

**NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**New Milford Public Schools**

**50 East Street**

**New Milford, Connecticut 06776**

**POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MEETING NOTICE**

**DATE: March 21, 2017**  
**TIME: 6:45 P.M.**  
**PLACE: Lillis Administration Building - Rm. 2**

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
2017 MAR 17 P 12:58  
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. Call to Order**

**2. Public Comment**

An individual may address the Board concerning any item on the agenda for the meeting subject to the following provisions:

- A. A three-minute time limit may be allocated to each speaker with a maximum of twenty minutes being set aside per meeting. The Board may, by a majority vote, cancel or adjust these time limits.
- B. If a member of the public comments about the performance of an employee or a Board member, whether positive, negative, or neutral, and whether named or not, the Board shall not respond to such comments unless the topic is an explicit item on the agenda and the employee or the Board member has been provided with the requisite notice and due process required by law. Similarly, in accordance with federal law pertaining to student confidentiality, the Board shall not respond to or otherwise discuss any comments that might be made pertaining to students.

**3. Discussion and Possible Action**

A. Policy for Review:

- 1. 6142.2 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (Student Wellness)

**4. Discussion**

A. Policies for Discussion:

- 1. 6141.321/4118.4/4218.4 Acceptable Use and Internet Safety
- 2. 6146 Graduation Requirements
- 3. 9130 Board Committees
- 4. 9323 Construction of the Agenda

**5. Public Comment**

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accordance with federal law pertaining to student confidentiality, the Board shall not respond to or otherwise discuss any comments that might be made pertaining to students.

**6. Adjourn**

**Sub-Committee Members: J.T. Schemm, Chairperson  
Wendy Faulenbach  
Dave Littlefield  
Tammy McInerney**

**Alternates: Bill Dahl  
Brian McCauley**

## FOR FIRST REVIEW

*COMMENTARY: New U.S. Department of Education Food Nutrition Service (“FNS”) regulations require all districts that participate in either the National School Lunch Program or National School Breakfast Program to adopt expanded school wellness policy requirements by June 30, 2017. Such expanded requirements include language addressing “non-sold” foods and beverages made available to students during the school day (e.g. foods offered during classroom parties and foods offered to students as rewards) along with food and beverage items marketed to students during the school day.*

*Additionally, the new regulations will require the District to maintain documentation demonstrating the District’s efforts to permit community involvement in the development, implementation and periodic review of the District wellness policy along with documentation concerning the District’s efforts to inform the public of the content and implementation of the local wellness policy and progress towards meeting the wellness policy’s goals. Finally, the new FNS’ regulations also eliminate yearly wellness policy progress reporting requirements in favor of a new provision that requires each district to assess its wellness policy compliance once every three years and make such assessment available to the public.*

### **Instruction**

#### **Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (Student Wellness)**

**6142.2(a)**

The New Milford Board of Education shall use a coordinated school health model in order to make wellness a cornerstone of our educational program. This well-rounded approach to school health connects the various components of health education, physical education, nutrition services, health promotion activities for staff, school health services, counseling and psychological support services, a safe and healthy school environment, and parent and community involvement. The teamwork that is inherent in this comprehensive model is intended to build momentum toward a program that supports positive dietary and lifestyle practices that are essential for students to achieve their academic potential, full physical and mental growth and lifelong health and well-being.

The entire school environment, not just the classroom, shall be aligned with healthy school goals to positively influence the student’s understanding, beliefs and habits as they relate to good nutrition and regular physical activity.

#### **Guiding Principles:**

- The Board of Education delegates the responsibility for developing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and revising the school district’s wellness policy guidelines (administrative regulations) to a Wellness Advisory Council comprised of the following members: parents, students, school food service personnel, members of the board of education, administrators, the public, school nurse, physical education teacher, health education teacher and any other person that the team wishes to invite to help achieve its goals.

## 6142.2(b)

- The Wellness Advisory Council will create a wellness plan that addresses **goals and standards for nutrition promotion and** education, physical education and physical activity, school meals, beverages and other food, communication and promotion and measurement and evaluation of the plan.

*[NOTE – The above changes are non-substantive in nature and are simply designed to align the language of the policy more closely with the language of the applicable regulations.]*

- During the regular school day, all students will be provided with opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active. Physical activity shall not be used as a form of discipline. Preventing elementary students from participating in the time devoted to physical exercise shall not be used as a form of discipline.
- Curriculum:
  - The physical education program shall be a standards-based, sequential physical education curriculum taught in grades K-12 by qualified physical education teachers. A key component of this program is to teach students how to achieve and maintain a healthy level of personal fitness.
  - Nutrition education shall be offered in grades K-12 as part of a planned, sequential, standards-based comprehensive health education program taught by highly qualified teachers.
- Foods and beverages sold or served under school auspices during the instructional school day will meet or exceed the nutrition recommendations of the *USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans*.
- ***Foods and beverages provided, but not sold, to students during the school day shall meet or exceed state and federal nutrition standards.***

*[NOTE – The new regulations state that wellness policies must establish standards for foods that are “provided, but not sold” to students during the school day (e.g. foods offered during classroom parties and foods offered to students as rewards). The regulations do not say what the standards have to be – only that some standard must be in place. This is very open-ended. “State and federal nutrition standards” is a very-broad umbrella term that should satisfy the regulations, but more specific standards can be used if the Board so chooses.]*

- ***Foods and beverages marketed to students during the school day shall meet or exceed federal Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.***

*[NOTE – The new FNS’ regulations specifically provide that food and beverages marketed to students during the school day must meet or exceed the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. The Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards include maximum calorie, sodium, saturated fat, sugar, etc. requirements.]*

## 6142.2(c)

- The District shall provide meals that follow the USDA requirements for Federal School Meal Programs under 7CFR Part 210 and 220.
- Highly qualified nutrition professionals will administer the school meal programs, and will provide affordable, nutrient-dense foods. Guidelines for age-appropriate portion size and maximum amount of fat, sodium, sugar and other additives in foods served and sold will be established and reviewed according to current scientific and medical research.
- Meals will be served in a relaxed, enjoyable climate, with adequate clean, safe space for eating.
- School menus shall be planned in order to meet or exceed state and national nutritional standards. Nutritious and healthy foods, such as fresh or dried fruits, vegetables, low-fat dairy foods, whole grains, and 100% natural fruit and vegetable juices and water, shall be made available wherever food is sold in the District.
- Healthy foods and beverages shall be encouraged at school sponsored activities, such as fundraisers, parties and sporting events. In addition, the District will only permit those foods and beverages that are permitted under state law (in particular, Connecticut General Statutes §§ 10-221p and 10-221q and the guidelines established by the State Department of Education) to be sold to students.
- The district highly values the health and well-being of every staff member and shall plan and implement activities and policies that support personal efforts by staff members to maintain a healthy lifestyle and that encourage staff members to serve as role models.
- Measurement and evaluation:
  - Establish a baseline of school wellness in each school by conducting a self-assessment using standard instruments.
  - Assign school-based leadership and responsibility in each site to monitor compliance to achieve policy goals.
  - The Superintendent and/or his/her designee ~~will ensure compliance with the policy and its regulations.~~ **is responsible for the implementation and oversight of the District's wellness policy.**

*[NOTE – This language aligns more closely with the language of the applicable regulation.]*

Legal Reference: 42 USCA 1751, Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (as amended by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, Public Law 108-265, Section 204).

## 6142.2(d)

### Connecticut General Statutes:

- 10-215e Nutrition standards for food that is not part of lunch or breakfast program
- 10-215f Certification that food meets nutrition standards
- 10-221o Lunch periods and recess
- 10-221p Boards to make available for purchase nutritious and low-fat foods
- 10-221q Sale of beverages

Action Guide for School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Connecticut State Department of Education, (Revised April 2009)

Policy Adopted: June 13, 2006  
Policy revised: October 13, 2009  
Policy revised: October 8, 2013

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Milford, Connecticut

## FOR DISCUSSION

*COMMENTARY: The suggested revisions below incorporate a "Digital Citizen" approach to acceptable internet use issues.*

6141.321(a)  
4118.4/4218.4

### **Instruction**

#### **~~Acceptable Use and Internet Safety~~**

#### ***Responsible Use of Technology, Social Media, and District Network Systems***

##### **Overview**

*The New Milford Public Schools Board of Education provides students, staff and community members with access to a large variety of technology and network resources which provide multiple opportunities to enhance learning within the school district network and on the Internet. Communication within the school district, the community and global entities are encouraged as part of 21st century skills. All learners need and deserve 21st century learning opportunities to thrive as tomorrow's leaders, workers, and citizens. However, all users must exercise appropriate and responsible use of District technology and information systems. Users include anyone authorized by administration to use the network. This policy is intended to promote the most effective, safe, productive, and instructionally sound uses of network information and communication tools.*

*The District technology infrastructure is defined as all technology related resources, including but not limited to; software, hardware, cabling and connections that provide access to resources, including the Internet. District devices as well as personal devices are subject to the guidelines when using the district network or representing the district in communications. The District maintains content filtering devices and software programs that control access to resources and meet the Federal standards established in the Children's Internet Protection Act. (CIPA) Such technology protection measure shall be in operation during any use of computers with Internet access. However, it is recognized that this measure alone is no guarantee that users will not be able to find Internet resources which are profane, offensive, obscene, or otherwise objectionable. The ultimate responsibility for appropriate use of Internet resources lies with the user.*

##### **Digital Citizen**

*Definition: "Self-monitored participation that reflects conscious interdependence with all (visible and less visible) community members."*

*A responsible digital citizen is one who:*

- A. Respects one's self:*

  - a. Users will select online names and logins that are appropriate and will consider the information and images that are posted online to ensure appropriateness. Users will not share login and password information.*

**B. Respects others:**

- a. *Users will refrain from using District network systems and social media to bully, tease, or harass other people. Users will communicate in a professional respectful manor with anyone engaged.*

**C. Protects one's self and others:**

- a. *Users will follow protocols that will protect themselves and others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications.*

**D. Respects authorship:**

- a. *Users will properly reference or cite work, websites, books, media, etc., used in any student work.*

**Responsible Use**

*Responsible use of the District's technology resources is expected to be ethical, respectful, and academically honest. Digital storage on district servers or on the cloud as well as technology devices used for any purpose will be treated as extensions of the District's technology. The Superintendent, or his or her designee, may review files and communications including electronic mail to ensure that users are using the system in accordance with District policy. Users should not have any expectation of privacy in files stored electronically. Electronic files, data and communications stored or disseminated through the District's technology may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.*

*Users may not access the District's networks without prior written authorization and are expected to comply with the following rules of network etiquette and citizenship, including but not limited to:*

- A. *Use of the New Milford Public Schools network, technology devices, the student and parent portal, and social media must be consistent with the District's educational objectives and curriculum.*
- B. *Transmission of material in violation of any local, Federal, or State law is prohibited.*
- C. *Intentional or unintentional use of District resources to access or process, proxy sites, pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit, harassing, threatening or illegal material or communications or explicit text or files or files dangerous to the integrity of the network is strictly prohibited.*



