

NEW CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

REMOTE MEETING

April 6, 2020 - DRAFT

7:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order

Chair, Ms. Parkhill, called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

Attendance:

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

II. Approve minutes: March 30, 2020

Ms. West moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Reeves.

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

III. Review and approve Agenda: April 6, 2020

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Carlson.

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

IV. Public Comment

The public stated their disappointment with the budget cut from the Town Council. Some members felt that it was important that the Board still look at low cost or cost neutral options for the 2020-21 school year. They felt that the health and wellness of students is a priority for the district and that they needed to move forward with some type of school start time changes. Other members felt that more time needed to be spent looking at options and that the Board should not rush the process in order to make sure that all students' wellness is taken into consideration.

V. Reports and Recognition

1. School Closure Update

Dr. Luizzi

We are well into Phase II of distance learning. Everything is working well and adjustments are being made where necessary. Meal deliveries are still being made on Mondays and Wednesday to 130 students. Dr. Luizzi is staying on top of evolving protocols with both the CDC and Health Department to respond to changes as needed. Third quarter grades have been moved a week to April 9th to give students and teachers additional time. Grades in the third quarter will stay with the traditional grading

system. We will follow the guidance of the State if the school closure time is extended. Communication is continuing through administrators, principals, instructional leaders and teachers helping to make the E-Learning process successful.

2. Budget Update

Dr. Luizzi

Last week at the Town Council meeting, they made a decision to cut the Board of Education’s budget \$1,143,000. The total operating budget for 2020-2021 is decreasing by 0.62% year over year. The Board was extremely disappointed with the cut in the budget but were grateful for the support they did receive. Dr. Luizzi felt that due to the cut, the School Start Time Initiative cannot be implemented in 2020-21. To be successful, the district needs time to design, model, test, and refine any scenario prior to its implementation. Additionally, the administration continues to believe that the scenario brought forward in this year’s budget is the right one for all students, K-12. The operating budget was reduced over \$1.35 million throughout the process this year, and reductions in programs and staffing are required to account for these reductions. With the upcoming discussion on BOE Goals in June, the Board will review the status of the initiative and will consider the best path forward.

VI. Action Items

A. BOE Policy #6999 Graduation Credit (2nd read)

Move to approve, as a second read, BOE Policy #6999, “Graduation Credit for Distance Learning (e-learning) Courses,” as first moved and seconded by Ms West and Ms Richardson respectively, on March 30, 2020

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

B. Solar Power Purchase Agreements at East, West and Saxe

Move to approve the Power Purchase Agreement between the New Canaan Public Schools and Davis Hill Development for East, West, and Saxe schools and authorize the Superintendent to execute the contracts.

Ms. Carlson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Gardiner.

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

VII. Announcements and Future Business

Next BOE Meeting: April 20, 2020

VIII. Comments from the Public

A member of the public asked the Board to not give up on the idea of a school start time change for the 2020-21 school year. It is important to the health of all students. If there is a savings from students not

being in school, could those savings be used for the initiative? The emotional intelligence of all our students is important.

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Rashin moved to adjourn at 8:38 PM, seconded by Ms. West.

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

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