

Minutes:	V4	
Location:	Newfound Regional High School Library Media Center	
Date & Time:	Monday, February 11, 2013	
Item:	~~~~~ Approved Minutes ~~~~~	
1.	Call to Order at conclusion of the SAU Board Meeting of same date.	Actual Time: 10:00PM
a.	Salute to the Flag & Pledge of Allegiance	
b.	Notice of Posting of Meeting: SAU Office, website (sau4.org), Schools, sent to Town Offices	
2.	Non-Public Session <i>Non public minutes can be viewed as attached at the end of this document.</i>	Actual Time: 10:04PM
	<p>Motion enter Nonpublic Session made <u>Sue Cheney</u>, Seconded by <u>Lloyd Belbin</u> was made. A roll call vote was taken.</p> <p>Alexandria Yes Bridgewater Yes Bristol Yes Danbury Excused Groton Excused Hebron Yes</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: <u>5</u> YES <u>0</u> NO <u>0</u> ABSTENTIONS <u>2</u> ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes: Danbury, Groton – Excused</p>	
	<p>Specific Statutory Reason cited as foundation for the nonpublic session:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RSA 91-A:3, II (a) <i>The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RSA 91-A:3, II(b) <i>The hiring of any person as a public employee.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RSA 91-A:3, II(c) <i>Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RSA 91-A:3, II(d) <i>Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RSA 91-A:3, II(e) <i>Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against this board or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RSA 91-A:3, II(i) <i>Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life.</i></p>	
3.	Return to Public Session	Actual Time: 10:17PM
4.	<p>Approval or Modification of Agenda</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Modification: Item Z – Teacher of the Year nomination added by Dr. Philip McCormack. - Change item 9f to 9a.</p>	
5.	Inter-Communications	
a.	Sign-In by attendees; please Print Name & Town, then return to clerk for recording.	
b.	To receive regular School Board packets, please record your request on designated sheet or email to: scross@sau4.org	

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5. (continued)		
c.	<p>Public Comment (<i>not limited to agenda items; see footnote below¹</i>)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Elected Officials in Attendance - None 2) Members of the Public (5 mins/person) 3) Faculty/Staff Liaison, <i>Reported by Mimi Freeman, NMMS</i>- Not present. 4) Student Council Liaison, <i>Johanna Soule, Class of 2014</i> – Not present 5) A Thank you note was read from Football Coach Gregory Dalzell for the Board’s recognition of the football team. <i>Mr. Migliore,</i> <i>We want to take this chance to thank you and the School Board for your recognition of the fine young men and women of the Newfound Regional High School Football program.</i> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Sincerely,</i> <i>Coach Greg Dalzell</i></p> 6) Vincent Paul Migliore read a letter of condolence for Marie Ross which was sent from Mark Conrad, Nashua Superintendent of schools. (<i>Copy of the letter is attached at the end of this document.</i>) 7) A Community Volunteer Center Form was handed out. An announcement of a meeting on February 18, 2013 to discuss how to increase parental involvement in the Newfound School System was shared. Direct contact with the program lead Megan McGrath at meg@blissfulworks.com or visit Newfound Residence Uniting for quality education on their Facebook page. (<i>Copy of the notice is attached at the end of this document.</i>) 	
6.	<p>School Board Minutes for Approval Minutes from Meeting of:</p>	<p>(blue) January 14, 2013</p>
	<p>Action: Tabled until March 11, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: ___ YES ___ NO ___ ABSTENTIONS ___ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>	
7.	<p>Other Minutes in Packet, for Reference:</p>	<p>(green) 01.10.2013 Budget Meeting Minutes</p>
8.	<p>Correspondence & Reports Included in Packet</p>	
	<p>Principals, Special Education (<i>with new, H-T-D status matrix</i>), Business Administrator Dan Rossner noted two items in his report to the Board.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Item 4b – He clarified the OPEB (Obligation for Post Employment Benefits) for the Board and noted to be in compliance to GASB-45 we need to have an actuary. He further noted the first year of the cost would be the highest. 2) Item 4c – Also noted Jon Snyder’s safety efforts by identifying aged chemicals in storage. 	
Other:	None	Date Rec’d:

