

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 6:30 PM

Beman Middle School, 1 Wilderman's Way, Middletown, CT 06457

I. Call to Order	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
II. Salute to the Flag	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
III. Adoption of Agenda	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
IV. District Highlights	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
IV.A. MHS Crew Team: Connecticut Public Schools Rowing Association (CPSRA) Champions	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Jessie Lavorgna
IV.B. Principal Appreciation Month	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Jessie Lavorgna
IV.C. Custodian Appreciation Day	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Jessie Lavorgna
V. Public Session	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
VI. Communications	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
VI.A. Report of Student Representative	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Nana Obeng
VII. Consent Agenda	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
VII.A. Minutes of September 12, 2023 BOE Regular Meeting	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
VII.B. Out of State Field Trip - MHS 2023 VEX Robotics Invitational	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sam Faulkenberry
VII.C. Out of State Field Trip 2024 VEX Robotics Signature Event	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sam Faulkenberry
VII.D. Out of State Trip 2024 VEX Robotics Southern New England Regional Championship	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sam Faulkenberry
VII.E. Out of State Trip 2024 VEX World Championship	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sam Faulkenberry
VII.F. Out of State Trip MHS Band to Virginia Beach	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Kimberly Rodriguez
VII.G. Grants Status Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Natalie Forbes
VII.H. Policy #4010 - Adopt - Hiring of Certified Staff	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
VII.I. Policy #4020 - Adopt - Hiring of Non-Certified Staff	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
VII.J. Policy #4111 - Delete - Recruitment and Selection	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
VII.K. Policy #5123.1 - Revise - Summer School	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
VIII. Department Reports	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
VIII.A. Financial Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Eduardo Miranda
VIII.A.1. Action on Line Item Transfer Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Eduardo Miranda
VIII.B. Facilities Department	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Kevin Dion

VIII.C.	Personnel Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Harry Snyder
VIII.D.	Transportation Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Mark Langton
<b>IX. Superintendent's Report</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Vazquez Matos
IX.A.	Portrait of a Global Citizen	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Vazquez Matos
IX.B.	Performance and Attendance Data Review	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Vazquez Matos
IX.C.	Board Member Recognition of Service	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Vazquez Matos
<b>X. Committees</b>		
X.A.	Budget Committee	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Charles Wiltsie
X.B.	Curriculum Committee	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Debra Guss
X.C.	Facilities Committee	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
X.D.	Policy Committee	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
<b>XI. Action Items</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
XI.A.	Policy #6161.3 - Delete - Comparability of Services	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
XI.B.	Policy #6161.31 - Delete - Title I Program	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
XI.C.	Policy #6162.31 - Delete - Research Testing - Testing Exclusion	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Justin Taylor
<b>XII. Future Agenda Items</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain
XIII.	<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Cain

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:30 PM Eastern

Beman Middle School  
1 Wilderman's Way  
Middletown, CT 06457

Deborah Cain: Present  
Anita Dempsey-White: Absent  
Dina Ford: Present  
Debra Guss: Present  
Emily Jackson: Present  
Jon Pulino: Absent  
Delita Rose Daniels: Present  
Justin Taylor: Present  
Charles Wiltsie: Present  
Present: 7, Absent: 2.

I. Call to Order

Chair Cain called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

II. Salute to the Flag

Ms. Ford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made. This motion, made by Justin Taylor and seconded by Emily Jackson, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

IV. District Highlights

IV.A. Boys Crew Varsity State Championship

Ms. Lavorgna shared that the Boys Crew Varsity State Champions will be highlighted next month.

IV.B. New Teacher Welcome

Ms. Lavorgna shared that we have 43 new teachers this year. Dr. Vazquez Matos welcomed them to the Middletown Public Schools family.

IV.C. Physical Education Teacher Award

Ms. Patricia Ehnot was awarded the CTAHPERD 2023 Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the year. Mr. Smernoff shared that Ms. Ehnot has been teaching for 17 years. Ms. Ehnot explained that Adaptive PE is a wellness program for special needs students. She thanked her team at Middletown High School.

IV.D. Proclamation for Hispanic Heritage Month

Ms. Lavorgna shared that September 15 to October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month. She proceeded to read the proclamation.

#### IV.E. FAFSA Competition

Ms. Lavorgna shared that Middletown High School exceeded its FAFSA Challenge Growth Goal. The goal was 65% completion and the school obtained a rate of 75.1%. MHS was granted a \$1000 prize to boost completion rates for 2024. Governor Lamont chose MHS to host the FAFSA year-end celebration.

#### V. Public Session

Christine Gastrom, 27 Catherine St. Ms. Gastrom is concerned about the changes to the Math program. She shared her objections to the Math Pathways.

Daniel Long, 5 Mazzotta Place. Mr. Long is concerned about Math Pathways. He shared his concerns about the curriculum.

Funmike Shokunbi, 188 McCormick Lane. Ms. Shokunbi shared her concerns about being able to communicate with someone at school.

Jessie Torgenson, 83 Old Mill Rd. Mr. Torgenson shared his concerns regarding the Math Curriculum and the Data Science course.

Kelly Torgenson, 83 Old Mill Rd. Mrs. Torgenson shared her concerns with the Middle School Math Curriculum.

Justine Quijada MHS & Beman parent. Ms. Quijada shared her concerns regarding Math and AP Calculus.

Erica Franklin Fowler, 4 Huber Manor Ms. Franklin Fowler shared her concerns regarding Math. She urged the district to follow up on Math department departures and provide evidence that the changes will show improvements.

Cris Freer, 108 David Dr. Ms. Freer asked the board members to reconsider the agenda. She shared her concerns with middle school students missing core classes to take an additional math class.

Andrea McCardy, 459 Chamberlain Rd..... Ms. McCardy shared her concerns with the Math changes. She asked for transparency and clarification on the changes.

#### VI. Communications

##### VI.A. Report of Student Representative

Student Representative Nana Obeng shared that fall sports are off to a great start. MHS has held Community Day and had a motivational speaker. Seniors had a college application boot camp over the summer. Freshman Orientation included student Pride Leaders this year. Pride Leaders will serve as a helping hand to new students. Senior photos have been done and an additional session will be held at the school. Ms. Obeng encouraged students to learn about and join after school activities and clubs.

## VII. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve of the Consent Agenda was made. This motion, made by Delita Rose Daniels and seconded by Debra Guss, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VII.A. Minutes of June 13, 2023 BOE Regular Meeting

VII.B. 2023 Spring Sports Report

VII.C. Proposal for School Based 4-H Club at MHS

VII.D. MHS Crew - Regatta CRI Fall Classic

VII.E. MHS Crew - Regatta - New England Jr. Regionals

VII.F. MHS Crew - Regatta - Head of the Charles

VII.G. MHS Crew - Regatta - Head of the Fish

VII.H. MHS FFA/ASTE Eastern State Exposition 9-16-23 & 9-26-23

VII.I. MHS Ag Science 4H Eastern States Expo

VII.J. MHS FFA National Convention

VII.K. MHS Orchestra to Boston

VII.L. Alliance Grant

VII.M. Grants Status Report

VII.N. Policy #5127 - Readopt - Student Representation on the Board of Education

VII.O. Policy #5131.5 - Revise - Vandalism

VII.P. Policy #5142.2 - Revise - Safety: Student Dismissal Precautions

VII.Q. Policy #7230.2 - Revise - Indoor Air Quality

## VIII. Department Reports

VIII.A. Financial Report

Mr. Miranda reviewed the line item transfers. They include art in service for personal learning line item for the entire district, supply line for curriculum and building disposals. Mr. Gaylord shared information about Art In Service.

VIII.A.1. Action on Line Item Transfer Report

A motion was made to approve the Line Item Transfer Report. This motion, made by Justin Taylor and seconded by Dina Ford, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

## VIII.B. Facilities Department

Mr. Dion reviewed the summer projects. Most carpet was removed from Farm Hill and Spencer. The MHS library underwent a renovation. The chairs at Beman were replaced by the manufacturer. Acoustic panels were put in the Beman cafeteria to reduce noise. Moody and Snow school had rubber playground resurfacing. Lawrence playground is on order and is expected to be delivered in the fall. The RFP for the MHS track and field went out. The work is on schedule to be done over the summer of 2024. There have been cost increases for supplies and equipment. Ms. Rose Daniels asked about air quality in the schools. Mr. Dion shared that upgrades such as removing carpet and exhaust fans to move air as examples. Ms. Guss asked if there was a plan in place to upgrade some of the older buildings for air conditioning. Mr. Dion shared that they are looking into rooftop units for larger rooms to be used as cooling centers. Mr. Dion stated that it is included in the 5-year capital plan. Further discussion with the City and State are needed for funding the long term projects. Dr. Vazquez Matos shared that the AC in the high school Vo Ag department was repaired, as well as repairs to the boiler in the high school pool. Beman was also able to upgrade the PA system.

