

**Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting on May 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 3 Primrose Street.

D. Leidlein, Chair	J. Erardi
L. Roche, Vice Chair	L. Gejda
K. Hamilton, Secretary	R. Bienkowski
K. Alexander	1 Staff
J. Vouros	30 Public
D. Freedman	5 Press
M. Ku	

Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 7:32

Item 1 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which includes the Newtown High School field trip, the donations to Sandy Hook and Middle Gate Schools, the extension of the child rearing leave of absence for Whitney Goodman, the resignation of Janet McCabe, and the resignations for retirement of Sue Ward, Doris Papp, Wendy Bowen, and Cathy Cincogrono. Ms. Hamilton seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 3 – Public Participation

Wolfgang Halibig, Sorrento Florida, spoke about addressing his 16 questions regarding the Sandy Hook tragedy.

Jim Fetzer, a journalist with Veterans Today, spoke about the Sandy Hook tragedy.

Melborn Sand, New York, spoke about strict gun control legislation that was a result of the tragedy and wanted proof it occurred.

Dale Madonti, Rhode Island, spoke about gun control.

Dave Williams, Carson City, Nevada, spoke about restrictions on second amendment rights and wanted answers to the 16 questions to show nothing was being hidden.

Kevin LaPrade, Woonsocket, Rhode Island, spoke about concerns regarding the investigation of the incident.

Will James, Beacon, New York, said the perpetrator was not shown on the scene so there was no proof he existed. This should be made available to the public.

Thomas Lapp, Sayerville, New Jersey, looked at the evidence. There were too many inconsistencies that don't add up.

Michelle Murphy, Houston, Texas, was interested in Adam Lanza and those involved in other shootings.

Jim Fitzpatrick, Newtown resident, has police friends who responded and are still suffering the effects. He also knows families who lost children. He was offended by the collection of conspiracy theories. We have pulled together as a town to get through this.

Item 4 – Reports

There was no correspondence report.

Chair Report:

Mrs. Leidlein informed the Board of the charter revision commission meeting on Thursday at 7 PM along with documentation for the committee. May 14 there is a joint meeting with the Public Building and Site Commission regarding the Sandy Hook School plans at 7 PM in the Reed library.

May 3, at 3 PM the Board was invited to attend the opening of the Autism Speaks' Autism Resource Center at the Booth Library. We also received an invitation to the opening night of the Hawley Art Show. There has been a request to look at the June 17 Board meeting date as it coincides with the high school graduation ceremony. The Board would be polled for an alternative date. An email was received from Paul Mangiafico, Chair of the Police Commission, announcing that Chief Kehoe would be honored at a Police Commission dinner on May 28.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Erardi presented a listing of end of year school events, a flyer regarding the Community Connections event to be held May 31 which is a free community service provider fair and symposium, the official statement from the Governor naming May 7 as School Nurse Day, and enrichment opportunities for grades kindergarten through 12 gifted and talented students.

Committee Reports:

Ms. Hamilton scheduled a CIP for Wednesday morning to discuss the current status of CIP project due to the Board of Finance the beginning of June.

Item 5 – Old Business

Nurses Contract Negotiations:

Mrs. Leidlein stated that she and Mrs. Ku would work on the nurses' contract.

Ms. Hamilton requested the Board meet prior to negotiations to discuss their goals.

Mr. Vouros feels we should be aware of any increased amount of student contact based upon the tragedy.

Non-lapsing Account:

Ms. Hamilton stated that the Board of Finance discussed our proposed changes and will vote on them at their May 12 meeting. They would like to see more Board of Education representatives at their meetings and she has committed to attend. In their discussion about charter revision recommendations they asked if the Board of Education was considered a Town department. She recommended the Board go back through the charter to highlight items to see if there's a conflict. She and Mrs. Ku would look them over and send recommendations to the Board members.