- D. *Cyberbullying is prohibited at all times, whether in district or out of district, on any device using any connection.***
- E. *Software, applications, and media may not be installed, downloaded or uploaded without having an approved Software Form from the Building Principal, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Technology.***
- F. *Use of the District network for commercial activities, product advertisement, religious or political campaigning, lobbying, or solicitation of non-district material is prohibited.***
- G. *Accessing unauthorized chat rooms or instant messaging using the District's network is prohibited.***
- H. *Bypassing the District's content filter is strictly prohibited.***
- I. *Users may not share their passwords and are expected to maintain their passwords privately and securely.***
- J. *Users shall not vandalize, damage, disable, intentionally disrupt or degrade the District's technology systems or network and may be held personally and financially responsible for malicious or intentional damage or interruptions to network service, software, data, user accounts, hardware, and/or any other unauthorized use.***
- K. *Files stored on District-managed or cloud networks are the property of the District and may be inspected at any time.***
- L. *Materials published electronically must be for educational purposes. Administrators may monitor these materials to ensure compliance with content standards.***
- M. *Each user is responsible for taking reasonable precautions to ensure he or she does not introduce viruses into the District's network. All material not belonging to the District must be scanned for viruses prior to being placed onto the District's computer system. Users should understand that their home computers and laptops might contain viruses. All disks, memory sticks or perpetual media (e.g., DVD, CD) transferred from these computers to the District's network must be scanned for viruses.***
- N. *Users shall not "hack into," "snoop," monitor any network traffic or otherwise access data not intended for the user including, but not limited to, other users' files and administrative data.***

- O. Users shall not violate copyright or otherwise use the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.*
- P. Users shall not plagiarize (to take material created by others and presenting it as if it were one's own) or cheat (to deceive by trickery, mislead or fool).*
- Q. Users shall not send, transmit, or otherwise disseminate proprietary data, personally identifiable information about students or other confidential information.*

**Procedures for Use**

- A. Students shall receive education about the following:
  - a. Safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of electronic communications;*
  - b. The dangers inherent in online disclosure of personally identifiable information; and*
  - c. The consequences of unauthorized access including but not limited to hacking, cyber-bullying, and other unlawful or inappropriate activities online.**
- B. All student users and their parents are required to sign a written agreement annually, or at the time of enrollment, to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and any administrative procedures and guidelines. If the agreement is not signed, District network privileges will not be given.*
- C. Students shall not (1) access or use another person's account without written permission; (2) share their password with anyone else or engage in activities that would reveal anyone's password; (3) allow others to access a computer that the user is logged on to; or (4) ever sign in, or attempt to sign in, as another person.*

**Violations and Sanctions**

*Accessing the Internet or District network is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use and violation of this or any other Board policy may result in cancellation of all network access. Inappropriate material is defined as any material or use that is inconsistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the educational mission of the District. Any user can be denied access temporarily or permanently if the school or District administrator determines that a user has used the Internet or District network in an inappropriate or unacceptable manner. Students may also be disciplined or subject to other legal action.*

### **No Expectation of Privacy**

All users are warned that there should be no expectation of privacy in connection with the use of the District's computer resources. Users should not create, store or use messages, files or other information which they do not want school authorities to see. The following reasons explain why users should have no expectation of privacy:

- A. The District may have a duty under federal law to monitor on-line activities of users and enforce the use of protective measures. Authorized administrators and staff may review use of the District's computer resources and the Internet at any time, without reason or prior notice, to maintain system integrity and determine that users are acting responsibly or otherwise consistent with this policy.
- B. Computer resources are owned, controlled, and maintained by the District. They are provided to staff and students to be used for educational purposes only. Files or any information stored on school-based networks are subject to periodic inspection and routine maintenance.
- C. E-mail communications can be stored indefinitely on any number of computers. Copies of messages may be forwarded to others either electronically or on paper. In addition, e-mail sent to non-existent or incorrect user names may be delivered to persons that you never intended.
- D. Use of passwords to gain access to the computer network or to encode particular files or messages does not imply that users have an expectation of privacy in such access or materials. The District has global passwords that permit it to access all material stored on the computer system, regardless of whether that material has been encoded with a particular user's password.
- E. District personnel may receive or create e-mail messages and other documents that are public records that may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

### **Use of Computer Resources by School Personnel**

The computer resources are the property of the District and may only be used for approved purposes. Users are permitted access to assist them in the performance of their jobs. Occasional use of the computer resources by an individual school employee for personal communications is permitted when the use does not interfere with the employee's or other user's job responsibilities, performance of the computer resources, or operation of the District. A short social message and a quick note to a family member are examples of permitted personal use. Use for personal or third party gain or profit, or for entertainment, is strictly prohibited. Solicitation for any purpose, other than to support a community service drive officially sponsored by the District, will not be tolerated. Employees are reminded that this limited, occasional personal use must comply with this policy, and all other policies, regulations and practices of the District. Use of computer resources is a privilege that may be revoked at any time, in whole or in part, at the sole discretion of the District.

**Policy Violations**

Users who become aware of any misuse of computer resources must immediately report the incident to the administration. Any violation of this policy may result in immediate termination of school-provided access to computer resources, including the Internet. Additional disciplinary action may be taken in keeping with existing policies, procedures and practices regarding the conduct, including but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion from school (students) or termination of employment (personnel). When appropriate, law enforcement agencies may be involved and legal action or prosecution may result.

**Board Liability**

The Board makes no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, for the use of computer resources and the Internet access it is providing.

***The Board is not responsible, and shall not be liable, for:***

- A. Damage resulting from unauthorized or inappropriate District network or social media activity;***
- B. Use of information obtained via the Internet, including any damages a user may incur including but not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by negligence, errors;***
- C. The accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet;***
- D. Unfiltered content that may be viewed or downloaded on District equipment that has been provided to individuals for use outside District property;***
- E. Issues or damage caused by the connection of personal devices to the District's network or improper use of the District's network or equipment; or***
- F. Personally owned devices that are damaged, lost, or stolen.***

**Notice of Policy**

[Students and school personnel shall be given notice of this policy annually. All other users shall be given notice of this policy prior to obtaining access to or using District computer resources.]

[COMMENTARY: *The statement of notice is currently being reviewed.*]

Each user is required to sign an Acknowledgement Form stating that they have received notice of and understand this policy and any accompanying administrative regulations.

The administration may issue regulations and guidelines in connection with this policy.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. 6777 Internet Safety (Children's Internet Protection Act)

47 U.S.C. 254 Universal Service

45 C.F.R. 54.520, "Children's Internet Protection Act certifications required from recipients of discounts under the federal universal service support mechanism for schools and libraries."

*Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-48d – Employers engaged in electronic monitoring required to give prior notice to employees. Exceptions. Civil penalty.*

***Responsible Use Policy Agreement***  
***New Milford Public Schools***

***What is the Responsible Use Policy Agreement?***

***The Responsible Use Policy was adopted by New Milford Public Schools Board of Education in 2017. The Responsible Use Policy (RUP) outlines the Board's specific expectations for students' use of the school system's electronic information resources, including the school system's computer networks and the Internet.***

***The RUP requires the preparation of the Responsible Use Policy Agreement which one parent (or legal guardian) and all students in grades first through twelve are required to sign and return to school before the student will be allowed to access and use these resources. By reading and signing this Agreement, you are giving your permission for your child to use these resources, and you are stating that you understand and will explain to your child what the Agreement means. Students in grades first through twelve are required to sign the Agreement to indicate that they understand the RUP and the Agreement and agree to abide by them.***

***New technologies have greatly expanded the amount and type of information available to students and teachers. In addition to our large collection of print media in the school libraries, each school has access to a large array of electronic information systems via electronic periodicals and encyclopedias and the Internet. However, access to so much information brings new responsibilities to use the resources and information responsibly and ethically. Below you will find a summary of the guidelines for accessing and using all the information obtained through these technologies. We teach a simple and straightforward version of the following guidelines starting in grade K, and we add more complex dimensions as students' progress through the school system.***

***Student Consent Form***

***As a user of the New Milford Public Schools' electronic information resources and computer networks, I have read, understand and will abide by the Responsible Use Agreement which implements the Responsible Use Policy. I understand that my signature and the signature of one of my parents or legal guardians are preconditions to my accessing and using the District's electronic information resources. I also specifically agree to the following:***

- 1. I will use digital technology resources only for educational and research purposes that are consistent with the educational objectives of my teachers and the Board of Education.***

2. ***I will use digital resources in a responsible, ethical and legal manner at all times. I will not intentionally do anything to another users' work on the resources.***
3. ***I will not plagiarize. I will give appropriate citations to an author or resource as the source of information I find.***
4. ***I will use digital technology resources as directed by a teacher or staff member.***
5. ***I will be considerate of other users and data privacy when using District resources. I will be polite and use appropriate language at all times. My log-in and password will be kept private and not shared with other users.***
6. ***I will send and receive electronic mail (email) appropriately for educational purposes. I will report any inappropriate email messages or any misuses of email immediately.***
7. ***I will not give out any personal information regarding myself or anyone else in the district while using email.***
8. ***I will never intentionally damage, degrade or disrupt the electronic information resources, including computer services or computer equipment. I will not tamper with computer hardware or software, vandalize or change data in any way, intentionally introduce computer viruses, attempt to gain access to restricted or unauthorized networks or network services or violate copyright laws. I understand that such activity may be a crime.***
9. ***I will use the portal for educational requirements and will use appropriate language at all times.***
10. ***If I do not follow the rules outlined in this Agreement and in the Responsible Use Policy, I know that I may lose my privilege to use the District's electronic information resources. I also know that I may be disciplined for not following the rules and that my parents and I may have to pay for any damage I cause because of my intentional misuse of these resources.***
11. ***I am aware that some violations of the Responsible Use Policy may also be violations of local, state and federal laws and regulations and that I may be prosecuted for violating those laws.***

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Student)**

**Parental Consent Form**  
**Responsible Use Policy Agreement**  
**New Milford Public Schools**

*I give the New Milford Board of Education permission to allow my child to access and use the electronic information resources in the schools for educational purposes. I understand that when using a resource such as the Internet, it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial or potentially inappropriate materials or to predict with complete certainty what information a user may locate. I understand that the District will use filtering programs, access controls and active supervision of students and will make all reasonable efforts to protect students from any misuses or abuses as a result of their use of the District's electronic information resources.*

*My child and I have read the Board's Responsible Use Policy and this Responsible Use Policy Agreement for grades one through twelve, and we have discussed the Policy and this Agreement. I understand that my child, in addition, will receive several lessons from the school librarian and classroom teacher about the Responsible Use Policy and the Responsible Use Policy Agreement.*

*I understand, and explained to my child, that he or she may lose his or her privilege to use these resources at school and may be disciplined if he or she does not follow all of the rules outlined in the Responsible Use Policy and the Responsible Use Policy Agreement. I understand that my child and I may be held liable for costs incurred by my child's deliberate violation of the Policy.*

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian)

**Parent/Guardian Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

*I give permission to allow school personnel to record audios, take photos, or videos of my child. These images or recordings, as well as student work, may be published in various locations, including the school or the district website. I am aware that the district has no control over any subsequent use or publication of the images, recordings, or student work so published. I am also aware that third parties, such as media or other parents, may take images of my child in school or at school events, and in those instances, the district has no control over the use of those images once they are published.*

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian)



NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Milford, Connecticut

INTERNET FILTERING OVERRIDE REQUEST

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Staff member (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

- Please create an authorized Internet filtering override username and password for indicated staff member. The override will allow this individual unfiltered access to the Internet for a maximum of 60 minutes per activation.
- E-mail notification can be sent each time the override is activated. Notification messages contain the account username and the time of activation. They do not list sites visited while the override is enabled.
- Please provide access to the following URL's:

Please state the reason for override.

\_\_\_\_\_ Have you viewed the sites?

\_\_\_\_\_ For which grade level do you feel the sites are appropriate?

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Staff member's signature and date \_\_\_\_\_

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Staff member's e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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Building administrator signature & date \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**EMPLOYEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
REGARDING  
COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE**

I have read and agree to comply with the terms of the New Milford Board of Education's policy no. 4118.4 or 4218.4 governing the use of the District's computer resources by school personnel. I understand that a violation may result in disciplinary action, including possible termination, as well as civil or criminal liability. I also understand that I am responsible for financial obligations resulting from my unauthorized use of the computer resources, and that the District may revoke my access privileges at any time.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print: \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC MONITORING  
of School District Personnel and Guest Users**

In accordance with Connecticut law, the New Milford Board of Education (“District”) hereby gives notice to all its employees of the potential use of electronic monitoring in its workplace. While the District may not actually engage in the use of electronic monitoring, it reserves the right to do so as management deems appropriate in its discretion, consistent with the provisions set forth in this notice.

