

**NEW CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GENERAL MEETING  
NEW CANAAN HIGH SCHOOL ~WAGNER ROOM  
January 6, 2020 - DRAFT  
7:00 P.M.**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair, Ms. Parkhill, called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

**Attendance:**

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Present	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Absent									

**II. Approve Minutes:**

**December 16, 2019 - Regular Meeting**

Ms. Reeves moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Naughton.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
No									
Abstain									

**III. Review and approve agenda: January 6, 2020**

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Gardiner.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
No									
Abstain									

**IV. Comments from the Public:**

An 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from Saxe addressed the Board about the possible school start time change. Although he understands why the Board is looking to have students sleep later, he does not agree with it. He stated that he would not be sleeping in and that he would prefer to have his afternoons free for clubs and sports.

**V. Reports and Recognition**

**1. Superintendent's Budget Presentation**

**Dr. Luizzi**

Dr. Luizzi began the presentation with examples of excellence in the district. New Canaan has been recognized multiple times for athletics and arts programs and students are offered opportunities that are responsive to their needs. New Canaan academics are also excellent with most standardized testing placing students first or second in the DRG which gives the district recognition state-wide and nation-wide.

Before revealing the proposed budget, Dr. Luizzi explained district efficiencies. Cost savings have found in printing, maintenance, hiring skilled services and providing SPED transportation instead of outsourcing them. Environmental cost savings have also been realized through the installation of natural gas at four of the five schools, changing the buses to run on propane, the addition of solar at South School and LED lighting upgrades at all of the schools.

The proposed budget for the 2020-21 school year is an increase of 1.47%. This is under the guideline of 1.5% that the Town had given. A key driver of the budget is enrollment which is projected to be only seven students less next year. He is requesting a 3.71% increase in the salaries line which includes contractual increases, a request of 1.2 FTE additional at the elementary schools and a 1.0 FTE in Social Studies at the high school. Also included is hiring a principal at South School and a SPED Behavioral Analyst for the district. Under employee benefits, there should be a decrease of 12.87% due to lower health care costs and a reduction in the number of retirees.

One of the budget initiatives that have been included in the budget is the alignment of school schedules. The cost of changing the school start times is estimated at \$954,521 for the upcoming year. This includes the cost of seven additional buses and an increase of one certified staff member to cover currently shared staffing at the elementary schools and two non-certified staff to help assist with busing.

If the change in school start times is not included in the budget, the budget would increase by .40%.

The Capital Budgets include facilities, transportation, and technology. The Facilities budget is looked at five years out so items have either been planned, accelerated, new or deferred at needed. Some larger items in this line include a new roof at East, the renovation of the parking lot and a new chiller at West and co-generation plans to eliminate the need for boiler replacement at Saxe and the high school. The planetarium is also planned to be refurbished with a combination of capital budget and PFA raised money. For transportation, the request is for three new SPED transportation vehicles, one that is wheelchair accessible, which was part of a multi-year plan. The Technology budget includes their annual equipment lease request.

## VI. Action Items

### A. Superintendent's Budget (1st read)

*Move to approve, as a first read, the Superintendent's 2020-2021 Budget.*

Mr. Hayes moved to approve, seconded by Ms. West.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
No									
Abstain									

## VII. Comments from the public

A parent from Saxe discussed the school start time change proposal. She feels like it punishes students that are not in grades 7 – 12 and feels that all students should start after 8:00 am so they can get additional sleep and be healthier.

## VIII. Announcements and Future Business

Next BOE Meeting: January 21, 2020 (Tuesday)

**IX. Adjourn**

Mr. Hayes moved to adjourn at 9:42 PM, seconded by Ms. Rashin.

	<b>Carlson</b>	<b>Gardiner</b>	<b>Hayes</b>	<b>Naughton</b>	<b>Parkhill</b>	<b>Rashin</b>	<b>Reeves</b>	<b>Richardson</b>	<b>West</b>
<b>Yes</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>No</b>									
<b>Abstain</b>									

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Ms. Jennifer Richardson  
Board of Education Secretary**