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To make a public comment the call in number is (US) 1-727-304-4481
The PIN is 383 097 706#

Board of Education
May 3, 2022

Council Chambers
7:00 p.m.

As citizens of our community, we will conduct ourselves in accordance with Newtown's Core Character Attributes as displayed in our character tree. We will be responsible for our actions and show respect for each other. We will interact peacefully, productively, and politely. We will be trustworthy and honest and show compassion toward others. Newtown's continued success is contingent upon our ability to persevere, to follow through with our commitments, and to stay focused on the greater good.

A G E N D A

- Item 1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- Item 2 CONSENT AGENDA
 - Donations to Hawley School
 - Donation to Middle Gate School
 - Correspondence Report
- Item 3 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- Item 4 REPORTS
 - Chair Report
 - Superintendent's Report
 - Committee Reports
 - Student Representatives Report
- Item 5 PRESENTATIONS
 - DEI Update
- Item 6 OLD BUSINESS
 - Second Read and Possible Action on African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies
 - Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Changes to Math Pathways
- Item 7 NEW BUSINESS
 - Discussion and Possible Action on Transportation Contract
 - First Read of Policies
 - 4112.6/4212.6 Personnel Records
 - 4112.8 Nepotism
 - 4114/4214 Assignment/Transfer/Reassignment
 - Action on Healthy Food Certification
 - Action on Minutes of April 19, 2022
- Item 8 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- Item 9 ADJOURNMENT

***During the first Public Participation, the Board welcomes commentary regarding items on the agenda. After being recognized, please state your name and address for the record. We request that speakers be respectful and limit comments to not more than three minutes. The Board of Education does not discuss personnel items or student matters in public. During the second Public Participation, commentary may address the agenda or may introduce issues for the Board to consider in the future. The Board does not engage in dialogue during either public comment period. If you desire more information or answers to specific questions, please email the BOE: NewtownBOE@newtown.k12.ct.us*

To: Dr. Lorrie Rodrigue
From: Christopher Moretti
Date: 4/18/2022
Re: Private Donation



The Blackbaud Giving Fund has donated \$20.00 to Hawley School for the purchase of classroom supplies and books.

I am requesting that the Board of Education accept this generous gift on our behalf.

To: Dr. Lorrie Rodrigue
From: Christopher Moretti
Date: 4/25/2022
Re: Newtown Education Foundation Donation



The Newtown Education Foundation has donated \$750.00 to Hawley School for the purchase of STEM materials for each grade level.

I am requesting that the Board of Education accept this generous gift on our behalf.

To: Tim Hart

From: Laura @ Middle Gate

Date: April 26, 2022

Re: Newtown Education Foundation Donation

Tim, enclosed you will find a donation check for \$750.00 from the Newtown Education Foundation.

Per the letter that came with the donation (enclosed), this donation is to be used for STEM materials.

Thank you.

Laura

Laura

228
51-7229/2211

LOOK FOR:
3D hologram foil across top
Heat-reactive circle in upper-right corner

The Newtown Education Foundation Inc
PO Box 3524
Newtown, CT 06470

Date: April 19, 2022

Pay to the Order of Middlegate School \$ 750.00
Seven hundred fifty and 0/100 Dollars