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9.	Discussion Items for consideration and action by the Board
a.	<p>Danbury Citizens Petition to implement a K-6 configuration at Danbury Elementary School: Lauren Moran, a Danbury parent, read a signed petition to the Board. The petition is a request to reconfigure Danbury Elementary School to a K-6 school beginning with the 2013 – 2014 school year. Lauren Moran said she developed the petition after speaking with several parents at Danbury Elementary School and they agreed it would be a beneficial configuration. Vincent Paul Migliore referenced a town warrant article which stated, Danbury was to commence a study to withdraw from the District. He wanted to know if the Petition was related. Lauren said the main purpose of the Petition is to see what their options are in their own school; If we have the option of taking our own school back. Vincent Paul Migliore explained there is a 7% decrease in enrollment throughout the state. Our latest enrollment is 1,263. We have found the district has approximately 62 classrooms which could be handled in 42 – 45 classrooms. He concluded we are about a whole school too big. He suggested waiting for the report of the K-8 Study Committee before taking action. Dr. McCormack said there are implications for staffing. If you are going to reduce staff, you need to be sensitive to the legal notification timeline-you need to notify staff by April 15th. Don Franklin questioned what our responsibility was with the presentation of a petition. Vincent Paul Migliore added there is a policy that says the Board has to do a longer study if we are closing a school. <i>(Copy of the signed petitions is at the end of this document.)</i></p>
b.	<p>Recap of the Deliberative Session scheduled for February 2, 2013: Dan Rossner reported there was an estimate of 160 to 170 in attendance. Vincent Paul Migliore said the session went well. No articles were amended. The information on the Warrant Articles is as stands. He suggested, next year, we should consider the date of the first Saturday in February with the next Saturday as a snow date.</p>
c.	<p>Personnel: Letter of resignation was submitted by Reta-Maria Margaronis-Frekot. Dr. McCormack said he appreciates knowing in advance and encourages the Board to accept her resignation. <i>Placed on Consent Agenda.</i></p>
d.	<p>Newfound Nutrition on-line payments: Dan Rossner reported that parents want visibility to the children’s account and are seeking to fund these accounts online. Nutri- Kids, has a partner company who program would allow visibility, it is secure and will not affect the school. The process would be handled entirely by the provider. The fee is \$1.95 per transaction; the charge is clearly identified to the parents each time a deposit is made into the account. This is an option for the parents to use. <i>Placed on Consent Agenda</i></p>
e.	<p>Marie Ross Memorial Scholarship: Dan Rossner reported the Marie Ross Memorial Scholarship has been established and as of today it has a little over \$7,000.00. Keeping with the Board policy, the staff of the High School will award this scholarship. The Treasurer will set up and deposit the funds we have received to date. Don Franklin asked if there was any advertisement for the Scholarship. Vincent Paul Migliore said he will send out a press release and put it on the web. <i>Placed on Consent Agenda</i></p>
f.	<p>Surplus: A detailed list was given to the board. <i>Placed on Consent Agenda.</i></p>

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g.	Proposed FY 2013-2014 School Year Calendar: Dr. McCormack proposed the 2013 – 2014 School Year Calendar with the intent to mirror the Plymouth School District Calendar. He did note Plymouth does not recognize Civil Rights Day with a day out of school; they will hold classes and focus on civil rights issues. Dr. McCormack explained this will be discussed at the March 11 th meeting. He will meet with NATA leadership to discuss prior to the March 11 th meeting. No action required.
h.	Field Trip: Request for Field Trip, overnight stay, no transportation. Approval subject to providing insurance compliance.
z.	Other Business: Teacher of the Year Nomination – Dr. McCormack reported, with a great deal of pride, that Jeannette Shedd had been nominated as a candidate for the 2014 Teacher of the Year. The Board expressed its best wishes and congratulations.
10.	Public Comment on Agenda Items Only per policy BDDH, 5 minute limit Time:
	Fred Robinson, Danbury questioned staff development for Support Staff. He said so far this year, Support Staff have been given 3 days off not paid. Dan Rossner replied it is not part of the 183 contracted days. Fred said we are required to have Professional Development for our certification. There is a concern how Support Staff get Professional Development. He said Judy Turk and Marie Ross handled this in the past. Vincent Paul Migliore asked if the Board can take this under advisement. Dr. McCormack said that all staff will receive instruction on bullying. Fred also questioned the training the State Police performed on emergency services. Dan Rossner replied there are emergency trainings that will be completed within the next 30 days.
11.	CONSENT AGENDA – (Continued Discussion, Implementation & Use) “Are there any changes to the Consent Agenda as Agreed Prior?” Changes – No changes
	<p><i>Items Included on This Meeting’s Consent Agenda:</i></p> <p>Item - 9c Personnel – Resignation Reta-Marie Margaronis-Frekot Item - 9d Newfound Nutrition on-line payments Item - 9e Marie Ross Memorial Scholarship Item - 9f Surplus</p> <p>Action: Moved by: <u>Paul Rheinhardt</u> Seconded by: <u>Lloyd Belbin</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted. RECORDED VOTE: <u>5</u> YES <u>0</u> NO <u>0</u> ABSTENTIONS <u>2</u> ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes: Danbury / Groton Excused</p>
12.	Actions Taken on Discussion Items:
a.	<p>RE: Danbury Citizens Petition to implement a K-6 configuration at Danbury Elementary School</p> <p>Action: Motion to table pending outcome of K-8 committee report Moved by: <u>Don Franklin</u> Seconded by: <u>Paul Rheinhardt</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted. RECORDED VOTE: <u>5</u> YES <u>0</u> NO <u>0</u> ABSTENTIONS <u>2</u> ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes: Danbury / Groton Excused</p>

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<p>12. (continued)</p>	
<p>b.</p>	<p>RE: Recap of the Deliberative Session scheduled for February 2, 2013 (with a snow date of February 9th)</p> <p>Action: No Action Necessary</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>
<p>c.</p>	<p>RE: Personnel - Resignation</p> <p>Action: Consent Agenda</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>
<p>d.</p>	<p>RE: Newfound Nutrition on-line payments</p> <p>Action: Consent Agenda</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>
<p>e.</p>	<p>RE: Marie Ross Memorial Scholarship</p> <p>Action: Consent Agenda</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>
<p>f.</p>	<p>RE: Surplus</p> <p>Action: Consent Agenda</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>
<p>g.</p>	<p>RE: Proposed FY 2013-2014 School Year Calendar</p> <p>Action: No Action Necessary</p> <p>Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted.</p> <p>RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT</p> <p>Minority Votes/Notes:</p>

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12. (continued)		
h.	<p>RE: Field Trip</p> <p>Action: Amended to include: Subject to include insurance compliance of District insurance policy. Moved by: <u>Paul Rheinhardt</u> Seconded by: <u>Sue Cheney</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted. RECORDED VOTE: <u>5</u> YES <u>0</u> NO <u>0</u> ABSTENTIONS <u>2</u> ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes: Danbury / Groton Excused</p>	
z.	Other Business:	
1.	<p>RE: Teacher of the Year Nomination</p> <p>Action: Jeanette Shedd to be congratulated by correspondence letter from Dr. Phillip McCormack</p> <p>Moved by: <u>Sue Cheney</u> Seconded by: <u>Lloyd Belbin</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted. RECORDED VOTE: <u>5</u> YES <u>0</u> NO <u>0</u> ABSTENTIONS <u>2</u> ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes: Danbury / Groton Excused</p>	
13.	Manifests	
	<p>RE: No Manifest approved</p> <p>Action: Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> None or Other, as noted. RECORDED VOTE: _____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes:</p>	
14.	Announcements	
a.	Second Session (Voting by Ballot) March 12, 2013	
b.	February 25, 2013 SAU Board Non Public meeting @ 6pm	
c.	March 4, 2013 SAU Board Non Public meeting @ 6pm	
15.	School Events	See attached sheet
16.	Date of Next School Board Meetings	
	Regularly Scheduled:	March 11, 2013
	Special Meeting:	February 25, 2013
	Topic: To announce the Selection of new Superintendent	

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17.	Concluding Business for the Posted Meeting Time	Time:	11:43PM
RE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion to Adjourn -or- <input type="checkbox"/> Recess (for a specified period of time) until the following date & time: _____ Action: Moved by: <u>Paul Rheinhardt</u> Seconded by: <u>Lloyd Belbin</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> Amended & Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated RECORDED VOTE: <u>5</u> YES <u>0</u> NO <u>0</u> ABSTENTIONS <u>2</u> ABSENT Minority Votes/Notes: Danbury / Groton Excused			
School Board Members Present Staff Members Present Public Present	Vincent Paul Migliore – Bridgewater, Ruby Hill – Danbury (left at 9:41), Lloyd Belbin – Bristol, Paul Rheinhardt – New Hampton, Suzanne Cheney – Alexandria, Don Franklin – Hebron Jiri Hajek – Groton (absent) Dr. Philip McCormack – Interim Superintend, Daniel Rossner – Business Administrator, Fred Robinson – Audio Leah McDevitt – Clerk Lauren Moran – Danbury, Bryan Richardson – Alexandria		
Template Used:	\SAU2012\Proposed agenda\ Proposed Agenda Template v10		

