

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
50 East Street  
New Milford, Connecticut 06776

**SCHOOL FACILITY AND UTILIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE**

**DATE:** November 14, 2012  
**TIME:** 6:30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Sarah Noble Intermediate School—Library Media Center

GEORGE C. BUCKBEE  
TOWN CLERK

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NEW MILFORD, CT

**AGENDA**


**New Milford Public Schools Mission Statement**

The mission of the New Milford Public Schools, a collaborative partnership of students, educators, family, and community, is to prepare each and every student to compete and excel in an ever-changing world, embrace challenges with vigor, respect and appreciate the worth of every human being, and contribute to society by providing effective instruction and dynamic curriculum, offering a wide range of valuable experiences, and inspiring students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.

1. Discussion of School Facility and Utilization Study Committee mission, vision and needs.
2. Adjourn

**New Milford Public Schools  
 School Facility & Utilization Study Committee  
 November 14, 2012  
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	<p>Rebecca Augur, Senior Planner, Milone &amp; MacBroom          Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources, Resident          Walter Bayer, Retired Educator, Resident          Michael Crespan, Director of Public Health          Terri Ellis, Parent          Thomas Esposito, Parent, Member of the Town Council          Beth Falder, Parent, Member of the Board of Finance          Wendy Faulenbach, Board of Education Chair, Parent          Paula Kelleher, Principal of John Pettibone School, Parent          Virginia Langrebe, NMHS Teacher, Resident          Justin Mack, SNIS Teacher, Resident          Theresa McGuinness, SMS Teacher, Parent          Thomas McSherry, Board of Education Member          Gregg Miller, Director of Fiscal Services, Resident          Donna Molinaro, H &amp; P Teacher, Resident          Laura Olson, Director of Pupil Personnel &amp; Special Services, Resident          JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools          Thomas Pilla, Builder, Member of the Pension Committee, Grandparent          Lynette Celli Rigdon, Board of Education Member          Michele Romaniello, Parent, District-wide President of the NMPTO          Gretchen Rondini, JPS Teacher, Parent          David Shaffer, Board of Education Member          Josh Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Schools          Julia Taborsak, Parent          Patricia Thalassinos, NES Teacher, Parent          Len Tomasello, SNIS Interim Principal, Resident          Mike Zuba, Senior Planner, Milone &amp; MacBroom</p>
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NEW MILFORD, CT

1.	<p><b>Discussion of School Facility &amp; Utilization Study Committee mission, vision, and needs.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee discussed and reviewed the mission of the study:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plan for facility utilization in support of schools' mission</li> <li>○ Determine efficient use and allocation of resources in light of enrollment/demographic trends</li> <li>○ Identify alternatives to current facility uses, configuration, infrastructure, practices and/or procedures and their potential impacts</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Committee members were introduced.</li> <li>• The facilitators reviewed work tasks, project timeline and meeting schedule.</li> <li>• The work groups brainstormed strengths and weaknesses of the school district.</li> </ul>
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**Strengths of the New Milford Public Schools System**

- Strong and successful programs: AP, Project Lead the Way, Pre-K, Super Kids Reading, Music, Sports, Positive Behavior, etc.
- Strong implementation and use of technology
- Full-day kindergarten
- Facilities in good condition
- Good use of facilities (not just by school system)
- Strong Special Ed. program
- Strong level of interventions/support for students
- Strong community, student, parent, teacher support and involvement
- Availability of planetarium/observatory
- Opportunities for professional development
- Unified district from 4<sup>th</sup> grade up

**Weaknesses of the New Milford Public Schools System**

- Standardized test performance
- Technology: availability for all students/teachers, and need to continuously invest
- Lack of alternative programs for non-college bound: limited electives, no vocational-technical program
- Community has not embraced current grade configuration
- Lack of world language in early grades
- Weak science program in early grades
- Not enough programming for talented and gifted
- Location of schools
- Transportation: length of bus rides for students, expense, lack of transportation for after-school programs

- Vertical alignment of curriculum
- Recognition of and accommodations for changing student/family demographics
- Condition of John Pettibone Elementary
- Funding scarce at all levels (federal, state, local)

**Vision for the Future of the New Milford Public Schools System**

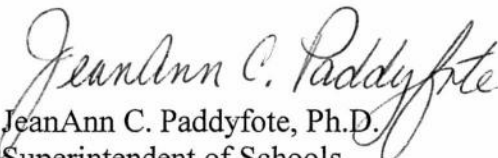
- Community recognition of the value of the school system/ support for investment
- A system operating under one vision
- Cohesive programming and an aligned curriculum
- Diverse program offerings: expanded ELL program, stronger college prep, more alternatives for non-college track, ROTC
- Partnerships with business and non-profit communities for co-op, vocational, technical, workforce programming
- Well-maintained facilities with improvements: alternative energy sources, air-conditioning in classrooms
- Improved technology offerings and accessibility: parent portal, on-line courses, student data maintenance and use by staff to identify student needs
- Universal Pre-K
- World language program for elementary (start with one K class and phase in)
- Later school day start time for high school

2.

**Adjourn**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools