

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

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2012, in the board room at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Robinson
L. Roche, Vice Chair (absent)	L. Gejda
C. McCubbin, Secretary	R. Bienkowski
R. Gaines (absent)	2 Staff
W. Hart	7 Public
K. Alexander	1 Press
J. Vouros	

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

Item 1 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to approve the minutes of February 7, 2012. Mr. Hart seconded. Vote: 4 ayes, 1 abstained (Mr. Hart)

Vote on personnel items which included the extension of the child rearing leave of absence for Kristin Compton, teacher at Hawley School, the resignation of Allison Washington, teacher at Sandy Hook School, and the leave of absence for Cindy Wilson, educational assistant at Reed Intermediate School. Vote: 5 ayes

Item 2 – Public Participation

Kinga Walsh, 21 Horseshoe Ridge Road and Alisa Farley, 6 Pond View Drive, were at the meeting regarding the “Newtown Education Budget: A Citizen’s Guide to the Budget Development Process” which they developed with Robin Fitzgerald, Chuck Hepp and Cathy Reiss. Mrs. Walsh spoke about the guide as a comprehensive overview of the processes and considerations used to prepare the education budget. She asked for help to disseminate this guide in Newtown possibly through email and providing hard copies in schools and other locations and requested time on the March 6 agenda to present this document.

Item 3 – Reports

Correspondence: Mr. McCubbin listed correspondence from the following: Sandra Crnecki is concerned about the removal of aides on buses, Karen Hrabcsak does not like the idea of a regional calendar, Rep. DebraLee Hovey regarding the governor’s education reform package and the proposed tenure reform comparison, Karen Visca, who is against the increase of the school budget and the removal of aides in the classrooms, and Bruce Walczak on the passing of Ruby Johnson.

Chair Report: Mrs. Leidlein gave reminders of the CPAC meeting on February 29 in the Newtown High School lecture hall from 7 to 9 p.m. to advise parents on the PPT process, the Board of Finance public hearing tomorrow night, the March 29 Board of Finance meeting where the Board of Education budget would be presented, and the final Board of Finance budget meeting on March 14. She noted that some of the Board members attended meetings with the Chinese delegation and also thanked Mr. Vouros for hosting them. She requested that All Star Transportation attend a Board meeting in April.

Mrs. Leidlein asked about the fire code concerns for the full day kindergarten program at Hawley.

Dr. Robinson said we cannot allow students in kindergarten through second grade to be walking in front of older students in the stairwells during a fire drill. This issue goes to the State Department of Education for approval.

Mrs. Leidlein requested that the financial report also be attached to the meeting minutes for the website. Any requests for information by Board members should be made through the Chair first and she will make the request to the Superintendent. She also asked for the Board to receive requested information as soon as it was available. She requested the proposed calendar with conference dates be sent to the Board and asked for the number of absences for students and teachers for this week and the previous week. A lot of questions came up regarding the NICE program. She requested a report or analysis be presented to the Board regarding any additional costs. She will collect questions from Board members and forward them to Dr. Robinson. She'd like to know the cost for manpower, where the program started, where it is now, and where it's headed. Mr. Hiruo should also attend.

Mr. Vouros encouraged the special education parents to attend the CPAC meeting to make them more comfortable with this process. It will help them understand what we are offering to their children.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Robinson reported that middle school students Claire Boyle, Sophie Kennen, Julia Preszler, and Haley Williams won the state level School of the Future competition and are progressing to the regional competition. Lydia Fields and Caitlin Moss, also middle school students, won the Science Horizons Science Fair and will be attending Space Camp.

Dr. Robinson credited the special education advisory group as being instrumental in arranging for this CPAC meeting on February 29.

She spoke about the Governor's reform package which includes removing some of the red tape and identifying outdated regulations to help interact with the state. They are looking to streamline the certification process and allow reciprocity between states.

There will be a new evaluation process which is very close to our revised model and proposing a five-year renewable tenure plan. There are also no proposed reductions of money to towns. He is in favor of charter schools and putting more support in the lower functioning schools.

Another meeting was held with Blum-Shapiro regarding the feasibility study on combining services. The final report will be delivered in a week or so and we will draft what we think are the most immediate steps aligned with their recommendations.

Mrs. Llodra will report to the Legislative Council by the second meeting in March. There should be something to report to the Board for the second meeting in March.

Mr. Vouros asked if we were paying for this.

Dr. Robinson said we are paying \$40,000.

Mr. Alexander stated it was in the current budget.

Dr. Robinson said they are looking for things to be more efficient. We won't see a large monetary savings.

Dr. Robinson needed a Board liaison to Education Connection to which Mr. Hart volunteered.

Mid-year meetings are being held with principals. We will continue to use the rubric on effective schools which has been helpful in defining and prompting discussion on next steps.

Mr. Vouros asked if there was anything in this continuous improvement process that will help the schools be in alignment with each other. When the children change schools he is concerned that everyone will be on the same page.

Dr. Robinson said we have aligned the elementary program and are now doing vertical alignment in content areas. Naviance is a big piece.

Mr. Hart said four or five years ago things were different. We have now moved to being a system, not just being seven schools.

AP World Language:

Dr. Gejda introduced Paula Greenfield, world language chair. We have five upper level world language courses but Chinese is not in place yet. The high school is making a move to align them to an AP program. The plan is to have it in the program of studies for next year.

Mr. Vouros asked the cost of the programs.

Mrs. Greenfield said the cost per student for the Chinese program is \$35 and we are anticipating a maximum of ten for next year. French, Italian and Spanish are \$25 per student. We anticipate 20 for French, 10 for Italian and 65 students for Spanish. For Latin the cost for the book is \$30 and we estimate 20 students.

Mr. McCubbin asked the cost for additional training.

Mrs. Greenfield said if we send four teachers to Taft the cost would be \$900 per week per teacher. It is one-time training. She hasn't been able to find AP courses for Chinese or Italian.

Dr. Gejda said the cost for materials is \$3,325 and it's in her budget for this year for all five courses.

Mr. Vouros asked if we had a curriculum for ESL.

Dr. Robinson said there is a curriculum available. We haven't had a full program but there is a bigger need now. We will be using the state curriculum. One person covers all the grades and reports to Dr. Gejda and Dr. Regan.

Mrs. Leidlein asked to have that on a Board agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved to approve the financial report for the month ending January 31, 2012. Mr. Alexander seconded.

Mr. Bienkowski reviewed the financial report. We have a positive balance of \$279,000 in the supplies account because we received \$80,215 from Morganti as a reimbursement for electricity costs paid for during the high school construction last year. We received a credit of \$12,708 from Constellation Energy for overpayment in April due to the wrong kWh on their bill. We also were able to adjust the electricity estimate by \$27,000. We received a \$3,820 credit from Yankee Gas for a March billing error and a \$24,095 credit from their May bill. We are also under the estimated gas budgeted expense by \$41,000. We are still looking at Morganti for possible over-expenditures.

Mr. Alexander asked if there would be a savings in overtime due to not spending in money on snow removal.

Mr. Bienkowski said the biggest expense was the snow removal from the roofs last year. The custodial and maintenance accounts are not very large. It might be \$20,000 or so.

Mrs. Leidlein asked which board negotiates construction

Mr. Bienkowski said it would be the Public Building & Site Commission.

Mr. McCubbin said he has requested object code information to help understand where the money is being spent.

Mr. Bienkowski said he would be happy to meet with him regarding our accounting system. It's different from private sector accounting. We are clearly not overspent on budget items. An assessment has to be determined on how to provide requested information through the chair and then to the superintendent. Additional staff work will be involved to get requested information.

Mrs. Leidlein said Mr. McCubbin was trying to find out how things are recorded to create a budget. The more information we receive there will be less speculation or rumors about what we spend.

Dr. Robinson said she appreciates the Board's desire to learn. We have to be conscious of the work flow for our staff but also want to supply you with what you need to make better decisions.

Mr. Hart said we speak exclusively as a Board when we are all together. No one can speak as a single member. The finance subcommittee is the place to begin.

Mr. Bienkowski stated that regarding the entry in question, the originator put the wrong description on the purchase order. All of the control isn't handled at central office. We had a meeting with CL&P and Yankee Gas regarding new incentive programs for schools and also met with Town to study bringing gas and other energy services to Middle Gate and the middle school. The Town will pick an energy consultant to do a study on our behalf.

He also stated that five companies responded to the employee benefits RFP. They eliminated two and are close to making a selection. We will probably be able to reduce our benefits account by possibly \$50,000 to \$60,000.

Mrs. Leidlein asked what cost containment measures would be taken to lower the special education transportation costs.

Mr. Bienkowski said we may have to look at the PPT to make adjustments by combining some of the routes for special education transportation. We sent a 47-passenger vehicle to a facility in Milford when it should have been a van. We also need to further explore the EAs on the special education buses which are a cost of approximately \$33,000.

Mr. Hart asked the cost difference between a 7-passenger and 47-passenger bus.

Mr. Bienkowski said about \$100 difference each day which is \$18,000 per year.

Mrs. Leidlein asked about the negative balance for EAs.

Mr. Bienkowski said some of that will be offset by the excess cost grant. Six were added in the high school. We are looking at approximately \$64,000 to be used from the grant.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if the Jobs Bill covered EAs to which Mr. Bienkowski stated it is used to pay for regular EAs.

Mrs. Leidlein asked how a field trip shows up in our accounting.

Mr. Bienkowski said if a field trip is related to a program at the school there is a specific budget allocation for the transportation. All other field trips are funded by the parents and sometimes the PTA. The buses are paid with a student activities check.

Vote: 5 ayes

Item 4 – Old Business - none

Item 5 – New Business

Educational Assistants Contract:

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to approve the ratified Educational Assistants contract for the period July 2, 2011 to June 30, 2015. Mr. McCubbin seconded.

Mrs. Leidlein went over the percentage salary increases and insurance premium cost share information. There were minor changes made to meet state and federal statutes.

Vote: 5 ayes

Item 6 – Public Participation - none

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved to adjourn. Mr. Vouros seconded. Vote: 5 ayes

Item 7 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cody McCubbin
Secretary

**Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the board room at 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Robinson
L. Roche, Vice Chair	L. Gejda
C. McCubbin, Secretary	R. Bienkowski
R. Gaines	J. Libby
W. Hart (absent)	3 Staff
K. Alexander	15 Public
J. Vouros	3 Press

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Gaines moved to enter into executive session regarding a personnel matter and invited Dr. Robinson and Joan Libby. Mrs. Roche seconded. Vote: 6 ayes

Item 1 – Executive Session

The Board discussed the personnel matter.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to exit executive session. Mrs. Roche seconded.

Executive session ended at 7:17 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:42 p.m.

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes of January 17, 24, 26 and 31, 2012, the child rearing leave of absence for Heather LeBlanc, teacher at Middle Gate School, through the remainder of this school year, the extension of the child rearing leave of absence for Kristina Pierce, teacher at Sandy Hook School, for the 2012-2013 school year, the Newtown High School Color Guard field trips and the Newtown High School Connecticut Innovation Academy field trip. Mr. Gaines seconded. Mrs. Leidlein removed the minutes of January 19, 2012 for a separate vote because Mr. Gaines was absent.

Mr. Alexander had two changes to the January 31 minutes. On page 5, the listed of nay votes in the last line of the first paragraph should replace Mr. Gaines with Mr. Alexander.

The first sentence in the second paragraph from the bottom of page 7 should read:

Mr. Alexander said that it was already the job of the administration to ensure the proper implementation of the full day kindergarten program so there was no need for a resolution.

Mrs. Roche asked to have the following included in the minutes of January 31 on the first page after Mr. Vouros read the letter from Dr. Epple.

Mr. Vouros asked Mrs. Leidlein if the video tapes of board meetings can be edited in any way. Mrs. Leidlein replied no. Mr. Vouros stated he has concerns about a video of a board meeting being edited. Mr. Vouros read a letter written to him, a letter he received from Dr. Epple. The letter is about the comments Mr. Vouros made about the Reed Chinese Music rotation at the budget meeting on January 19, 2012. In the letter read, Dr. Epple asked someone to have that portion of the budget board meeting video be edited. Dr. Epple also asked for Mr. Vouros to redact his comments. Mr. Vouros stated he asked Dr. Epple to have a meeting to discuss the Chinese Music Rotation.

Mrs. Leidlein asked Dr. Robinson to speak to Dr. Epple and to confirm the video will not be edited. Dr. Robinson replied there is no editing of videos.

Vote: 6 ayes

Vote on the January 19 minutes: 5 ayes, Mr. Gaines abstained

Item 3 – Public Participation – none

Item 5 – Old Business

Anne Louise Thompson, Chief of the Bureau of Special Education, spoke about how the State interacts with parents and school districts. They provide administrative support, dispute resolution and program improvement. The State provides entitlement funds for Newtown along with funds through the Education Cost Sharing Grant and Excess Cost Grant. Their monitoring system looks at complaints to the department and due process hearings. We have not found there to be a substantial number in Newtown. Sometimes we do investigations from a parent complaint which has not occurred in Newtown. We help with dispute resolution by conducting investigations when there are complaints from parents. An advisory opinion is when a family presents their case to a group that hears the case and offers an opinion.

She stated that program improvement provides training for employees to handle the issues. The Connecticut Federal Advocacy Center deals with federal special education that provides services to parents and families. We suggested that CPAC would be a resource for Newtown. They also offer guidance documents for parents.

Mrs. Leidlein said there were action steps for our special education subcommittee and asked about parent liaisons.

Ms. Thompson said she was in touch with the advocacy center and they didn't feel Newtown was appropriate to that type of liaison for parent school communication. She understood that we contacted CPAC and it was decided that was not the way to proceed.

Mrs. Leidlein asked about principal training.

Ms. Thompson said the series had begun. Newtown staff didn't participate but they were asked to come in late spring.

Dr. Robinson said one opinion was to bring it here.

Ms. Thompson said CIRC was available to do that.

Mrs. Leidlein asked where we were with the timeline. Dr. Robinson indicated they have been meeting for some time and have been gathering mini surveys after the PPTs.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if they could attend a subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Vouros asked if Ms. Thompson had any contact with Reps. Lyddy and Hovey.

Ms. Thompson said she has not contacted them but they contacted her offices.

Mr. Vouros was concerned if they followed our progress regarding parent complaints.

Ms. Thompson stated they have had communications over the last several months. She spoke to Rep. Lyddy today regarding her presentation tonight.