FEBRUARY

- February 11 6:00pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ NRHS
- 6:30pm SAU Board Meeting @ NRHS LMC
- 7:00PM School Board Meeting @ NRHS LMC
- February 12 6:30pm K-8 Committee Meeting @ NHCS
- February 13 6:30pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ Hebron Town Office
- February 14 6:30pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ Bridgewater-Hebron Village School
- February 18 6:00pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ Groton Town Hall
- February 19 7:00pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ Alexandria Municipal Building
- February 21 6:00pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ Danbury Elementary School
- February 22 6:30pm Public Hearing on Petitioned Warrant Article @ New Hampton Community School
- February 25 6:30pm Planning and Dialogue @ NRHS LMC

MARCH

- March 11 6:30pm School Board Meeting @ NRHS LMC

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NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL BOARD
Non-Public Session

Date/Time of Meeting:	02/11/2013	Scheduled Start:	10:04 PM
Location of Meeting:	Newfound Regional High School Library Media Center		
Videographer:	None	Assistant:	None

School Board Members:			Present	Excused	Absent
Suzanne Cheney	(Alexandria, 2013)	scheney2@myfairpoint.net	✓		
Vincent Paul Migliore, CH	(Bridgewater, 2013)	vmigliore@budgetblinds.com	✓		
Lloyd Belbin	(Bristol, 2014)	lbelbin@juno.com	✓		
Ruby Hill, Vice CH	(Danbury, 2015)	topaztuesday@yahoo.com	✓		
Don Franklin	(Hebron, 2015)	dgbrown@yahoo.com	✓		
Paul Rheinhardt	(New Hampton, 2014)	psrheinhardt@metrocast.net	✓		
Jiri Hajek	(Groton, 2015)	icefoxlab@peoplepc.com		✓	

Administration:			Present	Excused	Absent
Dr. Phillip McCormack	Interim Superintendent	pmccormack@sau4.org	✓		
Daniel Rossner	Business Administrator	drossner@sau4.org	✓		

At 10:04 PM and pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(B) the Chair entertained a motion to go into Non Public Session remaining in the Newfound Regional High School Library Media Center; made by Sue Cheney, seconded by Lloyd Belbin. The roll was called and a unanimous vote to do so was recorded.

1. Discussed personnel resignation
2. SPED updates on specific matters of placement relative to student need and regular reporting times on a bi-monthly basis.
3. Discussed Collective Bargaining Agreement Warrant Article 2
4. Deferred discussion on Substitute Teachers Policy GCE

At 10:17PM Paul Rheinhardt moved, Sue Cheney seconded to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Paul Migliore
Chair

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January 16, 2013

Mr. Vincent Paul Migliore
Chair, SAU 4 School Board
c/o Newfound Area School District
20 North Main Street
Bristol, NH 03222

Dear Mr. Migliore:

Mark Joyce of the New Hampshire School Administrators Association told us the sad news of Marie Ross's passing. On behalf of the Nashua School District, I write to extend condolences to Marie's family and friends, and to her colleagues at the Newfound Area School District. With you, we mourn the loss of a well-known and highly regarded educator.

We will miss Marie. As you know, Marie is a former colleague of ours here in Nashua. For several years she was the curriculum specialist in science, instrumental in not only the development of curriculum in the discipline, but also with work in the Nashua community related to health and wellness. While here, she worked closely with the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce in planning and organizing a well-received annual event for all our seventh graders, their parents and their teachers on teen-related issues. As Nashua parents, my wife and I shared that day with our own children years ago when they were in seventh grade, and we appreciated Marie's leadership in making that day happen for us and for hundreds of other Nashua families.

It is with great sadness that I write this letter. Again, please extend my sincere sympathies to her family and friends, and to her colleagues in Newfound.