Item 6 – New Business - none

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

Item 7 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Hamilton



FIELD TRIP BUS REQUEST FORM

Teacher Making Request: TOM KUROSKI Date: April 8, 2014

Other Staff Involved: TRENT HARRISON, TARA ALLEGRETTO, MATT CHILDS

Date of Proposed Field Trip: MAY 23-24, 2014

Class/Group Involved: ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY STUDENTS

Number of Students Scheduled to Make Trip: 51

Other Adults (non-teachers) Chaperoning the Trip (list names): LISABETH KUROSKI

Destination: PHILADELPHIA

Place and Time of Departure: HIGH SCHOOL 7:00 am 5/23/14

Estimated Time of Return: 5/24/14

Special Arrangements (i.e. stopping at a restaurant, picnic, etc.) SEE ATTACHED ITINERARY

Estimated Cost of Transportation: \$ 2,442.00

Estimated Cost per Student: \$ 130.00

Other Information: SEE ATTACHED ITINERARY

PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE:  DATE: 4/9/14

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP BOE APPROVAL: _____ DATE: _____

Billing Information

Bill to: _____

Pricing: _____ Hours @ _____ per hour = _____

_____ Miles @ _____ per mile = _____

Minimum Charge: _____

Total Charge per Bus: _____

Confirmation

Information taken by: _____ Date Confirmed: _____

Confirmed by: _____ Recorded in Book: _____

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY
OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP:
THE FRANKLIN MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
AND
THE MUTTER MUSEUM
PHILADELPHIA**

MAY 23 & 24, 2014

To: Newtown Board of Education
From: Mr. Kuroski
Date: April 8, 2014
Re: Anatomy and Physiology Overnight Field Trip to Philadelphia

I have finalized the Anatomy and Physiology Field Trip to visit The Franklin Museum of Science and The College of Physicians of Philadelphia Mutter Museum. I am extremely excited about this trip, as it will provide students with a unique opportunity to observe exhibits that are incredibly engaging and also linked directly to the curriculum they have learned during the year. This exciting learning experience will be further enhanced because it takes place in one of the most historically significant cities in the country, Philadelphia. I know that the agenda for the seniors during this time of year can be overwhelming, so I have chosen a date that does not interfere with any of their other activities or academic responsibilities. I have also worked very hard to keep the price of the trip reasonable because I know that the cost of everything is increasing. See attached Itinerary of the trip for additional information.

Thank you,



Mr. Tom Kuroski
Anatomy and Physiology
kuroskit@newtown.k12.ct.us

ITINERARY

DAY ONE

FRIDAY MAY 23, 2014

- 7:00 am** Depart Newtown High School via Deluxe Coach Bus.
- 9:00am** Arrive at the Philadelphia Zoo at 3400 W. Girard Avenue
- 12:30pm** Arrive at The Redding Terminal Market at the corner of 12th and Arch.
Eat lunch and visit local attractions, landmarks and shops.
- 1:30pm** Tour downtown Philadelphia and visit historical attractions and landmarks. (to be determined based on available time and locations)
- 2:45pm** Take bus to the Mutter Museum at 19 South 22nd Street.
- 3:00pm** Arrive at the Mutter Museum and Check-in.
 1. 45 min. guided tour of Museum
 2. Presentation on Medicinal Plant Garden located at the Museum
 3. Students can visit exhibits of individual interest
- 5:00pm** Depart Mutter Museum and board bus
- 5:15pm** Visit Historic Philadelphia – Short walking tour of historical sites along the Delaware River.
- 6:30pm** Depart Historic Philly and go to Hampton Inn. 8600 Bartram Ave.
- 7:00pm** Check in at the Hampton Inn.
- 7:15pm** Pizza Party for dinner in conference room at the Hotel.

ITINERARY

DAY TWO

SATURDAY MAY 24, 2014

- 7:00am** **Wake-up Call - Pack-up and bring bags down to lobby**
- 8:00am** **Deluxe Continental Breakfast served at the Hampton Inn - Load bags onto the Bus. Check-out.**
- 9:00am** **Depart Hampton Inn**
- 9:15am** **Visit the Philadelphia Museum of Art to run the "Rocky" steps**
- 9:45am** **Arrive at Franklin Museum of Science at 222 North 20th Street.
Check in to the Museum. Follow agenda**
- 1. Giant Heart Exhibit - 2nd Floor**
 - 2. Identity Exhibit - 3rd Floor**
 - 3. Sports Challenge Exhibit - 3rd Floor**
 - 4. Free Time to visit exhibits of particular interest**
- 12:00pm** **Meet at Ben's Bistro for Lunch - 2nd Floor**
- 1:00pm** **Visit other exhibits of particular interest or attend films showing at the IMAX or Franklin Theaters.**
- 2:45pm** **Arrive at Bus Pick-up area**
- 3:00pm** **Depart Philadelphia for return trip to Newtown**
- 6:00pm** **Arrive back at Newtown High School**

