

**New Hartford Board of Education Meeting
Board Special Education Meeting
March 31, 2020
6:00 PM Virtual Meeting
Access Meeting/<https://zoom.us/j/312806581>/Listen Only**

Board Members Present:

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

Also Present:

Brian Murphy- Superintendent of Schools
Amanda Shaw-Antolini School Principal
Barbara McLean- Director of Student Services
Heather Mathes- Curriculum Coach
Linda Fitzgerald- Data Management Coordinator

A. Chair to Open Meeting -

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Goff at 6:06 pm. Tim explains this is a Virtual Meeting. The public is allowed to listen. If there are questions or comments for the Board, please email Tim Goff @ gofft@newhtfd.org.

B. The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

Chair Select Order of Business

Chairman Goff gave a large "THANK YOU" to the New Hartford Public Schools staff, the administration, the teaching staff, all of the staff, and fellow Board members. Everyone is doing a great job throughout this unprecedented time. We have taken what we have done in education over the last 150 years and have completely uprooted and changed directions inside of two weeks.

C. Superintendent's Report

1. Coronavirus Update

Superintendent Murphy stated that the Governor has directed school districts across Connecticut to reopen on April 20, 2020. The Governor informally mentioned that they may look to extend the school closure beyond April 20, 2020. The Governor has waived the 180 mandated days of school across the State of CT, and has waived the standardized testing for the year 2019-2020.

Distance Learning was launched on Monday, March 30, 2020. It was very successful. Eighty-four chromebooks were handed out to students. The teachers are using the Google Classroom Platform for grades K-6. Superintendent Murphy has completed MOU's - *Memos of Understandings* with the unions for these unprecedented times.

Superintendent Murphy explained that the teachers are taking attendance each day and those students who have not completed the work are being reached out by staff and teachers. The district has some Special Education Services working live, one on one, with the staff and the student. For safety precautions, Oak Hill students and staff are not allowed in the school building. Oak Hill has offered distance learning opportunities for those children. New Hartford students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch from Ed Advance in Torrington and Winsted-everyday - Monday through Friday.

2. School Calendar

The Superintendent explained that on the 2019-2020 school calendar, the last day of school is June 12, 2020. The Governor has stated that schools can plan to end school on the original scheduled last day, which is June 12, 2020, during this crisis.

April Vacation: scheduled for April 10 -17. The Superintendent communicated that NWR7, Norfolk and Colebrook Elementary Schools are going to keep their scheduled April vacation. Barkhamsted Schools are going to work through their April vacation. Hartland Schools are undecided at this time. At this time 65% of the school districts are honoring the April vacations.

Chairman Goff states, unless anyone has a motion to work through April vacation and end on June 5, 2020, the Board will continue with the calendar as the Board *approved*, with April vacation beginning Good Friday, April 10 and extending through April 17, 2020. The Board all verbally agreed.

D. New Business

1. Approval of Minutes-March 3, 2020

MOTION by Miller to approve the Board of Ed minutes from March 3, 2020 as presented, Stempien seconded. All in favor- Goff, Hermonat, Buzzi, O'dell Longhi, Miller, Persechino, Stempien and Tomala. Opposed- None. Tim Klepps abstained.

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Superintendent Murphy ends the discussion by communicating that there will be a *STAFF PARADE* on Friday, April 3, 2020 at 2:00 pm starting at Antolini. The staff is excited to decorate their cars and go on an organized route to wave to the students.

6:40 pm **MOTION** by Miller to adjourn meeting , seconded by Persechino. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Barrett
Recording Secretary