Sincerely,



Mark Conrad
Superintendent of Schools

MC/SH:ktm

a

Newfound Community Volunteer Center

We are thrilled to announce a new initiative dedicated to encouraging parents & community members to become more involved in our schools and our children's education. Though it is in its infancy, the Newfound Community Volunteer Center will work with PTOs and other area organizations to engage parents, teachers, and our community in support of education.

- Make a Difference
- Build Community
- Enhance Education

Mission: To ensure the equitable education of all students in the community by enlisting and empowering unpaid citizens (volunteers) to positively impact the school community and enrich the learning opportunities for all students.

Why: Be a part of a child's education and make a difference in our schools. With large class sizes, depleting budgets, and fewer resources, we need to enhance the student experience in creative and beneficial ways. No special qualifications are necessary!

How: Contribute your special talents, skills, or interests from time to time to supplement the work of the classroom teacher in a particular area or recognize out of the classroom opportunities to support the faculty and administration of the School.

When: Volunteers give anywhere from an hour a year of service to several days a week. Most volunteers try for a commitment of an hour or two a week.

More info: Learn more about this initiative at our next meeting on **Monday, February 18, 2013 at 6:30 pm** at the New Hampton Community Church (Fellowship Hall, downstairs)

Newfound Community Volunteer Form

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

Email _____

Please fill out the following questionnaire (on the back of this sheet) and put it in our drop box, mail it to the NHCS school office, or contact the Volunteer Program lead Megan Magrauth at Meg@blissfulworks.com or visit Newfound Residents Uniting for Quality Education page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/452985478090931>

Mail forms to New Hampton Community School, 191 Main Street New Hampton, NH 03256
Attn: Megan Magrauth/School Volunteer Program Thank You!

Lauren A. Moran
43 Tommy Higgins Road
Danbury, NH 03230
(603) 768-3694

Leah
Phil
Orig. VPM

January 5, 2013

To the members of the Newfound Area School District School Board,

I would like to respectfully submit this letter and the enclosed petition to the Board. The undersigned of the petition request that the Danbury Elementary School be reconfigured to a K-6 school, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.

As you are all aware, Danbury students currently attend DES through fourth grade and are then bused to the Bristol Elementary for fifth grade. After this, they are transitioned to the Newfound Middle School for sixth grade. We believe that this is simply too much transition in a short period of time for our students. We also feel that the time spent on the bus traveling to Bristol in 5th grade is not beneficial, as there are students on each route who are on the bus for up to an hour or more at a time. Instead, we request to have a combined 5th and 6th grade classroom added to Danbury Elementary School. We are already different from the other elementary schools in the district, in that they are all K-5 schools. If we were a K-6 school, we understand that we would still be different, but we feel that it would be a much more beneficial system for our students. It would save them unnecessary transitions, would prevent them from being on the bus for long periods of time in fifth grade, and would allow them to enter into a new, larger school at a later age in seventh grade, when they would presumably be more mature and self-confident.

In the past year, the Danbury Elementary School has undergone several changes in configuration. We are currently running with Kindergarten, first grade, second grade, and combined third/fourth grade classrooms. Because of these changes, there is still one classroom not being used as such. Therefore, there would be room to add a combined 5th/6th grade classroom. We would ask, however, that the 5th grade students who are currently attending BES and have already made this transition, be given the choice of either returning to Danbury or moving on to the Middle School next year. We want to make this change to eliminate unnecessary transitions, and would not want to add any for these students. This would mean that for the first year of a combined 5th/6th grade, the numbers may be somewhat low, and would then go up in the second year, but we believe that a combined 5th/6th grade classroom is the most cost-effective configuration.

Danbury parents are continually impressed with the staff and administration of our school and the education that our children are receiving. We feel that if our students were able to remain there through 6th grade, this would be a very positive opportunity for them to grow and mature further in their own close-knit school and community, and would serve to build confidence in them for the time when they would enter Middle School in seventh grade. In closing, thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Lauren Moran
Danbury Voter and DES Parent

We, the undersigned, request that the Newfound Area School District reconfigure the Danbury Elementary School to a K-6 school beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. We understand that some students who have already left town for 5th grade may wish to move on to the middle school so 6th grade enrollment may be low in the first year but we believe that to be cost-effective the classroom should be a combined 5th and 6th grade after that. As you know, the children from Danbury currently leave our school after 4th grade and spend one year at the Bristol Elementary School, giving them two transitions in two back-to-back years. No other students in the Newfound district have this same configuration or number of transitions, and we believe it would be better for our children to have one less transition. We also do not believe that time spent on the bus traveling to Bristol at the 5th grade level is time well spent. On each route, the first children picked up spend an hour or more on the bus traveling to the Bristol Elementary School. We understand that our students would have a different experience than others who join the middle school at the 6th grade level but we are already different and prefer this model to the one currently in place.