“Electronic monitoring”, means the collection of information on District premises concerning employees’ activities or communications, by any means other than direct observation of the employees. Electronic monitoring includes the use of a computer, telephone, wire, radio, camera, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo-optical systems.

The law does not cover the collection of information for security purposes in any common areas of District premises which are open to the public, or which is prohibited under other state or federal law.

The following specific types of electronic monitoring may be used by the District in its workplaces:

- Monitoring of e-mail, Internet usage and other components of the District’s computer resources for compliance with its policies, procedures and guidelines concerning use of such resources.
- Video and/or audio surveillance within the District’s facilities (other than in restrooms, locker rooms, lounges and other areas designed for the health or personal comfort of employees or for the safeguarding of their possessions).
- Monitoring of employee usage of District’s telephone systems.

The law also provides that, where electronic monitoring may produce evidence of misconduct, the District may use electronic monitoring without any prior notice when it has reasonable grounds to believe employees are engaged in conduct that violates the law, violates the legal rights of the District or other employees, or creates a hostile work environment.

**NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
New Milford, Connecticut**

**USER ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
REGARDING  
COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE**

I acknowledge receipt of the New Milford Board of Education's policy number 6141.321/4118.4/4218.4 governing the use of the District's computer resources. As a user of the Board's computer resources and Internet access, I agree to read and comply with the terms of the district's acceptable use policy. I understand that a violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including possible termination, as well as civil or criminal liability. I also understand that I am responsible for financial obligations resulting from my unauthorized use of the computer resources, and that the District may revoke my access privileges at any time.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR DISCUSSION**

**6146(a)**

**Instruction**

**Graduation Requirements**

To graduate from the New Milford Public Schools, a student must earn a minimum number of credits, fulfill credit distribution requirements and meet district performance standards.

**I. Academic credit distribution requirements**

A. Students must complete the following credits:

Year of Graduation 2013, 2014	4.0 English 3.0 Mathematics 3.0 Social Studies (including 0.5 credit in civics and 1 credit for U.S. history) 3.0 Science 1.0 Physical Education 1.0 Arts (Fine or Practical) 0.5 Health 7.0 Electives <hr/> 22.5 TOTAL CREDITS
Year of Graduation 2015	4.0 English 3.0 Mathematics 3.0 Social Studies (including 0.5 credit in civics and 1 credit for U.S. history) 3.0 Science 2.0 Physical Education 1.0 Arts (Fine or Practical) 0.5 Health 7.0 Electives <hr/> 23.5 TOTAL CREDITS
Year of Graduation 2016	4.0 English 3.0 Mathematics 3.0 Social Studies (including 0.5 credit in civics and 1 credit for U.S. history) 3.0 Science 2.0 Physical Education 1.0 Arts (Fine or Practical) 0.5 Health 8.0 Electives (including 0.5 in humanities) <hr/> 24.5 TOTAL CREDITS

## Instruction

### Graduation Requirements

Year of Graduation 2017	4.0	English
	4.0	Mathematics
	3.0	Social Studies (including 0.5 credit in civics and 1 credit for U.S. history)
	3.0	Science
	2.0	Physical Education
	1.0	Arts (Fine or Practical)
	0.5	Health
	8.5	Electives (including 0.5 in humanities and 0.5 in Financial Literacy)
		<hr/> 26.0 TOTAL CREDITS

- B. A credit shall consist of not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute class period for each school day of a school year unless such credit is earned at an institution accredited by the Department of Higher Education or regionally accredited.

#### II. District's performance standards

These performance standards identify the basic skills that students are expected to achieve in order to graduate. A New Milford High School graduate must complete all academic requirements and demonstrate basic skills in Reading & Writing, Quantitative Thinking (Math & Science) and Information Literacy. The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall develop administrative regulations regarding performance standards for each basic skill, including the method(s) of assessing a student's level of competency in such skills. The assessment criteria must include, but not be based exclusively on, the results of the state or national high school state-wide mastery examination.

#### III. Options if graduation requirements are not met

The Board of Education is dedicated to providing students who may have difficulty fulfilling these requirements with different options and multiple opportunities to meet the academic and performance standards for graduation.

Those students who have not successfully completed the assessment criteria will be afforded alternative means of meeting this criteria. The following is not an inclusive list:

- Pass 0.5 credit of English 4
- Completion of a research project, approved in advance by the Science Department, that involves data collection, and is graded according to an established rubric
- Pass Departmental Exam covering the topics of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and statistics

## **Instruction**

### **Graduation Requirements**

#### **III. Options if graduation requirements are not met (cont.)**

- Pass 0.5 credit of Practical Math
- English Writing SAT I of 450 or better
- Math Reasoning SAT I of 450 or better
- Math SAT II Math Level 1C of 450 or better

Seniors who are not eligible for graduation with their class due to a failure to meet the district graduation requirements in one or more subjects may select one of the following options:

1. Successful completion of a summer course or summer courses comparable (as determined by the Principal) to the subject(s) in which the student was deficient
2. Enroll in an on-line course in accordance with Policy 6172.6 (Virtual/On-line Courses/College/University Courses)
3. Make arrangement for re-testing to meet performance standards
4. Return to school in September as a fifth year senior

#### **IV. Exemptions, modifications, and accommodations**

- A. If a physician or advanced practice registered nurse certifies in writing that the physical education requirement is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of the student, this requirement may be fulfilled by an elective.
- B. Exemptions; modifications and accommodations of graduation requirements will be made for any student with a disability as determined by the planning and placement team or 504 team.
- C. Only credits for courses taken in grades nine through twelve shall satisfy graduation requirements except that the Superintendent of Schools or designee may grant credit for certain courses identified in subsection (e) of Section 10-221a of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- D. The Board may permit a student to graduate during a period of expulsion pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 10-233d if the Board determines that the student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits for graduation.
- E. In accordance with state law, the Board of Education may award a high school diploma to a veteran of World War II, the Korean hostilities, or the Vietnam Era who left high school to serve in the armed forces and did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such service as well as any person who withdrew from high school prior to graduation to work in a job that assisted the war effort during World War II, did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such work and has resided in the state for at least fifty consecutive years.

