structure and membership, a liaison to the donation group and a question regarding the CIP presentation to the Legislative Council, Debbie Leidlein regarding the Legislative Council discussion of the new Sandy Hook School driveway, Laurie Borst regarding school bus safety and Wolfgang Halbig's FOIA request about the Sandy Hook tragedy response.

Chair Report: Mrs. Leidlein discussed the Board retreat and would send out the goals of that meeting with possible dates. She received a packet from the Hillsboro Country Magnet School with music and poems composed by students to share with Sandy Hook School.

Superintendent's Report:

The NICE presentation will be given in the second regular Board meeting in February due to some staff not being able to attend tonight.

A letter was received from Victoria DeFrank of the AFSCME regarding the Newtown Board of Education Nurses, Local 1303-215 of Council 4, union negotiations. Their contract expires June 30, 2014. We are providing information they requested.

The SERV Grant was approved. We received notification on Monday that it runs from September 1, 2013 to August 15, 2014. David Esquith and the team they sent to Newtown were very insightful in helping address some issues regarding the grant. There was significant cooperation on the part of many people involved in preparing this grant.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Roche said the committee discussed the budget newsletter and asked for the Board to vote to continue providing these communications. A newsletter will be sent out before the budget process, one after each budget week and a summary after the Board of Finance meeting.

At the last meeting she spoke about having people subscribe to receiving agendas and found out that there is an option for that on the Town website.

Mr. Alexander said last year we posted the budget newsletters on google docs which is allowed.

Dr. Reed said we have a speaker's bureau where anyone can make a request for a speaker to attend and address issues. He will be announcing dates on Saturdays starting in February where he will have open office hours for anyone to drop in and discuss the budget.

Ms. Hamilton said there would be a policy committee meeting on Thursday.

Item 6 – Old Business

Appointment of Committees:

Mrs. Leidlein shared the list of committees and their charges and asked for feedback.

Mr. Freedman asked about the donation committee and felt it should be added to the list.

Mr. Alexander is on that committee and Ms. Hamilton was a public member.

Ms. Hamilton said the work of that committee has decreased and they only meet on as-needed basis.

Mr. Freedman asked to be removed from the curriculum development and testing improvement committee.

Mrs. Roche suggested voting on the committees but preferred to wait to vote on the charges.

Mrs. Leidlein said the charges of the committees are part of the board policies and it may be best to refer them to the policy committee. The Board agreed.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to approve the appointment of committee assignments with the revisions discussed. Ms. Hamilton seconded.

Mrs. Ku said the policy states that the chairperson of the Board will be part of the standing committees so we may not be able to have three per committee.

Mr. Alexander said the chair would have to be an exofficio member.

Ms. Hamilton said an exofficio member is not a voting member.

Mr. Alexander preferred to have three members on the subcommittees and keep the list we have.

Ms. Hamilton would look into it.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to amend the motion to state with possible changes as needed based on policy re-read.

Vote on amendment: Motion passes unanimously.

Vote on original motion: Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to refer the committee charges to the policy subcommittee for possible addition to the policies. Ms. Hamilton seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Graduation Requirements:

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved that the Board of Education approve the changes in the Requirements for Graduation Policy 7-302. Ms. Hamilton seconded.

Dr. Gejda spoke about Mr. Dumais' presentation regarding changes in the graduation requirements to come into alignment with the secondary school reform. This initially will start with the class of 2018. It is recommended that the graduating class of 2018 have 23 credits, the class of 2019 have 24 credits, and class of 2020 have 25 credits. We are looking at requiring world language for the first two years and in 2020 taking senior project and redistribution of the content area credits. This discussion is important at this time because we want to let the freshman know next year upon entering the high school so they know the requirements.

Ms. Hamilton recalled Mr. Dumais saying that most students graduate with two world language credits so it is a non-budgetary issue.

Mr. Alexander asked if there was any modification for special education students.

Dr. Gejda said school districts are required to make a concerted effort with students in 6th grade to be sure they can meet these standards.

Mr. Alexander was concerned it would be more costly in the third year to add these credits.

Dr. Gejda said the challenge will be to distribute the credits and look at remediation for students who didn't pass. We need to have options for those students such as summer school or online courses.

Mr. Vouros was concerned about eliminating positions at the high school to meet these requirements.

Dr. Reed said we will be able to absorb the increased requirements for graduation. A possible addition to the policy would be at the discretion of the principal to substitute another credit for a failed course.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Freedman moved that the Board of Education authorize the Communications Committee to continue to issue information on behalf of the Board of Education. Mr. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 7 – New Business

December 18, 2013 Minutes:

MOTION: Mrs. Ku moved to approve the minutes of December 18, 2013. Ms. Hamilton seconded. Ms. Hamilton suggested a change to the second paragraph on page 2 to read "Dr. Reed spoke about charging non-special education partner students for attending our preschool program. Most districts charge for this program."

Dr. Reed suggested having a change in his statement in that paragraph to read, "Dr. Reed said all school districts that he is aware of charge."

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton made a friendly amendment to add Dr. Reed's change. Mrs. Roche seconded.

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved her suggested sentence in that paragraph on students being charged. Mrs. Ku seconded.

Vote on amendment: 6 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. Alexander)

Vote on minutes: 6 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. Alexander)

December 23, 2013 Minutes:

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved to approve the minutes of December 23, 2013. Mr. Vouros seconded.

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved to amend the minutes on page four. She added a sentence in the third paragraph to read, "Ms. Hamilton said usually the money is expended before the end of the school year. It might be more beneficial to save the money for larger expenses in the future." She also requested to remove the next sentence. Mrs. Ku seconded.

Motion on amendment: 6 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. Alexander)

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved to amend the first sentence under Committee Reports to read, "Mrs. Roche said the policy committee has been meeting regularly and at our last meeting Ms. Hamilton was voted as the chair. Mrs. Ku seconded.

Vote on amendment: 6 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. Alexander)

Vote on minutes: 6 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. Alexander)

First Tee Program:

MOTION: Mr. Freedman moved that the Board of Education accept the donation of the First Tee Program. Mr. Alexander seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

School Climate Assessment Instrument:

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved that the Board of Education approve the implementation of the Comprehensive School Climate Assessment Instrument. Mr. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Dr. Gejda said this request is from the Safe School Climate Committee. This is a requirement for surveying students, parent and staff members. Last year this legislation went into effect. We used a survey for staff and parents but didn't feel the surveys were complete. Jo Ann Freiberg from the State Department of Education spoke to our committee about another instrument we could use which looks at school climate more comprehensively.

