

# NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Newfound Regional High School Library Media Center

Monday, April 12, 2010 at 6:00 pm

## FINAL MINUTES

School Board Present: Mary Campbell (Vice Chair, Hebron), Laura Simula (Bridgewater), Sue Cheney (Alexandria 6:10 p.m.), Leslie Dion (Chair, Bristol), Jon Johnson (Danbury), Tom Gillis (Groton 6:10 p.m.)

School Board Absent: Bruce Davol (New Hampton)

Staff Present: Marie Ross (Superintendent), Paul Hoiriis (Clerk and NMMS Teacher), Jay Peringer (NHCS), Ann Hollaran (NHCS, DES), Sheila Miller (NRHS), Laura Hutchins (NRHS), Don White (NRHS), Christina Swenson (NRHS), Betty Anne Hollaran (NHCS), Dan Rossner (Business Administrator), Mike O'Malley (NRHS), Susan Moore (NRHS), Jim LeBaron (NRHS), Carolyn Mello (NRHS), Beth Colby, Lois Brennan (NRHS), Nancy Mills (NRHS)

Video Operators: None.

Public Present: Ann Johnson (Danbury), Claire FitzMorris (New Hampton), Meaghan FitzMorris (New Hampton), Lexie Santry (Alexandria), Joy Edwards (New Hampton), Jay Edwards (New Hampton), Wilma Edwards (New Hampton), T.J. Edwards (New Hampton), Ben Leubsdorf (Concord Monitor), Paul Borsh (New Hampton), Jacob Borsh (New Hampton), Neal Martin (Bristol), Carey Grey (Bristol), Gage LaRue (New Hampton), Leslie Buchannan (New Hampton), Abigail Buchannan (New Hampton), Jillian Buchannan (New Hampton), Madison Buchannan (New Hampton), Alyssa Judkins (New Hampton), Morgan Blake (New Hampton), Sharon Nelson (Groton School Budget Committee), Lois Brinnas (Bridgewater), Corey Fenton (Danbury), Jessamyn Hokins (Danbury), JoAnn Fielding (Danbury), Corey McEwen (Bristol), Caitlyn Greene (New Hampton), Jeanne O'Donnell (Danbury), Beven O'Donnell (Danbury)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Mary Campbell moved, Jon Johnson seconded, to go into non-public session for the purpose of discussing personnel per RSA 91-A:3 IIa; *approved on a roll call vote 4-0-0-3 (Alexandria, Groton, and New Hampton absent)*. The resignations and nominations of instructional staff, guidance counselors, and nurses were presented by the Superintendent and discussed. No action was taken.

At 7:05 p.m., Mary Campbell moved, Tom Gillis seconded, to come out of non-public session; *approved 6-0-0-1 (New Hampton absent)*.

At 7:08 p.m., the Chair called the public meeting to order.

The flag was saluted by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Superintendent Marie Ross indicated that the notices of postings have been placed at the town offices, the schools, and on the website at [www.newfound.k12.nh.us](http://www.newfound.k12.nh.us).

Dr. Ross welcomed the new School Board member from Bridgewater Laura Simula. Mary Campbell nominated Paul Hoiriis to serve as School Board Clerk. Sue Cheney seconded the motion. The motion was *approved 6-0-0-1 (New Hampton absent)*. Dr. Ross swore in Mr. Hoiriis as clerk and he recited the oath of office. The Clerk then led Ms. Simula through her recitation of the oath of office for School Board member. Mary Campbell nominated Leslie Dion to serve as School Board Chair, Tom Gillis seconded the motion, and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*. Sue Cheney nominated Mary Campbell to serve as Vice Chair, Jon Johnson seconded the motion, and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.

### Recognition

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52 The Chair recognized the folks from the high school that put together the EDES presentation. Mr.  
53 O'Malley explained that the New Hampshire School of Excellence Program accepts applications from  
54 schools each year to be recognized as an excellent school. Mr. O'Malley explained that Newfound  
55 Regional High School is a finalist again this year. Mr. O'Malley explained that the team visited the  
56 EDES Committee in February followed by a site visitation at the high school in March where the students  
57 put on a presentation for the visiting committee. Mr. O'Malley then played a DVD of this student  
58 presentation. After the presentation, the Chair recognized with certificates Jim LeBaron, Susan Moore,  
59 Christina Swenson, Mike O'Malley, Beth Colby, Kristie Kim (absent), and Barbara Cunningham  
60 (absent). Mr. O'Malley said that he will be notified in May whether or not they were chosen for the  
61 EDES award.

62 Next, the Chair recognized the Destination Imagination Team from the New Hampton Community School  
63 and asked Jay Peringer to talk about the program. Mr. Peringer explained that the team consisted of three  
64 third-graders, one fourth-grader, and one fifth-grader. He went on to say that the students were given a  
65 long-term challenge and an instant challenge. He was pleased to announce that the NHCS team placed  
66 second at the regional competition and moved on to the state competition where they took first place in  
67 the long-term challenge, but came up 45 seconds shy on the instant challenge. Mr. Peringer emphasized  
68 that the students select the long-term challenge from a list and then choose a solution without the help of  
69 the coaches or parents. Their challenge was entitled DI Bot. Mr. Peringer played a DVD showing the  
70 children's presentation. The DVD showed them performing a skit and operating a robot that they built.  
71 The Chair recognized the following students: Holly Cook (absent), Jillian Buchannan, Abigail  
72 Buchannan, Jacob Borsh, T.J. Edwards, and Gage LaRue. The Board also recognized Betty Anne  
73 Holloran as a judge at the state competition who said that although she could not judge the NHCS team,  
74 she knew they would place based on what she saw when they performed at NHCS. Ms. Campbell asked  
75 the team about their favorite part of the competition. The children responded that they enjoyed being  
76 creative and watching the other teams.

77

### Student Council Reports

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79 The Chair invited Claire FitzMorris from Newfound Memorial Middle School to deliver the Student  
80 Council report. Claire highlighted key events at the middle school including a visit from the King Arthur  
81 Flour Company and the seventh grade KAPER Conference. She said the seventh graders found the  
82 conference to be inspiring and helped to strengthen their relationships with their parents. Claire  
83 highlighted various curriculum items across the three grades including sixth graders creating their own  
84 country, seventh graders performing a mythology fair, and eighth graders anxiously awaiting a visiting  
85 speaker named Stephen Lewy who will talk about his experience as a Holocaust survivor. Ms. Campbell  
86 asked Claire if the eighth graders will be visiting the Holocaust Museum when they go to Washington,  
87 D.C. in May. Claire replied in the affirmative.

88

89 The Chair invited high school Student Council representatives Meaghan FitzMorris and Lexie Santry to  
90 deliver the Newfound Regional High School Student Council report. Meaghan stated that the semi-  
91 formal dance in March was somewhat successful with 50 students in attendance allowing the council to  
92 break even on the event. Lexie said that the seniors had a Chinese New Year luncheon and also visited  
93 Bridgewater Hebron Village School sharing their leadership skills and engaging in other activities with  
94 the students. The two highlighted the March 25<sup>th</sup> EDES visit stating that 30 students presented and  
95 included the highlighting of the extended learning opportunities. The ladies concluded by talking about  
96 two upcoming fundraising events which include a walk-a-thon and a dodgeball tournament.

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### School Board Meeting Minutes

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- March 1, 2010 -- The Chair introduced the March 1<sup>st</sup> School Board Minutes for corrections and approval. There were no corrections. Sue Cheney moved to accept the March 1<sup>st</sup> School Board Minutes, Jon Johnson seconded, and the motion was *approved 6-0-0-1 (New Hampton absent)*.

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- March 8, 2010 – The Chair introduced the March 8<sup>th</sup> School Board Minutes for corrections and approval. Dr. Ross corrected the spelling of Neal Martin’s first name on lines 21 and 186. Sue Cheney made the word “students” plural on line 64. Laura Simula corrected a typo on line 187. Sue Cheney corrected the phrase “town meeting session” to read “Candidates Night” on line 210. Mary Campbell moved to accept the March 8<sup>th</sup> School Board Minutes, as amended, Sue Cheney seconded, and the motion was *approved 6-0-0-1*.