## Instruction

### Graduation Requirements

#### Early Graduation

Students may finish in seven semesters provided all graduation requirements have been satisfied. Any student interested in being considered for early graduation must notify his/her counselor of his/her intentions by May 1 of the junior year. Students applying for early graduation must obtain the Early Graduation Policy statement and related application form from the Guidance Office and take course no. 990.

Course No.	Course	Prerequisites
990	Early Graduation	By Special Arrangement Only

(cf. 5121 - Examination/Grading/Rating)  
 (cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)  
 (cf. 6111 - School Calendar)  
 (cf. 6145.6 - Travel and Exchange Programs)  
 (cf. 6142.2 – Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations)

Legal reference:	Connecticut General Statutes
10-14n	State-wide mastery examination
10-161	Establishment of graduation date
10-18	Courses in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship
10-19	Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome
10-221a	High school graduation requirements
10-223a	Promotion and graduation policies. Basic skills necessary for graduation, assessment process

Policy adopted: June 10, 2003  
 Policy revised: June 27, 2005  
 Policy revised: June 8, 2010  
 Policy revised: October 11, 2011  
 Policy revised: September 10, 2013  
 Policy revised: October 8, 2013

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
 New Milford, Connecticut



# FOR DISCUSSION

9130(a)

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Board Committees**

In order to better serve the school system, the Board shall establish certain committees to serve in an advisory capacity to the Superintendent and the Board, and to fulfill its responsibilities as required by law.

It is the policy of the Board to maintain certain Standing Committees, namely: Operations, Learning, Facilities and Policy; and to establish certain Ad-Hoc Committees, as needed. The committees shall operate within the standards set forth by this policy.

### **Standing Committees**

Not later than the January regular meeting of the Board, the Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Board Chairperson to serve until the next annual meeting. Each committee shall consist of four Board members and two alternates. The alternates will only participate in committee meetings when one or more of the assigned board members are not present at the committee meeting. The Board Chairperson appoints the Chairperson for each committee from the members of the committee. The Board Chairperson is an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

Any member of the Board who is interested in serving on a standing committee shall notify the Chairperson promptly concerning his or her interest.

- A. Each Board member must serve on at least one standing committee.
- B. No Board member may serve on more than three standing committees.
- C. No Board member may chair more than one standing committee.

Any member of the Board may attend standing committee meetings (excluding Executive Session, unless otherwise permitted under the Freedom of Information Act); however, they are not able to participate in any discussion or vote. At all times, the total number of Board members participating in a committee meeting shall be one less than the number that represents a quorum of the Board.

Standing Committee Chairpersons and members on standing committees shall serve for the same term as the Board Chairperson.

(cf. 9132 – Standing Committees)

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Ad-Hoc (Special/Temporary) Committees**

Ad-Hoc (Special/Temporary) committees shall be established by the Board or Board Chairperson, whenever advisable, to address specific problems and projects. These committees shall include a minimum of two and a maximum of three Board members and may include members of the staff and/or community who would be able to provide expertise. Ad-Hoc committees shall be appointed as soon as possible after their establishment and shall be dissolved when their report has been accepted by the Board or at the next annual organizational meeting or upon a motion for dissolution passed by a majority vote, or upon completion of the assigned task whichever comes first. Ad-Hoc Committees supersede any standing committee.

Ad Hoc committee members shall be appointed by the Chairperson. Any Board member interested in serving on an Ad Hoc committee shall notify the Chairperson promptly concerning his/her interest. Any Board member who is interested in attending Ad Hoc committee meetings may do so. Board members who are not members of the Ad Hoc Committee may not 1) attend any executive session of the Ad Hoc Committee, unless otherwise permitted under the Freedom of Information Act, or 2) participate in any discussion or vote.

In the event of vacancies on Ad Hoc committees, the Chairperson shall appoint new committee members. All appointments expire when the committee as a whole expires.

The duties of each Ad Hoc committee shall be outlined at the time the committee is appointed.

### **Conduct of Committee Business**

So that Board Committees shall operate in a consistent and effective manner, the following standards shall apply:

1. Board committee appointments shall be determined by the Board Chairperson as guided by the best interests of the Board. To make this determination, the Board Chairperson shall consider:
  - The requests by Board members to serve on specific committees. Requests to serve on specific Standing Committees shall be submitted by Board members, in the form of a prioritized list, to the Board Chairman at the annual meeting of the Board.

**Bylaws of the Board**

**Conduct of Committee Business (continued)**

- The individual background, talents and experiences of Board members.
  - The synergetic quality of the committee as a whole.
2. Standing Committees shall plan to meet once a month. Additional meetings may be called by the Committee Chairperson whenever he/she deems necessary, or upon a request of two committee members.
  3. All committees of the Board of Education shall follow the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act as required by statute.
  4. All Standing Committee meetings shall have a written agenda, prepared by the Committee Chairperson and the Superintendent or his/her designee; and posted at least twenty-four hours before the meeting. The agenda shall include all assignments as may be directed by the Board. *An agenda item requested in writing to the Chair by at least three members shall automatically be added to the agenda.*
  5. The proceedings of all Standing Committee meetings shall be recorded and distributed to Board members in a timely manner.
  6. Recommendations to be considered for Board action, as determined by a vote of the committee members present, shall be placed on the agenda of a regular Board meeting as a formal motion.
  7. All committee meetings shall be open to the public; however, an executive session may be called in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.
  8. All committees shall post agendas and keep minutes of business conducted at meetings in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The minutes shall be kept on file in the Superintendent's office and be made available at all times to the Board of Education members.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
 1-200 through 1-241 of the Freedom of Information Act.  
 1-200 Definitions.  
 1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public.