Mr. Freedman asked if we looked at any others before we chose this.

Dr. Gejda said we chose this because it was recommended by Dr. Freiberg, is used nationwide and is reliable.

Ms. Hamilton asked if we have any evidence to show what we are doing is effective?

Dr. Gejda said that part of the new legislation is to collect the reports and decide what information should be addressed at the building level.

Mr. Alexander asked what part of the budget this fell under.

Dr. Gejda said it would come under her budget. The committee was looking to use it this year. They liked it because the questions are geared for certain grade levels.

Motion passes unanimously.

Unexpended Education Funds Account:

Mr. Bienkowski said this refers to a public act which went into effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. This allows us to carry over any unexpended balance into the next fiscal year. The first motion elaborates the 1% budgeted appropriation and indicates the fiscal year it would begin. This is more complete than past motions that had been prepared. Examples of how the money could be used is for costs associated with storms and snow removal, the Head O'Meadow generator replacement, 12/14 expenses, delayed maintenance projects or technology infrastructure/obsolescence. This law would benefit the Board of Education to assure that funds approved for education at the referendum would all be used for education.

MOTION: Ms. Hamilton moved that the Newtown Board of Education respectfully request that the Newtown Board of Finance establish a non-lapsing account for deposit of any unexpended education funds from the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, not to exceed 1% of the Board of Education's budgeted appropriation. Such request is in accordance with State Statute Section 10-248a, Unexpended Education Funds account. Any funds expended from the Non-Lapsing Education Fund established by the Newtown Board of Finance under this statute shall be authorized by the Newtown Board of Education. Mr. Freedman seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Ms. Hamilton felt it was great that we were doing this as it will give us flexibility in the future for projects or capital expenses. She hoped we wouldn't use this to supplement our operating expenses.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 8 – Public Participation

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

Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Hamilton
Secretary



FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: Thomas Date: 1/10/12

Other Staff Involved: —

Date of Proposed Field Trip: Jan 18-19, 2012

Class/Group Involved: Debate

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 9

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): Jesse Dunbar (will drive students to/from venue)

Destination: Lexington Invitational Debate Tournament, Lexington, MA

Place and Time of Departure: NHS 11 am

Estimated Time of Return: NHS 10 pm

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.) will overnight @ Quality Inn, Lexington MA

Estimated Cost of Transportation: —

Estimated Cost per Student: \$180

Other Information: —

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 01/10/13

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: _____

January 8, 2012

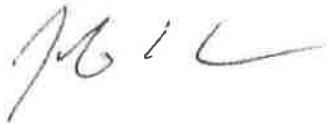
Dear Members of the Board,

On December 28th, the Newtown High School Debate Team was invited to attend the Lexington Winter Invitational Tournament, a large regional debate tournament, held at Lexington High School, in Lexington, MA on January 18 and 19. I'm now asking for permission to attend this very competitive tournament, inviting the top teams in the East Coast. While the team has competed at Lexington, it has not for the last five years.

Because of the late notice and the proximity to midterms, I will take at most, ten students, although in reality, the total number should be closer to seven. The students will get to the tournament by van, driven by Jesse Dunbar, the father of debate team member Katherine Dunbar.

This tournament is not on the roster of out of state tournaments that I previously asked Board permission for. The students are very excited to receive the invitation and are working very hard on cases. It will be advantageous for us to go since we will debate the same resolution used in the Columbia Invitational tournament the following weekend. In past years, we have been at a competitive disadvantage at Columbia because of the lack of prior tournament experience with the resolution. With our participation at Lexington, we are hoping even the field.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Thomas', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jacob Thomas

January 9, 2013

TO: Janet Robinson

FROM: Charles S. Dumais



Please accept the donation of \$600 from The Lutheran Church Charities to the Newtown High School teachers and staff members. This is a very generous donation that will be use to show our appreciation to teachers and staff members.

Thank you.

Lutheran Church Charities
333 W. Lake Street
Addison, Illinois 60101

January 9, 2013

TO: Janet Robinson

FROM: Charles S. Dumais

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CD' with a long, sweeping line extending upwards and to the right.

Please accept the donation from Random House. Random House donated 60 paperback edition of "Let the Whole World Spin" McCann. The books have an estimated retail price of \$15 for a total amount of \$900.

Thank you.

Encl.

January 10, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jacob Thomas. I am an English teacher at Newtown High School. Last week, two of my colleagues, Lee Keylock and Michelle Toby, discussed the possibility of expanding the Senior curriculum to include books that expressly celebrate the human spirit. They specifically discussed using Colum McCann's *Let the Whole World Spin*, a novel loosely based on a single event (walking a tightrope between the World Trade Center buildings) that beautifully links eight disparate lives, in their AP Literature and Composition class. It is especially appropriate since the majority of the curriculum have books that, while having great literary merit, tend to look at dark events.

I asked a family friend who is a senior editor at HarperCollins to reach out the publisher, Random House, to see if we could get two class sets. Random House donated sixty paperback editions of the book. The books have a retail price of \$15.00, for a total donated value of \$900. The packaging did not contain any invoices of packing slips for the books.

Very Truly Yours,



Jacob Thomas

**NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2013**

SUMMARY

The attached is the sixth financial report for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. During the month of December, the Board of Education spent approximately \$5.5M; \$3.5M on salaries and \$2.0M for all other objects. All the main object accounts on the first page remain in a positive balance position with the exception of Other Purchased Services. The excess cost and agency placement grants will be received shortly and will be more than adequate to cover this need which represents Out of District Tuition.

The few negative balance in sub-accounts are those that will be expected to receive an excess cost and agency placement grant revenue offset.

The areas that have changed from the prior month are primarily the salary accounts and some of the energy accounts, both of which are further detailed below.

The current transfers recommended this month represent specific balances and needs that are detailed further under the Expense Category conditions which follows. There are three transfers that cross major object codes this month and will be included in the Superintendent's requested budget.

This budget is in relatively good shape but still needs to be carefully monitored. The overall anticipated balance has declined by approximately \$74,800. Forecasting anticipated obligations will be ongoing from now on and will modify the balances required to end the fiscal year within the allotted budget.