### Announcements, Correspondence and Reports

Dr. Ross called attention to an upcoming parents night at the high school entitled “Surviving the Teenage Years.”

Dr. Ross also said that our students from Bristol Elementary School were featured on “Good Morning America” on March 10<sup>th</sup> showing a picture of their “Helping Hands for Haiti” campaign. She said the students raised \$853 for the Red Cross’ efforts in Haiti. She also noted an article enclosed in the School Board packet about their campaign.

Also mentioned was the upcoming Connections Through Adventure program where fifth-graders throughout the District meet at Kelly Park on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and participate in adventure games while getting to know one another. As a follow up to this program, folks from Plymouth State University will bring these kids in two different groups to PSU to play on a ropes course during the following week.

The Chair asked the Board if they had any comments on the various school reports. Ms. Campbell said she likes the slogan Danbury ROCKS and the meaning behind it (Responsibility, Opportunity, Character, Knowledge, Spirit). Ms. Cheney noted that she likes the entire mission statement at DES which highlights the community partnership of students, staff, and families to promote successful learning. Ms. Cheney went on to say that she believes in this mission statement. Dr. Ross commended the music teachers at the middle school on their “Night of Music and Drama” as well as their “Jazz Night” at the high school. Ms. Simula added that she was also impressed with the fifth-grade music concert which she attended. She added that she cannot wait to see how they perform as they continue to move up to the middle and high schools. Ms. Campbell said that the principals and business administrator’s reports are the highlight of the School Board packet. Ms. Campbell then thanked Mr. Rossner for his recent e-mail regarding grants available for historic buildings that once served as schools. She asked that he forward this information to the various town managers in our district. Mr. Rossner mentioned the Honeywell Performance and Energy Project and how the improvements will pay for themselves over the upcoming fifteen years due to energy savings. He also added that the District was successful in securing low-interest financing for this project.

### Strategic Plan Reports

- Core (Assessment, Curriculum, Instruction, Professional Development)
- **AYP Results** – Dr. Ross spoke to the results of the NECAP exams. She said that all six of our schools were designated as Schools In Need of Improvement. She was happy to announce that Bridgewater Hebron Village School and Danbury Elementary School achieved Annual Yearly Progress in both Math and Reading. She also commended Bristol Elementary School and New Hampton Community School for achieving AYP in Math. She added that under No Child Left Behind the standards do go up each year. She also added that our high school is doing great work with the competencies and meeting the needs of students with programs such as Extended Learning Opportunities which is the kind of excellence noted by the EDES Committee beyond just AYP. Dr. Ross added that the AYP system may be changed significantly in the near future. Ms. Campbell commended the elementary schools and Dr. Ross on the fine progress in math and credited Dr. Ross for the math program that she brought into the District.

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- Infrastructure (Facilities, Finance, Policy, Technology)
  - **Tech Plan Update** – Dr. Ross that the District is still working on their Technology Plan and that it has been more challenging without a Technology Director. She commended the efforts of Mr. Rossner, Mr. Malloy, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Taylor, as well as the various other representatives for their hard work on this plan. She said that they hope to bring a plan to the Technology Council after April vacation, to the School Board in May, and then to the State in June.
- 161
- Communications (Parents, Personnel, Public, Pupils)
  - **Evaluation of School Board by Board, Administrators, and Staff** – Dr. Ross noted that the results were distributed to School Board members this evening and that she will give everyone a chance to look them over. She added that discussion on the results of the evaluation could be put on the agenda for next time.

### Public Comments on Agenda Items, limited to 15 minutes

169 Not to exceed five minutes per individual (School Board Policy BDDH)

170 The Chair invited comments from the public. Neal Martin of Bristol asked about the rationale behind  
171 limiting public comments to fifteen minutes. The Chair pointed out that there are two periods of fifteen  
172 minutes during each meeting. She also explained that this is done so that the Board can also accomplish  
173 the business on the agenda. The Chair added that the Boards always welcomes correspondence and  
174 requests for certain items to be put on the main agenda. Mr. Martin asked if our policy is comparable to  
175 some sort of state policy. Dr. Ross said that according to a state workshop she attended, an attorney  
176 explained that most boards limit the time allotted for public comments so that the boards may accomplish  
177 the business before them on their agendas. She added that she actively invites citizens to correspond with  
178 the Board and to request certain items to be put on the agenda. Jeanne O'Donnell from Danbury asked  
179 about the carbon dioxide readings at the middle school and if they are going down. Dr. Ross explained  
180 that they will not go down, but in fact, will go up once the windows are re-caulked under the new energy  
181 plan. She added that the warrant article to address the CO2 levels did not pass, but that the District is still  
182 exploring other options. She said that they have asked the staff at the middle school to open windows.  
183 Dr. Ross and Ms. O'Donnell commented that some previous recommendations regarding the use of plants  
184 were not viable due to the number of plants needed per person.

### Discussion Items

#### a. **Policies for Second Reading: JED Student Attendance**

- **JHFA Supervision of Students**

189 Ms. Campbell stated that these policies have not been changed since their introduction for  
190 first reading last month, and that if approved tonight, they will become policy.

#### b. **Reduction in Force**

- **High School Art Teacher** – The Chair pointed out the many letters from students and other concerned individuals enclosed in the School Board packet. Dr. Ross also distributed a letter from Carolyn Mello, president of NATA. The letters all asked that the second art teacher position at the high school not be cut. The Chair talked about the budget process and the need to cut \$1 million dollars out of the original proposed budget and that this position being cut was one of the impacts of this process. She added that she acknowledges this is a passionate issue for many. She invited comments from the Board on this topic. Ms. Cheney said she knows this affects students and thinks students will suffer from these cuts. She asked if we could make up for this cost if we keep the position. Ms. Campbell echoed Ms. Cheney's sentiments. She added that she knows they cannot cut

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204 from the core curriculum, but also hates to see the arts and music cut. The Chair  
205 added that one of her highlights is coming into the high school and seeing the  
206 student art work on display. Dr. Ross said that due to the budget, they originally  
207 looked at cutting 7 ½ positions and managed to work it down to only one position  
208 to be cut. She said this was done before seeing how many course requests there  
209 are for art classes next year at the high school. She highlighted that there are 88  
210 requests for the introductory class, 62 for ceramics, more than one full section in  
211 both Painting I and Painting II, plus advanced art classes and advisement for  
212 ELOs. She added that this cut will affect the preparedness of students moving on  
213 to post-secondary art education. She asked if we want to offer the bare minimum  
214 or a well-rounded program. Mr. Rossner was invited to explain the impact on the  
215 budget if we keep the position. Mr. Rossner said that already reduced our  
216 contingencies from \$140K to \$90K which he believes is already accounted for  
217 next year as estimated special education costs will even exceed the allotted \$90K.  
218 He did point out that the estimated increase in cost for bargaining unit employees  
219 was not as high as they thought they would be. He added that the numbers are  
220 not in for healthcare for non-bargaining unit employees yet, so that we are unsure  
221 on a final healthcare cost yet for the District. He hopes to have the final number  
222 in May. Ms. Campbell said that she is concerned about the reduced special  
223 education contingency amount. Ms. Campbell also brought up that Mr. Rossner  
224 was able to put together a bussing contract that saves the District \$59K. Mr.  
225 Rossner added that he thinks the District will be able to contract for oil next year  
226 below the estimated \$3/barrel budget cost. The Chair pointed out that we do  
227 need to do right by the support staff regarding their healthcare benefits. Dr. Ross  
228 complimented the top-rate art staff at the high school and that the concern is just  
229 reflected by the budget, not by the quality of the program. The Chair added that  
230 the many letters received speak to that. Mr. Rossner added that there is no other  
231 teacher salary contingency line in the budget. Ms. Cheney stated that one of the  
232 reports included in the packet talks about how art classes help to increase SAT  
233 scores and promote creative thinking and better cognition. Ms. Campbell added  
234 that colleges and employers look for these critical thinking skills. She also said  
235 that students have different learning styles and that art may keep some kids  
236 connected to the school. Ms. Cheney said that students connect to the arts are  
237 more likely to go on to college according to these reports. Finally, Dr. Ross said  
238 that the proposed Grade 5 position at Danbury has no impact on the art position  
239 at the high school as the Danbury position is covered by grant funding.