**EXPENSES FOR ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OVERNIGHT
PHILADELPHIA TRIP:**

**ACCOMMODATIONS, TRANSPORTATION AND
DESTINATION FEES**

The total cost per student will be \$130.00. This includes the following: Accommodations

- a. Deluxe Coach Round trip transportation from Newtown to Philadelphia and points of interest within the city.
- b. Hotel accommodations at the Hampton Inn, Philadelphia. Accommodations include: (3 or 4 students per room), two queen beds, microwave, fridge, coffee maker, hair dryer, iron, sink, shower, etc. Use of a conference room for pizza party and games Friday night.
- c. Deluxe continental breakfast Saturday morning, which includes: Waffles (make your own), eggs, breakfast meats, pastries, muffins, bagels, cereal, milk, juices, and coffee.
- d. Admission to the Philadelphia Zoo and all featured attractions.
- e. Admission to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia Mutter Museum with guided tour and special presentation of Medicinal Herb Garden.
- f. Admission to the Franklin Museum of Science and all special exhibits including the Giant Heart and the Sports Challenge.

Additional expenses will include:

- a. The cost of lunch at the Redding Terminal Market (food court) on Friday and the Franklin Museum (Ben's Bistro food court) on Saturday.
- b. Pizza Party dinner at the Hampton Inn
- c. Individual purchases made at any of the destinations or Philadelphia landmarks.

***Note: Addresses and Phone Numbers of all destinations and chaperones will be provided with the final field trip package.**

DONATIONS

5/6/2014

To BOE for Approval on May 6, 2014

SHES

Aetna Foundation - Donor Match		
D. Veil-Stein	\$	27.50
Travelers CyberGrants Inc. - Donor Match		
J. Somers	\$	50.00
Aetna Foundation - Donor Match		
The Bernabeo Family	\$	55.00
D. Albert	\$	13.75
H. McNamara	\$	27.50
J. Bandle	\$	55.00
P. & P. Barbaro	\$	137.50
S. Kosman	\$	550.00
T. Morse	\$	<u>27.50</u>

Total	\$	<u>943.75</u>		\$	<u>943.75</u>
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SHES Library

Newtown Public Schools

			\$	-
	\$	-		

Middle Gate School Dental Associates of CT
Adopt-a-School literacy incentive program

			\$	250.00
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Total		\$	-	\$	<u>250.00</u>
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NPS Teachers

	\$	-
	\$	<u>1,193.75</u>
	\$	<u>1,193.75</u>

Middle Gate School
MEMO



To: Dr. John Reed
From: Chris Geissler
Date: April 15, 2014
Re: School gift

This memo is being sent to inform you that our school has been offered a monetary donation. This gift, in the amount of \$250, was offered by Dental Associates of Connecticut, P.C. It is being given to Middle Gate School as part of their Adopt-a-School literacy incentive program. We are extremely grateful for this donation to our school and enjoyed participating in their program. The funds received will be used to purchase literacy materials for our third grade classrooms.

It is my understanding that the Board of Education must approve all donations to school. Our hope is that the Board of Education will give its approval and allow us to utilize this money for third grade literacy needs. Please let me know if more information is necessary and how I may assist this process.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Geissler".


JOYCE E. PARENT
ROLAND A. PARENT
 PH 860-928-9158
 518 ENGLISH NEIGHBORHOOD RD
 WOODSTOCK, CT 06281

1342

51-213/111

DATE April 8, 2014

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Banko's Music, LLC \$ 500⁰⁰

Five hundred ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ DOLLARS  Security features included. Details on back.