Newtown Savings Bank

For STEM bin h MP

⑆ 221172296⑆ 200 289 929⑈ 0228

Security Check

2021-22 SPRING COACH ROSTER

| NAME | SPORT | STEP |
|----------------------|--|------|
| JEREMY O'CONNELL | GIRLS GOLF | 3 |
| MAUREEN MAHER | GIRLS TENNIS | 3 |
| ANNA MALKIN | BOYS TENNIS | 2 |
| BECKY OSBORNE | OUTDOOR BOYS TRACK | 3 |
| BECKY BOURRET | OUTDOOR GIRLS TRACK | 3 |
| MEGAN GUARINO | ASSISTANT BOYS TRACK | 3 |
| LAURA MCLEAN | ASSISTANT GIRLS TRACK | 3 |
| KEVIN HOYT | ASSISTANT BOYS TRACK | 3 |
| RYAN EBERTS | ASSISTANT GIRLS TRACK | 3 |
| BARBARA SKIDMORE | ASSISTANT BOYS & GIRLS TRACK | 3 |
| JOANNA CLOSS | SOFTBALL | 3 |
| KERRY BEGIN | SOFTBALL - JV | 3 |
| CHRISTINE TISI | SOFTBALL - FRESHMEN | 2 |
| IAN THOESSEN | BASEBALL | 3 |
| MATT PAOLA | BASEBALL - JV | 3 |
| MATT MENARD | BASEBALL - FRESHMEN | 3 |
| SCOTT BULKLEY | BOYS LACROSSE | 3 |
| NICK GROCCIA | BOYS LACROSSE - JV | 2 |
| ANTHONY FITTI | BOYS LACROSSE - FRESHMEN | 3 |
| SANDY DOSKI | BOYS VOLLEYBALL | 3 |
| KELLY TERASZKIEWICZ | BOYS VOLLEYBALL - JV | 1 |
| MAURA FLETCHER | GIRLS LACROSSE | 3 |
| LOU SANTOLI | GIRLS LACROSSE - JV | 3 |
| LARRY SALADIN | UNIFIED HEAD COACH | |
| REBECCA MILES | UNIFIED ASSISTANT COACH | |
| BOB PATTISON | WEIGHT ROOM SUPERVISOR | |
| JOHN LEARY | WEIGHT ROOM SUPERVISOR | |
| JOSEPH LIZZA | SEASONAL SITE SUPERVISOR | |
| MIDDLE SCHOOL | | |
| ANDREW TAMMERO | SOFTBALL | |
| MICHELLE FONTAINE | ASSISTANT SOFTBALL | |
| GREGORY HORNE | BASEBALL | |
| COLLIN RUSSELL | ASSISTANT BASEBALL | |
| ANDREW TAMMERO | UNIFIED HEAD COACH TRACK/VOLLEYBALL | |
| KEN KANTOR | ASSISTANT UNIFIED COACH TRACK/VOLLEYBALL | |
| VOLUNTEERS | | |
| CHRISTINA WOLF-GALLO | SOFTBALL | |
| LINN HERTBERG | SOFTBALL | |
| JOE CRIMI | BASEBALL | |
| JOSEPH LIZZA | BASEBALL | |
| MATT PAZ | BASEBALL | |
| NANCY ANDERSON | GIRLS TENNIS | |
| STEVEN GOCEIA | BOYS LACROSSE | |
| STEPHANIE SUHOZA | GIRLS LACROSSE | |
| CASEY REGAN | GIRLS GOLF | |

Personnel Certified/NonCertified

Personnel Records

Personnel records shall be kept on all current employees and shall include information usually expected in good personnel administration.

A file shall be kept for all resigned or retired employees, including such essential information as shall seem appropriate to the administration as specified by state and federal laws.

The Superintendent, on behalf of the Board, shall notify an employee and a collective bargaining representative, if any, in writing when a request is made for disclosure of the employee's personnel, medical or similar files, if the Superintendent reasonably believes disclosure would invade the employee's privacy.

~~The records will be disclosed unless written objection is received from the teacher or employee's collective bargaining representative, within seven business days from the receipt by employee or collective bargaining representative.~~

~~The records may be disclosed when the Superintendent does not believe such disclosure would legally constitute an invasion of privacy. The records, in such a situation, shall first be disclosed to the requestor, followed within a reasonable time after disclosure, with the sending of a written or electronic copy or brief description of such request to the employee and any applicable collective bargaining representative. Disclosure shall only be considered an invasion of privacy where (1) such records do not pertain to a legitimate matter of public interest and (2) disclosure of such records would be highly offensive to a reasonable person.~~

~~Records maintained or kept on file by the State Department of Education or the Board of Education that are records of a teacher's performance and evaluation shall not be released without the written consent of the teacher. Such records are not public records subject to FOI.~~

~~Records maintained or kept on file by the State Department of Education or the Board, that are records of a teacher's personal misconduct shall be deemed to be public records, and subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Disclosure of such records of a teacher's personal misconduct shall not require the consent of the teacher. (*"Teacher" includes all certified employees below the rank of Superintendent.*)~~

~~Each employee's own file shall be available for his or her inspection at reasonable times, and, upon request, employees will be provided a copy of information contained in his or her file.~~

The Superintendent shall comply with state and federal law, including the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), when a request is made for disclosure of an employee's personnel, medical or similar files.

Files containing medical information regarding an employee will be kept separate from other personnel files.

