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 Transporation: $2,442.00
Estimated Cost per Student: $130.00
Other Information: SEE ATTACHED ITINERARY

________________________
PRINCIPAL APPROVAL BY SIGNATURE: ______________________ DATE: __________
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,

[Signature]

Mr. Tom Kuroski
Anatomy and Physiology
kuroskiti@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

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<th>SHES</th>
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<td>D. Welk-Stein</td>
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<td>Travelers CyberGrants Inc. - Donor Match</td>
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<td>J. Sorjes</td>
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<td>H. McNamara</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Raeffe</td>
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<td>P. &amp; P. Barbara</td>
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<td>S. Kosman</td>
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<tr>
<td>T. Morse</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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| SHES Library                              |       |

| Newtown Public Schools                   | $      |

| Middle Gate School Dental Associates of CT |       |
| Adopt-a-School literacy incentive program | $ 250.00|
| **Total**                                 | $ 250.00|

| NPS Teachers                              |       |
|                                           | $      |
| **Total**                                 | $ 1,193.75|

$ 1,193.75
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,
The workbench of Roland Perez.

The best for everyone, because of it.

Thank you, March 13th, 2014.

Best, Roland Perez.

From the workbench of Roland Perez.
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,

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,

Sue Ward
RIS Art Teacher

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

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 6\textsuperscript{th}

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

2. Community Connections – Saturday, May 31\textsuperscript{st} (Attachment #2)

3. School Nurse Day – Wednesday, May 7\textsuperscript{th} (Attachment #3)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawley School</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>4th Grade Chorus Concert, 7 PM, Gym</td>
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<td></td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Art Show, 6 to 8 PM</td>
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<td>June 17</td>
<td>End of Year Assembly, 9:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head O'Meadow School</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>4th Grade Concert for Parents, 7 PM</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
<td>Art Show, 6 to 8 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>Awards Assembly, 10:15 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Gate School</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Middle Gate Madness-PTA Fair, 5 to 8 PM</td>
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<td>May 22</td>
<td>Math Science Night, Grade 6, 6:30 to 8 PM</td>
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<td>May 27</td>
<td>Concert, High School, 7 PM</td>
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<td>Sandy Hook School</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>Art Show, 6 to 7:30 PM</td>
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<td>June 12</td>
<td>Field Day</td>
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<td>Reed Intermediate School</td>
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<td>6th Grade Band Concert, 7 to 8 PM</td>
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<td>June 4</td>
<td>6th Grade Orchestra, 7 to 8 PM</td>
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<td>Middle School</td>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Night of Jazz, High School, 7 PM</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
<td>7th Grade Concert, High School, 7: PM</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>Awards Ceremony, 11:30 AM</td>
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<td>June 16</td>
<td>Moving Up Ceremony, O'Neill Center, 6 PM</td>
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<td>High School</td>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Night of Jazz, 7 PM</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
<td>Superintendent’s Awards, Amber Room, 4 PM</td>
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<td>May 19</td>
<td>Orchestra Concert, 7 PM</td>
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<td>May 21</td>
<td>National Honor Society WL Induction, 6:30 PM</td>
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<td>May 21</td>
<td>Chorus Concern, 7 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Band Concert, 7 PM</td>
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<td>June 4</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>Underclassmen Awards Night, 7 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>National Honor Society Induction, 7 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>Southbury Crown Plaza (to be confirmed)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Graduation, O'Neill Center, 4 PM</td>
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</table>
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.
On behalf of the State of Connecticut,
I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor,
take great pleasure in
recognizing
May 7, 2014
as
School Nurse Day

This day recognizes the
important role school nurses play
in the State of Connecticut.

Providing 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.

Therefore, 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.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrichment Programs-Middle Gate</th>
<th>Gr. Level</th>
<th>Enrichment Area</th>
<th>Accessibility</th>
<th>Timing</th>
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<td>Math superstars</td>
<td>K-4</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Extra Curr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math Olympiads</td>
<td>Gr 4</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<td>Gr 3-4</td>
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<td>Marathon Club</td>
<td>K-4</td>
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<td>Recess</td>
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<td>Chess Club</td>
<td>Gr 4 (student generated)</td>
<td>Club</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>French Enrichment Program</td>
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<td>Kindness/Consideration</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Extra Curr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo Kids</td>
<td>Gr 3-4</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>During Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jr. Achievement</td>
<td>K-4</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>During Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Clubs</td>
<td>Gr 3-4</td>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>During Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.