The Citizens National Bank
WOODSTOCK, CONNECTICUT

on account for
FOR Sandy Hook Elementary Music Dept Roland A. Parent MP

⑆0⑆1⑆02⑆133⑆ 44 199 4⑆ 1342

© HARLAND

From the workbench of Roland Parent

Maryrose,

Have finally gotten the check off to Banko's Music. Hope this will help your music program at Sandy Hook.

If the school would like to send thank you notes. The principal buyers were from:

Cornerstone Quilters Guild
 c/o Sue Thorsvold
 31 Long Leaf Rd
 Boylston, MA 01505

and
 Woodstock Elementary School
 24 Frog Pond Rd
 Woodstock, CT 06281-3039

Please keep up the good work and keep in touch.

The "Beat" for always, Roland & Joyce



Newtown High School

*12 Berkshire Road
Sandy Hook, CT 06482
(203) 426-7646
FAX (203) 426-6573*

NEWTOWN SUCCESS-ORIENTED SCHOOL MODEL

All
Children
Can and
Will
Learn
Well



April 3, 2014

Dr. John Reed
Interim Superintendent
Newtown Public Schools
3 Primrose Lane
Newtown, Ct. 06470

Dear Dr. Reed,

As you know I am now on maternity leave and will be out for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year. I will also be taking the 2014-2015 school year off as I raise my new daughter. I would like to request a Leave of Absence for this school year (2014-2015) for child rearing. I understand that this would be without pay for the duration should the Board of Education grant this request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Whitney E. Goodman".

Whitney E. Goodman

John R. Reed, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Newtown Board of Education
3 Primrose Street
Newtown, CT 06470

April 8, 2014

Subject: Retirement Plans for Sue Ward

Dear Dr. Reed:

Please be advised that I plan to retire from the Newtown School System, effective July 1, 2014. It was a difficult decision for me because I still enjoy teaching very much, but it is time for me to spend more time with my family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Ward". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sue Ward
RIS Art Teacher

cc: Anne Uberti, Principal RIS
Jill Beaudry, Assistant Principal RIS
Linda Gejda, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent

✓
Acknowledged
Enroll - 4/20/14
JB

37 Bayberry Lane
New Milford, CT 06776
April 15, 2014

Dr. Joseph Erardi, Jr.
Newtown Public Schools
3 Primrose Street
Newtown, CT 06740

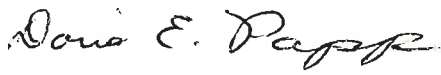
Dear Dr. Erardi and Members of the Board of Education:

I am writing to notify you that I will not be renewing my contract for the 2014-2015 academic year. I have decided to retire from my position as Library Media Specialist at Hawley Elementary School.

I will always treasure my years as a classroom teacher and as the Library Media Specialist. It has been my privilege to serve the students, parents, and staff of Hawley. When Dr. John Reed and Mrs. Linda Siciliano hired me in 1995, I had taken a break from teaching. After getting a chemistry degree, I was working in the private sector as a scientist. I came back to teaching because I missed making a difference in the lives of young people. Newtown has given me the opportunity to touch lives each and every day. I am grateful for the support of the administrators and staff that I have worked with over the past nineteen years. I would like to extend special gratitude to Dr. John Reed and Alice Jackson. The information landscape that lies ahead of our students is complex, vast, and constantly changing. Alice Jackson was forward thinking as she promoted the importance of library media specialists and information literacy in the 21st century lives of Newtown students.

I would especially like to thank my colleagues at Hawley Elementary School. We are a family at Hawley. We have been led with compassion and strength by Mrs. Jo-Ann Peters Edmondson through some very trying times.

I have been forever changed and touched by the children and families that I served. Newtown will always be in my heart.

Sincerely,

Doris E. Papp

Janet McCabe
Reed Intermediate School
Newtown, CT 06470

April 21, 2014

Dr. Joseph V. Erardi
Superintendent
Newtown Public Schools
Newtown, CT 06470

Dear Dr. Erardi,

Please accept my resignation as Sixth Grade Teacher at Reed Intermediate School. My last day will be June 30. Due to family obligations, I will no longer be able to work full-time.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of the transition to a brand new school! I have enjoyed working with students over the years, and the administration and staff have been very supportive. Reed Intermediate has been my second home during my 13 years in the district; I will truly miss everyone. If at all possible, I would be interested in any part-time openings for next school year.

