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

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on May 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Reed Intermediate School Library, 3 Trades Lane.

D. Zukowski, Chair C. Melillo J. Vouros, Vice Chair A. Uberti

D. Ramsey, Secretary (absent)

T. Vadas (absent)

D. Cruson 40 Staff
J. Kuzma (absent) 50 Public
J. Larkin (absent) 1 Press

A. Plante K. Kunzweiler D. Godino

Item 1 – Executive Session

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss a personnel request and invite Mr. Melillo. Mrs. Plante seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Executive session began at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Zukowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3 – Action on Executive Session Item

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education support, as recommended by the Superintendent, Amy Oberlander's request pertaining to Article 31.2 of the teacher contract. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Ms. Zukowski noted that two Board members were unable to attend the meeting.

Item 4 – Celebration of Excellence

Mr. Melillo spoke about the Profiles in Professionalism awards which are given to teachers and other staff members who have been recognized by their colleges in being excellent in what they do. The following received the award: Claire DeSisto, grade 3 teacher at Middle Gate School, Kristin English, English teacher at Newtown High School, Jessica Fonovic, math specialist at Reed Intermediate School, Leigh Anne Hildebrandt, art teacher at Newtown Middle School, Elizabeth Krupa, Technology Database Administrator, Dana Manning, Newtown High School assistant principal, Lisa Marlin, clerk in Sandy Hook School, Julie Mauri, library media clerk in Newtown Middle School, Lisa Pavia, paraeducator at Hawley School, Fernando Pereira, School Resource Officer, Newtown Middle School, Lina Silveira, Reading and Language Arts Consultant at Middle Gate School, and Jennifer Soloman, special education paraeducator at Head O'Meadow School. A reception followed.

Item 5 – Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which includes the Newtown High School Spain Student Exchange Program. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 6 – Public Participation

Item 7 – Reports

Chair Report: Ms. Zukowski reported that Michelle Hiscavich shared that the district won the Best Communities for Music Education Award from the NAMM Foundation. The Capstone projects were being presented this week at the high school.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. Melillo said there was an uptick in COVID cases in the elementary schools. May 15 he attended the CAPSS Superintendent/Student Award Ceremony at the Amber Room in Danbury. The students who received the awards are Clare Csaszar and Talmage Bacon from Newtown Middle School and Kate Shirk and Stephen Cook from Newtown High School. We completed negotiating the education personnel and custodian and maintenance contracts and will bring them to the Board for approval.

Committee Reports

Mr. Cruson said the Policy Committee met May 3 and continue to discuss the administering of medicine policy and employee safety and student health services. They are almost finished with the 4000 series employee policies.

Mrs. Plante said the CFF Committee met May 18 and had an update on the Hawley project. The new director of facilities will begin June 5. The also discussed proposed budget adjustments.

Mr. Cruson went to the Middle School production of *Newsies* which was well attended. He also attended the 4th grade chorus/recorder concert at Head O'Meadow School last night. Mr. Vouros went to the middle school band and chorus concert which was spectacular.

Students Report:

Ms. Kunzweiler reported that AP exams were finished. The Chess Team finished second in the Danbury Scholastic Chess League tournament. Various field trips have also been taken.

Mr. Godino stated that the junior and senior proms were held this month. Girls tennis finished first place in SWC's and the girls and boys track team took first place. Senior Spirit Week began this week. The Class of 2023 Demi-Decile students and CABE award winners were announced. Regarding the banning of books from the libraries, they asked those members who voted in favor of the ban to reconsider their decision.

Financial Report:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the financial report and transfers for the month ending April 30, 2023. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 8 – Old Business

Item 9 – New Business

Chartwells Contract Renewal:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve a one-year renewal "Amendment No.1" to Compass Groups USA, Inc., by and through its Chartwells Division initial agreement for food services dated August 23, 2022 with an effective date of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The terms and conditions in the original agreement as amended will apply. Mrs. Plante seconded.

Mrs. Vadas said this was a five-year contract with four renewal periods. The only amendment we have is that they can adjust their administration fee and they will be going up. Motion passes unanimously.

Continuation of School Activities Fund Accounts:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the continuation of the school activities fund accounts. Mrs. Plante seconded.

Mrs. Vadas suggested bringing these accounts to the Board in August when they are closed. Mr. Zukowski would bring it to the CFF Committee prior to August. Motion passes unanimously.

First Read of Policy 4-301 Appointment of Duties of School Medical Advisor to be rescinded: Mr. Cruson stated that Suzanne D'Eramo, Anne Dalton and Karen Powell didn't feel the need for this policy and would adopt the new one.

First Read of Policy 4215.1 Evaluation of School Nurses:

Mr. Cruson stated the old policy is 4-302. Cabe said the existing policy was fine but a change was made to bring it in alignment with the current practice.

Minutes of May 2, 2023:

MOTION: Mr. Vouros moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of May 2, 2023. Mrs. Plante seconded.

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved to amend the motion to append the Special Review Committee Report to the minutes. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Main motion passes unanimously.

Item 10 – Public Participation

Evelyn Weinberger, 17 Sweet Briar Lane, spoke about book challenges.

Therese O'Sullivan spoke about the last meeting and book challenges.

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

Item 11 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

	Respectfully submitted:
-	Deborra Zukowski
	Chair

Spain Student Exchange Program October 2023

Newtown High School students are invited to join in an exchange program with our sister school in Spain "IES las Encinas." The school is located in Villanueva de la Cañada, right outside of Madrid. We have had this partnership and exchange since 2014. Any student regardless of language taken in school, year of study, or abilities with the language was invited to apply. We would like to exchange 20 students. Twenty students from Spain would come to Newtown towards the end of October of 2023 to experience American culture for a little over a week, and likewise twenty students from Newtown would go to homestays in Madrid in April of 2024 for a little over a week. Elizabeth Ward-Toller and Paula Olmos-Valeri are overseeing the program. Kim Longobucco

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT APRIL 30, 2023

SUMMARY

The tenth financial report for the year continues to provide year to date expenditures, encumbrances and information for anticipated obligations. Many of the accounts within our major objects have been forecasted as "full budget spend" in order to more accurately project an estimated year-end balance. These balances are monitored closely and adjusted each month in order to capture any changes and fluctuations that occur throughout the year.

During the month of April, the district spent approximately \$8.0M for all operations. About \$4.3M was spent on salaries with the remaining balance of \$3.7M on all other objects. Monthly expenditures appear to be within normal limits at this time.

The change over the last month's year-end projection has resulted in decrease of -\$446,479 with a new estimated year-end balance of \$132,354.

The majority of this decrease is due to the inclusion of pre-purchased items from the 2023-24 budget. If you recall, our 23-24 budget was adjusted by the Legislative Council on April 5th in the amount of -\$550,000. As of April 30, we have identified items that are allowable for pre-purchases; such as textbooks, certain instructional supplies and equipment. These items have been included in this report in order to represent a more accurate year-end balance. However, \$491,316 will be subject to board approval before these changes are officially made. The items that are slated for pre-purchase are outlined in the box below (under transfers) and also included as a separate attachment to the financial summary.

TRANSFERS

We have broken the transfer request into two parts. Below lists the transfer requests for regular budget realignments and/or shortfalls. The transfers that are outlined in the following section identify items for prepurchase as a result of the 2023-24 budget reduction

- \$7,715 from the Administrative and Teacher/Specialist salaries to the Administrative Salaries account to cover a vacation payout for the Middle School Principal and an overlap of salary for the HOM lead teacher;
- \$174,554 within various Teacher and Specialists salary accounts to adjust budgets due to staff turnover and leaves;
- \$105,000 from the Special Education services salaries to Contracted Services to move behavioral therapists' salaries and substitute funds to cover contracted services for behavioral therapists;
- \$15,000 from Staff and Program Development to Textbooks in order to cover a portion of the cost for decodables to be used in conjunction with the new reading program;
- \$7,795 within high school music student travel to cover high school sports travel;
- \$100,000 from the SpEd contingency to Out-of-District Tuition to cover a portion of the deficit found in special education out-of-district tuition; and
- \$8,700 from B&G Rentals to cover additional costs for custodial equipment.

