



New Milford Public Schools
50 East Street
New Milford, CT 06776
860-355-8406



New Milford High School
Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal

Mrs. Elizabeth Curtis,
Ass't. Principal

Mrs. Susan Greene,
Ass't. Principal

Mrs. Donna Luzi,
Ass't. Principal



Schaghticoke Middle School

Mrs. Dana Ford, Principal

Mr. Gerald Robinson,
Ass't. Principal



Sarah Noble School

Dr. Len Tomasello, Principal

Mrs. Kristine Golden,
Ass't. Principal

Dr. Don Naiman,
Ass't. Principal

Mrs. Anne Bilko
Admin. Intern



Hill & Plain Elementary

Dr. Sandra Nadeau, Principal

Mrs. Anne Bilko,
Assistant Principal



John Pettibone Elementary

Mrs. Paula Kelleher, Principal

Mrs. Joan Kick, Ass't. Principal



Northville Elementary

Mrs. Susan Murray, Principal

Mrs. Joan Kick, Ass't. Principal

Spotlight on New Milford Schools

Volume 2, Issue 5

Winter Mailed Issue

The School Budget Process

Just as you and your family are pulling your financial information together to prepare for income tax filing, the New Milford Schools' administration is pulling together information for the 2012-2013 school budget. The budget will be presented on Tuesday, January 17th at the first of four budget hearings (see back cover for more information).

Preparing for the budget is a year-long process that begins as soon as the current year budget is passed by New Milford voters.

Let's break down the budget process:

August-September—School administrators begin working on the next year's school budget—gathering data, planning and projecting.

October—Projected enrollment numbers are given to school administrators.

November—Principals and department heads submit budget requests to the Superintendent.

December—Central Office administrators review school and department requests.

January—Superintendent's proposed budget is finalized and sent to members of the Board of Education. Budget Hearings open to the public.

February—Town Council and Board of Finance hold joint budget hearings to review the Board of Education and Town budgets.

May—Budget Referendum Vote.

June-August—School administrators adjust staffing and supplies to accommodate shifts in the budget awarded.

Now we know how the budget is created, but where does the money come from? School funding comes from three main sources:

- **Local tax revenue**
Local property taxes are the main source of revenue used to fund the town's share of the public school budget. In Connecticut, over half of schools' funding is raised through property taxes.
- **State Funding**
Funding from the State has decreased significantly over the past several years. Each town received an Educational Cost Sharing Grant which is determined by a complicated formula and is not guaranteed, only approved annually through a vote by the State Legislature.
- **Federal Funding**
The U.S. Congress determines the federal portion of school budgets in the fiscal year before it will be used. On average, federal contributions account for 5.4% of Connecticut school districts' funding.

Get involved in the budget process!

Budget hearings begin Tuesday, January 17th and continue through Budget Adoption on Wed., January 25th. We hope to see you there!

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New Milford Schools Calendar



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January 13 – **SMS** Boys Basketball HOME – 3:45 p.m.
 January 16 – **NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
 January 17 – **Board of Education** Budget Hearing – SNIS Media Ctr. - 7:00 p.m.
 January 18 - **Board of Education** Budget Hearing – SNIS Media Ctr. - 7:00 p.m.
 SMS Voices, Jazz, Orchestra Concert—7:00 p.m.
 NES PTO – 7:00 p.m.
 January 19 – **Coffee and Conversation with the Superintendent**—10:00 a.m. (see below)
 NMHS - Drama Club Performance at Senior Center – 1-3 p.m.
 January 20 – **JPS** Bingo Family Fun Night – 6:00 p.m.
 January 24 – **SMS** Boys Basketball – HOME – 3:45 p.m.
 Board of Education Budget Hearing – SNIS Media Ctr. - 7:00 p.m.
 January 25 - **Board of Education** Budget Hearing – SNIS Media Ctr. - 7:00 p.m.
 January 27 – **NES** Family Movie Night – 6:30-8:30 p.m.
 NES Read-a-Thon Ends
 January 30 – **H&P** Read-a-Thon Begins
 SMS Boys Basketball – HOME – 3:45 p.m.

Upcoming Home Athletic Events

Date	Sport	Opponent	Time	Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
F, 1/13	V Girls B-ball	Pomperaug	7:00 p.m.	F, 1/20	FR Boys B-ball	Bethel	3:30 p.m.
F, 1/13	JV Girls B-ball	Pomperaug	5:15 p.m.	S, 1/21	V Wrestling	New Milford Tournament	9:00 a.m.
F, 1/13	FR Girls B-ball	Pomperaug	3:30 p.m.	T, 1/24	V Boys B-ball	Stratford	7:00 p.m.
S, 1/14	V Boys Hockey	Newtown	2:00 p.m.	T, 1/24	JV Boys B-ball	Stratford	5:15 p.m.
M, 1/16	V Boys Hockey	Wilton	8:15 p.m.	W, 1/25	V Boys Hockey	Housatonic/ N-western/ Wamogo	7:15 p.m.
T, 1/17	V Girls B-ball	New Fairfield	7:00 p.m.	F, 1/27	V Girls B-ball	Weston	7:00 p.m.
T, 1/17	JV Girls B-ball	New Fairfield	5:15 p.m.	F, 1/27	JV Girls B-ball	Weston	5:15 p.m.
T, 1/17	FR Girls B-Ball	New Fairfield	3:30 p.m.	T, 1/31	V Boys B-ball	Joel Barlow	7:00 p.m.
T, 1/17	V Girls Gym	Lauralton Hall, Weston	6:00 p.m.	T, 1/31	JV Boys B-ball	Joel Barlow	5:15 p.m.
F, 1/20	V Boys B-Ball	Bethel	7:00 p.m.	T, 1/31	FR Boys B-ball	Joel Barlow	3:30 p.m.
F, 1/20	JV Boys B-Ball	Bethel	5:15 p.m.				



Coffee and Conversation

Join Superintendent Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote for coffee and conversation!

January 19—10:00 a.m.
 New Milford Railroad Station
 11 Railroad Street, New Milford



Ask questions, talk about concerns, and find out what is happening at NMPS and with public education in general. Any parent or New Milford resident is welcome.

*Discussion topics will not include personnel, district employees or confidential information.

New Attendance Law

School attendance is vital to a good education! Parents are encouraged to emphasize good attendance habits in their students. Connecticut State Statute requires that students ages 5-18 attend school on a regular basis. It is the responsibility of the New Milford Board of Education to monitor compliance of all laws and regulations concerning school attendance.

New attendance laws that became effective earlier this school year require schools to closely monitor unexcused (unauthorized) absences. Habitual unexcused absences are considered truancy and will be treated as such. More than two unexcused absences in one month's time will result in a letter or phone call to the student's home. More than four unexcused absences in a month's time may result in a referral to Superior Court.

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, call your child's school to let them know as soon as possible. If your child will be absent for an extended period of time, please make an appointment to meet with the school principal to discuss the matter as early as possible before the absence.

To call in a student absence, refer to page one for school phone numbers or visit the school district website at: www.newmilfordps.org.

42ND STREET

You don't want to miss this year's All School Musical—*42nd Street*—performed at New Milford High School!