## VIII.C. Personnel Report

Mr. Snyder shared that a Powerschool platform will be replacing Frontline systems. It will be time-saving and user-friendly. Payroll, finance and HR have been doing work over the summer for this change. A program called ESS will be taking over the substitutes in the district. The total new hires over the summer was 113 for the district. Summer programs hired 131 employees for their programs. Recruitment has begun internally for 2 elementary school principals. There was a discussion of retention and support for teachers. Dr. Vazquez Matos spoke about Infinity Groups. Ms. Rose Daniels asked that the Policy Committee follow up with support to encourage retention.

## VIII.D. Transportation Report

Mr. Langton shared that the district provided transportation for 12 summer programs and the out of district students attending other schools outside of the district. Dattco continues to recruit and train new hires. Mr. Langton and Mr. Gaylord are holding monthly driver meetings to check in and discuss strengths and weaknesses. The new routing system and parent app started yesterday.

## IX. Superintendent's Report

### IX.A. Introduction of Newly Hired Administrators

Dr. Vazquez Matos shared that 3 administrators were replacing open positions. One position was revised to fill a need in the district. Dawn Dubay is the Supervisor of School Readiness, Early Learning and Family and Community Engagement. Katherine Ferreria is the new Supervisor of Social Emotional Learning and Special Education. Colleen Fitzpatrick is the new K-5 Supervisor of English Language Arts and Intervention. Andrea Pringle is the new Assistant Principal at Middletown High School. Chair Cain welcomed and congratulated the administrators.

### IX.B. Summer Programming Presentation

Dr. Vazquez Matos introduced Ms. Stacey McCann. Ms. McCann shared that over 800 students participated in summer learning. She reviewed each program. A highlight was the robotics program that studied in a renovated robotics lab. The renovation was student led as they presented their needs and wants to committees and were able to see it completed.

Ms. Mikulak shared the highlights of the Secondary Summer STEAM Gateway Camp. About 90 students attended the program. Ms. Carta shared the highlights of Summer Literacy Academy. 131 students attended the program. Ms. Dubay shared that Summer Play Based PreK Experience completed its 3rd year. 30 children enjoyed preparing for Kindergarten. Bridge to Brilliance Ambassadors reached out to 300 families over the summer.

#### IX.C. Math Pathways Overview

Dr. Vazquez Matos asked Ms. McCann to give an overview of the mathematics program as well as a timeline. Ms. McCann shared the current 8th grade and 9-12 math courses. She went on to explain the Proposal: Integrated Approach. The timeline was reviewed. Currently, the team is on Step 2: Teacher review content sequencing for Integrated Algebra. Leadership, parents, higher education partners and community members will be asked for further feedback. Dr. Vazquez Matos shared that the program will add courses and choice for students, not take courses away.

#### IX.D. Strategic Operating Plan Timeline

Dr. Vazquez Matos shared that the current Strategic Operating Plan will sunset in 2024. He reviewed each of the 4 goals and the strategies within them. He then went over Opportunities for Celebration and Opportunities for Growth. Mr. Griswold reviewed the Strategic Operating Plan Development Roadmap. There will be four phases that will be completed for the launch of the new plan in June-July 2024. Staff, parents and community partners will be involved in the planning phases. The district is partnering with EdElements on developing the plan. The district will also work with them on the Portrait of a Global Citizen.

### X. Committees

#### X.A. Budget Committee

Ms. Jackson gave an overview of the Budget Committee Meeting. The committee discussed the transfers and Alliance Grant.

#### X.B. Curriculum Committee

Ms. Guss shared that the committee discussed the 8th grade math curriculum. She encouraged the board members to attend and participate in the committee meetings.

#### X.C. Facilities Committee

Chair Cain shared that the committee will meet next Wednesday, September 20th. Mr. Dion shared the minutes in the board packet which is attached to the agenda.

#### X.D. Policy Committee

Mr. Taylor shared that the committee last met in June. Those policies will be discussed under Action Items. The committee will continue to update policies.

### XI. Action Items

XI.A. Policy #4010 - Adopt - Hiring of Certified Staff

A motion to adopted Policy #4010 was made. This motion, made by Justin Taylor and seconded by Debra Guss, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XI.B. Policy #4020 - Adopt - Hiring of Non-Certified Staff

A motion was made to adopt Policy #4020 was made. This motion, made by Justin Taylor and seconded by Debra Guss, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XI.C. Policy #4111 - Delete - Recruitment and Selection

A motion was made to delete Policy #4111 was made. This motion, made by Justin Taylor and seconded by Emily Jackson, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XI.D. Policy #5123.1 - Revise - Summer School

A motion was made to revise Policy #5123.1 was made. This motion, made by Justin Taylor and seconded by Dina Ford, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XII. Future Agenda Items

XIII. Proposed for Executive Session

A motion to enter Executive Session and invite Attorney Ann Little, Shipman and Goodwin and Dr. Vazquez Matos was made. This motion, made by Deborah Cain and seconded by Delita Rose Daniels, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XIII.A. Discussion regarding written attorney client privileged memorandum (legal advice concerning communications from members of the public and Board Policy 1260)

XIII.B. Adjourn Executive Session

The meeting was called back to order at 10:04 PM.

XIV. Possible action concerning communications from members of the public and Board Policy 1260

XV. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made. Move at 10:05 PM to adjourn. This motion, made by Deborah Cain and seconded by Delita Rose Daniels, Carried.

Anita Dempsey-White: Absent, Jon Pulino: Absent, Deborah Cain: Yea, Dina Ford: Yea, Debra Guss: Yea, Emily Jackson: Yea, Delita Rose Daniels: Yea, Justin Taylor: Yea, Charles Wiltsie: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

**Instruction**  
**Field Trips and Community Service**

**OVERNIGHT & OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM**

All overnight and out-of-state field trips require the approval of the Board of Education 60 days in advance of the departure date. All foreign travel field trips must be submitted for Board approval 90 days in advance of the departure date. The following information must be forwarded electronically and in TRIPLICATE (hard copies) 30 days prior to the Board meeting which summarizes the trip. NOTE: A Narrative must be attached justifying this field trip to the school curriculum and/or mission statement. No financial commitments are to be made until Board approval. This form must be type written and ALL items filled in or marked N/A.

Name of School: **Middletown High School**

Date of Request: ~~8-01-23~~  
7/17/23

Name of Club or Activity: **Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Trip To: **Worcester Polytechnic Institute - 100 Institute Rd., Worcester, MA 01609**

Purpose: **2023 VEX Robotics Invitational - High School Division**

Number of Students Participating: **30**

Number of students eligible to go on the field trip: **30**

Dates of Trip: **Thursday 11-30-23 to Saturday 12-2-23**

# of school days missed: **2**

Names of Teachers and Chaperones:

<b>Sam Faulkenberry</b>	
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Transportation: **bus / carpool**

Are fund-raising activities planned: **yes** If so, describe: **Middletown VEX Robotics State Qualifier**

Amount of money raised through fundraisers: **\$2000**

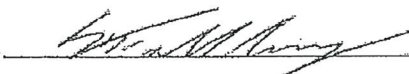
Lodging: **hotel**



Insurance Arrangements for Staff and Students: **parents / guardians will be encouraged to purchase individual policy**

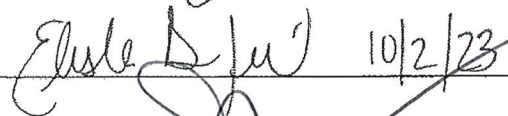
Cost per Student: **\$300** Cost per Teacher and/or Chaperone:

Cost per Nurse: **n/a** Cost per Paraprofessional: **n/a**

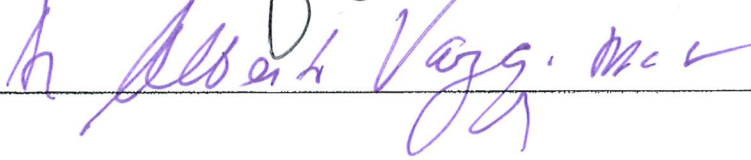
If travel agencies are engaged, at least three quotations need to be provided with documentation attached to this form: **n/a**

Name of teacher making request: **Sam Faulkenberry**  7/17/23

Approved by Department Head at secondary level:   10/2/23

Approved by Principal:  10/2/23

Authorized by Chief Academic Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Approval: 

**2023 Worcester Polytechnic Institute VEX Robotics Invitational - High School Division  
Middletown High School Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Middletown High School offers a rigorous 3-year Robotics and Engineering co-curricular program in which students have the opportunity to practically apply course curriculum through competitive venues.

Blue Dragon Robotics has been competing in VEX Robotics competitions for the past nine years against top ranked high school programs. Team 9909 has previously qualified and competed at the VEX Robotics World Championship for the previous four seasons.

The 2023 Worcester Polytechnic Institute VEX Robotics Invitational will be held in Worcester, MA from Thursday, November 30 to Saturday, December 2, 2023. This open qualification event gives students the unique opportunity to compete against premier teams from across the United States.

The cost of the competition will be approximately \$300.00 per student including registration, transportation, and lodging accommodations.

To ensure that the trip is a financially equitable opportunity for all team members, the Middletown Robotics Team completes fund-raising activities which include hosting a VEX Robotics State Qualifier at the high school.

Samuel Faulkenberry, Technology Education teacher and Middletown Robotics Team advisor, will chaperone the trip.

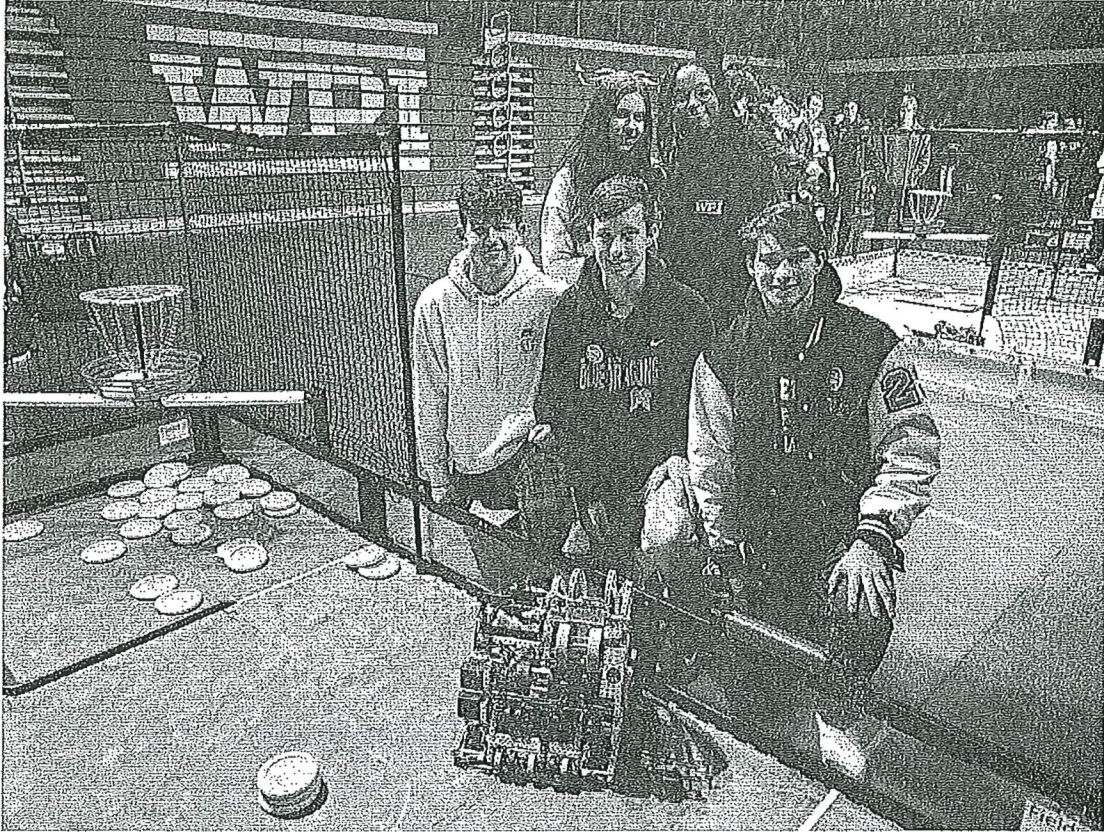
Students will miss a total of two school days.

Mr. Faulkenberry will meet with parents and students to discuss all expectations and procedures for the trip in order to insure a safe and enriching experience.

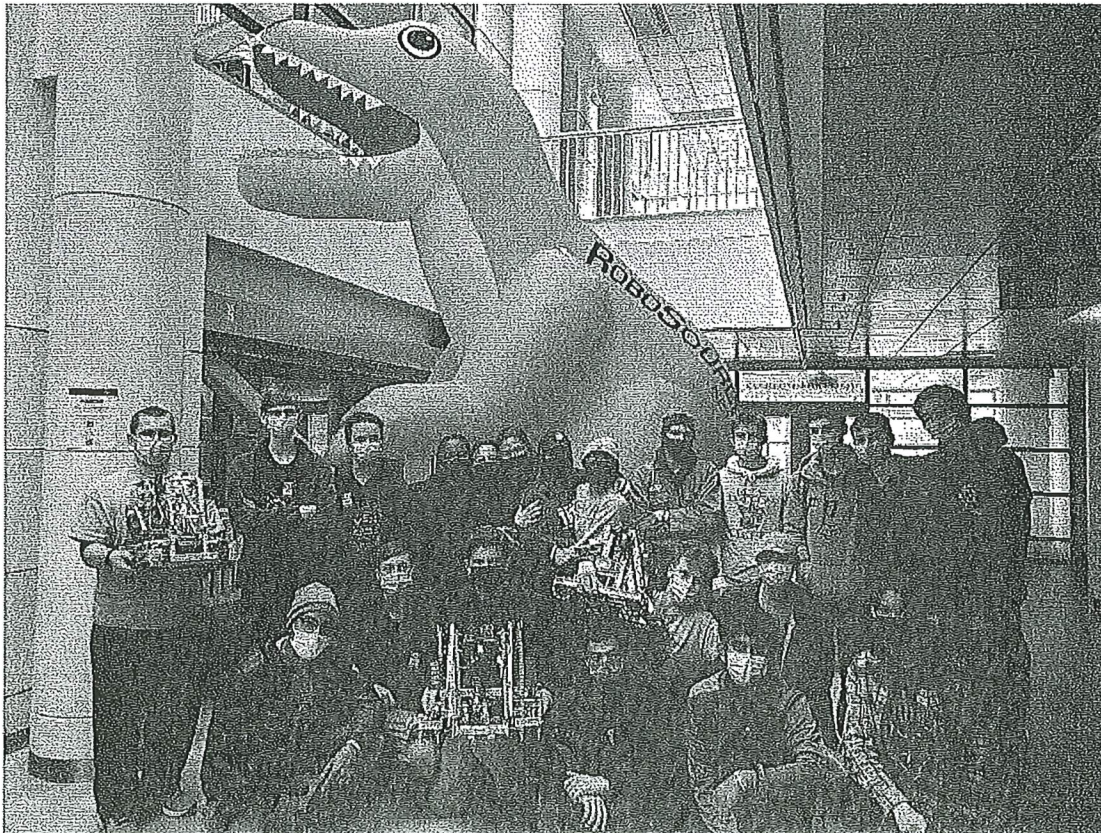
Students will also confirm that missed work and lessons during that week are completed prior to the trip.

To conclude, this event is an exciting and unique educational opportunity for students as they continue to prepare for their academic and professional future. The Middletown High School Robotics team would greatly appreciate approval for the proposed trip to the 2023 Worcester Polytechnic Institute VEX Robotics Invitational.

Worcester Polytechnic Signature Event 12-1-22



Worcester Polytechnic Signature Event 12-2-21



**Instruction**  
**Field Trips and Community Service**

**OVERNIGHT & OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM**

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Name of School: **Middletown High School**

Date of Request: **7-17-23**

Name of Club or Activity: **Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Trip To: **Kalahari Resorts & Conventions - 7000 Kalahari DR., Sandusky, Ohio 44870**

Purpose: **2024 VEX Robotics Signature Event - High School Division**

Number of Students Participating: **20**

Number of students eligible to go on the field trip: **20**

Dates of Trip: **Wednesday 1-17-24 to Saturday 1-20-24**

# of school days missed: **3**

Names of Teachers and Chaperones:

<b>Sam Faulkenberry</b>	<b>David Reynolds</b>
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Transportation: **Flight / bus**

Are fund-raising activities planned: **yes** If so, describe: **Middletown VEX Robotics State Qualifier**

Amount of money raised through fundraisers: **\$2000**

Lodging: **hotel**

Insurance Arrangements for Staff and Students: **parents / guardians will be encouraged to purchase individual policy**

Cost per Student: **\$800**

Cost per Teacher and/or Chaperone:


Cost per Nurse: **n/a**

Cost per Paraprofessional: **n/a**

If travel agencies are engaged, at least three quotations need to be provided with documentation attached to this form: **n/a**

Name of teacher making request: **Sam Faulkenberry** 

Approved by Department Head at secondary level: 

Approved by Principal: 

Authorized by Chief Academic Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

JC  
10/5

**2024 Kalahari Classic VEX Robotics Signature Event - High School Division  
Middletown High School Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Middletown High School offers a rigorous 3-year Robotics and Engineering co-curricular program in which students have the opportunity to practically apply course curriculum through competitive venues.