Transfer request is \$418,764

The following transfer requests are for pre-purchases. These are items that we are requesting to be removed from the 2023-2024 budget and include in the current year. For display purposes, and to provide an estimated year-end balance, these items have been included in the April financial statement.

- \$135,316 from Transportation Services to Contracted Services for the pre-purchase of online digital resources (I-ready, IXL, Lexia, Fun Hub and Learning A-Z);
- \$351,225 from Electric to Textbooks for the pre-purchase of curriculum textbooks associated with the new K-5 reading program; and
- \$4,775 from Electric to Textbooks for the pre-purchase of updated Latin textbooks for use at the high school.

Total transfer request for pre-purchased items: \$491,316

MAJOR MOVERS

SALARY OBJECT

The overall salary object currently displays a positive position of \$527,509, increasing by \$19,379 over the prior month. Various adjustments have been made throughout these accounts for the anticipation of filling open positions as well as the use of certified subs. All salary objects are now in good standing.

PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES – the overall position in this object shows a positive balance of \$11,216, having decreased over the prior month by -\$43,938.

- Building & Grounds Contracted Services the balance in this sub-object has been reduced and now shows a negative position of -\$14,044. The primary factor in this change is due to the inclusion of unanticipated costs associated with the replacement of smoke detectors and panels at the Hawley School. The cost for this project was \$109,244 of which a majority was included as part of the CIP plan. Because some of the issues were outside of the scope of the original project and would have been replaced; such as replacement of fire panels, the BoE's portion of the cost is \$28,759. The majority of the cost has been captured in this account with the balance of \$12,129 captured in Building & Site, Hawley repair account.
- **Building, Site & Emergency Repairs** the balance here has dipped into the negative due to a number of factors. A portion of the costs associated with the replacement of smoke detector panels has been included as well as costs associated with emergency repairs that are listed at the end of this report.

OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES – the overall position of this object is displaying a negative balance of -\$587,410, having increased over the prior month by -\$105,579. The additional expenses are a result of prepurchases (see transfer request) for district-wide online digital resources.

- Transportation Services this account includes a transfer request in the amount of \$135,316 (see transfers). In order to account for a portion of the Legislative Council's approved 2023-24 budget reduction, this adjustment is necessary for the pre-purchase of online digital resources found in curriculum contracted services We will be pre-purchasing these items and removing them from next year's budget and using the surplus that has been accrued in our local transportation account to pay for these items. The surplus found in this account was for the reduction of six buses in the beginning of the fiscal year.
- Out-of-District Tuition this account now includes the State's projected Excess Cost Grant adjustment. There was a lot of discussion earlier in the year around this grant and many districts were informed that they would be receiving a larger percentage. However, the State has now finalized their Excess Cost Grant budget allocations and Newtown will be reimbursed at a rate of 73.71%. This will provide approximately \$80K in additional revenue offset.

SUPPLIES – the overall balance has decreased over the prior month by -\$319,086 due to the pre-purchase of the new reading program as well as pre-purchase of classroom textbooks and supplies. This object still displays a positive position of \$81,914

- **Electric** the net decrease found in this account is -\$257,000 and stems from the inclusion of a transfer request for the new K-5 reading program in the amount of \$351,775. In order to account for a portion of the Legislative Council's approved 2023-24 budget reduction, this adjustment is necessary for the pre-purchase of textbooks. Also included in the is the pre-purchase of Latin textbooks for \$4,775. These additional costs combined with an uptick (approximately \$100k) found in our virtual net metering credits have decreased this account balance; however, we continue to show a surplus in electricity of \$130,000.
- Other supplies & textbooks these sub-objects are now in the red as some of the materials for the 2023-24 budget have been pre-purchased. Approximately \$50,000 of costs for classroom instructional supplies and textbooks will be adjusted in the 2023-24 budget and pre-purchased as part of the Legislative Council's approved budget reduction. Additional expenses found in these accounts are for supplies and textbooks associated with the Superintendent's budget reduction that was established earlier in the year. These adjustments were made during budget deliberations with principals and directors. It was noted that providing there was funding at year-end, these items could be purchased in the 2022-23 fiscal year.

EMERGENCY REPAIRS

- The costs for the high school flood have come through, which include the water remediation, replacement of ceiling tiles, damaged computer and culinary equipment. The total costs of this claim came in at \$104,634.13. The Board of Education is only responsible for the deductible of \$25,000 which has been captured in this month's financial report.
- Also included in this report is an encumbrance for the replacement of three security cameras at the Sandy Hook school These cameras were beginning to malfunction after enduring many rain storms and have been moved and replaced to an area that is not exposed to the elements. The cost for these cameras was \$7,491.
- We have also set aside \$5,000 in anticipation of a paved walkway that will access the Middle Gate upper field. This cost is included in our emergency repairs as this field is not ADA compliant. The cost is for the materials only and the Newtown Highway department will be performing the work.

REVENUEThe board of education received \$2,011.59 in tuition.

Tanja Vadas Director of Business May18, 2023

OBJECT	OBJECT CODE EXPENSE CATEGORY	4 A	2022 - 2023 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD TRANSFERS 2022 - 2023	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER		BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE	% EXP
	GENERAL FUND BUDGET											
100	SALARIES	6/9	53,701,233	\$ (12,875) \$	53,688,358	38,678,391	\$ 14,234,550	,550 \$	775,417	\$ 247,909	\$ 527,509	99 02%
200	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	S	11,955,016	\$ 249 \$	11,955,265	11,409,922	\$ 11	11,101 \$	534,242	\$ 548,747	\$ (14,505)	100 12%
300	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	S	687,141	\$ (14,000) \$	673,141	\$ 410,506	\$ 51	51,411 \$	211,224	\$ 192,357	\$ 18,867	97.20%
400	PURCHASED PROPERTY SERV.	S	1,814,663	69	1,814,663	1,313,295	\$ 292	292,205 \$	209,163	\$ 197,947	\$ 11,216	%86 66
200	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	€9	10,095,326	\$ 26,626 \$	10,121,952	8,359,889	\$ 2,134,717	,717 \$	(372,654) \$	\$ 214,757	\$ (587,410)	105 80%
009	SUPPLIES	69	3,365,464	S	3,365,464	2,507,181	\$ 219	219,156 \$	639,127	\$ 557,213	\$ 81,914	97.57%
700	PROPERTY	S	339,710	\$	339,710	S 145,872	\$ 61	61,456 \$	132,383	\$ 137,619	\$ (5,237)	101 54%
800	MISCELLANEOUS	S	76,086	\$	76,086	71,498	\$ 2	2,440 \$	2,148	\$ 2,148	S	100.00%
910	SPECIAL ED CONTINGENCY	65	100,000	S	100,000	- 8	S	\$	100,000 \$		\$ 100,000	%00.0
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET	€9	82,134,639	S	82,134,639	\$ 62,896,555	\$ 17,007,035	,035 \$	2,231,049 \$	2,098,695	\$ 132,354	99 84%
006	TRANSFER NON-LAPSING (unaudited)											
	GRAND TOTAL	S	82,134,639	S	82,134,639	\$ 62,896,555	\$ 17,007,035	\$ 5605	2,231,049	\$ 2,098,695	\$ 132,354	99 84%