Name	Town	Date
Robert J. Jones	Danbury	12-3-12
April DeWitt	Danbury	12/3/12
Pam Ryan	Danbury	12/3/12
Mackenzie Ryan	Danbury	12/3/12
Jill Jantzen	Danbury	12/3/12
Juanita	Danbury	12/3/12
Patricia O'Donnell	Danbury	12/4/12
Janice Wake	Danbury	12/4/12
Paul Cormier	Danbury	12/4/12
Sheela	Danbury	12/4/12
Michelle Young	Danbury	12/4/12
Robinson Heard	Danbury	12/4/12
Andrew I. Phelps	Danbury	12/5/12

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Name	Town	Date
Christina Healy	Danbury	12/05/12
Harold Knott	Danbury	12-8-12
Ashlea Hill	"	12-8-12
Reidi Hill	" "	12/8/12
XXXXXXXXXX	" "	12/9/12
Carol A. Johansen	" "	12/9/12
XXXXXXXXXX	Danbury	12/8/12
James M. Pells	Danbury	12/10/12
David J. Genna	Danbury	12-12-12
XXXXXXXXXX	Danbury	12-12-12
REGG	Danbury	12-12-12
Tim L. Powell	Danbury	12/13/12
Jean Laplante	Danbury	12/13/12
XXXXXXXXXX	Danbury	12-14-12
Doreen J. Cline	Danbury	12-13-12

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Name	Town	Date
Keyl Pearson	Danbury	12/4/12
Stephanie Cuni	Danbury	12/6/12
Laurel Pearson	Danbury	12/6/12
Chris Jones	Danbury	12/6/12
Shirley	Bristol	12/6/12
David R. Gann	Danbury	12/7/12
Sheryl Stoll	Danbury	12/7/12
Tom M. Hill	Danbury	12/17/12
Zoe	Danbury	12/7/12
Christine Caron	Danbury	12/7/12
Diana J. Caron	Danbury	12/7/12

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Name	Town	Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	Danbury	12/11/12
Carolyn Coy	Danbury	12/11/12
Amanda White	Danbury	12/11/12
Richard A. Cushing	Danbury	12/11/12
<i>[Signature]</i>	Danbury	12-11-2012
Jane O'Neil	Danbury	12-11-12
<i>[Signature]</i>	Danbury	12-11-12
Andiwe Brewer	Danbury	12-12-12
Muziel Cushing	Danbury	12-13-12

* I would support this if more info was available: the finances of including these students in the present elem. school and members of students involved - more logistics involved? Shirley Felong (books, equipment, etc)

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Name	Town	Date
Neboral M. Hold	Belmont	12/20/12
[Signature]	Danbury	12/21/12
[Signature]	Danbury	12/22/12
Roseann Tauro	Grafton	12/26/12
[Signature]	DANBURY	12/26/12
Dennis Phelps	Danbury	12-26-12
Mike Merritt	Danbury	12/29/12
John W. NEWORTH	DANBURY	12/28-2012
Amanda J Verine	Danbury	1/1/2013
James G Marshall	Danbury	1/2/2013
Jenn Sumner	Danbury	1/5/13

[Handwritten scribble]

SIGN me please!

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Name	Town	Date
Amber Holmberg	Danbury	12/16/12
Heidi Hill	Danbury	12/16/12
April Gness	Danbury	12/14/12
Berlalan	Danbury	12/14/12
Teresa Samms	Danbury	12/16/12
Paula Kline	Danbury	12/17/12
Rita	Sunapee	12/17/12
Janet Davis	DANBURY	12/19/12
Donna Pappas	Danbury	12/19/12
Mr. Pappas	Danbury	12/19/12
Chris MacBryde	Danbury	12/19/12
Jessie Jones	Bristol NH	12/19/12
Deborah Perrier	Bristol NH	12/19/12