Personnel Certified/NonCertified

Personnel Records (continued)

~~In accordance with federal law, (ESSA), the District shall notify parents at the beginning of each school year of their right to request information regarding the professional qualifications and degrees of teachers and the qualifications of paraprofessionals for any teacher or paraprofessional who is employed by a school receiving Title I funds and who provides instruction to their child at that school. The District will provide such information on request in a timely manner. The District shall also provide notification to the parent/guardian of a child who has been assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher not meeting applicable state certification at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.~~

~~**NOTE:** The information to be provided upon request regarding teachers shall indicate whether the student's teacher has met state certification for the grade level and/or subjects taught. Information pertaining to a paraprofessional should indicate the educational background of the individual, including secondary school diploma or its equivalent, study at an institution of higher education and any degree earned.~~

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 1206 Denial of access to public records or meetings.
 1213 Agency administration. Disclosure of personnel, birth and tax records.
 1-214 Objection to disclosure of personnel or medical files (as amended by
 PA 18-93)
 1-215 Record of arrest as public record
 10151a Access of teacher to supervisory records and reports in personnel
 file.
 10151c Records of teacher performance and evaluation not public records.
 (as amended by PA 02-138 and PA 13-122)
 Perkins v. Freedom of Information Commission, 228 Conn. 158 (1993)
 The Americans with Disabilities Act
 ~~Section 1112(e)(6) The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)~~
 ~~Section 1112(e)(1)(B) The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)~~

Policy adopted:

**NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Objection to Release of Personnel Records**

The Newtown Public Schools shall provide notice to an employee and the employee's collective bargaining representative, if any, whenever the District receives a request to inspect or copy records contained in an employee's personnel or medical files and similar files, and the Superintendent or designee reasonably believes that the disclosure of such records would legally constitute an invasion of privacy (the "Notice"). The employee or the employee's collective bargaining representative, if any, may object to the release of records that the Superintendent or designee has determined legally constitute an invasion of privacy.

This form shall be used by an employee or employee's collective bargaining representative who is objecting to the release of information that the Superintendent or designee has deemed to be an invasion of privacy. Such records will be disclosed to the requesting party UNLESS this form is received by the District within seven (7) business days from the receipt by the employee or the employee's collective bargaining representative, if any, of the Notice or, if there is no evidence of receipt of written notice, not later than nine (9) business days from the date the Notice is actually mailed, sent, posted or otherwise given.

Date: _____

Name, address and phone number of employee concerned:

Name, address and phone number of employee's collective bargaining representative, if any:

Description of the records that the Superintendent reasonably believes would legally constitute an invasion of privacy and the disclosure of which the employee or representative objects.

Under the penalties of false statement, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, there are good grounds to support my objection to the release of the records described above and my objection is not intended to delay the process.

Signature of employee or employee's collective bargaining representative

Print name

Date

Personnel – Certified

Nepotism

Purpose

It is the policy of the Board to recruit and hire qualified applicants for employment within the Newtown Public Schools, while avoiding both nepotism and the appearance of nepotism.

Definitions

“**Immediate family**” means a spouse, child, parent, sister, brother, half-sister or half-brother.

“**Relative**” means a sister-in-law, brother-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, step parent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, first cousin, grandparent, step child, foster child, grandchild or individual living in the same household.

“**Familial relationship**” means a relationship between a member of one’s immediate family or a relative, as defined within this policy.

Prohibitions on Hiring

No relative or immediate family member of the Superintendent shall be hired to any position of employment by the Board of Education.

No immediate family members of a Board member or any other district level administrator shall be hired to any position of employment by the Board of Education.

Restrictions on Employment of Relatives or Immediate Family Members

No individuals shall be hired in a position of employment that would result in a supervisory or evaluative relationship between a current employee and a relative or immediate family member.

No employee may be involved in the process of screening for advancement in the application process, interviewing or hiring his or her relatives or immediate family members.

Employees will not be hired, promoted, transferred or assigned to work in positions in the same school or work unit or department in which a relative or immediate family member is already employed, unless the Superintendent of Schools approves such an assignment ~~in writing.~~

No administrator or supervisor shall supervise any of his or her relatives or immediate family members.