OBJECT CODE EXPENSE CATEGORY		2022 - 2023 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD TRANSFERS 2022 - 2023		CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE	% EXP
100 SALARIES											
Administrative Salaries	6 4	4,312,038	\$ (12	(121,271) \$	4,190,767	3,365,612	S 825,769	\$ (614)	\$ 4,310	(4,924)	100,12%
Teachers & Specialists Salaries	6A	33,817,522	\$ 14	149,271 \$	33,966,793	\$ 23,563,072	\$ 10,399,726	3,995	\$ 42,782	\$ (38,787)	100,11%
Early Retirement	6A	81,000	S	69	81,000	89,000	•	(8,000)	•	(8,000)	%88 601
Continuing Ed /Summer School	S	97,846	693	1,161 \$	200,66	\$ 88,741	S 9,771	S 494	\$ 494		100 00%
Homebound & Tutors Salaries	S	189,413	\$ 4.	45,185 \$	234,598	130,460	\$ 32,368	\$ 71,770	\$ 16,000	\$ 55,770	76,23%
Certified Substitutes	S	742,610	649	\$	742,610	\$ 621,939	\$ 93,058	\$ 27,614	\$ 65,140	(37,526)	105.05%
Coaching/Activities	S	737,184	69	65 (()	737,184	705,859	\$ 4,000	\$ 27,325	\$ 8,724	\$ 18,602	97,48%
Staff & Program Development	6/9	155,128	5/h	69 I	155,128	\$ 54,075	\$ 81,080	\$ 19,973	\$ 1,933	\$ 18,040	88.37%
CERTIFIED SALARIES	649	40,132,741	S 7.	74,346 \$	40,207,087	\$ 28,618,757	\$ 11,445,772	\$ 142,558	\$ 139,383	\$ 3,174	%66 66
Supervisors & Technology Salaries	69	1,103,470	sn.	4,960 \$	1,108,430	\$ 820,954	\$ 172,757	\$ 114,719	\$ 11,583	\$ 103,136	90,70%
Clerical & Secretarial Salaries	S	2,361,178	S	200 \$	2,361,378	\$ 1,817,907	\$ 496,315	\$ 47,155	\$ 725	\$ 46,430	98.03%
Educational Assistants	S	2,965,151	\$ 4	47,602 \$	3,012,753	\$ 2,233,489	\$ 665,145	\$ 114,119	\$ 10,300	S 103,819	%55.96
Nurses & Medical Advisors	S	902,273	\$ 3	31,615 \$	933,888	\$ 620,385	\$ 267,329	\$ 46,175	\$ 5,600	\$ 40,575	%99'56
Custodial & Maint Salaries	S	3,395,484	5 (4	(45,604) \$	3,349,880	\$ 2,564,272	\$ 691,538	\$ 94,070	\$ 13,294	S 80,777	%65"26
Non-Certied Adj & Bus Drivers Salaries	S	155,981	\$ (15	(155,981) \$	41	•	69	S	69	. ·	#DIA/0i
Career/Job Salaries	S	171,116	s	4,257 \$	175,373	\$ 106,834	\$ 58,359	\$ 10,180	\$ 8,613	1,567	%11 66
Special Education Svcs Salaries	S	1,456,181	\$ 2	20,937 \$	1,477,118	\$ 1,045,205	\$ 308,806	\$ 123,107	\$ 2,223	\$ 120,884	91.82%
Security Salaries & Attendance	S	679,888	S	293 \$	680,181	\$ 508,298	\$ 127,389	\$ 44,494	\$ 500	\$ 43,994	93,53%
Extra Work - Non-Cert,	S	109,770	S	4,500 \$	114,270	\$ 82,753	\$ 1,141	\$ 30,376	\$ 15,400	14,976	%68'98
Custodial & Maint, Overtime	S	236,000	69	6/3 (1)	236,000	\$ 232,749	69	\$ 3,251	\$ 38,287	(35,036)	114,85%
Civic Activities/Park & Rec.	S	32,000	€9	S	32,000	\$ 26,788	J.:	\$ 5,212	\$ 2,000	S 3,212	%96"68
NON-CERTIFIED SALARIES	69	13,568,492	8) \$	(87,221) \$	13,481,271	\$ 10,059,633	\$ 2,788,778	\$ 632,860	\$ 108,525	\$ 524,334	96.11%
SUBTOTAL SALARIES	€9.	53,701,233	S (1)	(12,875) \$	53,688,358	38,678,391	\$ 14,234,550	\$ 775,417	\$ 247,909	\$ 527,509	%20 66
200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS											
Medical & Dental Expenses	59	8,790,863	S (1:	(12,125) \$	8,778,738	8,769,764	\$ 30	\$ 8,944	\$ 6,145	2,799	%16.66
Life Insurance	64	87,000	S	69	87,000	8 81,874	·	\$ 5,126	\$ 14,000	\$ (8,874)	110,20%
FICA & Medicare	€A	1,706,549	S	6 9	1,706,549	\$ 1,252,452	S	\$ 454,097	\$ 454,097		100,00%
Pensions	6 /3	852,347	\$ 2.	25,000 \$	877,347	847,421	S	\$ 29,926	\$ 46,755	\$ (16,829)	101,92%
Unemployment & Employee Assist.	89	81,600	S	69		\$ 34,529	11,071	\$ 36,000	\$ 27,750	8,250	%68.68
Workers Compensation	€9	436,657	S (1	(12,626) \$	424,031	\$ 423,881	s	\$ 150	S	S 150	%96 66
SUBTOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	69	11,955,016	s,	249 S	11,955,265	S 11,409,922	\$ 11,101	\$ 534,242	\$ 548,747	s (14,505)	100,12%