EXPENSE CATEGORY CONDITIONS

100 SALARIES

The total salary budget is expected to be adequate to continue all the planned services for the balance of the year. Transfers from and into various salary accounts are as follows:

- \$18,000 is recommended to be transferred into administrative salaries due to resignation, retirements, and acting personnel. This group of accounts will require additional review and subsequent adjustments.

- \$30,000 is recommended to be transferred out of the Teachers salary accounts from balances available due to position placements.
- \$30,000 is recommended to be transferred into the Homebound and Tuition salaries account. This is necessary to cover additional anticipated costs in the High School and Special Education accounts. \$15,000 to each.
- \$15,000 is recommended to be transferred out of the Secretaries account for reduced clerical costs resulting from position eliminations. \$8,000 at Sandy Hook School and \$7,000 at Reed Intermediate.
- \$10,000 is recommended to be transferred out of Custodial salaries due to some Workers Comp related issues and unpaid absences.

200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Current estimates continue to be on track with no change.

300 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Current estimates continue to be on track with no change.

400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES

This category includes the \$574,000 of Building and Site Improvement projects which have been released for action to the extent possible now. Water and Sewer for Chalk Hill may exceed the budget by approximately \$3,700.

Emergency repairs which occurred this month included; Boiler repairs at Head O'Meadow for \$2,686, and a domestic water line leak at the High School for \$3,552. This represents a lesser amount than the previous three months. Overall, we continue to experience a larger number of emergency repairs earlier in the school year. As of this writing we have spent about 67% of our budgeted account. This needs to be noted as we are now in the winter months where many more repairs become necessary during this period. If the same rate of emergency repairs are required for the balance of the year the budget could be exceeded by approximately \$200,000. This report assumes about half of that in the anticipated obligation column.

500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES

A transfer in of \$2,000 is recommended to the Insurance account to cover the additional costs of deductibles on outstanding claims.

The Tuition account now includes the additional costs of two settlements which bump up the expected expenses modestly. Overall, this large shortage will still be covered by the excess cost grant which is due shortly.

600 SUPPLIES

Current estimates continue to be on track for about half of the main supply accounts. This group of accounts includes the electricity, gas, and fuel accounts which have been reviewed with estimates for transfer to balance anticipated differences. Electricity currently is tight and could exceed the budget by \$6,000 but it is still too soon to deal with this account. Propane and Natural Gas is expected to save about \$15,000 over the budget and the recommended transfer out of these funds is to the Fuel for Vehicles and Equipment account. \$7,000 for maintenance which was under budgeted and \$8,000 for transportation primarily due to the additional special education runs. \$5,000 is recommended to be transferred into the Fuel Oil account due to the High School tank repair and cleaning. This amount exceeds our contracted supply limit.

700 PROPERTY

Current estimates continue to be on track with no change.

800 MISCELLANEOUS

Current estimates continue to be on track with no change.

The budget will continue to be carefully monitored and any subsequent issues or opportunities will be presented as necessary. As part of the budget discussion, certain balance opportunities will be further vetted.

Ron Bienkowski
Director of Business
January 17, 2014

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

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

- Object Code – a service or commodity obtained as the result of a specific expenditure defined by eight categories: Salaries, Employee Benefits, Professional Services, Purchased Property Services, Other Purchased Services, Supplies, Property, and Miscellaneous.
- Expense Category – further defines the type of expense by Object Code
- Expended 2012-13 – actual (unaudited) expenditures of the prior fiscal year (for comparison purposes)
- Approved Budget – indicates the town approved financial plan used by the school district to achieve its goals and objectives.
- YTD Transfers - identified specific cross object codes requiring adjustments to provide adequate funding for the fiscal period. This includes all transfers made to date.
- Current Transfers – identifies the recommended cross object codes for current month action. (No current transfers indicated)
- Current Budget – adjusts the Approved Budget calculating adjustments (+ or -) from transfers to the identified object codes.
- Year-To-Date Expended – indicates the actual amount of cumulative expenditures processed by the school district through the month-end date indicated on the monthly budget summary report.
- Encumbered – indicates approved financial obligations of the school district as a result of employee salary contracts, purchasing agreements, purchase orders, or other identified obligations not processed for payment by the date indicated on the monthly budget summary report.
- Balance – calculates object code account balances, subtracting expenditures and encumbrances from the current budget amount, indicating unobligated balances or shortages.
- Anticipated Obligation – is a column which provides a method to forecast expense category fund balances that have not been approved via an encumbrance, but are anticipated to be expended or remain with an account balance to maintain the overall budget funding level.
- Projected Balance – calculates the object code balances subtracting the Anticipated Obligations. These balances will move up and down as information is known and or decisions are anticipated or made about current and projected needs of the district.

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING - DECEMBER 31, 2013

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	EXPENDED 2012 - 2013	APPROVED BUDGET	YTD		CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
				TRANSFERS 2013 - 2014	CURRENT TRANSFERS						
<u>GENERAL FUND BUDGET</u>											
100	SALARIES	\$ 43,732,472	\$ 45,076,226	\$ (111,800)	\$ (7,000)	\$ 44,957,426	\$ 18,398,497	\$ 25,630,442	\$ 928,488	\$ 1,010,133	\$ (81,646)
200	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 10,341,864	\$ 10,675,831	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,675,831	\$ 5,713,599	\$ 4,035,746	\$ 926,486	\$ 910,048	\$ 16,438
300	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 885,059	\$ 920,517	\$ (1,200)	\$ -	\$ 919,317	\$ 352,849	\$ 285,718	\$ 280,751	\$ 277,222	\$ 3,529
400	PURCHASED PROPERTY SERV.	\$ 2,156,695	\$ 2,393,290	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,393,290	\$ 1,021,535	\$ 311,245	\$ 1,060,511	\$ 1,168,818	\$ (108,307)
500	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$ 6,526,747	\$ 6,851,622	\$ 94,565	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,948,187	\$ 4,003,536	\$ 2,980,180	\$ (35,529)	\$ 942,960	\$ (978,489)
600	SUPPLIES	\$ 4,428,579	\$ 4,554,880	\$ 435	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,560,315	\$ 1,826,508	\$ 182,464	\$ 2,551,344	\$ 2,556,775	\$ (5,431)
700	PROPERTY	\$ 206,463	\$ 497,748	\$ 18,000	\$ -	\$ 515,748	\$ 268,767	\$ 168,366	\$ 78,615	\$ 78,300	\$ 315
800	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 71,081	\$ 75,190	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,190	\$ 66,207	\$ 488	\$ 8,495	\$ 8,400	\$ 95
TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET		\$ 68,348,959	\$ 71,045,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71,045,304	\$ 31,651,498	\$ 33,594,647	\$ 5,799,159	\$ 6,952,656	\$ (1,153,497)
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 68,348,959	\$ 71,045,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71,045,304	\$ 31,651,498	\$ 33,594,647	\$ 5,799,159	\$ 6,952,656	\$ (1,153,497)
<i>(Unaudited)</i>											
Excess Cost Grant Reimbursement Offset			75.00%			\$ 1,452,304		T.B.D.	\$ 1,741,239		\$ 1,741,239
Net Projected Balance											\$ 587,742