### 240 241 • **DES Grade 5**

242 Dr. Ross said that three requests were made for new elementary school positions.  
243 She explained that one can be grant funded and the other two were trimmed from  
244 the budget. She then referred to Ms. Holloran's memo in the packet regarding the  
245 pros and cons of bringing the fifth grade back to Danbury Elementary School  
246 next year. The memo emphasized the space issues faced if fifth grade was  
247 brought back. Two grades would have to share a classroom. Ms. Holloran added  
248 that they also received a donation of 200 books which would now have to be  
249 stored in the makeshift library at the back of one of the classrooms. Dr. Ross  
250 pointed out the benefit to the Danbury fifth-graders of broadening their  
251 friendships and exposure to others by having them attend Bristol Elementary  
252 School. She said that this was a positive experience for last year's Danbury fifth-  
253 graders. She added that this will decrease the tax burden on Danbury residents if  
254 the fifth-graders attend BES. She also suggested that perhaps the Board could

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255 designate Danbury to be a K-4 school so that the parents and students do not  
256 have to go through not knowing each year. Dr. Ross said that they could use the  
257 Class Size Reduction Grant for a position at Bristol Elementary since there is a  
258 population bubble for next year's third-grade class. Dr. Ross said that she has  
259 spoken with Danbury parents and that some are in favor of the fifth-graders  
260 attending Bristol and some are against it. Mr. Johnson asked how many students  
261 would be affected by this. Dr. Ross said that there are eleven students in next  
262 year's fifth-grade class, but that two may move to Bristol or New Hampton  
263 anyway. She added that although the bussing would be to Bristol, she would  
264 allow parents to choose any elementary school in the District. Ms. Campbell  
265 asked how this year's Danbury fifth-graders were doing at BES. Dr. Ross said  
266 that they have assimilated very well and have made new friendships. She added  
267 that one previously concerned parent wrote her a letter stating what a wonderful  
268 year her son has had and that he has really come out of his shell. Ms. Holloran  
269 added that the NECAP scores from the seven Danbury students at Bristol this  
270 year were all proficient or proficient with distinction noting that their academic  
271 success has been positive with the move. She also said that she saw these  
272 students at the fifth grade music concert and that they seemed happy. Ms.  
273 Campbell said the cons to re-establishing a fifth grade at Danbury outweigh the  
274 pros because of the space issues faced at DES. She also pointed out that the this  
275 transition to BES for fifth grade may help temper the greater shock of transition  
276 to the much bigger middle school the following year. Ms. Cheney asked if there  
277 were any grants for a portable classroom to be added to DES. Mr. Rossner said  
278 that this would cost up to \$80K and that there are no grants available for this. He  
279 added that he was unsure of whether the zoning laws would even allow this. Ms.  
280 Cheney said that she is hesitant about taking kids out of a community earlier than  
281 necessary. Dr. Ross stated that she thinks that adding a classroom to DES would  
282 not likely pass with the voters. Ms. Holloran added that Ms. Brown's work on  
283 tracking student populations in Danbury estimates only five incoming  
284 kindergarten students next year. Dr. Ross concluded by pointing out that she is  
285 concerned with having two classes in one space may be distracting for students  
286 and teachers.

### 287 288 c. **Planning and Dialogue Meeting on April 21, 2010**

289 The Chair said Dr. Ross, Mr. Rossner, and Mr. Johnson are unable to make it to this meeting on April  
290 21<sup>st</sup> and asked the Board if they would like to reschedule it. The Board decided to keep the meeting  
291 as scheduled and that those three would be given notes and minutes from the meeting.  
292

293 Dr. Ross also asked the Board to schedule a student hearing which would last about thirty minutes.  
294 The Board agreed to Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
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### 296 d. **Field Trip(s)**