OBJECT	CT : EXPENSE CATEGORY	20 AP B	2022 - 2023 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD TRANSFERS 2022 - 2023		CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS		PROJECTED BALANCE	% EXP
300	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES													
	Professional Services	s	493,643	S	99	493,643	\$ 334,888	89	28,575 \$	130,180	643	111,313 \$	18,867	96.18%
	Professional Educational Serv.	s	193,498	\$ (14	(14,000) \$	179,498	\$ 75,618	S	22,836 \$	81,043	56	81,044 \$	(0)	100 00%
	SUBTOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERV.	S	687,141	\$ (14	(14,000) S	673,141	\$ 410,506	se e	51,411 \$	211,224	\$ 197	192,357 \$	18,867	97,20%
400	PURCHASED PROPERTY SERV.													
	Buildings & Grounds Contracted Svc.	69	683,600	S	69 (683,600	\$ 530,000	S	101,944 \$	51,656	S	65,700 \$	(14,044)	102.05%
	Utility Services - Water & Sewer	64)	144,770	S	69 ()	144,770	\$ 94,913	S		49,857	89	27,357 \$	22,500	84 46%
	Building, Site & Emergency Repairs	8	450,000	S	49	450,000	\$ 332,093	\$ 12	122,957 \$	(5,050)	64	39,895 \$	(44,944)	109 99%
	Equipment Repairs	1649	269,051	6/2	۶۶ •	269,051	\$ 184,778	S	18,175 \$	66,097	25	54,995 \$	11,103	95.87%
	Rentals - Building & Equipment	69	267,242	6 /3	69	267,242	\$ 171,511	S 4	49,130 \$	46,602	\$ 10	10,000 \$	36,602	86,30%
	Building & Site Improvements	6 9	20	64	69	83	s.	s	69	*	649	69	0	
	SUBTOTAL PUR. PROPERTY SERV.	S	1,814,663	69	S	1,814,663	\$ 1,313,295	\$ 29	292,205 \$	209,163	S 19'	197,947 S	11,216	99.38%
200	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES													
	Contracted Services	s	886,545	S 186	186,754 \$	1,073,299	\$ 897,646	\$ 16	165,029 \$	10,624	69	116,117 \$	(105,493)	%E8 601
	Transportation Services	s	4,919,428	\$ (172	(172,754) \$	4,746,674	\$ 3,645,815	89 \$	\$ 689,883	411,006	\$ 36	363,322 \$	47,684	%00 66
	Insurance - Property & Liability	s	422,766	S 12	12,626 \$	435,392	\$ 443,289	S	69	(7,897)	59	S	(7,897)	101 81%
	Communications	S	152,524	S	S	152,524	\$ 134,980	S 2	22,721 \$	(5,177)	69	10,592 \$	(15,768)	110,34%
	Printing Services	s	24,789	S		24,789	\$ 14,127	s	6,873 \$	3,789	64	2,531 \$	1,258	94 93%
	Tuition - Out of District	s	3,450,187	S	· ·	3,450,187	\$ 3,047,015	\$ 1,24	1,240,681 \$	(837,509)	69	(318,014) \$	(519,495)	115.06%
	Student Travel & Staff Mileage	S	239,087	S	s .	239,087	\$ 177,017	s	9,559 \$	52,511	\$ 40	40,210 \$	12,301	94.85%
	SUBTOTAL OTHER PURCHASED SERV.	6 9.	10,095,326	\$ 26	26,626 \$	10,121,952	\$ 8,359,889	\$ 2,13	2,134,717 \$	(372,654)	€9	214,757 S	(587,410)	105.80%
009	SUPPLIES													
	Instructional & Library Supplies	€9	854,242	6/1	S	854,242	\$ 720,227	\$ 13	131,902 \$	2,113	649	77,891 \$	(75,778)	108 87%
	Software, Medical & Office Supplies	649	194,940	64	s ·	194,940	\$ 165,331	\$	15,732 \$	13,877	£6 89	35,339 \$	(21,462)	111.01%
	Plant Supplies	6/3	366,100	€9	S	366,100	334,064	\$	44,022 \$	(11,987)	€ 91	19,126 \$	(31,112)	108 50%
	Electric	S	1,022,812	£6) \$	\$ (005, 66)	929,312	\$ 595,461	6A		333,851	S	203,851 \$	130,000	86.01%
	Propane & Natural Gas	S	424,980	\$ 40	40,000 S	464,980	390,442	ses.		74,538	643 643	80,538 \$	(6,000)	101 29%
	Fuel Oil	69	63,000	\$ 53	\$ 005,65	116,500	\$ 80,278	€^3		36,222	\$ 20	20,222 \$	16,000	86.27%
	Fuel for Vehicles & Equip.	69	216,258	6/9	S	216,258	\$ 88,253	6∕9	69	128,005	S	39,315 \$	88,690	%66'85
	Textbooks	S	223,132	6/9	s ·	223,132	\$ 133,126	\$	27,500 \$	62,506	S	80,930 \$	(18,424)	108 26%
	SUBTOTAL SUPPLIES	69	3,365,464	69	S	3,365,464	\$ 2,507,181	\$ 21	219,156 \$	639,127	S	557,213 \$	81,914	%15.76

OBJECT CODE EXPENSE CATEGORY	2022 APPJ BU	2022 - 2023 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD TRANSFERS 2022 - 2023	S	CURRENT	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER		BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE	% EXP
700 PROPERTY												
Technology Equipment	89	156,024	69	69	156,024	\$ 96,139	€^3	42,102 \$	17,783	\$ 17,783	· ·	100 00%
Other Equipment	89	183,686 \$	•	64	183,686 \$	\$ 49,733	S	19,354 \$	114,599 \$	\$ 119,836 \$	\$ (5,237)	102 85%
SUBTOTAL PROPERTY	69	339,710	59	69	339,710 \$	\$ 145,872	69	61,456 \$	132,383	\$ 137,619	\$ (5,237)	101 54%
800 MISCELLANEOUS												
Memberships	643	\$ 980'92	64	69	76,086 \$	\$ 71,498	s ₂	2,440 \$	2,148 \$	\$ 2,148 \$	59	100 00%
SUBTOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	S	76,086		S	76,086	\$ 71,498	59	2,440 S	2,148	\$ 2,148	s	100 00%
910 SPECIAL ED CONTINGENCY	S	100,000	·	S	100,000	i s	sa.	S	100,000	es	\$ 100,000	%0000
TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET	<i>∞</i>	82,134,639 \$	6	<i>⊌</i>	82,134,639	\$ 62,896,555	69	17,007,035 \$	2,231,049	\$ 2,098,695	S 132,354	99.84%

⁹⁰⁰ Transfer to Non-Lapsing

GRAND IOIAL 5 82,134,639 3 - 3 82	34,639 S 62,896,555	S 17,007,035 S	2,231,049 \$	2,098,695 S	132,354 99.8

OBJECT	OBJECT CODE EXPENSE CATEGORY	2022 - 2023 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD TRANSFERS 2022 - 2023	ERS 023	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	ANTICIPATED OBLIGATIONS	PROJECTED BALANCE	% EXP
	EXCESS COST GRANT REVENUE		APPROVED		TE PROJECTEIST	STATE PROJECTEISTATE PROJECTED	ESTIMATED	VARIANCE			", TO
			BUDGET		1-Jan	1-Mar	Total	to Budget	FEB DEPOSIT	MAY DEPOSIT	BUDGET
51266	Special Education Svcs Salaries ECG			649	(7,843) \$	\$ (057,7)	\$ (7,750) \$	7,750	\$ (5,673)	\$ (2,077)	#DIV/0!
54116	Transportation Services - ECG		\$ (32	(320,028) \$	(469,245) S	\$ (149,641)	(489,641) \$	169,613	\$ (358,435) \$	\$ (131,206)	153 00%
54160	Tuttion - Out of District ECG		\$ (1.30	(1,300,484) \$	(1,348,899) \$	(1,373,397). \$	(1,373,397) S	72,913	\$ (1,005,383) \$	\$ (368,014)	105.61%
	Total		\$ (1,62	(1,620,512) \$	(1,825,987) \$	(1.870,788) \$	\$ (1,870,788) \$	250,276	\$ (1,369,491) \$		115 44%
									Total*	\$ (1,870,788)	
	_								*75% of Jan Proj		
	SDE MAGNET TRASNPORTATION GRANT		D 8	\$ (000'EI)	(13,000)	85	(13,000) \$	ř			100 00%
	OTHER REVENUES								į		
	BOARD OF EDUCATION FEES & CHARGES - SERVICES	ES			APROVED BUDGET	ANTICIPATED	RECEIVED	BALANCE	RECEIVED		
	LOCAL TUITION				\$32,430	\$32,430	\$34,616	(\$2,186)	106.74%		
	HIGH SCHOOL FEES FOR PARKING PERMITS				\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	80	100,00%		
	MISCELLANEOUS FEES				86,000	86,000	\$15,768	(\$9,768)	262.81%		
	TOTAL SCHOOL GENERATED FEES				\$68,430		\$80,384	(\$11,954)	117.47%		
	OTHER GRANTS		TOTAL BUDGET		21-22 EXPENSED	YTD EXPENSE	ENCUMBER	BALANCE	% EXPENSED		
214 218	ESSER II ESSER III (estimated \$809k for 21-22 use)		\$62	\$625,532 \$1,253,726	\$573,735 \$709,840	\$16,243	\$25,000 \$233,314	\$10,554	98.31% 97.48%		

2022 - 2023 NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION TRANSFERS RECOMMENDED **APRIL 30, 2023**