Mr. Vouros stated that Dr. Regan and Dr. Colon were working to get the parental portion of the special education program in a more user-friendly approach.

Ms. Thompson shared that information with the representatives.

Mrs. Leidlein stated that if we have communications going forward that they should be included in the process.

Item 4 – Reports

Correspondence:

Mr. McCubbin provided the following names of those who sent correspondence:

Choir position: Taylor Varga, Melanie Curtis, Ellen Aho, Luke Shearin, Susan Primavera, Allan Song, Catherine Michaud, Lorine Watkins, Sean Watkins

Full Day Kindergarten: Amy Collins, Meagan Moody, Marabeth Pereira, Cathy Reiss, Tom Bittner, Barb Sibley, Robbin Allen, Fran Maturo, Melinda Reynolds

Budget: D. Keane, Peter Kirilin, Kevin Keller, Karen Banks, Jack Schwartz

Health/Music Director positions: Jan Lee Brookes, Melinda Reynolds

Lack of trust with administration: Laura Main

N.I.C.E Program: Luke Shearin

Ice Hockey Transportation cut: Tim Harrison

Health Director position: Keith and Barb Baron

EAs on special needs buses: Lisa Laplante, Larry Birkmaier

Mr. McCubbin said that Sam Mihailoff asked him to read his letter. Mr. Gaines asked if it was related to topics on the current agenda to which Mr. McCubbin said they were.

Mr. Gaines stated that letters should be read during public participation. Mr. McCubbin read the letter which referred to legal and consultant fees for transportation negotiations, Baldwin Media costs, other account expenditures, and the choir teacher.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Robinson reported that the CPAC parent meeting regarding the PPT process is scheduled for February 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Newtown High School lecture hall. The parent advisory board has been bringing these parent education opportunities.

The district team has been working on revising the Teacher Evaluation Plan now called the Teacher Growth Plan. The state released some new requirements regarding Race To The Top and their waiver for No Child Left Behind.

She read a complimentary letter regarding our athletes. The Liaocheng delegation is here visiting the high school, middle school and Reed. The closing ceremony is this Saturday at 2:00 p.m. Both she and Dr. Gejda would be on the visiting team for a science evaluation for the tri-state consortium for the next three days in Edgemont, NY.

Mrs. Roche asked how Dr. Robinson made parents aware of the CPAC parent meeting. Dr. Robinson sent it to parents and staff through our School Messenger system.

Subcommittee Reports:

Curriculum and Testing Subcommittee: Mrs. Leidlein said Mr. Hart was the chair for the curriculum and testing committee. Mr. Vouros stated that he attended two curriculum meetings for social studies and was impressed with what they were accomplishing.

Communications Subcommittee: Mrs. Roche said they met January 25 and nominated Mr. Alexander as secretary. They reviewed the communications section of the strategic plan and focused on questions on the website. They also discussed district emails for the Board which would be a link to be able to send an email to the whole Board. Also discussed were procedures for presentations accompanied by a PDF file to put on the website, consistency between school websites, and procedures for audio and video on the website. Policy guidelines need to be worked out with action steps to be discussed at the next meeting on Monday, February 27 at 4:30 p.m.

CIP/Facilities/Finance Subcommittee: Mr. Gaines said they have not met yet. There will be a meeting next month with a presentation by the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee.

Special Education Subcommittee: meeting dates are to be determined.

Technology Subcommittee: Mr. Alexander said they would be meeting February 23 working on an email policy and a pilot program on bringing in personal devices at the middle school.

Policy Subcommittee: Mrs. Roche said they met January 30 and reviewed the work of the previous committee. The Board will review the 9000 series.

Baldwin Media:

Mrs. Leidlein requested information from CABE regarding the work Baldwin Media did but has not heard back from them.

Dr. Robinson gave the meeting dates with Mrs. Baldwin but there is no record of phone calls or conversations outside of her involvement.

Mrs. Roche questioned the invoice for \$3,800 with the attached letter of understanding being charge to membership.

Mr. Gaines asked if that was because we are members of CABE.

Mr. Bienkowski said in that fiscal year there was an encumbrance made to CABE for policy revisions to which it was charged. We could have charged it to contracted or professional services if we knew beforehand.

Mr. McCubbin said it was for services rendered, not a membership.

Mrs. Roche said it is under the CABE umbrella but is for professional services.

Mr. Bienkowski said we had a CABE encumbrance for June 30 so when the invoice came in August we charged it there and didn't go back to see what it was spent on.

Mr. Alexander asked for copies of the invoices.

Questions were asked about what the charges were for. Dr. Robinson said the \$3,800 was for the June meetings along with other work. There were phone calls and conversations outside of her direct involvement. She worked on a couple of press releases and the special education report was sent to her for feedback and editing. A number of things took place during that time.

Revisions to Requirements for Graduation Policy 7-302:

MOTION: Mr. Gaines moved that the Board of Education approve the revisions to the Requirements for Graduation Policy 7-302. Mrs. Roche seconded. Vote: 6 ayes

Item 6 – New Business

Educational Personnel Contract:

MOTION: Mr. Gaines moved to approve the ratified Educational Personnel Contract for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2015. Mr. Vouros seconded. Vote: 6 ayes

Parent Resource Writing Instruction in Newtown:

Dr. Gejda said this is a document for parents which articulates our writing curriculum for grades 3 and 4. Our district standards were revised to combine the common core. The final document will be ready for the March parent conferences and will also be on our website.

Mr. Vouros asked if there is a writing initiative in the schools. Dr. Gejda said it has been the focus of our PLC days and involves all teachers in the district.

Mrs. Roche asked if teachers were being trained, to which Dr. Gejda said it was also part of the PLC days.

2012-2013 School Calendar:

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education approve the 2012-2013 school calendar. Mr. McCubbin seconded.

Mrs. Roche commented on not receiving the conference dates earlier. Dr. Robinson stated that they are established by the principals at a later time but we pushed the process to make them available tonight. We have been trying to develop a regional calendar but it's difficult because there are certain days always taken off that don't agree with other districts. We agreed as a region to take Monday and Tuesday, February 18 and 19, as a break. Our traditional spring break is the week of April 15 like the other districts. In the past, the Board suggested to move it to two weeks before the referendum.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if there had been any discussion with the principals to have two full days of conferences instead of half days.

Dr. Robinson said the principals hold to that schedule as an effective format for them. She has cut back on the parent conference time.

Mrs. Leidlein thought it might be better for students and the community to have two full days off.

Dr. Robinson said the night appointments fill up but the days don't. Would we take that day off of the professional development days or instructional days because it becomes a contract issue.

There were comments about voting in the schools. Mr. McCubbin asked the rules behind that.

Mr. Alexander suggested removing the November 2 PLC day. Mr. Vouros thought it could be moved to October 26 instead of losing it.

Dr. Robinson said we don't have one on September 7 so that date is a possibility.

Mrs. Leidlein recommended trying to coordinate the early release days with long holiday weekends by moving the January 4 day to January 18 and the February 1 day to February 15. We average four days to make up in June. She suggested adding those days to the calendar and just subtract what we don't use from the end of the year.

Mr. Gaines thought it would be confusing to do that as parents understand that we add days to the end of the year.

Mrs. Roche said people could plan their vacation from the last built-in day which is better. This year Reed had eight days after grades were handed in and she is concerned about that last week and class work. She asked how dates are determined for final grades to be reported.