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT
 FOR THE MONTH ENDING - DECEMBER 31, 2013

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	EXPENDED 2012 - 2013	APPROVED BUDGET	YTD		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
				TRANSFERS 2013 - 2014	CURRENT TRANSFERS						
100	SALARIES										
	Administrative Salaries	\$ 2,905,110	\$ 2,826,231	\$ 55,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 2,899,231	\$ 1,368,947	\$ 1,477,581	\$ 52,703	\$ 78,945	\$ (26,242)
	Teachers & Specialists Salaries	\$ 30,174,314	\$ 30,919,957	\$ (278,351)	\$ (30,000)	\$ 30,611,606	\$ 11,792,950	\$ 18,766,276	\$ 52,380	\$ 34,385	\$ 17,995
	Early Retirement	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -		\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Continuing Ed./Summer School	\$ 74,383	\$ 84,903	\$ 855		\$ 85,758	\$ 63,777	\$ 21,808	\$ 174	\$ -	\$ 174
	Homebound & Tutors Salaries	\$ 249,524	\$ 211,664	\$ 47,245	\$ 30,000	\$ 288,909	\$ 130,455	\$ 130,462	\$ 27,993	\$ 39,984	\$ (11,991)
	Certified Substitutes	\$ 589,183	\$ 645,725	\$ 1,200		\$ 646,925	\$ 242,421	\$ 137,325	\$ 267,180	\$ 262,298	\$ 4,882
	Coaching/Activities	\$ 534,475	\$ 532,749	\$ -		\$ 532,749	\$ 138,722	\$ 30,484	\$ 363,543	\$ 363,000	\$ 543
	Staff & Program Development	\$ 116,368	\$ 167,891	\$ -		\$ 167,891	\$ 110,370	\$ 51,769	\$ 5,752	\$ 5,752	\$ (0)
	CERTIFIED SALARIES	\$ 34,659,356	\$ 35,405,120	\$ (174,051)	\$ 18,000	\$ 35,249,069	\$ 13,863,641	\$ 20,615,705	\$ 769,723	\$ 784,364	\$ (14,641)
	Supervisors/Technology Salaries	\$ 612,272	\$ 622,327	\$ 6,347		\$ 628,674	\$ 303,368	\$ 325,305	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ 1
	Clerical & Secretarial salaries	\$ 1,913,153	\$ 1,985,904	\$ -	\$ (15,000)	\$ 1,970,904	\$ 914,402	\$ 1,028,868	\$ 27,634	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,634
	Educational Assistants	\$ 1,783,332	\$ 1,843,658	\$ 93,000		\$ 1,936,658	\$ 875,365	\$ 1,098,628	\$ (37,335)	\$ (3,500)	\$ (33,835)
	Nurses & Medical advisors	\$ 665,534	\$ 683,022	\$ -		\$ 683,022	\$ 310,236	\$ 393,137	\$ (20,351)	\$ -	\$ (20,351)
	Custodial & Maint Salaries	\$ 2,759,414	\$ 2,898,325	\$ (10,571)	\$ (10,000)	\$ 2,877,754	\$ 1,383,352	\$ 1,473,476	\$ 20,925	\$ 12,500	\$ 8,425
	Bus Drivers salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Career/Job salaries	\$ 109,211	\$ 108,501	\$ 1,897		\$ 110,398	\$ 53,861	\$ 52,949	\$ 3,588	\$ 3,588	\$ (0)
	Special Education Svcs Salaries	\$ 659,495	\$ 824,820	\$ (28,422)		\$ 796,398	\$ 351,871	\$ 464,222	\$ (19,694)	\$ 59,831	\$ (79,525)
	Attendance & Security Salaries	\$ 207,942	\$ 380,071	\$ -		\$ 380,071	\$ 151,806	\$ 176,257	\$ 52,008	\$ 2,476	\$ 49,532
	Extra Work - Non-Cert	\$ 76,256	\$ 71,115	\$ -		\$ 71,115	\$ 45,152	\$ 1,895	\$ 24,069	\$ 23,000	\$ 1,069
	Custodial & Maint. Overtime	\$ 242,452	\$ 210,363	\$ -		\$ 210,363	\$ 128,420	\$ -	\$ 81,943	\$ 81,900	\$ 43
	Civic activities/Park & Rec	\$ 44,055	\$ 43,000	\$ -		\$ 43,000	\$ 17,024	\$ -	\$ 25,976	\$ 25,974	\$ 2
	NON-CERTIFIED SALARIES	\$ 9,073,115	\$ 9,671,106	\$ 62,251	\$ (25,000)	\$ 9,708,357	\$ 4,534,855	\$ 5,014,737	\$ 158,765	\$ 225,769	\$ (67,005)
	SUBTOTAL SALARIES	\$ 43,732,472	\$ 45,076,226	\$ (111,800)	\$ (7,000)	\$ 44,957,426	\$ 18,398,497	\$ 25,630,442	\$ 928,488	\$ 1,010,133	\$ (81,646)

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT
 FOR THE MONTH ENDING - DECEMBER 31, 2013

