

**New Hartford Public Schools
Special Board of Education Meeting
October 6, 2020**

**6:00 pm/Virtual Meeting
Access Meeting/Listen Only
Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85812793635?pwd=VWorelpyZGx2VWxyVWNEM0JFdG9lZz09>

Meeting ID: 858 1279 3635

Passcode: nhps2020

Present: Tim Goff, Karl Hermonat, Penny Miller, Tom Buzzi, Tim Klepps, Tony Persechino, Heather Tomala, Kelly O'Dell Longhi, Mary Stempien

Others Present: Brian Murphy, Barbara Mclean, Heather Mathes, Amanda Shaw, Kelly Carroll

A. Chair to Open Meeting – Tim Goff opened meeting at 6.05pm

B. Pledge of Allegiance- The Board joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Chair Select Order of Business- No Changes to the order of Business.

D. Superintendent's Report

1. Special Education Costs - Mr. Murphy started the meeting by explaining that the New Hartford Public Schools is facing a \$105,000 deficit for the current school year. This is due to unanticipated special education costs to the district, after the school budget was passed in June. Mr. Murphy emphasized that this number is projected and is subject to change, based on how early into the budget cycle these costs have been identified with the end of the fiscal year June 30th 2021. Mr. Murphy informed the Board of the process going forward. He stated that these costs are an excess of the reimbursable costs provided by the State Department of Education, specifically for outplaced students. Each school district in the state of Connecticut are, mandated to cover these costs for services provided to these students. Superintendent Murphy, Tim Geoff and Barbara Mclean will attend the upcoming Board of Finance meeting to explain these costs and the recent deficit for the purpose of being as transparent as possible. At the BOF meeting, a recommendation for a transfer of \$190,000 will be made. This money will not be directly received by the Board of Education and instead will be transferred to the Town of New Hartford. Mr. Murphy reiterated that at this time, the Board of

Education is explaining the process to the Board of Finance and that no formal request would be discussed until the spring of 2021, further into the school year. Tim Goff and Karl Hermonat both asked for clarification that there is no request for money at this time to the BOF but instead are making them aware of these costs and the possibility of a formal request later into the fiscal year. Mr. Murphy confirmed yes and that in recent years, the Board of Finance have asked for early information regarding these types of situations, therefore the Board of Education is following these guidelines.

2. Election Day/Schools - Mr. Murphy notified the Board that he received a request from the Town of New Hartford Registrar to use New Hartford Elementary School and Ann Antolini School as voting sites for the upcoming election on November 3rd. After a meeting with the Registrars it was agreed that these schools would be used for voting on Election Day. These will be the only sites for the town and all other past facilities will not be used.

Tim believes that both gyms will be used in each schools. He also asked Brian to confirm with the Registrar that cleaning will be carried out before and after voting. Penny asked how the flow of the public throughout the building could be controlled Mr. Murphy stated that in his meeting with the registrar, they went over how the public would enter and exit the buildings.

3. Illustrative Math Presentation- Mr. Murphy introduced Heather Mathes, Curriculum Coordinator, to the meeting, who would be giving a presentation into the new Illustrative Math Program which will be implemented into the New Hartford Public Schools. This will replace the previous “Investigations” program that was in place for several years. The two main reasons for this change, as identified by Superintendent Murphy, is that this new program is more aligned with grade level standards and, in addition, all of the Region 7 Elementary school districts will be moving towards this new program which will provide consistency between the four towns. Last year, Ann Antolini 6th grade class piloted the new program which was successful for both staff and students.

Mr. Murphy closed the superintendent’s report following Heather’s presentation, by adding that the last two times students completed the “Smarter balance assessment, the New Hartford Public Schools did increase by close to 7% in math. That is a significant increase which identifies success in the program so far.

E. Public Comment/Communication to the Board of Education- Tim has not received any public comment to the board in advance to the meeting.

F. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes-September 15, 2020 Penny motioned to approve. Second by Karl Hermonat. **Unanimous**

2. Expenditure Report

3. Personnel -Mr. Murphy introduced Laura Fritch as the new Board Recording Secretary.

G. New Business

1. Board of Education Self-Evaluation (proposed for executive session)

2. Nurses' Agreement/Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Agreement (proposed for executive session)

Motion by Miller to enter Executive Session at 6:48 pm and to invite Superintendent Brian Murphy to attend for the purpose of discussing the Board of Education Self-Evaluation. Seconded by Buzzi. **Unanimous**

Motion by Miller to come out of Executive Session at 7:28 pm. Seconded by Klepps. **Unanimous**

Motion by Klepps to enter Executive Session at 7:28 pm and to invite Superintendent Brian Murphy to attend for the purpose of discussing the Nurses' Agreement / Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Agreement. Seconded by Miller. **Unanimous**

Motion by Miller to come out of Executive Session at 7:47 pm. Seconded by Persechino. **Unanimous**

Motion by Stempien to accept the agreement between the New Hartford Board of Education and Christine Holland, Ann Antolini school nurse, for the time period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023. Seconded by Buzzi. **Unanimous**

Motion by Persechino to accept the agreement between the New Hartford Board of Education and Marie Bate, New Hartford Elementary school nurse, for the time period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023. Seconded by Stempien. **Unanimous**

Motion by Persechino to accept the agreement between the New Hartford Board of Education and Marie Kitch, Bakerville School nurse, for the time period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023. Seconded by Stempien. **Unanimous**

Motion by Miller to accept the agreement between the New Hartford Board of Education and Janet Terenzi, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, for the time period July 1, 2020 – June 30,2023. Seconded by Stempien. **Unanimous**

H. Adjournment - Motion by Heather Tomala to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm.
Seconded by Tony Persechino. **Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Laura Fritch,
Recording Secretary**