~~Employees will not be hired, promoted, transferred or assigned to work in positions in which they will have access to confidential information regarding a relative, such as, but not limited to, information regarding benefits selections, confidential medical information or personnel records that are not subject to public disclosure.~~

P4112.8(b)

Personnel – Certified

Nepotism (continued)

~~Restrictions on Employment of Immediate Family Members~~

~~No individuals shall be hired in a position of employment that would result in a supervisory or evaluative relationship between a current employee and an immediate family member.~~

~~No employee may be involved in the process of screening for advancement in the application process, interviewing or hiring of an immediate family member.~~

~~Employees will not be hired, promoted, transferred or assigned to work in positions in the same school or work unit or department in which an immediate family member is already employed, unless the Superintendent of Schools approves such an assignment in writing.~~

~~No person who is a member of the immediate family of a building administrator or department supervisor may be nominated for or transferred or otherwise assigned to any position within that administrator's building or supervisor's department.~~

~~No administrator or supervisor shall supervise any member of his or her immediate family.~~

~~Employees will not be hired, promoted, transferred or assigned to work in positions in which they will have access to confidential information regarding an immediate family, such as, but not limited to, information regarding benefits selections, confidential medical information or personnel records that are not subject to public disclosure.~~

Disclosure Requirements

A Board member or administrator who has an existing familial relationship with an employee, as defined above, or who has had a change in circumstances which creates a familial relationship with any employee of the **Newtown** Public Schools, shall declare such relationship to the Superintendent or Chair of the Board immediately.

If a change in circumstances creates a familial relationship between an employee and his or her supervisor, the Board, through its Superintendent, reserves the right to seek a transfer of any employee in order to resolve any concerns about the operations of the district with respect to nepotism or the appearance of nepotism. The Superintendent may also provide for the evaluation and/or supervision of the employee outside of the typical chain of command in order to resolve any concerns about nepotism or the appearance of nepotism.

A Board member or administrator who knows that a relative or immediate family member has applied for a position with the [Newtown](#) Public Schools shall declare such relationship to the Superintendent or the Chair of the Board as soon practicable.

In addition to the requirements set forth above regarding familial relationships, if a romantic relationship develops between an employee and (1) an administrator who has a supervisory or evaluative relationship with the employee, or (2) a member of the Board, the affected administrator or member of the Board shall declare such relationship to the Superintendent.

P4112.8(c)

Personnel – Certified

Nepotism (continued)

Recusal

~~A member of the Board should not vote on any action of the Board which will directly affect a relative or member of his or her immediate family.~~

Discharge and Denial of Re-Employment

No current employee will be discharged or denied re-employment pursuant to an applicable recall provision based on this Policy.

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified

Assignment/Transfer/Reassignment

The assignment and transfer of all certified/support staff personnel shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools (Superintendent) or designee.

~~Requests for transfer within the school system may be made at any time and must be in writing. Transfers are subject to availability of position, vacancies, and qualifications of employee.~~

Transfers will be made in the best interests of the school system, subject to provisions of applicable employee organization agreements and [Newtown](#) Board of Education policies.

~~Not later than the November meeting of the Board of Education the Superintendent shall present the staff listing of regular assignments. Changes of regular assignments shall be reprinted periodically.~~

Policy adopted:
cps 5/04

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

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 3 Primrose Street.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| D. Zukowski, Chair | L. Rodrigue |
| J. Vouros, Vice Chair (virtually) | A. Uberti |
| D. Ramsey, Secretary | T. Vadas |
| R. Harriman (absent) | 5 Staff |
| D. Cruson | 13 Public |
| J. Kuzma | 1 Press |
| J. Larkin | |
| C. Savo | |
| M. Irvine | |

Ms. Zukowski called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
Mr. Vouros joined the meeting virtually.

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which includes the donation to Newtown High School and the correspondence report. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 3 – Public Participation

Ryan Knapp, 11 Jeremiah Road, Newtown, spoke about the minutes from April 5, 2022. He gave praise to the Board for the detailed minutes but expressed his frustration with a letter that was sent to the Newtown Bee. The BOE minutes outline the Board's intention to split the two policies and he feels that the local paper should set the record straight.

David Stott, 3 River Run Road, Newtown, commented about the minutes from April 5, 2022 and offered his words of encouragement about next school year's budget. It is important to fulfill the needs of the school and was proud to hear the Superintendent outline the needs in the budget. He felt compelled to offer words of appreciation. BOE displayed extreme professionalism.