Blue Dragon Robotics has been competing in VEX Robotics competitions for the past ten years against top ranked high school programs. Team 9909 has qualified and competed at the VEX Robotics World Championship for the previous five seasons.

The 2024 Kalahari Classic VEX Robotics Signature Event will be held in Sandusky, OH from Wednesday January 17 to Saturday January 20, 2024. This open qualification event gives students the unique opportunity to compete against premier teams from across the United States.

The projected cost of the competition will be approximately \$800.00 per student: registration, transportation, and lodging accommodations.

To ensure that the trip is a financially equitable opportunity for all team members, the Middletown Robotics Team completes fund-raising activities which include hosting an annual VEX Robotics State Qualifier at MHS.

Samuel Faulkenberry, Technology Education teacher and Middletown Robotics Team advisor, will chaperone the trip.

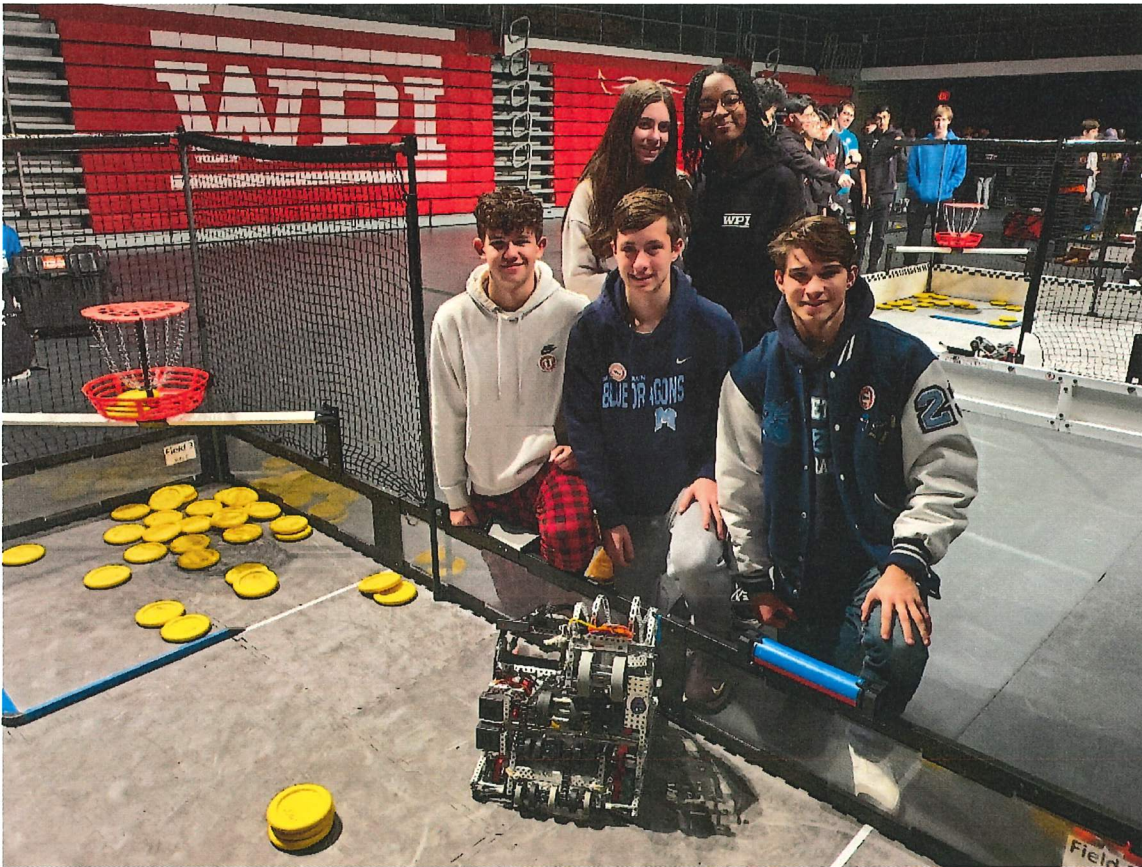
Students will miss a total of three school days.

Mr. Faulkenberry will meet with parents and students to discuss all expectations and procedures for the trip in order to insure a safe and enriching experience.

Students will confirm that missed work and lessons during that week are completed prior to the trip.

To conclude, this event is an exciting and unique educational opportunity for students as they continue to prepare for their academic and professional future. The Middletown High School Robotics team would greatly appreciate approval for the proposed trip to the 2024 Kalahari Classic VEX Robotics Signature Event.

Worcester Polytechnic Signature Event 12-1-22



Worcester Polytechnic Signature Event 12-2-21



**Instruction**

**Field Trips and Community Service**

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Name of School: **Middletown High School**

Date of Request: **7-17-23**

Name of Club or Activity: **Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Trip To: **Total Mortgage Arena - 600 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604**

Purpose: **2024 VEX Robotics Southern New England Regional Championship**

Number of Students Participating: **40**

Number of students eligible to go on the field trip: **40**

Dates of Trip: **Sunday 2-25-24 to Tuesday 2-27-24**

# of school days missed: **2**

Names of Teachers and Chaperones:

<b>Sam Faulkenberry</b>	<b>David Reynolds</b>
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Transportation: **carpool**

Are fund-raising activities planned: **yes** If so, describe: **Middletown VEX Robotics State Qualifier**

Amount of money raised through fundraisers: **\$2000**

Lodging: **hotel**

Insurance Arrangements for Staff and Students: **parents / guardians will be encouraged to purchase individual policy**

Cost per Student: **\$300**

Cost per Teacher and/or Chaperone:

Cost per Nurse: **n/a**

Cost per Paraprofessional: **n/a**

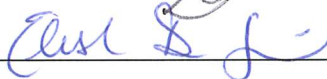
If travel agencies are engaged, at least three quotations need to be provided with documentation attached to this form: **n/a**

Name of teacher making request: **Sam Faulkenberry**



Approved by Department Head at secondary level: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Principal: \_\_\_\_\_



Authorized by Associate Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

16  
10/5

## **2024 VEX Robotics Southern New England Regional Championship - High School Division Middletown High School Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Middletown High School offers a rigorous 3-year Robotics and Engineering co-curricular program in which students have the opportunity to practically apply course curriculum through competitive venues. Students enrolled in the course focus on developing skills necessary to pursue STEM orientated education and careers. The Middletown High School Robotics team encourages students to practically apply course curriculum through competitive venues. Blue Dragon Robotics has been competing against premier programs in VEX Robotics competitions for the past 10 years.

Through the 2023-24 competitive season, Middletown High School Robotics will compete to qualify for the Southern New England VEX Robotics Regional Championships. This event gives the team the opportunity to qualify them for the 2024 VEX Robotics World Championship.

The 2024 VEX Robotics Southern New England Regional Championship will be hosted at Total Mortgage Arena - Bridgeport, CT from Sunday 2-25-24 to Tuesday 2-27-24. Students will integrate STEM orientated concepts with team building and collaboration skills at a championship competitive level. Criteria for events will include robotics mechanical design, quality in construction, implementing the engineering design process, programming, project presentations, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

The projected cost of the competition will be approximately \$300 per student: registration, transportation, and lodging accommodations.

To ensure that the trip is a financially equitable opportunity for all team members, the Middletown Robotics Team completes fund-raising activities which include hosting an annual VEX Robotics State Qualifier at MHS.

Samuel Faulkenberry, Technology Education teacher and Middletown Robotics Team advisor, will chaperone the trip.

Students will miss a total of two school days.

Mr. Faulkenberry will meet with parents and students to discuss all expectations and procedures for the trip in order to insure a safe and enriching experience.

Students will confirm that missed work and lessons during that week are completed prior to the trip.

To conclude, this event is an exciting and unique educational opportunity for students as they continue to prepare for their academic and professional future. The Middletown High School Robotics team would greatly appreciate approval for the proposed trip to the 2024 VEX Robotics Southern New England Regional Championship.