Dr. Robinson said each school takes care of that determination but we could also deal with that.

Mrs. Roche said parents complained about movies being shown and she would like that changed.

Dr. Robinson said movies are supposed to be related to areas of curriculum. On occasion teachers may use a movie as a group reward.

Mrs. Roche felt this should be discussed to have certain standards in place.

Mr. Gaines stated it has been our practice to not go into the last week of June. There should be a clear statement to not extend passed June 21 so parents can count on that. Activities in the classrooms should be educational after the grades are turned in.

Mrs. Roche said we need to set the ball higher regarding TV and movies and also have on the calendar when grades are due. Dates for when grades are due should not be on the calendar.

Mrs. Roche requested those date be given to the Board.

Dr. Robinson made the Board aware that our April vacation doesn't coincide with other districts. It would be good to have the same week so we could share professional development and the State wants us to study regional transportation. We have 40 students that go to the magnet school.

Mr. Vouros asked what happens with the out of district students.

Dr. Robinson said we would run buses if we are off and Danbury has school.

Mrs. Roche asked for the cost of transportation if we were closed and Danbury was in session.

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved to postpone the calendar vote. Mr. McCubbin seconded.

Vote: 6 ayes

Item 7 – Public Participation

Lisa LaPlant, 7 Fern Lane, spoke about how she heard about the removal of the EAs from the special education buses. She received a call at 12:55 p.m. the day before the last Board meeting regarding their removal effective February 6. She thought it was from Dr. Regan and Dr. Gejda. They were told parents would have to fasten seat belts. Later that day she was told the decision was rescinded. Her bus driver thought it was just rescinded until fall. She doesn't agree with removing the EAs because the driver would have to leave their seat in an emergency.

Mrs. Leidlein asked if Dr. Robinson was aware of the calls.

Dr. Robinson said she sent the Board her best understanding of the timeline and it should not be discussed as it was not on the agenda.

Mr. McCubbin asked if he could have the check register in Excel for February and previous months. Mr. Bienkowski said he would look into converting them.

MOTION: Mr. Gaines moved to adjourn. Mr. Alexander seconded. Vote: 6 ayes

Item 8 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cody McCubbin
Secretary



Newtown Public Schools Memo

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Linda Gejda, Assistant Superintendent
Date: February 17, 2012
Re: Agenda Item: AP World Language Course Offerings

Dear BOE Members,

This packet contains background information to support a request by the NHS World Language department to have upper level World Language courses (Chinese IV, French V, Italian IV, Latin IV, and Spanish V) identified as Advanced Placement courses. In this packet, there is a request for each course that includes answers to the questions outlined on the "New Course Proposal" form (see attached).

With the exception of Chinese IV, all of these courses are currently in place and the advanced level of work is already being done by students. Advanced Placement designation will prepare students to take the AP exam and engage in the national assessment.

NHS World Language courses that are designated as Early College Experience (ECE) for UCONN credit are Spanish V and French V. Students in these courses will still have the opportunity to achieve UCONN credit in addition to preparing for the AP exam.

Please contact me if you have questions.

NEW PROGRAM APPLICATION
Newtown Public Schools

What will the program be called? Give a brief description of the program:

PLANNING

Please answer the following questions:

1. What is the documented need for the program?
2. What research is available about the effectiveness of this program or others like it?
3. How does the program align with the core beliefs of the Newtown Public Schools?
4. Who have you communicated with about the program and what are the responses?
5. Was the program critiqued by a curriculum committee? What were their comments?
6. Which staff and students will participate in the first year of the program? How will they be selected?
7. What are the staffing implications?
8. Do you anticipate that this will become a mandated program?
9. When and how will the initial, start-up curriculum be written prior to initiation of the program?
10. What is the plan for pre-implementation training and follow-up training?
11. What other costs are involved?

MEASURING EFFECTS

12. How will you measure the program effectiveness?
13. Who will use the information to decide if the program will be continued?
14. When and how will the results be communicated to the Board?

CONTACT PERSON _____ **DATE** _____

New Program Application

The new course will be called AP Chinese IV.

The program will follow the guidelines put forth by the College Board

PLANNING:

1. We are proposing this AP course so that there is a consistent level of offerings across departments. Students in the World Language Department should also be able to take an AP course, receive national recognition and often advanced placement and/or college credits.
2. This program aligns with the National Standards in Chinese.
3. “Inspiring each student to excel” is a belief of the Newtown Public Schools. AP courses bring rigor to the students and they are assessed by a common test that measures them against all students in the country.
4. I have spoken with Mr. Charles Dumais, principal of NHS, who is enthusiastic about offering AP courses in the World Language Department. I have also spoken to the faculty who will be teaching the class in the fall and they are eager to follow the College Board syllabus.
5. This course has not yet been brought to a curriculum committee. This year the highest level of Chinese offered is Chinese III-Honors. We are proposing to designate the level 4 course as an AP class, and as such, its curriculum must follow that of the College Board.
6. The students taking the course next year will be the first to enroll in the AP Chinese language course. The staff will be the same as that for the next course in the sequence, a Chinese IV-Honors course.
7. There are no staffing implications since the same faculty will be teaching this course.
8. There are presently no graduation requirements for any WL course so I don't imagine that this course will become a mandated program.

AP Chinese IV

9. The curriculum will be written during the 2011-2012 spring semester and/or the summer of 2012 when the AP course audit must be submitted.

10. There will be training for the teachers of this class given by the College Board in the summer of 2012 and follow-up training as needed in the subsequent years.

11. Unlike the other proposals, this is a new course and we have no Level 4 materials. Therefore, we will need to purchase new textbooks and any other supplementary materials that align with the AP course outline. The estimated cost of the textbook is \$35.00.

MEASURING EFFECTS:

12. The program will be measured by the scores of the students taking the AP course and also the percentage of students in the course who choose to take the AP exam.

13. The NHS Administration can use the information to decide if the course should be continued when it assesses the scores of students taking other AP courses.

14. The AP scores will be given to the BOE when they receive the scores of other AP courses at NHS.

New Program Application

The new course will be called AP French V: ECE / UCONN

The program will follow the guidelines put forth by the College Board

PLANNING:

1. We are proposing this AP course so that there is a consistent level of offerings across departments. Students in the World Language Department should also be able to take an AP course, receive national recognition and often advanced placement and/or college credits
2. This program aligns with the National Standards in French.
3. "Inspiring each student to excel" is a belief of the Newtown Public Schools. AP courses bring rigor to the students and they are assessed by a common test that measures them against all students in the country.
4. I have spoken with Mr. Charles Dumais, principal of NHS, who is enthusiastic about offering AP courses in the World Language Department.
5. This course has not been brought to a curriculum committee since as an AP course, the curriculum must follow that of the College Board.
6. The students taking the course next year will be the first to enroll in the AP French language course. The staff will be the same as that for the French V-ECE/UCONN course.
7. There are no staffing implications since the same faculty will be teaching this course.
8. There are presently no graduation requirements for any WL course so I don't imagine that this course will become a mandated program.
9. The curriculum will be written during the 2011-2012 spring semester and/or the summer of 2012 when the AP course audit must be submitted.

AP French V: ECE / UCONN

10. There will be training for the teachers of this class given by the College Board in the summer of 2012 and follow-up training as needed in the subsequent years.

11. The resources are authentic materials taken from web-based texts, audio and video files on line, magazines, newspapers, radio and TV programs from around the Francophone world. There would likely be a small cost for supplementary materials that align with the AP course outline.

MEASURING EFFECTS:

12. The program will be measured by the scores of the students taking the AP course and also the percentage of students in the course who choose to take the AP exam.

13. The NHS Administration can use the information to decide if the course should be continued when it assesses the scores of students taking other AP courses.

14. The AP scores will be given to the BOE when they receive the scores of other AP courses at NHS.

New Program Application

The new course will be called AP Italian IV.

The program will follow the guidelines put forth by the College Board

PLANNING:

1. We are proposing this AP course so that there is a consistent level of offerings across departments. Students in the World Language Department should also be able to take an AP course, receive national recognition and often advanced placement and/or college credits.
2. This program aligns with the National Standards in Italian.
3. "Inspiring each student to excel" is a belief of the Newtown Public Schools. AP courses bring rigor to the students and they are assessed by a common test that measures them against all students in the country.
4. I have spoken with Mr. Charles Dumais, principal of NHS, who is enthusiastic about offering AP courses in the World Language Department. I have also spoken to the faculty who will be teaching the class in the fall and they are eager to follow the College Board syllabus.
5. This course has not been brought to a curriculum committee since as an AP course, its curriculum must follow that of the College Board.
6. The students taking the course next year will be the first to enroll in the AP Italian language course. The staff will be the same as that for the present Italian IV-Honors course.
7. There are no staffing implications since the same faculty will be teaching this course.
8. There are presently no graduation requirements for any WL course so I don't imagine that this course will become a mandated program.
9. The curriculum will be written during the 2011-2012 spring semester and/or the summer of 2012 when the AP course audit must be submitted.

AP Italian IV

10. There will be training for the teachers of this class given by the College Board in the summer of 2012 and follow-up training as needed in the subsequent years.

11. The resources are authentic materials taken from web-based texts, audio and video files on line, magazines, newspapers, radio and TV programs from Italy. There would likely be a small cost for supplementary materials that align with the AP course outline.

MEASURING EFFECTS:

12. The program will be measured by the scores of the students taking the AP course and also the percentage of students in the course who choose to take the AP exam.

13. The NHS Administration can use the information to decide if the course should be continued when it assesses the scores of students taking other AP courses.

14. The AP scores will be given to the BOE when they receive the scores of other AP courses at NHS.

New Program Application

The new course will be called AP Latin IV.

The program will follow the guidelines put forth by the College Board

PLANNING:

1. We are proposing this AP course so that there is a consistent level of offerings across departments. Students in the World Language Department should also be able to take an AP course, receive national recognition and often advanced placement and/or college credits
2. This program aligns with the National Standards in Latin.
3. "Inspiring each student to excel" is a belief of the Newtown Public Schools. AP courses bring rigor to the students and they are assessed by a common test that measures them against all students in the country.
4. I have spoken with Mr. Charles Dumais, principal of NHS, who is enthusiastic about offering AP courses in the World Language Department. I have also spoken to the faculty who will be teaching the class in the fall and they are eager to follow the College Board syllabus.
5. This course has not been brought to a curriculum committee since as an AP course, its curriculum must follow that of the College Board.
6. The students taking the course next year will be the first to enroll in the AP Latin language course. This year, the faculty member is piloting the AP Latin Vergil syllabus and the students can choose to take the exam if they wish. The staff will be the same as that for the present Latin IV-Honors course.
7. There are no staffing implications since the same faculty will be teaching this course.
8. There are presently no graduation requirements for any WL course so I don't imagine that this course will become a mandated program.

AP Latin IV

9. The curriculum will be written during the 2011-2012 spring semester and/or the summer of 2012 when the AP course audit must be submitted.

10. There will be training for the teachers of this class given by the College Board in the summer of 2012 and follow-up training as needed in the subsequent years.

11. The AP Latin course for 2012-2013 is "Vergil and Caesar". We already have the Vergil but would need to purchase the Caesar at an estimated cost of \$30.00.

MEASURING EFFECTS:

12. The program will be measured by the scores of the students taking the AP course and also the percentage of students in the course who choose to take the AP exam.

13. The NHS Administration can use the information to decide if the course should be continued when it assesses the scores of students taking other AP courses.

14. The AP scores will be given to the BOE when they receive the scores of other AP courses at NHS.

New Program Application

The new course will be called AP Spanish V: ECE / UCONN

The program will follow the guidelines put forth by the College Board

PLANNING:

1. We are proposing this AP course so that there is a consistent level of offerings across departments. Students in the World Language Department should also be able to take an AP course, receive national recognition and often advanced placement and/or college credits
2. This program aligns with the National Standards in Spanish.
3. “Inspiring each student to excel” is a belief of the Newtown Public Schools. AP courses bring rigor to the students and they are assessed by a common test that measures them against all students in the country.
4. I have spoken with Mr. Charles Dumais, principal of NHS, who is enthusiastic about offering AP courses in the World Language Department. I have also spoken to the faculty who will be teaching the class in the fall and they are eager to follow the College Board syllabus.
5. This course has not been brought to a curriculum committee since as an AP class, its curriculum must follow that of the College Board.
6. The students taking the course next year will be the first to enroll in the AP Spanish language course. The staff will be the same as that for the Spanish V-ECE/UCONN course.
7. There are no staffing implications since the same faculty will be teaching this course.
8. There are presently no graduation requirements for any WL course so I don't imagine that this course will become a mandated program.
9. The curriculum will be written during the 2011-2012 spring semester and/or the summer of 2012 when the AP course audit must be submitted.

AP Spanish V: ECE / UCONN

10. There will be training for the teachers of this class given by the College Board in the summer of 2012 and follow-up training as needed in the subsequent years.
11. The resources are authentic materials taken from web-based texts, audio and video files on line, magazines, newspapers, radio and TV programs from around the Hispanic world. There would likely be a small cost for supplementary materials that align with the AP course outline.

MEASURING EFFECTS:

12. The program will be measured by the scores of the students taking the AP course and also the percentage of students in the course who choose to take the AP exam.
13. The NHS Administration can use the information to decide if the course should be continued when it assesses the scores of students taking other AP courses.
14. The AP scores will be given to the BOE when they receive the scores of other AP courses at NHS.

**NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 31, 2012**

SUMMARY

This January financial report for the current year continues to provide more detail of anticipated obligations for this year. The overall projected balance has increased by \$72,003 in spite of the Excess Cost reimbursement being off by \$58,000. There are also several components of good news included herewith.

The Education Jobs Fund continues to be used to cover current Educational Assistant salaries. The non-certified salary and tuition accounts that were referenced previously continue to be carried as accounts in need with tuition expenses continuing to increase.

Overall, the YTD amount (fifth from the right) indicates we spent \$6.6M since the December period. This is similar to the prior month because January included a \$2M payment to the medical self insurance fund. All major object codes are in a positive balance at month's end. The projected balance column indicates we are expecting to have more of a positive balance than last month, assuming the excess cost reimbursement grant comes in as currently anticipated.

This budget is still extremely lean, but our position has improved considerably as a result of some specific items. It will continue to be monitored closely in order to identify any issues that may impact our current financial condition in the months ahead.