Item 4 – Reports

Chair Report:

Ms. Zukowski said that the budget plan was approved by the Legislative Council with a reduction of \$300,000. It is now in the hands of the Newtown voters. The vote is on Tuesday, April 26th. Also, on April 11th, the BOF recommended a special appropriation of \$781,000 for the NHS stadium turf practice field. The Legislative Council will be considering the appropriation on Wednesday, April 20th. Finally, if all goes well the Charter Revision Commission will be finishing up on Wednesday.

Superintendent Report:

Dr. Rodrigue welcomed everyone back from Spring Break which now marks the last quarter of the year. It also marks our ability to celebrate and recognize the wonderful staff and students in Newtown. The recognition we will have at future board meetings will include the top 5%, our Valedictorian, our Salutatorian, CAFE award winners, and Profiles in Professionalism. One of the last meetings for PEAC is coming up and in that meeting we will be creating a recap of the

year and presenting to the Board at a future meeting. Finally, our last PD day is on April 29th and schools will be closed for students.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Cruson said that the Superintendent Search Committee and the public received the finalized search results. They received twenty-two applicants. The Board should have received an email to review the applicants.

Mrs. Kuzma expressed her thanks to the community that gave their input. Mr. Collins said he normally does not receive as much input as he did from Newtown. The total was 566 entries

Mrs. Larkin reported on the CFF Subcommittee. They are reviewing food service vendors and will be receiving bids on Wednesday, April 20th. Mrs. Vadas is planning on meeting with the bus vendor, All Star, to discuss the upcoming bus contract. Finally, Facilities was able to repair the floor in the High School over spring break.

Students:

Ms. Savo reported that it is the third week of Autism Awareness Month. Students are selling candy, gum and snacks to raise money for Autism brain research.

Mr. Irving reported that the NHS Composers Concert will be on Wednesday, April 20th at 7 pm and Newtown's Night of Jazz will be on May 5th at 7:00 pm. He also said that the High School students are getting ready for AP testing.

Financial report:

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education approve the financial report for the month ending March 31, 2022. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Mrs. Vadas presented an overview of the report.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 5 – Presentations

African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies:

Department Chair, Amy Deeb, and NHS Principal, Dr. Longobucco, presented this curriculum.

Mr. Cruson asked if this course was a full year.

Ms. Deeb said that it is and it was decided on a state level.

Mr. Ramsey thanked Ms. Deeb for her presentation and asked if she could address the biases in the community section.

Ms. Deeb said that the curriculum is over 300 pages and will have to find that section and give you the information at a later time. The full curriculum can be found online.

Mrs. Uberti reminded the Board that Ms. Deeb will not be teaching the course and the teacher that will be teaching this course will be receiving extensive training.

Ms. Deeb said that 150 people that contributed to writing this curriculum are listed on the website.

Ms. Zukowski asked if this course would have a lot of cross over.

Ms. Deeb said that there naturally would be. The American History course is being re-written now and going through the final steps but she expects a lot of cross over.

Ms. Zukowski said it sounds like a very interesting course and would love an update next year.

SPED Co-Teaching:

Dr. Rodrigue introduced Deborah Mailloux- Peterson, Paula Correia-Grayson, and Maureen Hall who will be giving an overview of SPED Co-Teaching. Co-Teaching is not new to Newtown but thought it was good practice to bring back to NHS and now NMS.

Dr. Grayson said that she has been at NHS for the past 6 years. One thing that she found is there is no difference between the two teachers. If you observe, you cannot tell which teacher is the General Ed teacher and which teacher is the SPED teacher. Both teachers have their planning time to modify content based on student's needs. There are 36 co-taught classes in NHS this year.

Mrs. Mailloux-Petersen said that her department, along with Dr. Longobucco, looked at why there was a drastic increase of the number of co-taught classes. It was decided to bring co-teaching to NMS to see if it helps transition students and better prepare them.

Mrs. Hall thanked the Board for the support last year by adding a SPED teacher at the Middle School. It made an impact. Previously, the SPED teachers covered two clusters so they had to interact with 8 core teachers and up to 20 students in their caseload. Now, they can focus on 5 core teachers with smaller caseloads. The middle school has a cluster model. There are 5 co-taught classes in 7th grade and 5 co-taught in 8th grade. There has been great feedback from students and teachers.

Mrs. Kuzma asked if they find students are happy to not be pulled out of class.