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	EXPENDED 2012 - 2013	APPROVED BUDGET	YTD		CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
				TRANSFERS 2013 - 2014	CURRENT TRANSFERS						
200	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS										
	Medical & Dental Expenses	\$ 7,918,730	\$ 8,213,013	\$ -		\$ 8,213,013	\$ 4,301,890	\$ 3,871,463	\$ 39,660	\$ 40,661	\$ (1,001)
	Life Insurance	\$ 83,605	\$ 86,226	\$ -		\$ 86,226	\$ 43,035	\$ -	\$ 43,191	\$ 44,187	\$ (996)
	FICA & Medicare	\$ 1,305,853	\$ 1,359,593	\$ -		\$ 1,359,593	\$ 579,805	\$ -	\$ 779,788	\$ 779,000	\$ 788
	Pensions	\$ 487,540	\$ 462,466	\$ -		\$ 462,466	\$ 421,365	\$ 39,932	\$ 1,169	\$ 1,200	\$ (31)
	Unemployment & Employee Assist.	\$ 76,081	\$ 98,120	\$ -		\$ 98,120	\$ 26,157	\$ 17,760	\$ 54,203	\$ 45,000	\$ 9,203
	Workers Compensation	\$ 470,055	\$ 456,413	\$ -		\$ 456,413	\$ 341,347	\$ 106,591	\$ 8,475	\$ -	\$ 8,475
	SUBTOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 10,341,864	\$ 10,675,831	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,675,831	\$ 5,713,599	\$ 4,035,746	\$ 926,486	\$ 910,048	\$ 16,438
300	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES										
	Professional Services	\$ 722,630	\$ 675,542	\$ -		\$ 675,542	\$ 281,953	\$ 214,815	\$ 178,774	\$ 177,222	\$ 1,552
	Professional Educational Ser.	\$ 162,429	\$ 244,975	\$ (1,200)		\$ 243,775	\$ 70,896	\$ 70,903	\$ 101,977	\$ 100,000	\$ 1,977
	SUBTOTAL PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$ 885,059	\$ 920,517	\$ (1,200)	\$ -	\$ 919,317	\$ 352,849	\$ 285,718	\$ 280,751	\$ 277,222	\$ 3,529
400	PURCHASED PROPERTY SVCS										
	Buildings & Grounds Services	\$ 665,862	\$ 670,300	\$ -		\$ 670,300	\$ 343,470	\$ 212,652	\$ 114,178	\$ 113,000	\$ 1,178
	Utility Services - Water & Sewer	\$ 107,302	\$ 117,000	\$ -		\$ 117,000	\$ 56,675	\$ -	\$ 60,325	\$ 64,027	\$ (3,702)
	Building, Site & Emergency Repairs	\$ 533,970	\$ 460,850	\$ -		\$ 460,850	\$ 307,885	\$ -	\$ 152,965	\$ 256,865	\$ (103,900)
	Equipment Repairs	\$ 252,231	\$ 270,975	\$ -		\$ 270,975	\$ 117,714	\$ 33,704	\$ 119,557	\$ 119,400	\$ 157
	Rentals - Building & Equipment	\$ 303,229	\$ 300,165	\$ -		\$ 300,165	\$ 189,621	\$ 64,888	\$ 45,655	\$ 47,696	\$ (2,041)
	Building & Site Improvements	\$ 294,100	\$ 574,000	\$ -		\$ 574,000	\$ 6,170	\$ -	\$ 567,830	\$ 567,830	\$ 0
	SUBTOTAL PUR. PROPERTY SER.	\$ 2,156,695	\$ 2,393,290	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,393,290	\$ 1,021,535	\$ 311,245	\$ 1,060,511	\$ 1,168,818	\$ (108,307)

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				TRANSFERS 2013 - 2014	CURRENT TRANSFERS						
500	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES										
	Contracted Services	\$ 401,159	\$ 360,504	\$ (435)		\$ 360,069	\$ 205,325	\$ 30,563	\$ 124,181	\$ 123,900	\$ 281
	Transportation Services	\$ 3,607,120	\$ 3,640,547	\$ 95,000		\$ 3,735,547	\$ 1,734,939	\$ 1,483,736	\$ 516,871	\$ 516,500	\$ 371
	Insurance - Property & Liability	\$ 291,106	\$ 299,135	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 301,135	\$ 236,500	\$ 64,749	\$ (114)	\$ -	\$ (114)
	Communications	\$ 121,183	\$ 129,209	\$ -		\$ 129,209	\$ 68,460	\$ 33,609	\$ 27,140	\$ 26,700	\$ 440
	Printing Services	\$ 32,447	\$ 42,382	\$ -		\$ 42,382	\$ 10,059	\$ -	\$ 32,323	\$ 32,000	\$ 323
	Tuition - Out of District	\$ 1,896,112	\$ 2,152,926	\$ -		\$ 2,152,926	\$ 1,664,270	\$ 1,301,602	\$ (812,946)	\$ 167,360	\$ (980,306)
	Student Travel & Staff Mileage	\$ 177,622	\$ 226,919	\$ -		\$ 226,919	\$ 83,984	\$ 65,920	\$ 77,015	\$ 76,500	\$ 515
	SUBTOTAL OTHER PURCHASED SEF	\$ 6,526,747	\$ 6,851,622	\$ 94,565	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,948,187	\$ 4,003,536	\$ 2,980,180	\$ (35,529)	\$ 942,960	\$ (978,489)
600	SUPPLIES										
	Instructional & Library Supplies	\$ 934,107	\$ 939,666	\$ 435		\$ 940,101	\$ 562,093	\$ 67,634	\$ 310,374	\$ 309,500	\$ 874
	Software, Medical & Office Sup.	\$ 144,536	\$ 184,465	\$ -		\$ 184,465	\$ 68,557	\$ 40,969	\$ 74,939	\$ 74,500	\$ 439
	Plant Supplies	\$ 337,919	\$ 376,100	\$ -		\$ 376,100	\$ 201,621	\$ 28,825	\$ 145,654	\$ 145,600	\$ 54
	Electric	\$ 1,357,321	\$ 1,401,255	\$ -		\$ 1,401,255	\$ 600,232	\$ -	\$ 801,023	\$ 807,023	\$ (6,000)
	Propane & Natural Gas	\$ 291,923	\$ 326,370	\$ -	\$ (15,000)	\$ 311,370	\$ 69,294	\$ -	\$ 242,076	\$ 240,825	\$ 1,251
	Fuel Oil	\$ 619,965	\$ 575,466	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 580,466	\$ 110,929	\$ -	\$ 469,537	\$ 470,314	\$ (777)
	Fuel For Vehicles & Equip.	\$ 554,631	\$ 486,739	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 501,739	\$ 81,797	\$ -	\$ 419,942	\$ 421,213	\$ (1,271)
	Textbooks	\$ 188,178	\$ 264,819	\$ -		\$ 264,819	\$ 131,984	\$ 45,035	\$ 87,800	\$ 87,800	\$ 0
	SUBTOTAL SUPPLIES	\$ 4,428,579	\$ 4,554,880	\$ 435	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,560,315	\$ 1,826,508	\$ 182,464	\$ 2,551,344	\$ 2,556,775	\$ (5,431)