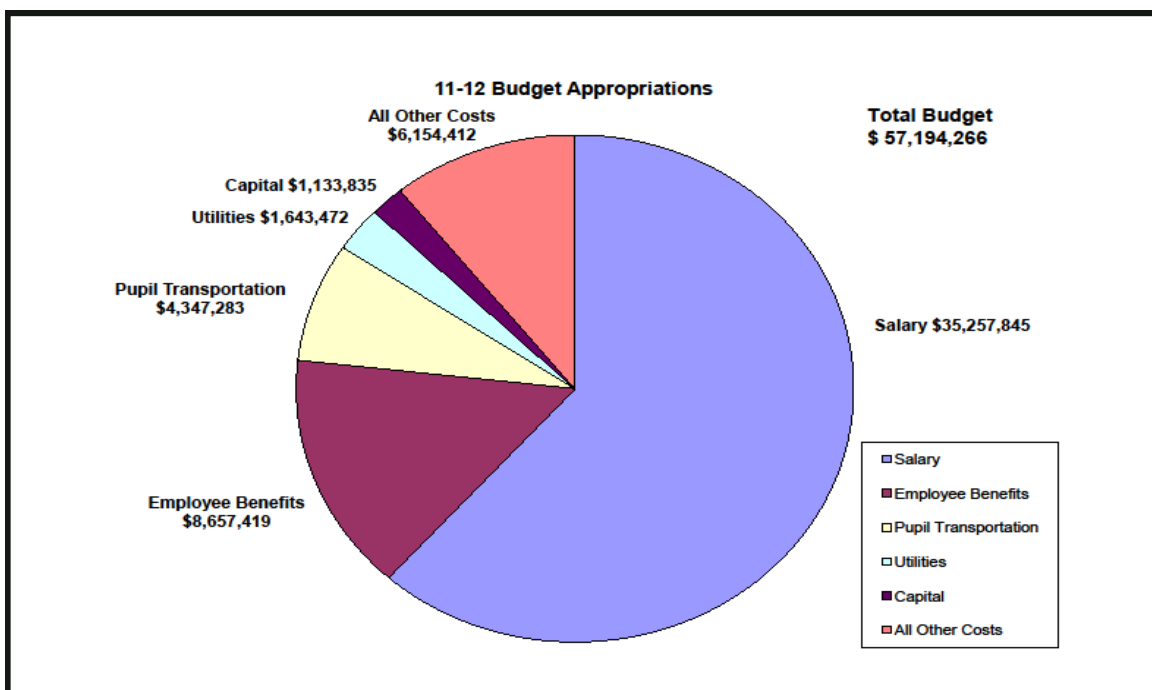
Performance dates are:

- March 23—7:00 p.m.
- March 24—7:00 p.m.
- March 25—3:00 p.m.
- March 30—7:00 p.m.
- March 31—2:00 p.m.
- March 31—7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased through any cast member or by calling the box office at 860-350-6647 ext. 1552. The box office will also be open after school 2:30-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday for ticket sales.

Tickets will be available starting January 9th.

Free and discounted senior citizen passes are available for this event. Contact the Central Office at 860-355-8406.





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 50 East Street
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Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote
 Superintendent

Dr. Maureen E. McLaughlin
 Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Ellamae Baldelli
 Director, Human Resources

Mr. John Calhoun
 Facilities Manager

Mr. Dan DiVito
 Director, Technology

Mrs. Adele Johnson
 Director, Pupil Personnel and
 Special Services

Mr. Gregg Miller
 Director, Fiscal Services

Mrs. Sandra Sullivan
 Director, Food Services

Board of Education

Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson
 Daniel Nichols, Vice Chairperson
 Daniele Shook, Secretary
 Lynette Celli Rigdon, Assistant Secretary
 Tom Brant
 David Lawson
 Thomas McSherry
 David Shaffer
 William Wellman

Upcoming Budget Hearings



You are welcome and encouraged to share your thoughts and ideas on the 2012-2013 school budget with the Superintendent and Board of Education at the upcoming budget hearings:

January 17, 18, 24 & 25, 2012
 (Snow Date—January 19, 2012)

Budget Adoption
 January 25, 2012
 (Snow Date—January 26, 2012)

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library/Media Center

Please Note: Each speaker will be allowed to speak for up to three minutes. The Board will not permit any expression of personal complaints or defamatory comments about Board of Education personnel and students, nor against any person connected with the New Milford Public School System.

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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.