Continued forecasting of anticipated obligations will cause modifications in these balances with the objective to remain in a positive position within the overall budget allocation. The forecasting becomes sharper as the year progresses.

EXPENSE CATEGORY CONDITIONS

100 SALARIES

The total salary budget balance overall is about the same as last month increasing by \$6,000. The areas of educational assistants, nurses, and Special Education Services have been previously detailed as related to the need for additional Special Education aides at the high school, the nurse for Project Starr to be reimbursed, the nurse for Frasier Woods now included, and the trainers to be partially covered by excess cost grant revenue.

The estimates for most other salary accounts are at budget, the teacher mid-year adjustment is not encumbered, but it is accounted for.

200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Current estimates continue to be positive and are similar to last month increasing by \$2,000.

300 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

This is an area that needs to be watched closely. The need has increased by \$22,000 due to additional special education legal expenses and \$3,000 for student evaluations.

400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES

This balance increased by approximately \$2,000 due to a further review of the accounts.

500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES

A shortage related to Special Education's tuition and transportation of over \$1.1M continues to exist. It is expected that Excess Cost revenue will cover a portion of this cost as represented below the line on the summary page. The prior projected transportation deficit has declined by \$15,000 due to credits and corrections to billings. Tuition has increased due to the addition of \$35,000 for a mediated settlement for a speech academy, two children placed in hospitals, and a change in a child's placement that will be \$40,000 more than his current placement. We are continuing a review of the transportation services to determine more efficient ways to handle these high costs and are planning on additional cost containment measures.

600 SUPPLIES

A positive balance of approximately \$279,000 is being estimated at this time due to a number of reasons:

- a) We received \$80,215 for electricity from Morganti as reimbursement for electricity costs we paid for during the high school construction last year. (*Gino has been dogging them, successfully.*)
- b) A \$12,708 credit from Constellation Energy was received for an electricity overpayment which occurred in April of 2011 due to the wrong kWh being listed on their bill.
- c) Another month of bills and review allowed us to sharpen the electricity estimate by \$27,000.
- d) A \$3,820 credit was received from Yankee Gas for a billing error on their March 2011 invoice.
- e) A \$24,095 credit from Yankee Gas from their billing of May 2011.
- f) The initial estimate on gas expenses for the year puts us under the budgeted amount by \$41,000.

700 PROPERTY

No concerns presently. Expenses estimated at budget.

800 MISCELLANEOUS

No concerns presently. Expenses estimated at budget.

EDUCATION JOBS FUND

Salaries for educational assistants are required to be fully spent by year-end.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR JANUARY

All of the above noted receipts in the supply object are the direct result of a comprehensive internal review of current invoices as compared to the prior years. Correlation of Constellation and CL&P bills was done for each meter and the natural gas actual usage for the high school for this year was compared and adjusted for degree days to question the estimated bills that Yankee sent us last year before the metering was corrected. These reviews along with the transportation invoices were all initiated by business office personnel and have resulted in over \$80,000 of taxpayer savings. These are examples of positive results we can achieve when we creatively focus our energies beyond the myriad of routine tasks and reporting requirements.

REVENUE NOTES FOR JANUARY

An addition of the expected state revenues for the current year as been added at the bottom of page 6. These three grant programs will provide the town with \$98,897 more than was expected.

Also, we are about to close out remaining encumbrances from last year which should provide the town with approximately an additional \$35,000. Knowing this amount now will help the town in its budgeting.

Ronald J. Bienkowski, Director of Business
February 17, 2012

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 (of the nine) 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
- Approved Budget – indicates a town approved financial plan used by the school district to achieve its goals and objectives.
- Current Budget – adjusts the Approved Budget calculating adjustments (+ or -) 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.
- Encumber – 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 accounts with unobligated balances or anticipated deficits.

The monthly budget summary report also provides financial information on the Education Jobs Fund, State of Connecticut grant reimbursement programs (Excess Cost Grant and Magnet Grant Transportation). These reimbursement grants/programs are used to supplement local school district budget programs as follows:

Education Jobs Fund – is a two year program. This year is the second year. It is designated to assist local boards to provide continuing employment for school personnel at risk due to budget cuts.

Excess Cost Grant – this State of Connecticut reimbursement grant is used to support local school districts for education costs of identified special education students whose annual education costs meet or exceed local education tuition rates by 4 ½. Students placed by the Department of Child and Family Services (DCF) are reimbursed after the school district has met the initial local education tuition rates. School districts report these costs annually in December and March of each fiscal year. State of Connecticut grant calculations are determined by reimbursing eligible costs (60%-100%) based on the SDE grant allocation. Current year detail changes will be forthcoming in future report narratives

Magnet Transportation Grant – provides reimbursement of \$1,300 for local students attending approved magnet school programs.

The last portion of the monthly budget summary reports school generated revenue fees that are anticipated revenue to the Town of Newtown. Fees include:

- High school fees for three identified program with the highest amount of fees anticipated from the high school sports participation fees,
- Building related fees for the use of the high school pool facility, and
- Miscellaneous fees.

Providing current financial information to the Board of Education is essential in order to remain within the allotted budget while maintaining a financial spending plan that meets the mission and goals of Newtown Board of Education.

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2012

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
<u>GENERAL FUND BUDGET</u>									
100	SALARIES	\$ 42,907,275	\$ -	\$ 42,651,564	\$ 20,534,302	\$ 21,239,146	\$ 878,116	\$ 1,205,210	\$ (327,094)
200	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 10,575,126	\$ -	\$ 10,575,126	\$ 7,767,721	\$ 350,086	\$ 2,457,318	\$ 2,291,469	\$ 165,849
300	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 715,720	\$ -	\$ 715,720	\$ 474,913	\$ 232,159	\$ 8,648	\$ 183,543	\$ (174,895)
400	PURCHASED PROPERTY SERV.	\$ 1,891,169	\$ -	\$ 1,891,169	\$ 1,095,949	\$ 334,953	\$ 460,267	\$ 431,157	\$ 29,110
500	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	\$ 6,686,624	\$ -	\$ 6,686,624	\$ 3,940,745	\$ 781,861	\$ 1,964,018	\$ 3,072,458	\$ (1,108,440)
600	SUPPLIES	\$ 4,802,441	\$ -	\$ 4,802,441	\$ 2,484,013	\$ 1,322,466	\$ 995,963	\$ 716,701	\$ 279,262
700	PROPERTY	\$ 329,975	\$ -	\$ 329,975	\$ 210,692	\$ 480	\$ 118,803	\$ 118,600	\$ 203
800	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 63,097	\$ -	\$ 63,097	\$ 52,868	\$ 150	\$ 10,079	\$ 10,000	\$ 79
TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET		\$ 67,971,427	\$ -	\$ 67,715,716	\$ 36,561,203	\$ 24,261,302	\$ 6,893,212	\$ 8,029,138	\$ (1,135,926)
<u>EDUCATION JOBS FUND</u>									
100	SALARIES			\$ 255,711	\$ 113,724	\$ 135,565	\$ 6,422	\$ 6,422	\$ (0)
200	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL EDUCATION JOBS FUND		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255,711	\$ 113,724	\$ 135,565	\$ 6,422	\$ 6,422	\$ (0)
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 67,971,427	\$ -	\$ 67,971,427	\$ 36,674,927	\$ 24,396,867	\$ 6,899,634	\$ 8,035,560	\$ (1,135,926)