Bylaw adopted by the Board:	January 9, 2001	NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bylaw revised by the Board:	November 7, 2005	New Milford, Connecticut
Bylaw revised by the Board:	November 14, 2006	
Bylaw revised by the Board:	June 9, 2009	
Bylaw revised by the Board:	December 14, 2010	
Bylaw revised by the Board:	April 10, 2012	

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Construction of the Agenda**

The Superintendent in cooperation with the Chairperson of the Board of Education shall prepare an agenda for each meeting. Any member of the Board of Education may call the Chairperson of the Board of Education and request any item to be placed on the agenda no later than 72 hours prior to the legally required public posting of the agenda. Such request shall be taken into consideration. *An agenda item requested in writing to the Chair by at least three members shall automatically be added to the agenda.*

In addition, the Chairperson of the Board of Education shall call a meeting whenever he/she is requested in writing so to do by three of the members of the Board of Education. If no meeting is called within 14 days after such a request has been made, one may be called by any three members by giving the usual written notice to the other members, with the agenda for the requested special meeting included and properly posted in accordance with the law.

### **Posting of the Agenda**

At least 24 hours prior to the time of the meeting, the agenda shall be posted in Town Hall and shall be available at the Board's central offices. Any subsequent business not included in such filed agendas may be considered and acted upon at regular Board meetings upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Education present and voting; however, no such additional items may be considered by the Board at special or emergency meetings.

Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public.

10-218 Officers. Meetings.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: January 9, 2001  
Bylaw revised by the Board: November 7, 2005  
Bylaw revised by the Board: November 14, 2006  
Bylaw revised by the Board: March 10, 2009

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Milford, Connecticut

General Assembly

***Proposed Bill No. 5408***

*January Session, 2017*

LCO No. 432

**\*00432\***

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:

REP. FERGUSON, 138th Dist.

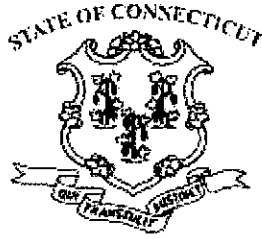
***AN ACT DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INCREASED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND REQUIRING A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF SUCH GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

That subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the general statutes be amended to change the implementation date of the high school graduation requirements from the graduating class of 2021 to the graduating class of 2023, and to require the Department of Education to conduct a study to review and analyze the high school graduation requirements and the feasibility of fully implementing or phasing-in implementation of such requirements.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To delay implementation of the high school graduation requirements and to study the feasibility of implementing such graduation requirements.



**Substitute Senate Bill No. 1059**

**Public Act No. 15-237**

**AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 10-221a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

- (a) For classes graduating from 1988 to 2003, inclusive, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, not fewer than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education and not fewer than one in physical education.
- (b) For classes graduating from 2004 to [2019] 2020, inclusive, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, including at least a one-half credit course on civics and American government, not fewer than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education and not fewer than one in physical education.
- (c) Commencing with classes graduating in [2020] 2021, and for each graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed (1) a minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (A) Nine credits in the humanities, including not fewer than (i) four credits in English, including composition; (ii) three credits in social studies, including at least one credit in American history and at least one-half credit in civics and American government; (iii) one credit in fine arts; and (iv) one credit in a humanities elective; (B) eight credits in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, including not fewer than (i) four credits in mathematics, including algebra I, geometry and algebra II or probability and statistics; (ii) three credits in science, including at least one credit in life science and at least one credit in physical science; and (iii) one credit in a science, technology, engineering and mathematics elective; (C) three and one-half credits in career and life skills, including not fewer than (i) one credit in physical education; (ii) one-half credit in health and safety education, as described in section 10-16b; and (iii) two credits in career and life skills electives, such as career and technical education, English as a second language, community service, personal finance, public speaking and nutrition and physical activity; (D) two credits in world languages, subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of this section; and (E) a one credit senior

demonstration project or its equivalent, as approved by the State Board of Education; and (2) end of the school year examinations for the following courses: (A) Algebra I, (B) geometry, (C) biology, (D) American history, and (E) grade ten English.

(d) Commencing with classes graduating in [2020] 2021, and for each graduating class thereafter, local and regional boards of education shall provide adequate student support and remedial services for students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of the high school graduation requirements or end of the school year examinations described in subsection (c) of this section, if such student is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher education, as defined in section 10a-1, pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (g) of this section; (3) allowing students who received a failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and (4) allowing those students whose individualized education programs state that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through success on such alternate assessment.

(e) Any student who presents a certificate from a physician or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of the physician or advanced practice registered nurse, participation in physical education is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such student, shall be excused from the physical education requirement, provided the credit for physical education may be fulfilled by an elective.

(f) Determination of eligible credits shall be at the discretion of the local or regional board of education, provided the primary focus of the curriculum of eligible credits corresponds directly to the subject matter of the specified course requirements. The local or regional board of education may permit a student to graduate during a period of expulsion pursuant to section 10-233d, if the board determines the student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits pursuant to this section. The requirements of this section shall apply to any student requiring special education pursuant to section 10-76a, except when the planning and placement team for such student determines the requirement not to be appropriate. For purposes of this section, a credit shall consist of not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or part of a credit toward high school graduation earned (1) at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (2) through on-line coursework that is in accordance with a policy adopted pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, or (3) through a demonstration of mastery based on competency and performance standards, in accordance with guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education.