	REASON	
ТО	CODE DESCRIPTION	
FROM	CODE DESCRIPTION	
	AMOUNT	

ADMINISTRATIVE	RATIV	E			
\$2,794	100	\$2,794 100 ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES	100	ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES	TO COVER VACATION PAYOUT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL
\$4,921	100	\$4,921 100 TEACHERS & SPECIALISTS SALARIES			PRINCIPAL AND OVERLAP OF HEAD O'MEADOW
\$7,715					LEAD TEACHERS
\$174,554	100	100 TEACHERS & SPECIALISTS SALARIES	100	TEACHERS & SPECIALISTS SALARIES	TO ADJUST BUDGETS BETWEEN TEACHER ACCOUNTS
					DUE TO STAFF TURNOVER AND LEAVES
\$105,000	100	\$105,000 100 SPECIAL EDUCATION SVCS SALARIES	200	CONTRACTED SERVICES	TO MOVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPISTS SALARIES AND
					SUBSTITUTES FUNDS TO CONTRACTED SERVICES
					TO COVER UNFILLED BEHAVIORAL THERAPISTS
\$15,000	100	100 STAFF & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	009	TEXTBOOKS	TO COVER THE COST OF DECODABLES
\$7,795	200	500 STUDENT TRAVEL & STAFF MILEAGE	200	STUDENT TRAVEL & STAFF MILEAGE	TO MOVE FUNDS BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC
					TRAVEL AND SPORTS TRAVEL
\$100,000	910	\$100,000 910 SPECIAL ED CONTINGENCY	200	TUITION - OUT OF DISTRICT	TO APPLY CONTINGENCY AGAINST SPECIAL
					EDUCATION TUITION DEFICIT
\$8,700		400 RENTALS - BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	200	OTHER EQUIPMENT	TO MOVE FUNDS FROM CUSTODIAL EQUIPMENT
					RENTAL TO CUSTODIAL EQUIPMENT
1/10110					

\$418,764

TRANSFERS FOR PREPURCHASES OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM 2023-24 BUDGET (ALREADY INCLUDED IN FINANCIAL REPORT)

\$135,316	500	8135,316 500 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	200	CONTRACTED SERVICES	TO PREPURCHASE CURRICULUM SERVICES FOR IREADY, IXI., LEXIA, FUN HUB, AND LEARNING A-Z
\$356,000	009	356,000 600 ELECTRIC	009	TEXTBOOKS	TO PREPURCHASE CURRICULUM TEXTBOOKS FOR NEW READING PROGRAM K-5 AND LATIN
\$491 316					

SNFERS REQUESTED	
ASNFERS R	
DTAL TR	
TC	
0,080	

2022 - 2023 NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION DETAIL OF TRANSFERS RECOMMENDED

APRIL 30, 2023

		FROM				TO	
OBJECT	AMOUNT			OBJECT A	AMOUNT		
100	\$2,794	\$2,794 ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES SP 794 ROLTSGSGGGGG - 51112 SP FD - ADMIN	ADMINISTRATORS - SCHOOLS	100	\$7,715	ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES	ADMINISTR A TORS - SCHOOLS
100	\$4,921	\$4,921 TEACHERS & SPECIALISTS SALARIES				7	LEAD TEACHERS
	\$7,715	\$4,921 001400380000 - 51121 HOM - CLASSROOM	TEACHERS			\$7,715	
100	\$174,554	\$174,554 TEACHERS & SPECIALISTS SALARIES		100	\$174,554	TEACHERS & SPECIALISTS SALARIES	
		\$3,687 001300260000-51121 M.G READING	TEACHERS			\$1,792 001100200000-51121 HAW - MATH/SCI	TEACHERS
		\$2,955 001300380000-51121 M.G CLASSROOM	TEACHERS			\$1,702 001200340000-51131 S.HLIBRARY	SPECIALISTS
		\$32,258 001400380000-51121 HOMCLASSROOM	TEACHERS			\$32,547 001450380000-51121 RIS CLASSROOM	TEACHERS
		\$69,603 001500100000-51121 M.S ENGLISH	TEACHERS			\$4,082 001600200000-51121 H.SMATH	TEACHERS
		\$6,119 001500120000-51121 MS - WORLD LANG	TEACHERS			\$3,582 001600280000-51121 H.S SCIENCE	TEACHERS
		\$23,336 001750580000-51131 SP ED - SPEECH & HEAR	SPECIALISTS			\$7,051 001600300000-51121 H.S SOC STUDIES	TEACHERS
		\$4,309 001750600000-51121 SP ED - GATES	TEACHERS			\$7,803 001750610000-51120 SP ED - PREK-8 SP ED	TEACHERS - PRESCH
		\$18,554 001750610000-51126 SP ED - PREK-8 SP ED	TEACHERS - M S			\$37,769 001750630000-51121 SP ED - H.S. SP ED	TEACHERS
		\$10,619 001750790000-51121 SP ED - SUMMER PROGRAM	TEACHERS			\$8,457 001760530000-51133 PUPIL SERV - SOC WORKERS SPECIALISTS - ELEM	SPECIALISTS - ELEM
		\$3,114 001760560000-51133 PUPIL SERV - PSYCH	SPECIALISTS - ELEM			001840880000-51152 DISTRICT - OTHER SERV	SAVINGS FROM TURNOVER
		\$174,554				\$174,554	
100	\$105,000	\$105,000 SPECIAL EDUCATION SVCS SALARIES		200	\$105,000	\$105,000 CONTRACTED SERVICES	
		\$99,000 001750610000 - 51266 SP ED - PREK-8 SP ED	BEHAVIORAL THERAPISTS			\$105,000 001750610000 - 54000 SP ED - PREK-8 SP ED	CONTRACTED SERV
		\$6,000 001750610000 - 51366 SP ED - PREK-8 SP ED \$105,000	BEHAVIORAL THERAPIST SUBS				
100	\$15,000	\$15,000 STAFF & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT		009	\$15,000	\$15,000 TEXTBOOKS	
		\$15,000 001800800000 - 51421 DISTRICT - CURRICULUM	EXTRA WORK - CERT			\$15,000 001800800000 - 56900 DISTRICT - CURRICULUM	TEXTBOOKS
200	\$7,795	\$7,795 STUDENT TRAVEL & STAFF MILEAGE		200	\$7,795	\$7,795 STUDENT TRAVEL & STAFF MILEAGE	
		\$7,795 001600220000 - 54300 H S - MUSIC	STUDENT TRAVEL			\$7,795 001600320000 - 54300 H.S SPORTS	STUDENT TRAVEL
910	\$100,000	\$100,000 SPECIAL ED CONTINGENCY		200	\$100,000	\$100,000 TUITION - OUT OF DISTRICT	
		\$100,000 001750500000 - 59100 SP ED - ADMIN	UNFORESEEN EXPENSES			\$100,000 001750520000 - 54160 SP ED - OUT OF DISTRICT	TUTTION
400	\$8,700			200	\$8,700		
		\$8,700 001900960000 - 53400 B&G - CUSTODIAL	EQUIP RENTAL			\$8,700 001900960000 - 57200 B&G - CUSTODIAL	EQUIPMENT/PROPERTY
	\$418,764				\$418,764		

TRANSFERS FOR PREPURCHASES OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM 2023-24 BUDGET (ALREADY INCLUDED IN FINANCIAL REPORT)

200	\$13531	\$135 316 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES		200	\$135 316 CONTRACTED SERVICES
		\$135,316 001920870000 - 54110 DISTRICT - TRANSPORT	TRANS - LOCAL REG ED		\$135,316 001800800000 - 54000 DISTRICT - CURRICULUM CONTRACTED SERV
009	\$356,00	\$356,000 ELECTRIC		009	S356,000 TEXTBOOKS
		\$26,200 001900960000 - 56201 B&G - CUSTODIAL	ELECTRICITY - HAW		\$356,000 001800800000 - 56900 DISTRICT - CURRICULUM TEXTBOOKS
		\$18,000 001900960000 - 56202 B&G - CUSTODIAL	ELECTRICITY - SH		
		\$15,500 001900960000 - 56204 B&G - CUSTODIAL	ELECTRICITY - HOM		
		\$67,200 001900960000 - 56205 B&G - CUSTODIAL	ELECTRICITY - RIS		
		\$13,000 001900960000 - 56206 B&G - CUSTODIAL	ELECTRICITY - MS	_	
		\$216,100 001900960000 - 56207 B&G - CUSTODIAL	ELECTRICITY - HS		
		\$356,000			
	\$491,316	9		3	\$491,316