Welcome to this wonderful district. I hope that you enjoy your experience here as much as I have.

Sincerely yours,

Janet McCabe

cc: Anne Uberti, Principal, Reed Intermediate School

Newtown Middle School



MAY 01 2014

11 Queen Street
Newtown, Connecticut 06470-2172

11 Old Farm Hill Road
Newtown, Connecticut 06470
May 1, 2014

Dr. Joseph V. Erardi
Superintendent of Schools
Newtown Board of Education
3 Primrose Street
Newtown, Connecticut 06470

Dear Dr. Erardi:

Please accept this letter as notice of my retirement from my seventh grade science position at Newtown Middle School effective the last day of school (June 18, 2014).

This was a difficult decision for me as I have enjoyed teaching at the middle school for 26 years. I consider the school community part of my family. Although it saddens me to leave teaching after 33 years, my family and I look forward to the next phase of our life.

I am willing to help in any way to make this transition as smooth as possible for my replacement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy Bowen".

Wendy Bowen

May 5th, 2014

Dear Dr. Erardi,

This letter is to inform you that it is my intention to retire, effective June 19th, 2014, after 38 years of teaching in Newtown. While I originally had intended to remain in my position for three more years, recent events in my personal life most especially the decline of my ailing mother have prompted me to reconsider. After much consideration this past weekend, I have decided it is time.

I have spent my entire career at Newtown Middle School and can honestly say that I could not have asked for a more exciting and rewarding career. The pleasure I have gleaned working with students and colleagues has been magical, the lifelong friends that I have made are treasures. It has truly been a joy working for the town of Newtown, and I leave knowing that I have fulfilled one of my life's dreams.

During this stressful time of decreasing student enrollment, I hope my resignation will save a position, bringing peace and joy to a deserving young teacher. It has been my pleasure to work here, and I leave with fond memories and a full heart.

Sincerely,

Cathy Cincogrono

Administrative Report

Tuesday, May 6th

1. **End-of-the-Year Events** (Attachment #1)

2. **Community Connections – Saturday, May 31st** (Attachment #2)

3. **School Nurse Day – Wednesday, May 7th** (Attachment #3)

4. **G.A.T.E.S – Next Steps / Enrichment** (Attachment #4)