Southern New England Regional Championship 3-11-23



Southern New England Regional Championship 3-5-22



**Instruction**  
**Field Trips and Community Service**

**OVERNIGHT & OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM**

All overnight and out-of-state field trips require the approval of the Board of Education 60 days in advance of the departure date. All foreign travel field trips must be submitted for Board approval 90 days in advance of the departure date. The following information must be forwarded electronically and in TRIPLICATE (hard copies) 30 days prior to the Board meeting which summarizes the trip. NOTE: A Narrative must be attached justifying this field trip to the school curriculum and/or mission statement. No financial commitments are to be made until Board approval. **This form must be type written and ALL items filled in or marked N/A.**

Name of School: **Middletown High School**

Date of Request: **8-21-23**

Name of Club or Activity: **Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Trip To: **KBH Convention Center, Dallas, TX**  
Purpose: **2024 VEX Robotics World Championship**

Number of Students Participating: **25**  
Number of students eligible to go on the field trip: **25**

Dates of Trip: **Wednesday April 24 to Sunday April 28, 2024** # of school days missed: **3**

Names of Teachers and Chaperones:

<b>Sam Faulkenberry</b>	<b>Jean Newman</b>
-------------------------	--------------------

Transportation: **flight / bus**

Are fund-raising activities planned: **yes** If so, describe: **Middletown VEX Robotics State Qualifier**

Amount of money raised through fundraisers: **\$5000**

Lodging: **hotel**

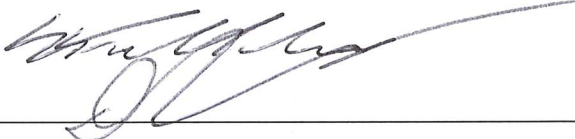
Insurance Arrangements for Staff and Students: **parents / guardians will be encouraged to purchase individual policy**

Cost per Student: **\$1200** Cost per Teacher and/or Chaperone:

Cost per Nurse: **n/a** Cost per Paraprofessional: **n/a**

If travel agencies are engaged, at least three quotations need to be provided with documentation attached to this form: **n/a**

Name of teacher making request: **Sam Faulkenberry**



Approved by Department Head at secondary level: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized by Associate Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

**2024 VEX Robotics World Championship - High School Division  
Middletown High School Blue Dragon Robotics Team 9909**

Middletown High School offers a rigorous 3-year Robotics and Engineering co-curricular program in which students have the opportunity to practically apply course curriculum through competitive venues. Students enrolled in the course focus on developing skills necessary to pursue STEM orientated education and careers. The Middletown High School Robotics team encourages students to practically apply course curriculum through competitive venues. Blue Dragon Robotics has been competing against premier programs in VEX Robotics competitions for the past 10 years.

Through the 2023-24 competitive season, Middletown High School Robotics will compete to qualify for the Southern New England VEX Robotics Regional Championships. This event gives the team the opportunity to qualify them for the 2024 VEX Robotics World Championship.

The 2024 VEX Robotics World Championship will be hosted at the KBH Convention Center, Dallas, TX from Monday April 22 to Friday April 26, 2024. Students will integrate STEM orientated concepts with team building and collaboration skills at a championship competitive level. Criteria for events will include robotics mechanical design, quality in construction, implementing the engineering design process, programming, project presentations, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

The cost of the competition will be approximately \$1200 per student including registration, transportation, and lodging accommodations.

To ensure that the trip is a financially equitable opportunity for all team members, the Middletown Robotics Team completes fund-raising activities which include hosting an annual VEX Robotics State Qualifier at MHS.

Samuel Faulkenberry, Technology Education teacher and Middletown Robotics Team advisor, will chaperone the trip.

Students will miss a total of five school days.

Mr. Faulkenberry will meet with parents and students to discuss all expectations and procedures for the trip in order to insure a safe and enriching experience.

Students will confirm that missed work and lessons during that week are completed prior to the trip.

To conclude, this event is an exciting and unique educational opportunity for students as they continue to prepare for their academic and professional future. The Middletown High School Robotics team would greatly appreciate approval for the proposed trip to the 2024 VEX Robotics World Regional Championship.

VEX Robotics World Championship 4-24-23



VEX Robotics World Championship 4-24-23





**Office of Your Department**  
*Unlocking the Potential in ALL Students*

**Natalie Forbes, Director of Innovations & Grants**  
forbesn@mpsct.org | (860) 638-1414  
311 Hunting Hill Ave, Middletown, CT 06457  
www.middletownschoools.org

Board of Education Report
10.6.23
Grants Report October 2023

The following grants were confirmed over the period from October 2023:

Grant Title	Funder	SY24	SY23
IDEA 611 Public	CSDE	1,421,907.23	1,376,827.71
IDEA 611 Private	CSDE	74,740.77	66,993.29
IDEA 619	CSDE	45,082	40,463
2% ECS Grant	CSDE	333,048	333,048
ARPA Right to Read	CSDE	194,000	0

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Forbes, Director of Innovation & Grants

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL GRANTS FOR 2023-24

The State Department of Education requires school districts to submit a Consolidated Application for - 2023-24 Federal grants. The funding levels indicated reflect the public school allocations only.

**1) Title I, Part A –Improving Basic Programs** **\$1,033,675.74**

Schools falling at or above the district average may qualify for Title I funding; schools below the district average do not qualify for services. The district may bypass a qualifying school for Title I services only if it houses a grade level that is not being served elsewhere in the district. If a school falls below the district average the following year, it may be grandfathered to receive Title I services for one year only. October 1, 2022 enrollment and free/reduced rates are used to determine Title I eligibility.

For the 2023-24 school year Bielefield, Farm Hill, Macdonough, Spencer, and Snow Elementary Schools & Beman Middle School will receive Title I services. Title I will provide funding for: parent engagement, administrative and instructional positions and educational supplies.

**2) Title II, Part A: Teacher/Principal Training, PD and Recruitment** **\$120,659.90**

Title II, Part A, grant funds are intended to promote and support activities that increase student academic achievement through strategies such as: improving administrator, teacher and principal quality, increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in the classroom, and highly qualified principals and assistant principals in schools.

This year these funds will support teacher and administrator professional development and training that aligns with the Strategic Operating Plans: Middletown 2024: Keys to Innovation, Creativity, and Equity, and Early Minds 2024: Pathways to Readiness & Equity.

The State Department of Education issues the following guidance to identify how entitlements are calculated:

The U.S. Census Bureau’s Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program (SAIPE) annually provides the U.S. Department of Education with Census poverty estimates (children ages 5-17) used to determine districts’ Title I eligibility and calculate district Title I allocations. There is no correlation between Census poverty estimates and free/reduced lunch counts. Census poverty estimates are based on a statistical model incorporating data from the following sources:

- Census Bureau’s American Community Survey
- Administrative records from federal income tax returns
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Most recent decennial Census
- Update to population estimates
- Data on Supplemental Security Income recipients
- Economic data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis

More information about SAIPE and additional information is available at <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/about/index.html>:

The main objective of this program is to provide estimates of income and poverty for the administration of federal programs and the allocation of federal funds to local jurisdictions. In addition to these federal programs, state and local programs use the income and poverty estimates for distributing funds and managing programs.

The SAIPE program produces the following county and state estimates:

- total number of people in poverty
- number of children under age 5 in poverty (for states only)
- number of related children ages 5 to 17 in families in poverty
- number of children under age 18 in poverty
- median household income

In addition, in order to implement provisions under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended, we produce the following estimates for school districts:

- total population
- number of children ages 5 to 17
- number of related children ages 5 to 17 in families in poverty

**The estimates are not direct counts from enumerations or administrative records, nor direct estimates from sample surveys.** Instead, for counties and states, we model income and poverty estimates by combining survey data with population estimates and administrative records. For school districts, we use the model-based county estimates and inputs from federal tax information and multi-year survey data to produce estimates of poverty. See the [Methodology](#) page for further details on the models and see [Information about Data Inputs](#) for details on the data sources.