S910,080 TOTAL TRANSFER REQUEST

S910,080 TOTAL TRANSFER REQUEST

2023-24 Budget Reductions & 2022-23 Pre-Purchase Plan

2023-24 Pre-Purchase	23-24 Budget		
Curriculum / District Wide	Reduction	22-23 Spend	Transfer Information (see notes on page 2)
Reading Program K-5	\$194,000	\$351,225	From Energy accounts (various) to Textbooks
Latin Textbook	\$4,775	\$4,775	From Energy accounts (various) to Textbooks
iReady	\$89,700	\$99,256	From Local Transportation to Contracted Service
IXL	\$25,600	\$14,850	From Local Transportation to Contracted Service:
Lexia	\$55,340	\$15,100	From Local Transportation to Contracted Service:
Fun Hub	\$0	\$2,940	From Local Transportation to Contracted Services
Learning A-Z	\$26,500	\$3,17 0	From Local Transportation to Contracted Service:
Total Curriculum	\$395,915	\$491,316	
Middle Gate			
Science kits	\$9,000	\$9,000	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Head O'Meadow			
Textbooks for all grades	\$6,158	\$6,158	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Textbooks for science lab	\$2,000	\$2,000	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Reed			
Bridges Math program	\$7,000	\$7,000	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Middle School			
Digital Access for Teachers	\$1,207	\$1,207	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Spanish Workbooks	\$7,980	\$7,980	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Rosetta Stone	\$9,000	\$9,000	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Discovery Ed Science	\$6,250	\$6,250	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Variable Scroll Saw	\$2,216	\$2,216	No transfer necessary - encumbered in April/May
Total Classroom	\$50,811	\$50,811	
-			
Subtotal 23-24 Pre-Purchases	\$446,726	\$542,127	

2023-24 Budget Reductions

TOTO TI DUMBOL INCUMENTALIS		
Decodables - Middle Gate	\$7,350	CUT
Total Classroom	\$7,350	
Technology		
Network Specialist	\$85,000	CUT - unable to fill position
ERGO	\$10,722	CUT - no longer required with contracted service
Contracted Services	-\$54,722	ADD - network monitoring service contract
Total Tech	\$41,000	
Subtotal 23-24 Budget Reducatio	\$48,350	\$0

Total 23-24 Budget Reductions	\$495,076	\$542,127
Additional amount required for ad	\$54,924	
*LC reduced BoE budget by \$550,000		

Total additional needs	\$140,924
Other non-union salary adjustments	\$27,000
Custodial & Maint Salay (adt'l requ	\$33,000
Secretary Union Salary (adt'l requir	\$26,000
Additional requirements for 23-24 b	uaget

^{**} estimates based on current union contracts

2023-24 Budget Reductions & 2022-23 Pre-Purchase

2023-24 Pre-Purchase	23-24 Budget		
Curriculum / District Wide	Reduction	22-23 Spend	Notes
Reading Program K-5	\$194,000	\$351,225	Unfunded mandate (K-3) would like to implement K-5, 3-yr contract
Latin Textbook	\$4,775	\$4,775	Updated edition of textbook for the high school
iReady	\$89,700	\$99,256	Grades 2-8 (opt. gr 1) student access to personalized pathways
IXL	\$25,600	\$14,850	RIS 15 SPED licenses, NMS/NHS will have supplemental access
Lexia	\$55,340	\$15,100	Grades 5-8 reading intervention - will be using less licenses
Fun Hub	\$0	\$2,940	Grades K-2 for teachers, online version of fundations
Learning A-Z	\$26,500	\$3,170	ELA consultants and ELL - will be shared at RIS
Total Curriculum	\$395,915	\$491,316	
Middle Gate			
Science kits	\$9,000	\$9,000	Purchased using CY funds from various MG accounts
Head O'Meadow			
Textbooks for all grades	\$6,158	\$6,158	Purchased using CY funds from various HOM accounts
Textbooks for science lab	\$2,000	\$2,000	Purchased using CY funds from various HOM accounts
Reed			
Bridges Math program	\$7,000	\$7,000	Purchased using CY funds from RIS accounts
Middle School			
Digital Access for Teachers	\$1,207	\$1,207	Online digital access for 6 world language teachers
Spanish Workbooks	\$7,980	\$7,980	Consumable workbooks for Spanish
Rosetta Stone	\$9,000	\$9,000	75 student licenses
Discovery Ed Science	\$6,250	\$6,250	On-line science textbooks
Variable Scroll Saw	\$2,216	\$2,216	Equipment used in the tech ed department (4 saws)
Total Classroom	\$50,811	\$50,811	
Subtotal 23-24 Pre-Purchases	\$446,726	\$542,127	

2023-24 Budget Reductions

Subtotal 23-24 Budget Reducatio	\$48,350 \$0	
Total Tech	\$41,000	
Contracted Services	-\$54,722	Contract \$33,810 + \$5,000 billable hours + \$15,912 contingency
ERGO	\$10,722	Contracted service (included in Total Communication's cost)
Network Specialist	\$85,000	Reduce position and move towards contracted services model
Technology		
Total Classroom	\$7,350	
Decodables - Middle Gate	\$7,350	Already included in curriculum budget
2025-24 Dauget Reductions		

Total 23-24 Budget Reductions	\$495,076	\$542,127
Additional amount required for ad	\$54,924	
*r. 7 1 1 E 1 1 desc. 000		

^{*}LC reduced BoE budget by \$550,000

Additional requirements for 23-24 budget

Total additional needs	\$140.924
Other non-union salary adjustments	\$27,000
Custodial & Maint Salay (adt'l requ	\$33,000
Secretary Union Salary (adt'l requir	\$26,000

^{**} estimates based on current union contracts

NPS Newtown Public Schools Activity Accounts Period Ending March 31, 2023

Hawley School Acct# 729519990

Managed by: Secretary Approved by: Principal Current Balance: \$6,203.03

Sandy Hook School Acct# 729519931 Managed by: Secretary

Approved by: Principal Current Balance: \$3,704.48

Middle Gate School

Acct# 701053826

Managed by: Secretary

Approved by: Principal

Current Balance: \$8,078.88

Head O'Meadow Acct# 729519851 Managed by: Secretary Approved by: Principal Current Balance: \$3,059.58

Reed Intermediate Acct# 729519966 Managed by: Secretary Approved by: Principal Current Balance: \$37,890.10 Middle School

Acct# 729519974

Managed by: Secretary

Approved by: Principal

Current Balance: \$67,462.33

High School

Acct# 729519624

Managed by: Secretary

Approved by: Principal

Current Activity Balance: \$760,0492.26

Bond: \$195,742.22

Total Account: \$956,234.48

Custodial Account Acct# 729516781

Managed by: Assistant Business Director

Approved by: Director of Business

Current Balance: \$57,503.03

Continuing Education *Acct# 729519755*

Managed by: Bookkeeper

Approved by: Director of Continuing Ed

Current Balance: \$111,371.83

APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF SCHOOL MEDICAL ADVISER

Subject to the provisions of Section 10-205 of the General Statutes, the Board of Education shall appoint a medical adviser who shall perform such duties as outlined in Section 10-207.