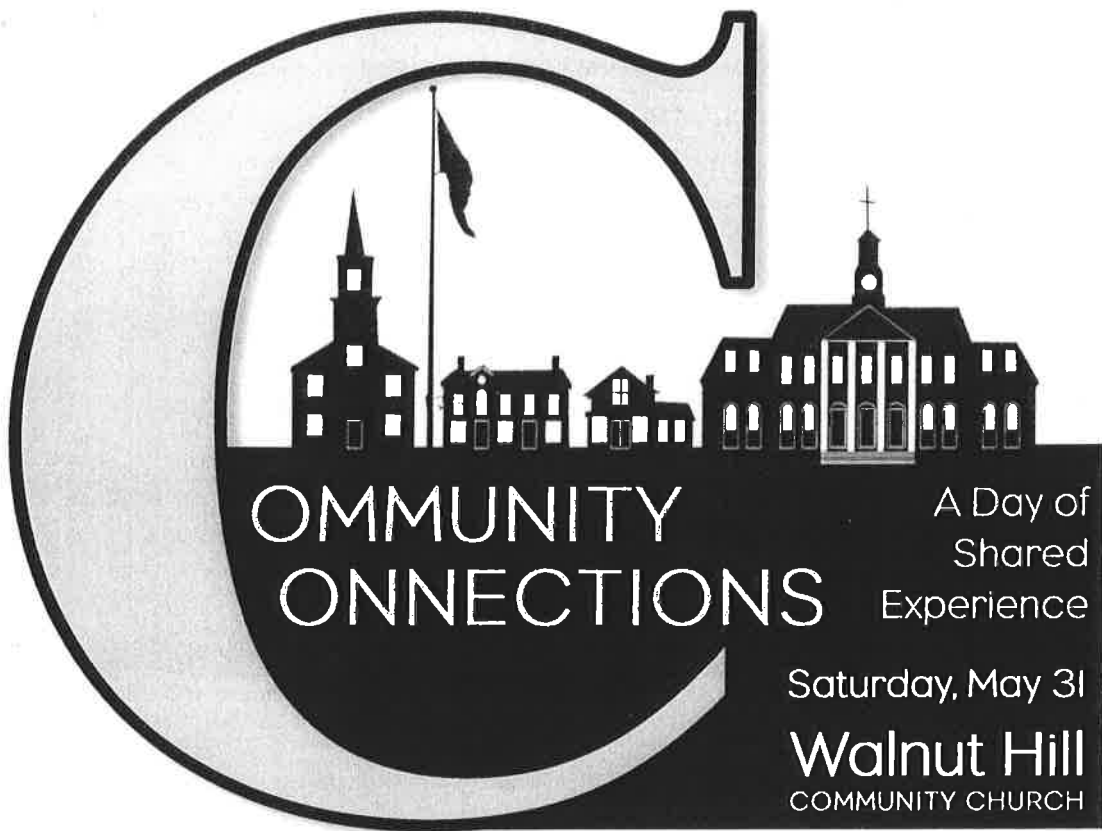
Joseph
5/6/24

End of Year Activities

- May 5 Head O'Meadow 4th Grade Concert for Parents, 7 PM
- May 7 Hawley 4th Grade Chorus Concert, 7 PM, Gym
- May 8 Middle and High School Night of Jazz, High School, 7 PM
- May 12 Superintendent's Awards, The Amber Room, 4:00 PM
Middle School 7th Grade Concert, High School, 7 PM
- May 14 Hawley Art Show, 6 to 8 PM
Head O'Meadow Art Show, 6 to 8 PM
Middle School 8th Grade Concert, High School, 7 PM
- May 16 Middle Gate Madness, PTA Fair, 5 to 8 PM
- May 19 High School Orchestra Concert, 7 PM
- May 21 High School National Honor Society World Language Induction, 6:30 PM
High School Chorus Concert, 7 PM
- May 22 Middle Gate Math Science Night, Grade 3, 6:30 to 8 PM
High School Band Concert, 7 PM
- May 27 Middle Gate Concert, High School, 7 PM
- May 28 Sandy Hook Art Show, 6 to 7:30 PM
- May 29 Reed School 6th Grade Band Concert, 7 to 8 PM
- June 4 Middle School, GATES Showcase, 6 PM
Reed School 6th Grade Orchestra Concert, 7 to 8 PM
High School Senior Awards Night, 7 PM
- June 5 High School Underclassmen Awards Night, 7 PM
- June 10 High School National Honor Society Induction, 7 PM, Southbury Crown Plaza
- June 12 Sandy Hook Field Day
- June 13 Middle School Awards Ceremony, 11:30 AM
- June 16 Middle School Moving Up Ceremony, O'Neill Center, 6 PM
- June 17 Hawley End of Year Assembly, 9:30 AM
Head O'Meadow Awards Assembly, 10:15 AM
High School graduation, O'Neill Center, 4 PM

End of Year Activities

Hawley School	May 7	4 th Grade Chorus Concert, 7 PM, Gym
	May 14	Art Show, 6 to 8 PM
	June 17	End of Year Assembly, 9:30 AM
Head O'Meadow School	May 5	4 th Grade Concert for Parents, 7 PM
	May 14	Art Show, 6 to 8 PM
	June 17	Awards Assembly, 10:15 AM
Middle Gate School	May 16	Middle Gate Madness-PTA Fair, 5 to 8 PM
	May 22	Math Science Night, Grade 6, 6:30 to 8 PM
	May 27	Concert, High School, 7 PM
Sandy Hook School	May 28	Art Show, 6 to 7:30 PM
	June 12	Field Day
Reed Intermediate School	May 29	6 th Grade Band Concert, 7 to 8 PM
	June 4	6 th Grade Orchestra, 7 to 8 PM
Middle School	May 8	Night of Jazz, High School, 7 PM
	May 12	7 th Grade Concert, High School, 7: PM
	May 14	8 th Grade Concert, High School, 7 PM
	June 4	GATES Showcase, 6 PM
	June 13	Awards Ceremony, 11:30 AM
	June 16	Moving Up Ceremony, O'Neill Center, 6 PM
	High School	May 8
May 12		Superintendent's Awards, Amber Room, 4 PM
May 19		Orchestra Concert, 7 PM
May 21		National Honor Society WL Induction, 6:30 PM
May 21		Chorus Concern, 7 PM
May 22		Band Concert, 7 PM
June 4		Senior Awards Night, 7 PM
June 5		Underclassmen Awards Night, 7 PM
June 10		National Honor Society Induction, 7 PM Southbury Crown Plaza (to be confirmed)
June 17		Graduation, O'Neill Center, 4 PM