Beginning with the SAIPE program's estimates for 2005, data from the [American Community Survey](#) (ACS) are used in the estimation procedure; all prior years used data from the Annual Social and Economic Supplements of the [Current Population Survey](#). Further details are given in a 2007 SAIPE report, [Use of ACS Data to Produce SAIPE Model-Based Estimates of Poverty for Counties](#) [PDF - 3.4M]. The U.S. Census Bureau, with support from other Federal agencies, originally created the SAIPE program to provide more current estimates of selected income and poverty statistics than the most recent decennial census. A brief history of the SAIPE program can be found on the [Origins of the Project](#) page. Prior to the creation of the SAIPE program the decennial census was the only source of income distribution and poverty statistics for households, families, and individuals if one needed data for "small" geographic areas, e.g., counties, cities, and other sub-state areas. The ten-year span between the release of decennial census data left a large gap in information concerning [fluctuations in the economic situation](#) [PDF - 191k] of the nation and local areas

This is the link to the information about how the Census poverty estimates are created: <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/about/index.html>

SUBMITTED BY: NATALIE FORBES, DIRECTOR OF INNOVATION & GRANTS

### **HIRING OF CERTIFIED STAFF**

It is the policy of the Board of Education (the “Board”) to appoint the most qualified applicants to positions of employment within the Middletown Public Schools (the “District”). The Board requires that all such appointments be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 10-151 of the Connecticut General Statutes, applicable Board policies and administrative regulations, and applicable collective bargaining agreements.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for appointments to all positions in the District requiring a certificate issued by the State Board of Education and for establishing lawful, fair and sound administrative regulations and other necessary and appropriate procedures for the recruitment, selection and appointment of such personnel.

To ensure compliance with the Board’s policy 4112.8, Nepotism, any applicant for employment in the District shall disclose any previous or existing relationship with the Superintendent of Schools, any Board member, or any other current employee within the District.

The Board will not make employment decisions (including decisions related to hiring, assignment, compensation, promotion, demotion, disciplinary action and termination) on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, alienage, ancestry, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, or gender identity or expression, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification.

**Legal Reference:**

Connecticut General Statutes §10-151

Policy adopted:  
SCHOOLS

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC

Middletown, Connecticut

**Hiring of Non-Certified Staff**

It is the policy of the Board of Education to appoint the most qualified applicants to positions of employment within the Middletown Public Schools, subject to the provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall be responsible for appointments to all positions of employment within the Middletown Public Schools which do not require a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220

Policy adopted:

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Middletown, Connecticut

## **Personnel -- Certified**

### **Recruitment and Selection**

The Board desires the Superintendent to develop and maintain a recruitment program designed to attract and hold the best possible personnel who are “highly qualified” as defined by federal law in the District’s schools. Beginning in school year 2006-07 all District teachers teaching a core academic subject area, must be determined to be “highly qualified.”

The school district recognizes the heterogeneity of the people who live in the school district and believes that this characteristic should have an important bearing on all aspects of the school district's activities.

The Board of Education believes it is especially important that this heterogeneity of population be recognized in the recruitment and assignment of personnel.

To this end, the Board of Education shall develop and implement a written plan for minority staff recruitment. The administration is directed to make a serious effort to see that the recruitment procedures of the district produce a total staff representative of the total population of the district and that the assignment procedures of the district bring to each school staff members representative of the population represented by the student membership in each local school.

The schools shall engage in fair and sound personnel practices in the appointment of all district employees. The administration shall be responsible for establishing recruitment, selection and appointment procedures.

The Board wishes to avoid the appearance of giving of special treatment, preference, jobs, political appointments, or contracts to people based on their friends, donors, or political cohorts rather than to people based on their abilities or qualifications.”

On the application form, an applicant for any position in the school district shall disclose any previous relationship with the Superintendent, Administrator or any Board member.

The Superintendent and members of the interview team shall insure that the District is in compliance with state and federal law. Manuals and handbooks shall comply with federal law as to the qualifications for instructional personnel. Notice of professional qualifications shall be provided to parents/guardians of students in Title I schools and staffing pattern reviews as required by law shall be conducted annually.

### **Hiring of Teaching Staff**

1. Criteria will be established for the position to be posted.
2. Position will be posted internally to MFT members per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Personnel -- Certified**

**Recruitment and Selection (continued)**

3. If no current MFT member transfers or applies for the open position, initial advertising of the vacancy will occur through professional websites.
4. Initial screening is done by the building principal and may include Central Office administrators depending upon the position.
5. A diverse interview committee including but not limited to the building principal, assistant principal(s), department head(s)/supervisor(s), central office administrator(s), teachers/certified staff member(s), and a parent(s) will create the criteria and rubric for the interview.
6. Initial interviews are conducted.
7. Finalists will be invited to teach a sample lesson or complete a performance task at the appropriate grade level.
8. The Associate Superintendent or designee makes reference and credential checks on finalists. References shall be checked with prior employers listed on the application, even if not listed in the "references" section of the employment application.
9. Second interviews with finalists are conducted as needed.
10. The interview committee will submit with comments one fully qualified candidate for the vacancy to the Superintendent of Schools.
11. The person being recommended meets with the Superintendent of Schools.
12. The name of the candidate is brought to the Board of Education on the Board agenda as a personnel action.
13. The Superintendent of Schools can modify the process by eliminating steps four (4) and/or five (5) for the purpose of hiring outstanding candidates in a timely fashion as prescribed in one (1) through twelve (12) in the above. This will not compromise the standards and integrity of the employment process.

14. **Hiring of Retired Teachers**

A **retired** teacher receiving benefits from the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) may be reemployed by the Board for up to one full school year in a position (1) designated by the Commissioner of Education as a subject shortage area, or (2) at a school located in a priority school district for the school year in which the teacher is being employed. Such employment may be for up to one full school year. Such reemployment may be extended for an additional school year, provided the Board (a) submits a written request for approval to the Teachers' Retirement Board, (b) certifies that no qualified candidates are available prior to the reemployment of such teacher and (c) indicates the type of

## **Personnel -- Certified**

### **Recruitment and Selection**

#### **Hiring of Retired Teachers (continued)**

assignment to be performed, the anticipated date of rehire and the expected duration of the assignment. The salary of such teacher shall be fixed at an amount at least equal to that paid other teachers in the District with similar training and experience for the same type of service. Upon Board approval of such employment, the retired teacher shall be eligible for the same health insurance benefits provided to active teachers employed by the District. No retirement benefits shall be paid during this period of reemployment.

Except as indicated below, and in the first paragraph in this section, a certified educator receiving retirement benefits from the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) may not be employed in a certified position receiving compensation paid out of public money appropriated for school purposes except that such educator may be employed in such a position and receive no more than forty-five percent of the maximum salary level for the assigned position. Any certified educator who receives in excess of such amount shall reimburse the Board for the amount of such excess.

Commencing July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2018, the exemption from the limitation on the compensation of a reemployed certified educator apply to an educator who (A) is receiving retirement benefits from TRS based on thirty-four or more years of credited service, (B) is reemployed in a district designated as an alliance district (pursuant to C.G.S. 10-262u), and (C) was serving in the district on July 1, 2015.

On and after July 1, 2016, a certified educator receiving retirement benefits from the system may be employed and receive compensation, health insurance benefits, and other employment benefits provided to active teachers employed by such school system provided such teacher does not receive a retirement income during such employment. Payment of such teacher's retirement income shall resume on the first day of the month following the termination of such employment.

**Note:** TRB has indicated that a six month break in service is required before a retired teacher, who has retired before age 62 or normal retirement (20 years of service and age 60 or 35 years of service) can be reemployed by any Connecticut school district.

#### **Hiring of Administrative Staff**

1. Criteria will be established for the position to be posted.
2. Position will be posted internally to MSAA members for possible transfers per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Personnel -- Certified**

**Recruitment and Selection**

**Hiring of Administrative Staff** (continued)

3. If no current MSAA member transfers into the open position, initial advertising of vacancy will occur through professional websites and mailing of recruitment letters from Middletown Public Schools to area/regional administrators and Boards of Education.
4. The following will be used as part of the selection procedure:
  - a. A diverse interview advisory committee to the Superintendent composed of several Board of Education members, the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Associate Superintendent, Administrator(s), an MFT representative, teachers from the respective school or department, the PTA president or his/her designee, a minority member of the School Community. Schools which have a Governance Council must include a representative from that Council in the interview process.
  - b. The Superintendent and/or the Associate Superintendent will select teachers from the respective school or department to serve on the committee with an emphasis on representing the various departments and specialties from the school or department. A maximum of four (4) teachers will be selected for the interview committee. If more than four (4) teachers express interest in being a member of the interview committee, then the Superintendent and/or Associate Superintendent will conduct a random lottery to determine who will serve.
5. The interview committee will create a leadership profile that identifies the leadership traits and characteristics important to the committee.
6. The interview committee will screen applications. The quality of candidates will determine how many will be interviewed, with no more than twelve (12) candidates selected for the initial interview.
7. The interview committee will conduct initial interviews with the selected candidates and choose multiple finalists for a second interview. The number of finalists may vary depending upon the quality of the candidates.
8. The finalists will meet with members from the district administrative team for their second interview. The district administrative team will identify two (2) to three (3) finalists to the Superintendent.
9. If applicable, the committee will conduct site visits, when feasible. In lieu of a site visit, an alternate in-depth discussion with the candidate's home district will occur.
10. Reference and credential checks are made on finalists by central office administrators. References shall be checked with prior employers listed on the application, even if not listed in the "references" section of the employment application.

**Personnel – Certified**

**Recruitment and Selection**

**Hiring of Administrative Staff (continued)**

11. The Superintendent will interview the finalists. The superintendent will bring two (2) finalists forward to the Board of Education.
12. Board of Education and Superintendent will interview finalists. Superintendent will make recommendation to Board of Education for appointment at conclusion of interviews.
13. Board of Education will vote to accept a candidate for the position.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-151 Employment of teachers. Notice and hearing on termination of contract.  
10-220 Duties of Boards of Education.  
10-153 Discrimination on account of marital status.  
10-155f Residency requirement prohibited.  
31-126 Unfair Employment Practices  
Title IX - Equal Employment Opportunity  
Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)  
20 U.S.C. Section 1119 No Child Left Behind Act  
34 C.F.R. 200.55 Federal Regulations  
Circular Letter C-6, Series 2004-2005, Determining “Highly Qualified” Teachers  
Circular Letter C-9, Series 2004-2005, and Districts’ High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) Plans.

Policy adopted:	September 19, 1995	MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Policy revised:	June 22, 2004	Middletown, Connecticut
Policy revised:	November 14, 2006	
Policy revised:	May 8, 2012	
Policy revised:	May 13, 2014	
Policy revised:	September 8, 2015	
Policy revised:	May 9, 2017	

## Instruction

### Summer School

The Middletown Board of Education may sponsor a summer school program providing enrichment, compensatory or remedial instruction at one or both levels (elementary and secondary). At the secondary high school level, summer credit recovery courses may be taken for lost credit.

### Admission

Attendance in the summer school shall be on a voluntary basis.

#### 1. Elementary

Admission to elementary summer school classes will be limited to those students who will be enrolled in Grades PreK-5 in September of the year of the summer school session and who are current Middletown residents. Admission to any summer remedial and enrichment program will be based upon student performance, teacher recommendation, space, and grant funding.

#### 2. Middle School

Admission to middle school summer school classes will be limited to those students who will be enrolled in Grades 6-8 in September of the year of the summer school session and who are current Middletown residents. Admission to any summer remedial program will be based upon student performance, teacher recommendation, space, and available funding.

#### 3. Secondary

Admission to Middletown High School's summer school remedial classes will be granted to those students who have failed ~~the a course with a grade no lower than 50~~. Students who have withdrawn from a course will not be eligible for summer school.

The High School's summer school offerings comprise core courses in math, English, science, social studies, world language, and wellness.

#### 4. Tuition

The Board of Education may charge a reasonable fee to each attending child.

There is no fee for the extended school year (ESY) program.

Nonresidents are only allowed to attend high school summer credit recovery courses. These students will be required to pay fees as established by the Board of Education.

Policy adopted: March 12, 2002  
Policy readopted: June 7, 2005  
Policy revised: May 11, 2010  
Policy revised:

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Middletown, Connecticut

Middletown Board of Education  
BOE Transfer of Funds

Date Range: 01-Jul-2023 to 26-Sep-2023 For FY 2024

Account	Description	Original Budget	Budget Adjust	Total Budget	From	To
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Journal#: 38954 Date: 12-Sep-2023

From 1010-100-2220-440-56500-00000	LIBR/MEDIA: SUPPL*TECH RELATED	14,000.00		14,000.00	4,035.00	
To 1010-054-2213-171-53220-00000	EVS: STEM*IN SVC-PROF MTG/DEV	1,500.00		1,500.00		4,035.00
Reallocation of funds to purchase Beran STEM PD/curriculum writing						

Total Transfer for CURRICULUM					4,035.00	4,035.00
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Journal#: 38956 Date: 21-Sep-2023

From 1010-062-1000-360-56110-00000	MHS: TECH EDUC*INSTR SUPPL	25,300.00		25,300.00	7,000.00	
To 1010-062-1000-360-53240-00000	MHS: TECH EDUC*FIELD TRIPS	3,000.00		3,000.00		7,000.00
Rationale: To more equitably provide access for a diverse group of students to participate in the 14 local, state, regional, and national Engineering and Robotics tournaments.						

Total Transfer for MHS					7,000.00	7,000.00
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*** Grand Total To Transfer					11,035.00	11,035.00
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**Facilities Department**  
“Unlocking the Potential in ALL Students”

Director of Facilities - Kevin Dion.  
372 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 Telephone: (860) 638-1408  
Email: [Dionk@mpsct.org](mailto:Dionk@mpsct.org), Web: [www.middletownschools.org](http://www.middletownschools.org)

**Facilities Report for Board of Education October 10, 2023 Meeting**

Middletown Track and Field replacement

RFP closed on 10/5/23 and bids will be discussed at the 10/19/23 Building Committee meeting.

Air conditioning review in the schools -

Quotes are being generated for the cost to expand the A/C systems in the schools. Main focus is on buildings currently without large space rooms with A/C (ie. Cafeteria/Gym). IAQ grant due 12/31/23.

Roof Replacement -

Snow roof replacement non-priority application will be submitted shortly

Capital costs for additional needed roof replacements in the district are being updated in the 5 year capital plan.

Moody, Bielefeld, Wesley are seeing increased maintenance costs and will need replacement in the next 24 months.



# **BOE Monthly Human Resources Report**

Tuesday, October 10, 2023



**M**

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**

## **New Hires – 33**

- Certified Hires – 4
  - Moody –Teacher
  - SPED Teacher – MHS
  - Elementary School Teacher – 2 - Wesley

- Non Certified Hires – 29

### Para-Educators – 14

- Beman – 3
- Bielefield – 2
- Lawrence - 1
- Moody – 2
- Snow – 2
- Wesley - 1
- MHS – 3

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**
- Non Certified Hires (continued)
  - Duty Aide – 3, Moody, Macdonough, Snow
  - Interventionist – 1 Snow
  - Temp Cafeteria – 6 district wide
  - Long Term Subs - 3 – MHS -1, Macdonough – 2
  - Building Sub – 1 Moody Elementary School
  - Contract SLP – 1 MHS

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**

## **Retirements – 1**

Para-educator - MHS

## **Separations – 18**

- Certified Staff – 6
  - SPED – 1 - Moody
  - Speech Language Pathologist – 1 - Beman
  - Math Teacher – 2 - MHS
  - Elementary – 1 - Wesley
  - Elementary – 1 - Farm Hill

separations continued on next slide

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**

## **Separations – (continued)**

- Non-certified – 12
  - Para-educators – 3 – MHS; 1 – Beman; 1 – Lawrence, 1 - Snow
  - School Secretaries – 1 – Beman
  - Payroll Supervisor – 1 - District
  - Duty Aide – 1 – Lawrence
  - Cafeteria Lead – 1 – Lawrence
  - Custodian – 2 – Wesley, Macdonough
  - Building Sub – 2 – Lawrence, Bielefield
  - School Nurse – 1 - Farm Hill/Macdonough

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**
- **Vacancies**
- **Certified: 8.4 openings**
  - Principals – 2 – Bielefield, Snow
  - School Psychologist – 2 – Farm Hill, Beman/MHS
  - Speech Language Pathologist – 2 – Beman, MHS
  - Math Teacher – 2 – Beman
  - ESL Instructor – 0.4 – Adult Ed.

Vacancies continued in next slide

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**

- **Vacancies**

## **Non-Certified: 42 openings**

- Para-educators: 23
  - MHS – 10
  - Beman – 7
  - Farm Hill – 2
  - Spencer – 2
  - Lawrence – 1
  - Snow (Pre-K) 1
- SEL Interventionist – 1 – Beman
- Family Engagement Liaison – 1 – Macdonough/Spencer
- Literacy Interventionist – 4 – Bielefield
- Vacancies continued on next slide

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period – September 1 – September 30, 2023**
- **Vacancies**

## **Non-Certified: continued**

- **Local 1467 (AFSCME)**
- Admin Secretary – 1 – SPED
- Accounts Clerk II – 1 – MHS
- Custodian – 3 – Macdonough, Wesley, Lawrence
- Campus Security Officer – 1 – Beman
- Payroll Supervisor – 1- Central Office
- School Nurse – 1 – Macdonough
- School Secretary II – 1 – Beman
- Cafeteria Worker I – 3 – 2@ Beman, MHS
- Tutor – 1 - MTC



# MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Unlocking the Potential in ALL Students”

Mark Langton, Transportation Manager  
 311 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 Telephone: (860) 638-1417  
 Email: langtonm@mpsct.org, Web: www.middletownschools.org

## TRANSPORTATION REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2023

School Year 2023-2024

MONTH	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
NUMBER OF MPS STUDENTS Routed FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION	3,961									
BUS CONDUCT REPORTS RECEIVED	17									
BUS DRIVER COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	0									
BUS ACCIDENTS	2									

### Transportation Monthly Summary for September 2023

There were 2 minor bus accidents this month. Both were caused by other vehicles rear ending the bus. There were no injuries reported from either accident.