Reference: CGS 10-205, 10-207

Adopted 10/10/61 Updated 5/24/77, 10/10/95 Existing policy, presently numbered 4-302 adopted 10/10/95, appropriate as renumbered except for update to legal reference.

Personnel -- Non-Certified

Evaluation of School Nurses

All full-time and part-time nurses employed by the Board of Education shall be evaluated annually as to their overall performance. The evaluation shall be made by the school building administrator or his/her designee with assistance from the School Health Nurse Supervisor. The evaluation shall be made by the district nursing supervisor in collaboration with the school building administrator or his/her designee.

The evaluation shall be in writing and pertain to relationships with students, parents, staff members, teachers, and administration as well as to knowledge, competency, overall performance, and fulfillment of required State Department of Health and State Department of Education mandates.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-212 School nurses and nurse practitioners

Policy adopted:

NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Newtown, Connecticut

EVALUATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

All full-time and part-time nurses employed by the Board of Education shall be evaluated annually as to their overall performance. The evaluation shall be made by the school building administrator or his/her designee with assistance from the School Health Nurse Supervisor.

The evaluation shall be in writing and pertain to relationships with students, parents, staff members, teachers, and administration as well as to knowledge, competency, overall performance, and fulfillment of required State Department of Health and State Department of Education mandates.

Reference: CGS 10-212

Adopted 6/16/70 Updated 11/23/76, 6/12/90, 10/10/95

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

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on May 2, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 3 Primrose Street.

D. Zukowski, Chair
C. Melillo
J. Vouros, Vice Chair
A. Uberti
D. Ramsey, Secretary
T. Vadas (absent)

D. Cruson 12 Staff
J. Kuzma 70 Public
J. Larkin 1 Press

A. Plante

K. Kunzweiler (absent)D. Godino (absent)

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and invite Mr. Melillo. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Item 1 - Executive Session

The Board went into executive session at 6:32 p.m. and discussed the personnel matter.

Ms. Zukowski called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved to add the discussion and possible action on a full year English/Language/Arts program for grades 6 through 8. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

<u>Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance</u>

Item 3 - Action on Executive Session Item

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education support, as recommended by the Superintendent, Kymberly Noone's request pertaining to Article 31.2 of the teacher contract. Mrs. Kuzma seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 4 - Consent Agenda

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda which includes the donation to Newtown High School. Mrs. Larkin seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 5 - Public Participation

Please click here to view the public participation.

Joseph Crosby spoke about book challenges.

Sarah Beyers, 7 Yogananda Street, Library Media Clerk at Reed Intermediate School, spoke about book challenges.

Michelle Buzzi, 38 Obtuse Road, spoke about book challenges.

Dan Rosen, 62 Pine Tree Hill Road, spoke about book challenges.

Katherine Lye spoke about book challenges.

Beatrice Cardamone spoke about book challenges.

Terry Scinto, 37 High Rock Road, spoke about book challenges.

Cynthia Gaffney, 15 Ridge Road, spoke about book challenges.

Elenda Calderbank, 8 Forest View Drive, spoke about book challenges.

Abbey Chinault, 32 Ridge Road, spoke about book challenges.

Matt Bracksieck, 68 Walnut Tree Hill Road, spoke about book challenges.

Kristin English, NHS English teacher, spoke about book challenges.

Wendy LaBarge, NHS English teacher, spoke about book challenges

Timothy Stan, 6 Monitor Hill Road, spoke about book challenges.

Barbara Woycik, 25 Horseshoe Ridge Road, spoke about book challenges.

Beth Murphy, Head 'Meadow School Library Media Specialst, spoke about book challenges. Suzanne Hurley, Middle Gate School Library Media Specialist, spoke about book challenges Sarah Wasley, Reed Intermediate School LibraryMedia Specialist, spoke about challenges.

Kathy Swift, NHS English teacher, spoke about book challenges.

Christine Wilford, 30 Georges Hill Road, talked about book challenges.

Jacqui Kaplan, 34 Osborne Hill Road, spoke about book challenges.

Edie Kaplan spoke about book challenges.

Rachel Heggland, 26 Shepherd Hill Road, spoke about book challenges.

Andrew SanAngelo, middle school Library Media Specialist, spoke about book challenges.

Lahja Kurjiaka,10 Checkerberry Lane, spoke about book challenges.

Brian Tenney NHS English teacher, spoke about book challenges.

Trent Harrison, 59 Platts Hill Road, cited the CABE Code of Ethics, the Board should follow.

Matthew Cavalaro 18 Birch Rise Drive, spoke about book challenges

Kate McGrady, 26 Philo Curtis Road, spoke about book challenges and her daughter speaking at the last meeting.

Item 6 - Presentations

Reading Program:

Mrs. Uberti spoke about looking at programs for grades 5 through 8 and chose Imagine Learning EL Education Reading Program for grade 5.

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education approve the Imagine Learning EL Education Reading Program for Grade 5 for the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education approve the full year pilot English/Language/Arts program for grades 6 through 8. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Mrs. Uberti said they chose two programs Imagine Learning EL Education Reading Program and Into Reading for next year and will do an evaluation during the year. The pilot is little to no charge and the grade 5 program will be paid from funds in this school year. Motion passes unanimously.

Presentation of Special Review Committee Report about Challenged Books and Superintendent Recommendation:

Mrs. Uberti reported that this committee was convened to be in compliance with Board Policy 8-302 which provides guidance for selection of library materials and procedures for book challenges. The committee reviewed *Flamer* and *Blankets* and shared their opinions as to whether the two materials in question should remain part of the collection of the Newtown High School Library. Regarding the book *Flamer*, the committee's unanimous opinion was that the book is positive and despite language and images that some may find offensive, the book promotes empathy, acceptance, understanding, and resilience and should remain in circulation in the Newtown High School Library. Regarding the book *Blankets*, it was the committee's unanimous opinion that while this book contains language and images that may be offensive to some, it is an artistic work that tells the worthwhile story of a young man coming to terms with his family struggles and transcending them and should remain in circulation in the Newtown

High School Library. Mrs. Uberti respectfully submitted this report on behalf of the review committee.

Mrs. Uberti read her personal statement regarding the community's concerns about books besides *Flamer* and *Blankets* and she sincerely appreciated the parent's involvement as their opinions matter. We will work with our library media specialists to listen with an open mind and work together for a resolution. This comes down to library media specialist judgements and they take their responsibilities very seriously. There are three more books being objected to at Newtown High School. She met with the library media specialists on how to address both sides and hopes to come together to put an end to this controversy and find common ground.

Mr. Melillo read his statement and thanked our teachers, especially our library media specialists, and administrators for their efforts, time and commitment to our community. He also thanked the families and community members for providing civil discourse and input in this process. Thanks as well to the Board of Education members for their service towards helping students thrive and fulfill their greatest potential. He initially questioned the appropriateness of these books but changed his mind after reading them. His recommendation to the Board of Education is to uphold the special committee's recommendation to keep the books in the media center.

Ms. Zukowski noted that the Board will not have enough time to fully deliberate the matter tonight so action will be taken at the next meeting. Members of the Special Review Committee were asked to reconsider the shelving of the challenged books and whether they should be allowed to remain in the library as before or should be removed. She thanked Mrs. Uberti, NHS Principal, Dr. Longobucco, NHS Library Media Specialist, Ms. Zandonella, and NHS teachers Mr. Foss and Mrs. Marks for this difficult assignment, and Mr. Melillo for his recommendation and comments.

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved to amend the agenda to include a vote on the Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Library Media Materials as required by Policy 8-302. Mr. Cruson seconded.

Mrs. Plante read the Bee article and the committee report and feels comfortable to vote tonight.

Mrs. Larkin would not support that motion. Voting tonight was not consistent with the Board as we always vote twice on policies and curriculum. We should be able to hear the second public participation also. For a decision this size we need to take time to review the report.