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				TRANSFERS 2013 - 2014	CURRENT TRANSFERS						
700	PROPERTY										
	Capital Improvements (Sewers)	\$ 124,177	\$ 124,177	\$ -		\$ 124,177	\$ 124,177	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ 0
	Technology Equipment	\$ 51,953	\$ 325,559	\$ -		\$ 325,559	\$ 99,888	\$ 168,366	\$ 57,304	\$ 57,300	\$ 4
	Other Equipment	\$ 30,333	\$ 48,012	\$ 18,000		\$ 66,012	\$ 44,702	\$ -	\$ 21,310	\$ 21,000	\$ 310
	SUBTOTAL PROPERTY	\$ 206,463	\$ 497,748	\$ 18,000	\$ -	\$ 515,748	\$ 268,767	\$ 168,366	\$ 78,615	\$ 78,300	\$ 315
800	MISCELLANEOUS										
	Memberships	\$ 71,081	\$ 75,190	\$ -		\$ 75,190	\$ 66,207	\$ 488	\$ 8,495	\$ 8,400	\$ 95
	SUBTOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 71,081	\$ 75,190	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,190	\$ 66,207	\$ 488	\$ 8,495	\$ 8,400	\$ 95
TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET		\$ 68,348,959	\$ 71,045,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71,045,304	\$ 31,651,498	\$ 33,594,647	\$ 5,799,159	\$ 6,952,656	\$ (1,153,497)

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT
 FOR THE MONTH ENDING - DECEMBER 31, 2013

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	EXPENDED 2012 - 2013	APPROVED BUDGET	YTD TRANSFERS 2013 - 2014	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
<u>SCHOOL GENERATED FEES</u>		<u>RECEIVED 2012-2013</u>					<u>2013-14 APPROVED BUDGET</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>% RECEIVED</u>	
<u>HIGH SCHOOL FEES</u>											
	NURTURY PROGRAM	\$8,000					\$8,000	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%	
	PARKING PERMITS	\$20,000					\$20,000	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%	
	PAY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS	\$84,800					\$84,800	\$38,711.00	\$46,089.00	45.65%	
		\$112,800					\$112,800	\$66,711.00	\$46,089.00	59.14%	
<u>BUILDING RELATED FEES</u>											
	ENERGY - ELECTRICITY	\$0					\$313	\$0.00	\$313.00	0.00%	
	HIGH SCHOOL POOL - OUTSIDE USAGE	\$1,100					\$1,100	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	0.00%	
		\$1,100					\$1,413	\$0.00	\$1,413.00	0.00%	
	MISCELLANEOUS FEES	\$185					\$75	\$139.50	(\$64.50)	186.00%	
TOTAL SCHOOL GENERATED FEES		\$114,085					\$114,288	\$66,850.50	\$47,437.50	58.49%	

Memorandum

To: Dr. John Reed, Superintendent

CC: Dr. Linda Gedja, Assistant Superintendent; Ron Bienkowski, Director of
Business

From: Julie G. Haggard, Director of Pupil Services

Date: 1/13/2014

Re: Preschool Tuition

This memo serves to confirm your agreement with the proposal to charge preschool tuition for all preschool non-disabled peer role models beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. The rate would be set at \$2000.00 per year for a half-day, four-day a week program.

Also as a point of clarification, students who are *already enrolled in the program for this current school year* will now be expected to pay tuition to remain a student in the program for the 2014-2015 school year.

-Julie

Cc: Sandy Rodriguez, Supervisor of Special Education

Preschool Tuition Update

December 3, 2013

Currently our district runs a four-day morning & afternoon preschool program consisting of 2.75 hours in each session. To date, we have 29 special education identified students and 25 non-disabled peers enrolled. All non-disabled peers are registered for the four-day program with special education students attending for as many days of the four days indicated through the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Special education student enrollment is on-going and primarily dependent on Birth to Three referrals, as well as three to five year olds who are newly identified through the Child-Find requirement under IDEA. We do not provide transportation to non-disabled peers and selection of these peers is based on a screening/ lottery process that begins in February.

In exploring surrounding area special education preschool programs, we are the only district who does not charge tuition to non-disabled peers. For similarly structured four-day programs, tuition rates range from \$2000-\$3,000; therefore, we may want to consider this in moving forward. Also of note, only two of the nine surrounding districts provide transportation to non-disabled peers. See the attached chart for more information. Districts that run a similar structure are highlighted in yellow.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie G. Haggard

Director of Pupil Service

SCHOOL DISTRICT	FEE	# DAYS	# SESSIONS	HOURS	TRANSPORTATION
BETHEL	2,500	4	2	8:45-11:25 12:35- 3:15	NO
BROOKFIELD	1,650	2	2	8:45-11:15	YES
	2,480	3		12:45-3:15	
	3,330	4			
EASTON	5300	5	1	9:00-2:00	NO
MONROE	1300	2	1	8:15-1:30	NO
	2000	3	1		
	2700	4	1		
	3400	5	1		
NEW FAIRFIELD	3060	4	2	8:35-11:25 12:35-3:35	NO
REDDING	2,800	2	1	8:20-12:40	NO
	3732	3	1		
	4,479	4	1		
	5599	5	1		
REGION 15	3321	4	2	9:00-1:30	YES
	4268	5	2	12:45-3:15	YES
RIDGEFIELD	2000	4	2	8:30-11:45 12:30-3:15	NO
TRUMBULL	1420	3	1	8:30-11:30	NO
	2270	4 OR 5	1	12:35-3:05	

