

**New Hartford Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Antolini School Library
October 17, 2023 @ 7 pm
Google Meet <https://meet.google.com/tir-dzso-uhh>**

Present Chairman Karl Hermonat, Tom Buzzi, Penny Miller, Mary Stempien, Tony Persechino, Deirdre Tindall (on Google Meet)

Also, present Heather Mathes, Paul Carmen, Megan Albert, Tim Russell, Frank Rodenberg, Kristen Young

Absent Travis Bonhomme, Tim Klepps, Kelly O'Dell-Longhi

Chairman Hermonat opened the meeting at 7:00 and asking all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed for a recent tragic family loss in New Hartford.

Chair to Select Order of Business

No changes

Communications to the Board of Education / Public Comment

None

Board of Education Chair's Report

None

Superintendent's Report

Supt. Sousa, in accordance with Board Policy 9230, welcomed and thanked the BOE candidates for attending this meeting – Megan Albert, Tim Russell, Frank Rodenberg and Kristen Young

EdAdvance Board

Mr. Sousa recently attended a meeting at EdAdvance. BOE member Deirdre Tindall also attended that meeting and indicated she would like to be our liaison representing the New Hartford Board of Education to that EdAdvance board.

Motion by Mr. Hermonat to appoint Deirdre Tindall as the New Hartford Board of Education representative to the EdAdvance Board. Second by Ms. Stempien.

She will attend monthly virtual meetings and then twice annually in person for their budget meetings. She will then report back to our board.

Unanimous

BOE Candidates

Mr. Hermonat said that the upcoming elections will be held on November 7th. Once the new members are elected, they will need to be sworn in by the New Hartford Town Clerk before our meeting on December 5th. New board officers – Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary - will also be elected at that board meeting. Officers serve a term of two years.

Grants

Mr. Sousa reported that we have been awarded two grants from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security. Copies of the two grants cover sheets are submitted with these minutes. The first is the 2023 Muti-Media Grant for \$212,000 with a \$111,000 reimbursement. This is a 3-year grant. This grant is specifically to improve all infrastructure security wise for our school system. It is inclusive of telephone, VOIP, panic button and overlays network accessibility, protective film on our windows and more.

The second is the 2023 School Security Grant for \$406,000 with \$231,000 reimbursement. This, also, is a 3-year grant.

These two grants will provide us better infrastructure with eyes in our school from cameras and accessibility.

School Armed Security Officer Informational Sessions October 25 and November 21

Supt. Sousa said that post cards have been mailed out to the townspeople alerting them to these two informational sessions. The meetings will be held from 6 - 7 pm at the Ann Antolini School Library. The intent is to provide a short informational piece to the public. In addition, the board will hear from the public their thoughts, questions and concerns they may have.

The intention is to vote on this at the December 5th meeting. This has been publicized on the school website, social media, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For those unable to attend they can either log into Google Meet to view the presentation, call Central Office to speak with the Superintendent or send an email to nhpsschoolsecurity@nhps.org

Mr. Buzzi asked for clarification on what it means when the Multi-Media grant reads \$200,000 with \$111,000 reimbursement. Mr. Sousa said the total cost for all the components of the grant we submitted is \$200,000. Of that \$111,000 would be reimbursed. The gap will need to be budgeted in our Capital. The same holds true for the School Security grant.

Routine Business

Approval of minutes – September 19, 2023

Motion by Mr. Buzzi to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 meeting. Second by Ms. Stempien.

Unanimous

Expenditure report

Motion by Ms. Miller to approve the Expenditure Report. Second by Mr. Persechino.

Unanimous

New Business

Supt. Sousa thanked the Policy Committee for all the work they have done – Mary Stempien, Penny Miller, Kelly Carroll, Amy Kennedy and Mike Lynch.

Policy Updates (First Readings) -

Policy 5118.21 on Students – Military Children – this is a new policy

Policy 6159 – an update to this policy on IEP/SPED programs

Policy 7230.2 – an update to this policy on new construction – IAQ and HVAC

Policy 4121 – an update to this policy for substitute teachers

Old Business

Motion by Mr. Buzzi to enter executive session at 7:30 pm. Second by Ms. Miller

Unanimous

Out of executive session at 7:45 pm

Motion by Mr. Persechino to renew the Confidential Settlement Agreement for the 2023 - 2024 school year. Second by Ms. Miller

Unanimous

Motion by Mr. Buzzi to adjourn at 7:47 pm. Second by Mr. Persechino

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted, Penny Miller, Board Secretary

Attachments:

Cover letters for the 2023 Muti-Media Competitive Grant and 2023 School Security Competitive Grant



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



Dear School Security Partner:

I am pleased to forward for your signature the attached **2023 School Security Competitive Grant Program** (Round 6) subgrant award. The attached award lists your entity's information, the location funded, the total project cost, state share, and local share.

Please take the time to review the information included in the award, initial, sign, and return the grant award to SchoolSecurityGrant@ct.gov within **45 days of your award date** to indicate your intent to accept funding under this program. Failure to do so may result in de-obligation of funding.

The related reporting compliance documents are available on our [website](#), and include the following:

- Quarterly Monitoring Form
- Reimbursement Data Sheet
- Reimbursement Verification Tool
- Emergency Plan Certification Form
- Full NCEF Checklist

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the quarterly reporting requirements and reimbursement process.

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Statutes 10-222m and 10-222n, each local and regional board of education shall annually submit the school security and safety plan for each school under its jurisdiction to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Compliance with this requirement by the grantee will be confirmed prior to final reimbursement. Final payment will be withheld until a plan is submitted or the grantee is actively working on updating the plan.

Please feel free to contact us at SchoolSecurityGrant@ct.gov if you have any questions or need to make budgetary adjustments.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is pleased to work with you to enhance the security and protection of Connecticut's schools and citizens.

Sincerely,

Brenda M.
Bergeron

Digitally signed by Brenda
M. Bergeron
Date: 2023.09.26 16:32:59
-04'00'

Brenda M. Bergeron
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



Dear Multi-Media School Security Partner:

I am pleased to forward for your signature the attached **2023 Multi-Media School Security Competitive Grant Program** (Round 2) subgrant award. The attached award lists your entity's information, the location funded, the total project cost, state share, and local share.

Please take the time to review the information included in the award, initial, sign, and return the grant award to SchoolSecurityGrant@ct.gov within **45 days of your award date** to indicate your intent to accept funding under this program. Failure to do so may result in de-obligation of funding.

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