(g) Only courses taken in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, shall satisfy [this] the graduation [requirement] requirements set forth in this section, except that a local or regional board of education may grant a student credit (1) toward meeting a specified course requirement upon the successful completion in grade seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in grades nine to twelve, inclusive; (2) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of a world language course (A) in grade six, seven or eight, (B) through on-line coursework, or (C) offered privately through a nonprofit provider, provided such student achieves a passing grade on an examination prescribed, within available appropriations, by the Commissioner of Education and such credits do

not exceed four; (3) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon achievement of a passing grade on a subject area proficiency examination identified and approved, within available appropriations, by the Commissioner of Education, regardless of the number of hours the student spent in a public school classroom learning such subject matter; (4) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of coursework during the school year or summer months at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this section; (5) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of on-line coursework, provided the local or regional board of education has adopted a policy in accordance with this subdivision for the granting of credit for on-line coursework. Such a policy shall ensure, at a minimum, that (A) the workload required by the on-line course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional classroom setting, (B) the content is rigorous and aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, where appropriate, (C) the course engages students and has interactive components, which may include, but are not limited to, required interactions between students and their teachers, participation in on-line demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual labs, (D) the program of instruction for such on-line coursework is planned, ongoing and systematic, and (E) the courses are (i) taught by teachers who are certified in the state or another state and have received training on teaching in an on-line environment, or (ii) offered by institutions of higher education that are accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited; or (6) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of the academic advancement program, pursuant to section 10-5c.

(h) A local or regional board of education may offer one-half credit in community service which, if satisfactorily completed, shall qualify for high school graduation credit pursuant to this section, provided such community service is supervised by a certified school administrator or teacher and consists of not less than fifty hours of actual service that may be performed at times when school is not regularly in session and not less than ten hours of related classroom instruction. For purposes of this section, community service does not include partisan political activities. The State Board of Education shall assist local and regional boards of education in meeting the requirements of this section. The State Board of Education shall award a community service recognition award to any student who satisfactorily completes fifty hours or more of community service in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(i) (1) A local or regional board of education may award a diploma to a veteran, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, of World War II or the Korean hostilities, as described in section 51-49h, or of the Vietnam Era, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, who withdrew from high school prior to graduation in order to serve in the armed forces of the United States and did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such service.

(2) A local or regional board of education may award a diploma to any person who (A) withdrew from high school prior to graduation to work in a job that assisted the war effort during World War II, December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946, inclusive, (B) did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such work, and (C) has been a resident of the state for at least fifty consecutive years.

(j) For the school year commencing July 1, 2012, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall create a student success plan for each student enrolled in a public school, beginning in grade six. Such student success plan shall include a student's career and academic choices in grades six to twelve, inclusive.



Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study the following issues related to the high school graduation requirements, described in section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this act: (1) The alignment of the changes to the high school graduation requirements commencing with classes graduating in 2021, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, with the Common Core State Standards, adopted by the State Board of Education on July 7, 2010, pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes, and (2) the feasibility of including training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation as part of the high school graduation requirements.

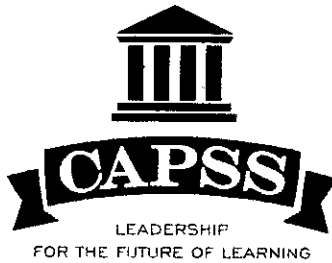
(b) The task force shall consist of the following members: (1) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, (2) one representative from each of the following associations, designated by each such association, the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, the Connecticut Association of Schools, Connecticut Federation of School Administrators, the Connecticut Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut, and (3) two persons selected by the Commissioner of Education, including, but not limited to, teachers and any other person the commissioner deems appropriate.

(c) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(d) The representative from the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents shall serve as the chairperson of the task force. Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(e) Not later than January 1, 2016, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2016, whichever is later.

Approved June 30, 2015



**TESTIMONY OF THE CT ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL  
SUPERINTENDENTS RE S.B. No 910 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**JOSEPH J. CIRASUOLO, ED. D**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**2/26/17**

The CT Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) which represents the superintendents of CT's public school systems and the members of the central office staffs of those systems recommends an alternative to that section of the recommendations of the Department of Education that addresses graduation requirements for students who attend public high school in CT. The alternative is the one that is endorsed by the CT Boards of Education (CABE), the CT Association of Schools (CAS) along with CAPSS. The alternative recommendation is as follows.

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Credit-Based Mastery System**

**For the Class of 2023 and All Graduating Classes Thereafter**

For the Class of 2023 and all graduating classes thereafter to graduate from a CT public high school, a student must:

(1) Acquire a minimum of 25 credits, including but not limited to:

- 9.0 credits in the Humanities (including the arts)

Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents

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- 9.0 credits in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- 1.0 credit of Fitness Education
- 1.0 credit of Health Education
- 1.0 credit of World Cultures
- 1.0 credit Mastery Based Diploma Assessment\*

Credits above may be acquired through the demonstration of mastery of graduation standards in alignment with state standards in all content areas, including *cross-curricular graduation requirements*\*\*.

If high schools elect to require demonstration of mastery for the earning of credit, those high schools shall provide students the opportunity to experience learning through flexible and multiple pathways. Such learning opportunities can include but are not limited to career and technical education, virtual learning, work-based learning, service learning, dual enrollment and early college, courses taken in middle school, internships, and student designed independent studies.

\* This assessment is a work product developed by the student over a period of several years and integrates many, if not all of the essential skills acquired over a student's history in secondary schools.

\*\* *Cross curricular graduation requirements are challenging and measurable 21st century learning expectations for all students which*

*address academic, social and civic competencies. Each expectation is defined by specific and measurable criteria for success which define targeted high levels of achievement. Some examples are: collaboration, systems thinking, empathy, communication (including reading, writing,*

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speaking, listening skills), technological skills, civic engagement, intrapersonal intelligence, and problem-solving.

CAPSS makes this recommendation for the following reasons:

- It relieves the State's public school districts from the obligation to spend money to implement the requirements that were adopted in 2010 which are not aligned with the objective of every student knowing the content and acquiring the skills that students will have to know and have in order to be successful after they leave high school. In other words, districts would not have to spend money in pursuit of actions that are not worth pursuing.
- It removes barriers for those many districts that are developing systems whereby students will actually have to demonstrate that they have acquired the requisite knowledge and skills before students are awarded a high school diploma.