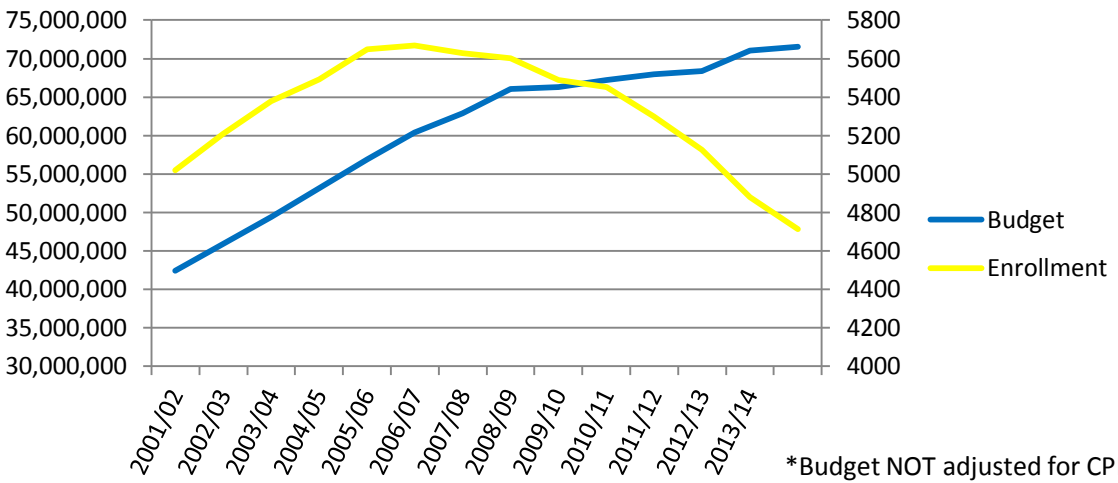
The Board of Finance has indicated that they would like to publish the data that was presented at the BOF meeting on 1/13/2014 by Joe Kearney, BOF member. I would like to suggest that the Board of Education respond with the following:

1. **The graphs should include adjustment for inflation.** The budget data tables that were presented to the BOF included adjustments for inflation. The graphs did not. It would be logical to extend the adjustment into the graphs. (I have attached graphs as an example only - obviously, this data would need to be verified).
2. **The actual enrollment numbers for 2001-2014 should be used** instead of Dr. Chung's projected numbers. This data can be found on the State Department of Education website and in the BOE budget.
3. **Consider that just as a dollar today is not the same as a dollar ten years ago, a student today has very different requirements than a student did ten years ago:**
 - a. There are many new costs including, but not limited to:
 - i. Increased graduation requirements
 - ii. Increased technology requirements for state-mandated testing
 - iii. Increased administrator time for state-mandated teacher evaluations
 - iv. Increased staff time needed for NEASC preparation
 - v. Ever-increasing special education costs
 - vi. Increased security costs
 - b. A dramatic rise in spending per pupil is taking place across the state, and is not as much a statement about Newtown's spending practices or money management so much as an indication that expectations are increasing. Evidence that Newtown's rise in per-student spending is demand-driven, rather than a result of inefficiency can be found by looking to other towns. Per pupil spending, relative to other towns in our DRG and in the state, is quite good.

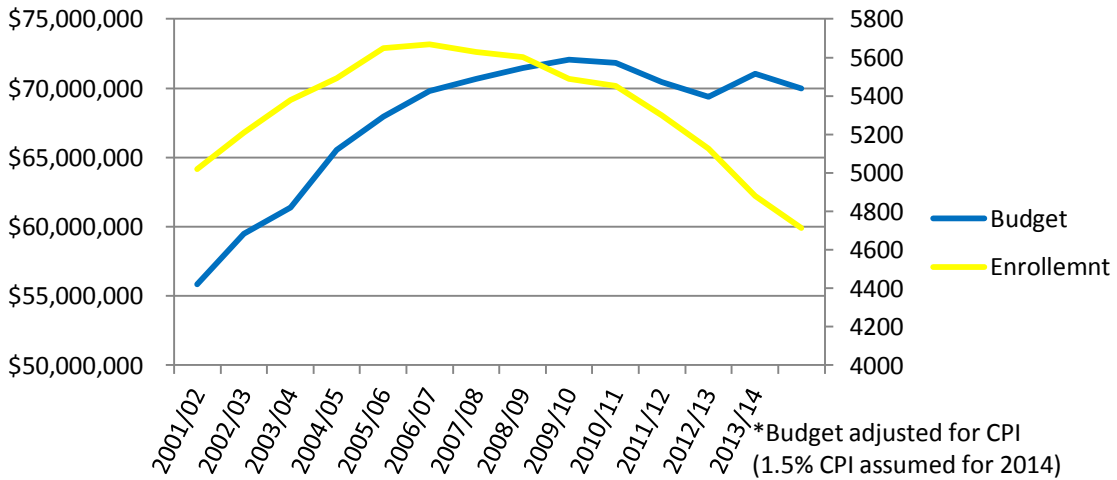
If it was possible to create a "factor" to adjust for these changes in educational expectations (such as Consumer Price Index is used to adjust for inflation), the graph would change even more.

4. **Consider that the curve of the budget will not exactly follow the curve of enrollment** because the reductions, which are spread over many grades in different schools, make it difficult to realize savings to the extent that could be seen if all students were in one grade in one location.

Newtown BOE Budget (unadjusted*) and Enrollment



Newtown BOE Budget (adjusted*) and Enrollment



Data used:

	student pk-12	budget w/o debt service	adjusted for CPI
2001/02	5018	42,413,850	\$ 55,817,920
2002/03	5208	45917220	\$ 59,487,940
2003/04	5380	49407150	\$ 61,364,800
2004/05	5493	53118460	\$ 65,538,730
2005/06	5648	56938770	\$ 67,950,140
2006/07	5667	60387150	\$ 69,813,360
2007/08	5628	62885160	\$ 70,687,950
2008/09	5602	66031040	\$ 71,479,670
2009/10	5490	66314930	\$ 72,043,300
2010/11	5451	67194730	\$ 71,821,040
2011/12	5298	67971430	\$ 70,428,130
2012/13	5126	68355790	\$ 69,390,800
2013/14	4880	71045300	\$ 71,045,300
2014/15	4713	71580034	\$ 69,979,620 **

**A mean forecast of 1.5% Inflation is based on forecasts by Wells Fargo, The Wall Street Journal, The Fed, and a survey of professional forecasters.

Newtown Public Schools

OVERVIEW OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET 2014-2015

Presented January 21, 2014



Newtown Board of Education

2014-15 Budget Goals

Meet student and staff needs resulting from the events of December 14, 2012

- The mental health, safety and academic needs of district staff and students are reflected in this budget.

Provide an educational infrastructure to support the

- a) maintenance of existing and expanding technology requirements (including Bring Your Own Device)
- b) mandated implementation and assessment of new CT standards (Common Core State Standards)
- c) mandated educator evaluation plans

Implement all activities listed in the Newtown
Public Schools Coherence Plan

Plan for future needs of the Newtown Public School system

Through strategic planning and an updated enrollment projection study, data will be gathered for informed decisions concerning efficient use of facilities, technology and security needs.

Investigate the possible collaboration with municipal government to look for ways to provide better efficiencies in administrative operations.

Over time, Has Newtown Been A Cost Effective School System?

Net Current Per Pupil Expenditures

- Last 30 years, generally rank between 134-149 out of 169 school systems.
- Normally in bottom 20%.

Academic indicators normally in top 15 to 25% on State assessments

- Newtown High School is among only 15 high schools out of 181 to receive the highest CAPT school classification of “Excelling”.
- One of 37 high schools to be cited by College Board Association for increasing number of students tutoring AP course while maintaining or increasing scores.

Working to Lessen \$ Impact on Taxpayers

- Since last March have been awarded \$3,242,000 to help meet mental health needs.
- \$511,016 in first phase of Justice Assistance Grant.

Approximately \$1,200,000 in donations in technology used to upgrade security.

**\$50,000,000 for a new
Sandy Hook School.**

165 other school systems, towns,
private schools, regional service
centers and other agencies through
which we purchase many
categories of school supplies.

Save on average 20-25%.

Through replacement of less efficient equipment, we have saved an estimated 1.3 million kilowatts over the last 3 years Value: \$160,000 over last 3 years.

- By converting 2/3 of Hawley to natural gas, we will save \$42,000 this year.
- We estimate by using natural gas at the Intermediate School and Newtown High School, we are saving an estimated additional \$250,000 yearly.

We are in the middle of the 2nd year of a reorganized transportation system:

- 1st year: \$935,520 cost reduction
- 5 year savings projected to be \$2,900,000

Beginning next year, tuition will be charged for non-special needs students attending our district pre-school program.

- \$50,000 toward reducing program cost

Town of Newtown is using the same software vendor as the school system for payroll, accounts payable and human resources.

This helped avoid an expensive conversion to costly new solutions.

Saving the Town \$21,000 per year.

Use specially-trained retired CT Police Officers to replace some Newtown Police Officers in our schools.

- Approximate potential savings for Town: \$300,000

Student Enrollment

2013-2014
Actual

2014-2015
Projected

4880 In District
81 Out of District
4961

4713 In District
73 Out of District
4786

Reducing positions in our school system in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Certified Positions

Summary

Elementary 8 positions

RIS 3.1 positions

MS	4.29 positions
HS	1.0 art position .2 math position .2 social studies position
Special Ed.	1.14 position
Location TBD	2 positions

Reduced Non-Certified Positions for 2014-15

Elementary	3 part time clerical positions - 1.36 FTE
	\$15,312
	\$11,484
	\$ 9,809
District Wide - 2 custodians	\$93,960

New

Certified

- .5 Transitional Special Ed. Teacher -- \$31,289
- 1.0 Teacher Special Ed – M.S. -- \$60,077

Non-Certified

- 1.71 Job Coaches Special Ed. -- \$55,200

- Total net reduction:
 - 18.34 positions
 - \$1,221,436 savings

- 2014-15 built-in anticipated savings from turnover (\$325,000)

How much is budget up?

\$534,730 = 3/4 of one percent

Increase by Budget Object

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Certified Salaries	(111,923)	(0.32)
Non-Certified Salaries	129,606	1.34
Fringe Benefits	<u>232,222</u>	<u>2.18</u>
Total	249,905	0.45

Number of Positions with Health Benefits Eliminated

20 positions with benefits:

Estimated cost savings \$63,000

Other Objects with No Increase or a Cost Decrease

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Professional Educational Services	(39,293)	(16.12)
Building Contracted Services	(16,700)	(2.49)
Utility Services	0	0.00
Repair & Maintenance Service	(542)	(0.07)

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
• Building & Site Maintenance Projects	(32,500)	(5.66)
• Communications	(11,066)	(8.56)
• Printing Services	(2,600)	(6.13)
• Student Travel & Staff Mileage	(4,548)	(2.00)

\$ Change % Change

• Supplies	(3,986)	(0.35)
• Plant Supplies	(1,000)	(0.27)
• Textbooks	(7,811)	(2.95)
• Memberships	(490)	(0.65)
• Energy	(39,425)	(1.41)

Objects Contributing to Increase

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Professional Services	10,548	1.56
A) \$25,000 for strategic planning		
Rentals	5,171	1.79
A) Increased costs for Central Office		
Contracted Services	85,305	23.69
A) \$50,000 was covered by a donation this year - Power School & Inform		

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Transportation	159,611	4.27
A) \$44,000 in contract increase for All Star		
B) \$19,000 for local Special Ed transports		
C) \$67,000 for out of district Special Ed transports		
D) \$ 6,600 for magnet transportation (loss of magnet grant \$6,500)		
E) \$22,800 for late buses at M.S. and H.S.		
Insurance: Property & Liability	12,576	4.18
A) Cost increase from CIRMA		

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of District Tuition Estimated tuition increases and 34 placements 	44,532	2.07
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property & Equipment A) Maintenance truck replacement \$40,000 B) Technology accounts for \$121,197 of this increase 	126,843	24.59

Technology:

- \$67,856 Voice over IP for the only remaining school
- \$287,150 obsolete equipment
- \$15,000 mobile technology to better position the district for Smarter Balanced assessments
- \$76,750 priority requests from building administration

	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
• Salaries & Benefits	249,905	0.45
• All Other Non-salary Expenditures	<u>284,825</u>	<u>1.85</u>
Total	\$534,730	0.75%



BOE Communications Report, 1/23/2014
 Kathy Hamilton, Board of Education Secretary

From	Date	Subject
William Leukhardt, Hartford Courant	01/08/2014	Wants contact person for new superintendent position
Board of Finance	01/14/2014	Follow-up on joint meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - statute regarding consolidation of town & school services - non-lapsing account for BOE to carry funds from year to year (draft process included) - formal vote on BOF letter read at joint meeting - would like to discuss enrollment and future plans to address the decline with BOE - request for current data outlining enrollment by grade as well as classrooms available by grade - would like to know timeline for enrollment study
News Channel 8	01/18/2014	Request for information about the appointment of Joe Erardi
Joe Erardi	01/19/2014	Thank You Note
Tanya Roberts	01/20/2014	Suggestions about how to make our website better
Diane Peterson, Killingly High School Teacher	01/21/2014	Congratulating us on the hire of Joe Erardi
Rose Wenkel	01/23/2014	Offer of a painting for the new SHS

To	Date	Subject
Lucy Kortze	01/18/2014	Thank you for the donated cup cakes.