297 The Chair pointed out that there are a number of field trip requests included in tonight's packet.  
298

299 e. **Set Tuition Rates for 2010-2011** – Mr. Rossner provided the Board with an updated tuition rate  
300 for out-of-district students for next year. Dr. Ross added that the cost-per-pupil amount is  
301 considered in setting this rate, but is not absolutely determinate. Mr. Rossner said that out-of-  
302 district tuition is not a big part of our budget. Mr. Gillis said that the Board should trust Mr.  
303 Rossner on this matter.  
304

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305 f. **Schedule Graduation day and last day of school** -- Dr. Ross said there were only two snow  
306 days this year which would put graduation on June 12<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school for students on June 17<sup>th</sup>,  
307 and the last day for staff on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

308  
309 g. **Staff requests for Tuition Waivers** – The Chair pointed out that there are two requests for  
310 tuition waivers by staff members for their children which were discussed during the non-public  
311 session.

312  
313 h. **Personnel:**

- 314 • The Chair pointed out that there are four staff resignations that were also discussed during the  
315 non-public session.
- 316 • The Chair pointed out that the Nominations of Instructional Staff and Nurses for 2010-2011  
317 have been made by the Superintendent which was also discussed in non-public.
- 318 • Finally, the Chair stated that a request for transfer of sick days has been made by a non-  
319 collective bargaining staff member to be transferred to another non-collective bargaining staff  
320 member.

### 321 322 Public Comments on Agenda Items, limited to 15 minutes

323 Not to exceed five minutes per individual (School Board Policy BDDH)

324 The Chair invited comments from the public on the tonight's discussion items from the agenda. Lexie  
325 Santry, NRHS student, stated that she took both Ceramics I and II and said that these courses fit in with  
326 the school mission statement regarding occupational success. She said that the current art program  
327 advanced the importance of art and that she feels this is just as important as math and history. Caitlynn  
328 Greene, also an NRHS student, said that she does not want her sister to miss out on the opportunity of  
329 these art programs. Beth Colby of Bridgewater and the ELO Coordinator said that art is integral in the  
330 student portfolios and in ELOs. She added that these portfolios are used to obtain college admissions and  
331 scholarships. She said that she supports keeping both art positions. She pointed out that three of our  
332 students went on to state art programs last year. Corey McEwen, NRHS student, said that our art program  
333 supports the mission statement of life long learning. Meaghan FitzMorris, NRHS student, said it is unfair  
334 to art students to say that their area of interest is not as important as other areas. She added that this cut  
335 will cause students to suffer in that there will not be enough courses available for the demand by students  
336 and that student portfolios will be affected, thus limiting their college options.

337  
338 Jeanne O'Donnell of Danbury said that she has a fourth-grade son at DES and wants to know if the Board  
339 has considered trying to have fifth-grade students attend class at the Danbury Community Center next  
340 year. She worries about the double-shock for her son having to transition twice – once to BES and once  
341 to NMMS. She wants her son to get the same amount of attention that he gets this year and fears this will  
342 not happen at a bigger school. JoAnn Fielding asked why the space was taken over so quickly after this  
343 year's fifth grade was moved to BES. Dr. Ross explained that space decisions are made on a year-to-year  
344 basis. She said that they have to maximize their use of space in an overcrowded situation. Jessamyn  
345 Hokins said that her son has ADD and had no issues in being in a partitioned classroom. She also  
346 suggested that kindergarten and first grade share the space. Ms. Campbell explained that the kindergarten  
347 space was built with state grant money and must be used for that purpose under the stipulations of the  
348 grant. Ms. Hokins asked if the space has been an issue for many years? Dr. Ross and Ms. Campbell  
349 replied in the affirmative. Mr. Rossner added that the Danbury Community Center is not an approved  
350 school building. Ms. O'Donnell asked what will happen to the 15 kids coming up when they need to be  
351 assimilated at BES? Dr. Ross said that the grant that would add a third grade teacher next year would  
352 allow that teacher to move up with that class which has a bubble in population so that there would be  
353 three fifth grades at that time at BES. Ms. O'Donnell reiterated that she worried about her son being  
354 excelling in a larger class size. Dr. Ross said that teachers use differentiated instruction to accommodate  
355 for larger class sizes and that BES is a Title I school offering all kinds of interventions which provide fro