Mr. Cruson was comfortable voting tonight to put this behind us as a Board and community. He feels strongly we will be able to move on this and get back to the work of the district.

Mrs. Kuzma agreed with Mrs. Larkin for a lot of her reasons. She has some questions and needs time to process the comments as well as hearing the second public participation.

Mr. Ramsey said the review committee did their best in the confines of the policy. Because of that, there is more to be heard from the public. He wants to review Mr. Melillo's report more. It's prudent to delay the vote until the next meeting.

Mr. Vouros agreed with Mrs. Plante and Mr. Cruson.

Ms. Zukowski said the policy doesn't specify when the Board has to act on the committee report. Also, policies and curriculum go to the Board twice before approval and feels she cannot support the motion.

Vote: 3 ayes, 4 nays (Ms. Zukowski, Mr. Ramsey, Mrs. Kuzma, Mrs. Larkin) Motion fails.

Ms. Zukowski spoke about the challenge forms and that pornography and sexually inappropriate content were the reasons the books were challenged. Regarding the book *Flamer*, she agreed with the committee that some students might benefit from reading about the issues in the book but was concerned about the graphic representations that might be seen by younger students. What age is appropriate for this material and how do we respect the differing perspectives families may have about the sexual content.

Mr. Ramsey read both books and in *Flamer* he was concerned about students seeing pictures out of context which could make a major impact on a student.

Mrs. Kuzma said that regarding the book *Flamer* it was hard to ignore the sexually explicit images and words. She questioned what was age appropriate but did see the value in the story.

Mr. Cruson has read case studies and would like to not read his comments tonight for additional editing.

Mrs. Larkin also read the books. She believe the book can potentially save a life but other material has inappropriate images and vulgarity.

Mrs. Plante read the books. She appreciates the teachers and library media specialists for coming to the meeting. She disagrees with the decision to not go forward tonight. We have to uphold the First Amendment.

Mr. Vouros reserved his comments for the next meeting.

Ms. Zukowski said that regarding the book *Blankets*, she agrees that some students may benefit reading the issues in this book but for some students the graphic representations are not educationally suitable.

Mr. Ramsey said there were complex themes in *Blankets* dealing with religion and aspects of coming of age and first love which are challenging topics but it does have literary value.

Mrs. Kuzma said *Blankets* has some literary value but the one objector was sexually explicit images, vulgarities and body parts on numerous pages.

Mr. Cruson will hold his statement until the next meeting.

Mrs. Larkin said her objection in Blankets are the sexually explicit images.

Mrs. Plante said, as with most things in life, this is not a black and white decision. Does the value of these outweigh the risks that some parents see? Our role is to ensure the policy is followed.

Mr. Vouros will hold his comments until the next meeting.

Mrs. Kuzma asked Mrs. Uberti if she believed that removing a book from the library shelf is in violation of the first amendment rights.

Mrs. Uberti spoke to our attorney and any time you wade into any type of restriction you never know how the court is going to decide on first amendment rights. She referred to a case where a high school library was ordered to keep material defined as obscene because it was viewed as a violation of first amendment rights. There is also a case about a restriction piece with the book *Harry Potter* and the school put the book on a separate shelf. The parents had to send a note to allow their child to read it. The parent sued because she felt it was stigmatizing to her daughter and the court found in her favor. She cautioned that schools could be viewed as government controlled so when we make decisions about what students can read we are venturing into troubled waters when it comes to First Amendment rights.

Mrs. Kuzma asked where in the First Amendment does it say the administration can remove books but the Board of Education cannot.

Mrs. Uberti said it was in two places. Library media specialists are designated to purchase books for the libraries. They also review books and make the decision to remove it. They are trained to make those decisions.

Mrs. Larkin said there was a recent case that dealt with these books that a school has the right to keep vulgar material away from students. The Board has to have information on the first amendment. The Board can benefit from the same legal guidance Mrs. Uberti and Mr. Melillo had and should have access to that information. She is in support of the First Amendment rights and would never want to do something to compromise one of them.

Mrs. Uberti stated that the Board Chair has access to the information from our attorney. Ms. Zukowski stated that she had that information and would share it with the Board as well as other court cases and will talk directly to our counsel.

Mr. Cruson noted that we had an executive session with our attorney and she provided us with a document Mr. Melillo has and it was available for us to review.

Mrs. Uberti said her only communication with our attorney was to see if she could share her report with the Board but she advised her not to share the report with the Board as it was not her read on the policy.

Mr. Ramsey said the librarians can't possibly read every book they order so they may have to depend on reviews of the books.

Mrs. Uberti said our policy can be improved. There is additional guidance if you go to the American Library Association website with a section on additional guidance. The library media specialists follow the suggested criteria on that website. As a result of this they have been going through their collection and making sure they are age appropriate according to reputable reading resources.

Mr. Ramsey said it upsets him to see communications depicting librarians as something other than the most dedicated wonderful people doing the best they can and we are very fortunate to have gifted people. The term book banning has been exaggerated a bit. Book banning is when a BOE might create a list of books to bring into the library. In this case, if a book is brought up to a challenge and the librarian and principal decide to remove the book they would not be book banners.

Mrs. Uberti said they would not because it's their job to decide. She also feels the people challenging the book should be on the review committee. She understands the trouble with the word ban but we currently have ten other challenges.

Mr. Ramsey said the word banned has been used to impugn the Board of Education. If we decide these books are not appropriate, we are not banners. We are reacting to challenges that came to us.

Mr. Cruson disagreed on making a list of books we don't want in our schools. As a legislative body and we make a list, it would be banning them.

Ms. Zukowski asked Mrs. Uberti for the next meeting to see how much of a cache of books there are to support our LGBTQ students who are going through issues that would be more suitable for students. She also wants to know what books that have sexual content are appropriate for students ages 8 through 13.

Mrs. Plante said age appropriate is a great question but none of us are experts. Our policy states the freedom to read. It's a professional judgement.

Mrs. Larkin agreed and said removing a book means we will make a reconsideration. She said another book was removed which had similar content and asked what brought the decision to remove that book over these two books. What are the guiding principles if we have sexual contact in a book and what is age appropriate?

Mrs. Uberti said the standard comes from the lists she mentioned in her report. It comes down to judgement. People in the school know where the students are regarding reading the books. There have been multiple books that have been reviewed by library media specialists and they are making judgements when to remove or replace.

In closing, Ms. Zukowski encouraged our library media specialists to continue supporting our students by including a broad range of age appropriate books to help better deal with difficult situations and topics they may be experiencing in their lives. She thanked the members of the Special Review Committee and everyone who provided their concerns to the Board.

<u>Item 7 – Old Business</u>

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education approve the Integrated Physical and Earth Science Curriculum. Mrs. Larkin seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 8 - New Business

Minutes of April 18, 2023:

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of April 18, 2023. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

MOTION: Ms. Zukowski moved to amend the motion to replace the date March 21, 2023 with April 4, 2023 in Item 8. Mrs. Kuzma seconded.

Amendment passes unanimously.

Main motion passes unanimously.

Minute of April 24, 2023:

MOTION: Mrs. Plante moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of April 24, 2023. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 9 - Public Participation

Kara Dogali, 2 Monitor Hill Road, spoke about behavior in a Middle Gate classroom. Christine Tisi, 1 Megans Circle, spoke about behavior in a Middle Gate classroom. Jessica Milakso, 23 Brushy Hill Road, spoke about book challenge. Jeanette McCambely, 35 Hosey Coach Road, spoke about behavior in a Middle Gate classroom.

Motion: Mr. Vouros moved to adjourn. Mr. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Item 10 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 p.m.

Respectful	y submitted:	
	Donald Ramsey Secretary	