Mrs. Hall said that the middle school students are very aware that they are being pulled out and do not want to be different. It is the goal to have students be in the least restrictive environment and have access to the general education instruction but at times students need a little more so co-teaching is a great opportunity for them.

Mrs. Larkin asked Dr. Rodrigue if local towns around Newtown offer this.

Dr. Rodrigue does not know how many.

Mrs. Larkin asked if a special education student was in each co-taught classroom.

Dr. Grayson said that there are classes in every grade level and there has to be a 50/50 ratio of special education and general education students.

Mrs. Larkin asked if the SPED teacher rotated with the students.

Dr. Grayson said that if a student is in 4 co-taught content areas they would have 8 different teachers.

Mr. Ramsey said that it sounds like this restores the joy of teaching and learning. The benefits are more security in instruction and the atmosphere in the classroom can be better. Newtown can be a shining example for other districts.

Dr. Grayson invited the Board to visit the high school to observe a co-taught class.

Mr. Vouros said that he went to an 8th grade middle school co-taught class and the comfort level of the students and teachers was phenomenal.

Ms. Zukowski agreed with Mr. Vouros and said all the children were engaged.

Ms. Zukowski asked if there is a wide range of ability of learners in a classroom and if it is difficult for the teachers to cater to everyone in the classroom.

Mrs. Hall said that the classes are heterogeneous and the teachers are used to teaching to a wide range of learners. The co-taught model isn't any different.

Ms. Zukowski asked how you measure success.

Mrs. Hall said that one measurement is she is looking at overall grades in the middle school.

Item 6 – Old Business

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education approve the Integrated STEM Grade 5 Curriculum. Mrs. Kuzma seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education approve the Integrated STEM Grade 6 Curriculum. Mrs. Kuzma seconded.

Mr. Ramsey wants the record to show that he supports this curriculum. The stem program is very impressive and a great addition.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 7 – New Business

Hawley Update:

Dr. Rodrigue said that the work at Hawley will begin in the summer and continue the majority of 2022-2023 school year. She has been working with Lead Teachers and Assistant Principals to make this move smoothly. The Principals at each building have communicated with their staff through faculty meetings. Teachers will need boxes and other shipping materials. Dr. Rodrigue is requesting 4 early release days for all students. It will be a 2 hour release for all students except middle and high school which will be a 3 hour release. The early release days are helpful because the moving up ceremony is on June 14th and Graduation is on June 15th. After the summer break, teachers will need time to move/unpack and set up their classrooms so Convocation will be moved to the first day of school after the students are dismissed.

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education approve the 2021-2022 Non-renewal List. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Dr. Rodrigue said that these positions were 1 year contracts.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cruson moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of April 5, 2022. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Ms. Zukowski would like to clarify that in her Chair report, the total amount of money that was taken from facilities was \$70,000, not \$170,000.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 8 – Public Participation

Gina Mazzariello, 12 Bridle Path Trail, is a mother of a 7th grader at NMS and Junior at NHS. She offered her thanks and encouragement around the presentation for the new African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies course that will be offered next year.

Tony Keating, 7 Oak Ridge Drive, expressed his concerns with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. He believes and respects that there is a large community of people that support and are invested in DEI being ramped up in communities. However, he also believes there is a much larger community of people that don't. He believes that DEI falls short and delivers the exact opposite of what it says it will.

Nerlande Foote, 12 Bears Hill Road, wanted to clarify that her issue with the Affirmative Action and Plan for Minority Recruitment policies was not because they were separated. She felt it was a watered down version of the two. She thanked the Board and would like to work with them in the future.

Don Lococo, 27 Hi Barlow Road, offered his thanks to the Board and reminded them that everyone that attends the Board meetings have a lot in common. He proceeded to quote US Representative Jahana Hayes regarding support for students and their success.

Linda O'Sullivan, 10 Farmery Lane, opened her comments in drawing attention to the good work that Mr. Johnson is doing and advising the BOE. She also noted that Mr. Johnson is an employee of the Newtown community and was giving his opinion as an employee of BOE with a background in DEI, not giving his opinion as a leader of the BIPOC community. Allies for Change (NAFC) is here to talk with you. The BIPOC community is not represented on the Board at all but they are a part of the community and it is the Board's responsibility to care about the issues.

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

Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Donald Ramsey
Secretary