For more detailed information visit
www.nshcf.org

Please consider registering ahead of time in order to help us estimate the number of attendees, and guarantee your seat at the breakout sessions.

Topics Covered Include:

- UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA
- RELATIONSHIPS & PARENTING THROUGH FEAR AND WORRY
- SCHOOL-PARENT-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
- COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
- A ROLE FOR FORGIVENESS?

A Free Community Service Provider Fair & Symposium

- Representatives from dozens of groups and organizations throughout the Greater Newtown area will be on site with information about services and programs available to the community.
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kevin Becker will discuss parenting through trauma (Dr. Becker is a clinical psychologist specializing in trauma and crisis intervention).
- Discussions and presentations with guests from communities including; Columbine, Virginia Tech, the Nickel Mines Amish Community, Chardon, OH, and more.
- WHEN: Saturday, May 31, 2014. Walnut Hill Community Church, Bethel.
 - 9:15 a.m. Free Continental Breakfast and start of Community Fair
 - 10:15 a.m. Keynote speaker: Dr. Kevin Becker
 - Morning and afternoon discussion forums
 - 2:30 p.m. program concludes
- Free, safe childcare available during Keynote Speaker and discussion forums. Pre-registration will be required for childcare (www.nshcf.org).
- Lunch available for purchase on site.

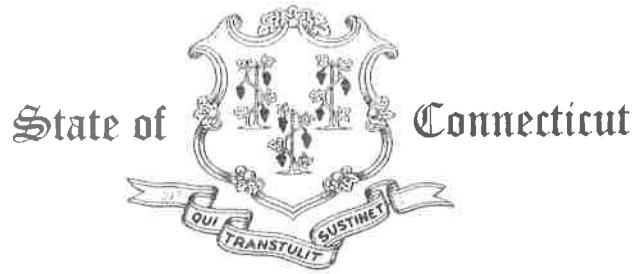
This event is a collaboration of many groups and organizations throughout Newtown working to provide programming to meet the recovery needs of the community.



NEWTOWN SANDY HOOK



WALNUT HILL
COMMUNITY CHURCH



By His Excellency Dannel P. Malloy, Governor: an
Official Statement

*O*n behalf of the State of Connecticut,
I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor,
take great pleasure in
recognizing

May 7, 2014

as

School Nurse Day

*T*his day recognizes the
important role school nurses play
in the State of Connecticut.

*P*roviding students with access to health
professionals is a critical component to ensuring our
students are ready and able to learn. The
commitment school nurses have to
our students is commendable.

I thank you for your outstanding dedication
to the success and wellness of Connecticut's
future generations.

*T*herefore, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut,
do hereby proclaim May 7, 2014 as

School Nurse Day
in the State of Connecticut.




GOVERNOR

Enrichment Opportunities for K-12 G and T

Elementary:

SHS:

- Math Olympiads (grade 4)
- Math enrichment groups k-4 including acceleration to higher grade
- High readers are grouped across classroom for RW and Book Clubs (grade k)
- Cluster placement for high achieving students - teachers in the past have been trained in curriculum compacting
- Nutmeg and other Book Clubs

****Throughout the district - Readers' and Writers' Workshop lend itself to differentiation and meeting the needs of high achieving students.**

One of our goals this year was to provide enrichment activities to further engage and excite students. After school:

- Science Club
- Lego Club
- Theater Club
- Garden Club
- Kindness Club

Enrichment Programs-Middle Gate	Gr. Level	Enrichment Area	Accessibility	Timing
Math superstars	K-4	Mathematics	Open	Extra Curr
Math Olympiads	Gr 4	Mathematics	Criteria	During Day
Walking Club	Gr 3-4	Fitness/Wellness	Open	Extra Curr
Marathon Club	K-4	Fitness/Wellness	Open	Recess
Chess Club	Gr 4(student generated)	Club	Open	Lunch
French Enrichment Program	K-4	Foreign Language	Open	Extra Curr
Spanish Enrichment Program	K-4	Foreign Language	Open	Extra Curr
Respect, Responsibility, Diversity Club-recycling program	Gr 4	Kindness/Consideration	Open	Extra Curr
Geo Kids	Gr 3-4	Geography	Open	During Day
Jr. Achievement	K-4	Community	Open	During Day
Book Clubs	Gr 3-4	Literacy	Open	During Day

Hawley:

- Math Olympiads (grade 4)
- Math enrichment groups k-4,
- Cluster placement for high achieving students - teachers in the past have been trained in curriculum compacting
- Nutmeg and other Book Clubs

****Throughout the district Readers' and Writers' Workshop lend itself to differentiation and meeting the needs of high achieving students.**

HOM:

Opportunities for Like-Minded Learners

- Cluster grouping during class placement process
- Math Superstars- Grades 1, 2, 3
- Math Olympiads- Grade 4
- Math challenges through Stepping Stones
- Junior Great Books
- RAZ Kids
- Bag Projects (independent research)
- Enrichment opportunities differentiated for small groups or individuals
- Natural opportunities for differentiation through Readers' and Writers' Workshop

Reed:

GATES:

Beginning in 5th grade, students who have been identified as gifted at the end of 3rd grade participate in a GATES (Gifted and Talented Education Services) class. Currently this class is offered in place of social studies in 5th grade and in place of reading in 6th grade. So students in GATES leave their regular classes at the time when those subjects are taught and travel to a GATES class which is taught by Nancy Bradley. The class meets daily for 48 minutes. It is unclear what curriculum is taught. Some parents decline participation in the class even though their child is identified.

Advanced Math:

5th grade is the start of an advanced math class for high-achieving students. Currently there are two such classes in each of 5th and 6th grade. The class is referred to as Compacted Math and has been described to me as being an accelerated math class in which students in grade 5 cover the entire 5th grade math curriculum and half of 6th. And 6th grade Compacted covers the other half of 6th and moves onto 7th grade. I do not know what happens in 7th grade but I do know that many of these students end up in 8th grade algebra. My understanding is that these students are identified through the previous year's end of the year testing, grades and teacher referrals (prior to last year CMT results were also considered). There are many more students in Compacted Math than in GATES, and not all GATES students are in compacted. This class meets daily for 48 minutes.

Although we were not asked to editorialize, I would like to add that I have serious concerns about simply accelerating our high-achieving math students through the curriculum and would like the compacted math curriculum to be reviewed to ensure that the goals of the common core are being achieved for these students. For many reasons, I have revised the delivery of advanced math for next year by eliminating the pull-out and moving it back into hand-selected teams. This eliminated a teaching position which I originally thought I could reallocate for another use (intervention), but then later found out that it was never in my budget in the first place. Apparently the Compacted Math teaching position originally came out of the Special Services budget under Gifted and then remained there. So when I cut that position, I lost it to Special Services.

I also have many concerns about the GATES program and have had multiple discussions with a variety of concerned parents as well. When I built Reed's schedule for next year, I was able to build a model that would allow for a pull-out program to occur without it interrupting academic subjects. I served on the committee that recently made the recommendation to you for review, and I believe the plan is detailed in that document.

Middle School Activities planned for next year:

- GATES
- Math: Algebra 1, 2 and Geometry (next year)
- Readers Workshop: Books at the Students Reading Level
- Accelerator Reader Program
- Art Enrichment
- Clubs & Activities: Math Team, Odyssey of the Mind, Science Independent Projects, etc.

High School:

There are no enrichment programs for high-achieving learners per se. We do have students - a total of 27 - who attend the Educational Center for the Arts (ECA) in New Haven and the Regional Center for the Arts (RCA) in Trumbull. And of course we have numerous Advanced Placement courses, with total enrollment of 895 this year.