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356 some smaller class size opportunities. Ms. Holloran added that the curriculum is the same at both schools  
357 offering the same rigor and enrichment, just a different class size. Suzanne Higgins of Danbury said that  
358 she worries about her daughter who has anxiety disorder. Dr. Ross replied that we will provide her with  
359 whatever support and services she requires. Beven O'Donnell of Danbury said that he was shuffled from  
360 school to school as a child and it caused him to lose interest and eventually drop out. Jeanne O'Donnell  
361 asked about doing something over the summer to get them introduced to the new school ahead of time.  
362 JoAnn Fielding asked if it is a space issue or a teacher salary issue. Dr. Ross and Ms. Campbell replied  
363 that it is a space issue. The Chair acknowledged the parents' concerns, but echoed that it is a space issue.  
364 She also acknowledged that need for a summer transition program. Dr. Ross added that last year's  
365 Danbury kids could tell next year's kids about their experience with the move. Ms. Fielding also asked if  
366 this is a permanent decision or if it just affects next year's class. The Chair explained that it depends on  
367 what motion is made tonight. She added that if the decision is made to be permanent, then the kids and  
368 parents will not be on pins and needles each year.

369  
370 Caitlynn Green added that the art program also contributes to the posters made during Winter Carnival.  
371 Nancy Mills of Alexandria and a teacher at NRHS says that she sees the need for advanced art classes for  
372 people that go on to art school, but also for other people not directly involved in the arts as a career.

### 373 374 Action Items

#### 375 a. **Policies for Second Reading:**

- 376 • **JED Student Attendance**
- 377 • **JHFA Supervision of Students**

378 The Chair invited a motion to approve the above policies for second reading. Mary Campbell  
379 moved to approve JED Student Attendance and JHFA Supervision of Students for second  
380 reading. Jon Johnson seconded, and it was *approved 6-0-0-1 (New Hampton absent)*.

#### 381 382 b. **Reduction in Force**

- 383 • **HS Art Teacher**

384 Mary Campbell moved to retain the second art position at Newfound Regional High School, Jon  
385 Johnson seconded, and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.

- 386  
387 • **DES Grade 5**

388 Mary Campbell moved that the fifth grade class from Danbury be moved next year to Bristol  
389 Elementary. Mr. Johnson said that this is a very sensitive subject and acknowledges that the  
390 parents here tonight would like their kids to stay in Danbury. He added that the Department of  
391 Education constraints on space and the unlikeliness of passing a bond issue to add on to the  
392 school leaves us between a rock and a hard place. He said that he also had to move between  
393 schools as a child as his district grew. However, he added, that he does not see any other possible  
394 solution other than moving the fifth grade Danbury students to BES. He acknowledges this will  
395 be a shock to them, but adds that this will indeed temper the shock they will inevitably face when  
396 moving on to the middle school. Ms. Cheney asked about seeking a DOE exception on using the  
397 kindergarten room for other purposes since next year's class is projected to only be five students.  
398 Dr. Ross explained that the DOE granted this temporarily in the past, but made it clear that  
399 Newfound needs to come up with another solution in the future. The Chair asked for clarification  
400 on whether tonight's vote would be for next year or would it be permanent. Ms. Campbell  
401 amended her motion for the move to be permanent. Laura Simula seconded the motion. Ms.  
402 Simula stated that she supports the philosophy of keeping schools in the community and  
403 understands how parents feel about getting what is best for their kids. However, she expressed  
404 concern about the crowded conditions. Ms. Simula added that with the transition opportunities  
405 talked about tonight along with the success of the current Danbury fifth-graders at BES, she



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406 believes in the end that the kids will prosper. Mr. Johnson said that he would like to see a  
407 permanent transition plan put in writing to assist in the change which would include a visitation to  
408 BES. Mr. Gillis agreed that it is a tough decision, but that it needs to be permanent to avoid  
409 yearly anxiety. The motion was *approved 5-1-0-1 (Alexandria opposed, New Hampton absent)*.  
410