Excess Cost Grant Reimbursement Offset	Budgeted 77.26% \$ 1,409,380	Difference \$ (58,550)	Current Estimate 77.12% \$ 1,350,830
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Net Projected Balance \$ 214,904

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2012

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
100	SALARIES								
	Administrative Salaries	\$ 2,816,460		\$ 2,816,460	\$ 1,630,610	\$ 1,179,801	\$ 6,049	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,049
	Teachers & Specialists Salaries	\$ 29,677,257		\$ 29,677,257	\$ 13,567,277	\$ 15,684,541	\$ 425,439	\$ 355,071	\$ 70,368
	Early Retirement	\$ 16,000		\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Continuing Ed./Summer School	\$ 78,939		\$ 78,939	\$ 51,996	\$ 17,079	\$ 9,863	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,863
	Homebound & Tutors Salaries	\$ 260,452		\$ 260,452	\$ 124,261	\$ 63,103	\$ 73,087	\$ 50,000	\$ 23,087
	Certified Substitutes	\$ 572,100		\$ 572,100	\$ 254,849	\$ 76,530	\$ 240,721	\$ 245,700	\$ (4,979)
	Coaching/Activities	\$ 541,749		\$ 541,749	\$ 138,065	\$ 105,905	\$ 297,779	\$ 296,700	\$ 1,079
	Staff & Program Development	\$ 138,580		\$ 138,580	\$ 66,878	\$ 66,097	\$ 5,604	\$ 5,000	\$ 604
	CERTIFIED SALARIES	\$ 34,101,537	\$ -	\$ 34,101,537	\$ 15,849,936	\$ 17,193,057	\$ 1,058,544	\$ 958,471	\$ 100,073
	Supervisors/Technology Salaries	\$ 597,487		\$ 597,487	\$ 338,656	\$ 258,445	\$ 386	\$ 2,739	\$ (2,353)
	Clerical & Secretarial salaries	\$ 1,960,105		\$ 1,960,105	\$ 1,055,348	\$ 896,438	\$ 8,318	\$ 7,500	\$ 818
	Educational Assistants	-255,711 \$ 1,669,633		\$ 1,413,922	\$ 703,602	\$ 816,935	\$ (106,615)	\$ (7,000)	\$ (99,615)
	Nurses & Medical advisors	\$ 559,337		\$ 559,337	\$ 321,240	\$ 293,601	\$ (55,505)	\$ -	\$ (55,505)
	Custodial & Maint Salaries	\$ 2,770,430		\$ 2,770,430	\$ 1,491,296	\$ 1,195,381	\$ 83,753	\$ 81,600	\$ 2,153
	Bus Drivers salaries	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Career/Job salaries	\$ 101,256		\$ 101,256	\$ 57,139	\$ 39,763	\$ 4,354	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,654
	Special Education Svcs Salaries	\$ 648,087		\$ 648,087	\$ 450,512	\$ 465,503	\$ (267,928)	\$ 10,000	\$ (277,928)
	Attendance & Security Salaries	\$ 145,140		\$ 145,140	\$ 74,533	\$ 67,493	\$ 3,114	\$ 2,900	\$ 214
	Extra Work - Non-Cert	\$ 97,900		\$ 97,900	\$ 43,817	\$ 12,530	\$ 41,553	\$ 39,300	\$ 2,253
	Custodial & Maint. Overtime	\$ 213,363		\$ 213,363	\$ 123,412	\$ -	\$ 89,951	\$ 89,400	\$ 551
	Civic activities/Park & Rec	\$ 43,000		\$ 43,000	\$ 24,809	\$ -	\$ 18,191	\$ 17,600	\$ 591
	NON-CERTIFIED SALARIES	\$ 8,805,738	\$ -	\$ 8,550,027	\$ 4,684,365	\$ 4,046,089	\$ (180,428)	\$ 246,739	\$ (427,167)
	SUBTOTAL SALARIES	\$ 42,907,275	\$ -	\$ 42,651,564	\$ 20,534,302	\$ 21,239,146	\$ 878,116	\$ 1,205,210	\$ (327,094)
				\$ (255,711)					

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2012

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
200	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS								
	Medical & Dental Expenses	\$ 8,081,152		\$ 8,081,152	\$ 6,279,347	\$ 227,133	\$ 1,574,672	\$ 1,535,919	\$ 38,753
	Life Insurance	\$ 85,385		\$ 85,385	\$ 47,777	\$ -	\$ 37,608	\$ 34,000	\$ 3,608
	FICA & Medicare	\$ 1,261,524		\$ 1,261,524	\$ 615,386	\$ -	\$ 646,138	\$ 644,148	\$ 1,990
	Pensions	\$ 439,463		\$ 439,463	\$ 422,471	\$ 16,438	\$ 554	\$ 615	\$ (61)
	Unemployment & Employee Assist.	\$ 243,602		\$ 243,602	\$ 62,895	\$ -	\$ 180,707	\$ 76,787	\$ 103,920
	Workers Compensation	\$ 464,000		\$ 464,000	\$ 339,846	\$ 106,515	\$ 17,639	\$ -	\$ 17,639
	SUBTOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 10,575,126	\$ -	\$ 10,575,126	\$ 7,767,721	\$ 350,086	\$ 2,457,318	\$ 2,291,469	\$ 165,849
300	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES								
	Professional Services	\$ 489,684		\$ 489,684	\$ 354,991	\$ 219,137	\$ (84,443)	\$ 94,543	\$ (178,986)
	Professional Educational Ser.	\$ 226,036		\$ 226,036	\$ 119,923	\$ 13,022	\$ 93,091	\$ 89,000	\$ 4,091
	SUBTOTAL PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$ 715,720	\$ -	\$ 715,720	\$ 474,913	\$ 232,159	\$ 8,648	\$ 183,543	\$ (174,895)
400	PURCHASED PROPERTY SVCS								
	Buildings & Grounds Services	\$ 672,300		\$ 672,300	\$ 407,186	\$ 168,072	\$ 97,042	\$ 86,944	\$ 10,098
	Utility Services - Water & Sewer	\$ 123,450		\$ 123,450	\$ 51,569	\$ -	\$ 71,881	\$ 51,500	\$ 20,381
	Building, Site & Emergency Repairs	\$ 460,850		\$ 460,850	\$ 334,722	\$ -	\$ 126,128	\$ 126,100	\$ 28
	Equipment Repairs	\$ 246,571		\$ 246,571	\$ 115,076	\$ 18,469	\$ 113,026	\$ 112,000	\$ 1,026
	Rentals - Building & Equipment	\$ 291,498		\$ 291,498	\$ 143,510	\$ 148,412	\$ (424)	\$ 2,000	\$ (2,424)
	Building & Site Maintenance	\$ 96,500		\$ 96,500	\$ 43,887	\$ -	\$ 52,613	\$ 52,613	\$ 0
	SUBTOTAL PUR. PROPERTY SER.	\$ 1,891,169	\$ -	\$ 1,891,169	\$ 1,095,949	\$ 334,953	\$ 460,267	\$ 431,157	\$ 29,110

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2012

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
500	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES								
	Contracted Services	\$ 393,983		\$ 393,983	\$ 255,190	\$ 43,735	\$ 95,059	\$ 94,000	\$ 1,059
	Transportation Services	\$ 4,423,601		\$ 4,423,601	\$ 1,934,795	\$ -	\$ 2,488,806	\$ 2,749,542	\$ (260,736)
	Insurance - Property & Liability	\$ 333,731		\$ 333,731	\$ 260,561	\$ 70,382	\$ 2,788	\$ 6,000	\$ (3,212)
	Communications	\$ 148,718		\$ 148,718	\$ 42,015	\$ 65,546	\$ 41,158	\$ 33,000	\$ 8,158
	Printing Services	\$ 54,560		\$ 54,560	\$ 10,909	\$ 4,338	\$ 39,313	\$ 36,500	\$ 2,813
	Tuition - Out of District	\$ 1,104,055		\$ 1,104,055	\$ 1,325,339	\$ 592,239	\$ (813,522)	\$ 47,416	\$ (860,938)
	Student Travel & Staff Mileage	\$ 227,976		\$ 227,976	\$ 111,937	\$ 5,622	\$ 110,417	\$ 106,000	\$ 4,417
	SUBTOTAL OTHER PURCHASED SEI	\$ 6,686,624	\$ -	\$ 6,686,624	\$ 3,940,745	\$ 781,861	\$ 1,964,018	\$ 3,072,458	\$ (1,108,440)
600	SUPPLIES								
	Instructional & Library Supplies	\$ 983,763		\$ 983,763	\$ 642,832	\$ 85,259	\$ 255,672	\$ 255,100	\$ 572
	Software, Medical & Office Sup.	\$ 169,107		\$ 169,107	\$ 100,386	\$ 12,341	\$ 56,380	\$ 55,800	\$ 580
	Plant Supplies	\$ 361,100		\$ 361,100	\$ 289,176	\$ 18,000	\$ 53,924	\$ 54,521	\$ (597)
	Electric	\$ 1,637,617		\$ 1,637,617	\$ 717,777	\$ 906,208	\$ 13,632	\$ (202,232)	\$ 215,864
	Propane & Natural Gas	\$ 398,287		\$ 398,287	\$ 151,549	\$ -	\$ 246,738	\$ 181,900	\$ 64,838
	Fuel Oil	\$ 544,034		\$ 544,034	\$ 272,145	\$ -	\$ 271,889	\$ 273,762	\$ (1,873)
	Fuel For Vehicles & Equip.	\$ 471,739		\$ 471,739	\$ 188,928	\$ 285,000	\$ (2,189)	\$ (2,000)	\$ (189)
	Textbooks	\$ 236,794		\$ 236,794	\$ 121,221	\$ 15,658	\$ 99,915	\$ 99,850	\$ 65
	SUBTOTAL SUPPLIES	\$ 4,802,441	\$ -	\$ 4,802,441	\$ 2,484,013	\$ 1,322,466	\$ 995,963	\$ 716,701	\$ 279,262

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2012

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
700	PROPERTY								
	Capital Improvements (Sewers)	\$ 124,177		\$ 124,177	\$ 124,177	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ 0
	Technology Equipment	\$ 155,102		\$ 155,102	\$ 49,090	\$ 480	\$ 105,532	\$ 105,600	\$ (68)
	Other Equipment	\$ 50,696		\$ 50,696	\$ 37,425	\$ -	\$ 13,271	\$ 13,000	\$ 271
	SUBTOTAL PROPERTY	\$ 329,975	\$ -	\$ 329,975	\$ 210,692	\$ 480	\$ 118,803	\$ 118,600	\$ 203
800	MISCELLANEOUS								
	Memberships	\$ 63,097		\$ 63,097	\$ 52,868	\$ 150	\$ 10,079	\$ 10,000	\$ 79
	SUBTOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 63,097	\$ -	\$ 63,097	\$ 52,868	\$ 150	\$ 10,079	\$ 10,000	\$ 79
TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET		\$ 67,971,427	\$ -	\$ 67,715,716	\$ 36,561,203	\$ 24,261,302	\$ 6,893,212	\$ 8,029,138	\$ (1,135,926)
EDUCATION JOBS FUND									
	Salaries			\$ 255,711	\$ 113,724	\$ 135,565	\$ 6,422	\$ 6,422	\$ (0)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL EDUCATION JOBS FUND	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255,711	\$ 113,724	\$ 135,565	\$ 6,422	\$ 6,422	\$ (0)
TOTAL BUDGET ALL SOURCES		\$ 67,971,427	\$ -	\$ 67,971,427	\$ 36,674,927	\$ 24,396,867	\$ 6,899,634	\$ 8,035,560	\$ (1,135,926)

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2012

OBJECT CODE	EXPENSE CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	CURRENT TRANSFERS	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE
<u>SCHOOL GENERATED FEES</u>					<u>2011-12 APPROVED BUDGET</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>% RECEIVED</u>	
HIGH SCHOOL FEES									
	NURTURY PROGRAM				\$8,000	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%	
	PARKING PERMITS				\$20,000	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%	
	PAY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS				\$84,800	\$38,711.00	\$46,089.00	45.65%	
					\$112,800	\$66,711.00	\$46,089.00	59.14%	
<u>BUILDING RELATED FEES</u>									
	ENERGY - ELECTRICITY				\$313	\$313.00	\$0.00	100.00%	
	HIGH SCHOOL POOL - OUTSIDE USAGE				\$8,000	\$400.00	\$7,600.00	5.00%	
					\$8,313	\$713.00	\$7,600.00	8.58%	
	MISCELLANEOUS FEES				\$200	\$53.50	\$146.50	26.75%	
TOTAL SCHOOL GENERATED FEES					\$121,313	\$67,477.50	\$53,835.50	55.62%	
<u>BUDGETED STATE REVENUE FROM SCHOOL OPERATIONS IN THE TOWN BUDGET</u>									
	Equalized Cost Sharing Grant				\$4,309,646	\$4,335,430	\$25,784	100.60%	
	Transportation Aid				\$94,274	\$166,602	\$72,328	176.72%	
	Health Services				\$9,281	\$10,066	\$785	108.46%	
TOTAL					\$4,413,201	\$4,512,098	\$98,897	102.24%	

Superintendent Update
February 22, 2012

1. Middle School students, Claire Boyle, Sophie Kennen, Julia Preszler, and Haley Williams, won the state level of School of the Future competition, and are progressing to the regional competition.
2. Middle School students, Lydia Fields and Caitlin Moss, have won the Science Horizons Science Fair, and will be attending Space Camp.
3. The Governor's Reform Package.
4. Pat Llodra, Bob Tait, Ron Bienkowski, and I have had several meetings with Blum-Shapiro representatives since the feasibility study for combining services began. Our last meeting was last Friday, February 17, from which we left with some level of consensus on what might be next steps as we consider possibilities for continued and enhanced collaboration. We expect the final report to be delivered to us within a week or so. Then, we will draft what we think are the most immediate action steps aligned with the Blum-Shapiro recommendations. Pat is planning to have this for reporting to the Legislative Council by the second meeting in March. There is not likely to be a measurable impact on the budget plan for 2013.
5. We need a BOE liaison for Education Connections. There is a one meeting a month commitment, with dinner.
6. I am in the midst of mid-year progress meetings with each principal, and we are finding that the rubric that I shared with the Board on effective schools has been helpful in defining and prompting discussion on next steps. We will continue to use this in our continuous improvement process.