### 411 c. **Planning and Dialogue Meeting on April 21, 2010**

412 The Chair pointed out that no action was necessary on this item as the date of the meeting will not be  
413 changed.  
414

### 415 d. **Field Trip(s)**

416 Sue Cheney moved to approve the BES field trip to the New England Aquarium, the BHVS and NHCS  
417 field trip to the Boston Freedom Trail, the NHCS field trip to the Montshire Museum of Science,  
418 the NMMS field trip to Washington, D.C., the NRHS field trip to Northeastern University, and  
419 the NRHS field trip to Lowes, Cinema 8, and Summit Resort. Laura Simula seconded the motion  
420 and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.  
421

### 422 e. **Set Tuition Rates for 2010-2011**

423 Tom Gillis moved to approve the FY11 tuition rates set by Mr. Rossner, Laura Simula seconded the  
424 motion, and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.  
425

### 426 f. **Schedule Graduation day and last day of school**

427 Sue Cheney moved to accept the date of June 12<sup>th</sup> as the high school graduation date, June 17<sup>th</sup> as the last  
428 day of school for students in the District, and June 18<sup>th</sup> as the last day of school for staff in the District.  
429 Tom Gillis seconded the motion and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.  
430

### 431 g. **Staff requests for Tuition Waivers**

432 Sue Cheney moved to approve the tuition waiver for the three children of two staff members in the  
433 District for the coming school year. The motion failed for lack of a second.  
434

### 435 h. **Personnel:**

#### 436 • **Resignations**

437 Mary Campbell moved to accept, with regret, the resignations of Faith Stuart at NHCS, Jennifer  
438 Coleman at NRHS, Jessica Blaisdell at BHVS, and Melissa Clark from DES. Laura Simula  
439 seconded the motion and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.  
440

#### 441 • **Nominations of Instructional Staff and Nurses for 2010-2011**

442 Mary Campbell moved to elect as nominated by the Superintendent the Instructional Staff,  
443 Nurses, and Guidance Counselors for the 2010-2011 school year, including the reinstating the  
444 second art position at Newfound Regional High School. Tom Gillis seconded the motion and  
445 it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.  
446

#### 447 • **Transfer of Sick Time**

448 Mary Campbell moved to approve the transfer of sick time from one non-collective  
449 bargaining unit staff member to another non-collective bargaining unit staff member.  
450 Sue Cheney seconded the motion and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.  
451

### 452 i. **Manifests**

453 Sue Cheney moved to approve the manifests for October, November, and December of 2009. Tom  
454 Gillis seconded the motion and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*. The Chair recommended that all School  
455 Board members sit down at the SAU and learn how to do the manifests without leaving it to Ms.  
456 Cheney every month. Mr. Rossner stressed that this is important especially with the upcoming audit.

## NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL BOARD

457 Ms. Cheney said that both Mr. Rossner and Karen Colby are happy to sit down and work with the  
458 members.

459

### 460 **j. Transition for Danbury Fifth Graders**

461 Jon Johnson made a motion to direct the Superintendent to develop a written transition plan that  
462 would be implemented every year for Danbury Elementary Students that will attend fifth grade at  
463 Bristol Elementary School. Mary Campbell seconded the motion and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.

464

465 Mr. Rossner said that only New Hampton has not paid for March.

466

467 At 10:10 p.m., the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cheney so moved, Ms. Simula  
468 seconded, and it was *approved 6-0-0-1*.

469

470 Respectfully submitted,

471

472 Paul Hoiriis

473 Clerk

474

### 475 Upcoming Board Meetings

476 April 21	Planning and Dialogue Meeting	NRHS	6:30pm
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477

### 478 School Events

479 April 19 – 23	Spring Recess	All Schools	
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480 April 28	Early Dismissal	All Schools	
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481 April 29	Grade 4 & 5 Science Fair All Day	BES	Awards at 6:00pm
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482 April 29	Parent Workshop, “Surviving the Teen Years” By Jack Agati	NRHS	7:00pm
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483

484 May 19	Grade 1, 2, & 3 Spring Concert (at NRHS)	BES	6:30pm
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485 May 20	Grade 4 & 5 Spring Concert (at NRHS)	BES	6:30pm
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486