Currently there are 14 afterschool buses servicing the 21st Century programs, after school clubs, student government and extra help sessions.

**MIDDLETOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**September 7, 2023**

**Zoom**

**5:30 PM**

<b><u>Board of Education (BOE)</u></b> <b><u>Committee Members Present</u></b> Debra Guss, Chair DeLita Rose Daniels	<b><u>Also Present</u></b> Stacey McCann, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Richard Cordaway, Director of Math (K-12) Yvonne Daniels, 6-12 Math Supervisor Sheila Daniels, Community Committee Member
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1. **Call to order and Introductions:** Committee Chair Debra Guss called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and introductions were made.
2. **23/24SY Grade 8 Math Options Pathways:** Next, Mr. Cordaway and Ms. Daniels provided an overview of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math offerings at Beman Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year, which include 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and an Algebra 1 enrichment class. Mr. Cordaway explained that the Algebra 1 enrichment class is a full year elective class, replaces an Encore class and covers the same content as the Algebra 1 class that is taught at Middletown High School. Ms. Daniels then reviewed certain Family Support Materials that are available on the Middletown Public Schools Math website and provided a comparison of the content covered in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math class and the Algebra 1 course, noting that there was only one unit that overlapped between the two courses. A discussion followed during which various issues were raised, including the rationale for the change from prior years, the criteria for selecting students for the enrichment class and the demographics for the enrichment class. It was also noted that the current plan was to continue to offer Algebra 1 in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade through the 2024-2025 school year and that no changes would be implemented without following the 5-step curriculum review process outlined by the Superintendent to the community.
3. **Adjournment:** Committee Chair Debra Guss adjourned the meeting at 6:21 p.m.



## **Office of Facilities**

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### **MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 17<sup>th</sup> AT: 300 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD MIDDLETOWN CT 06457**

**MOODY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM 5:30 PM**

#### **Introductions:**

**Chairwoman Deborah Cain, Facilities Director Kevin Dion, Facilities Support Specialist Joshua Burger, Custodial Manager Valentina Skreljav, Executive Director of Operations Marco Gaylord. Board of Education Member Emily Jackson (5:35pm)**

**Call to order was at 5:30pm by Chairwoman Deborah Cain.**

#### **I. Review of the April 19th 2023 Minutes**

**MOTION** to Approve April 19<sup>th</sup> Minutes by Chairwoman Deborah Cain.  
Seconded by Board of Education Member Emily Jackson. Motion passed hearing no nays.

#### **II. Status and Updates of Beman Middle School Construction Project- K. Dion**

Facilities Director Kevin Dion. The marquee sign is still awaiting delivery at this time. He reported that Principal Ray Byron and Head Secretary Lisa Puorro will have the software component for the sign as well as the IT department. He continued stating the Beman Field still has an issue with heavy use, as it's being used for P.E. classes etc., and the that the grass there is not meant for such heavy use. The painting project at Beman is getting done and he is working on standardizing the paint colors. Kevin also reported the locks on the lockers have been fixed, but they company still needs to fix doors. Executive Director Kevin Dion also stated we are working on the gates and they are working in conjunction with the police department. He also stated the stairs are holding up, but the railing still needs to be painted. Executive Director of Operations Marco Gaylord added that the security gate still needs to be installed in the auditorium as it's still posing a safety risk. Facilities Director Kevin Dion added that there is some settling in the polished concrete, we are monitoring it, we were



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informed by the builder that the settling was normal. Executive Director of Operations Marco Gaylord spoke about adding of acoustic panels in the cafeteria area, being added to the east wall and that they plan on being fully installed by the start of the new school year. Chairwoman Deborah Cain inquired if a ceiling could be installed over the cafeteria. Both Executive Director of Operations Marco Gaylord and Facilities Director Kevin Dion answered that it is possible but would be a major structural change and is unlikely.

**III. 5 Year Capital Plan Update- K. Dion**

Facilities Director, Kevin Dion reported that the budget was passed with no capital monies included. We will have to see where we need to make changes, he reported that we will still be able to get some of the work done, but not to the level we wanted to originally planned.

**IV. Open Discussion.**

Facilities Director Kevin Dion inquired about the June meeting schedule. Chairwoman Deborah Cain suggested the committee cancel the June meeting unless there needs to be a special meeting. The next Facilities Committee Meeting will be September 20<sup>th</sup>, location to be determined. Facilities Director Kevin Dion, informed the committee that we have an issue at the Adult Ed building with the cooling tower, we may need to rent portable units and a new tower for purchase of approximately 180K. Executive Director of Operations Marco Gaylord added that he met with Jim Misenti, the Director of Adult Ed to see if there was any space for the registrar of voters. Marco and he discussed the security issues and there is not enough space for the registrar at this time. Executive Director of Operations Marco Gaylord also added that we have been adjusting the P.A. system at Beman with the company and have made a lot of progress. He closed with stating he and Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Cannata have received great feedback from the local neighbors are happy about the changes.

**MOTION to adjourn by Chairwoman Deborah Cain at 5:55. Motion carried unopposed.**

**V. Tour of Moody School.**

Respectfully Submitted, September 26, 2023

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Joshua Burger, Facilities Support Specialist, Middletown Board of Education

**MIDDLETOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Virtual Meeting 5:30 P.M.

**Board of Education Policy Committee Members participating:**

Justin Taylor, Vice Chair of Board of Education

**Also participating:**

Marco Gaylord, Executive Director of Operations

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Principal

Michael Skott, Director of Technology

Jennifer Cannata, Assistant Superintendent

Michele Clay, Community Member

**The Virtual Meeting was called to order by Justin Taylor at 5:32 P.M.**

Justin Taylor turned the meeting over to Mr. Gaylord.

**Policy #6161.3 – Delete – Comparability of services**

*Attorney Notes: Attorney Notes:* Policy not mandatory, recommend repeal or review

There were no questions.

**The Policy Committee were all in favor and requested NEW Policy #6161.3 be brought forward for DELETION at the next Board of Education meeting for its first reading.**

**Policy #6161.31 - Delete – Title I Program**

*Attorney Notes: Attorney Notes:* Policy not mandatory, recommend repeal or review

There were no questions.

**The Policy Committee were all in favor and requested NEW Policy #6161.31 be brought forward for DELETION at the next Board of Education meeting for its first reading.**

**Policy #6162.31 - Delete – Research; Testing – Testing Exclusion**

*Attorney Notes: Attorney Notes:* Policy not mandatory, recommend repeal or review

There were no questions.

**The Policy Committee were all in favor and requested NEW Policy #6162.31 be brought forward for DELETION at the next Board of Education meeting for its first reading.**

**Policy #6200 – Adult/Continuing Education**

*Legal review of this policy was not completed by the time of this meeting and was not discussed. This policy was tabled until legal review is completed.*

**Other**

Chair would like to consider how policies can be used to support chronic absenteeism in the district. Research what other districts have in regards to policy that address chronic absenteeism. This was suggested previously and would like to get an update for next month's meeting. On behalf of the policy committee the chair thanked Cody Altieri for all his hard work with the policy committee and sends him best wishes on his next venture.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 P.M.

**The next virtual Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2023 with a time of 5:30 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Marco Gaylord

Executive Director of Operations

## **POLICY 6161.3(a)**

### **Instruction**

#### **Comparability of Services**

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall pursue funding under Title I of the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to supplement instructional services and activities in order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged children.

All District schools, regardless of whether they receive Title I funds, shall provide services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable. Teachers, administrators and other staff shall be assigned to schools in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools. Curriculum materials and instructional supplies shall be provided in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools.

Comparability, is defined, for purposes of this policy that the District uses state and local funds to provide services to Title I schools that are comparable to those offered in non-Title I schools in order to get federal funding under ESSA.

The Board of Education believes that at all times its schools should be equally as well equipped and maintained as may be possible within existing financial limitations.

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to ensure comparability of services funded by state and local sources in both Title I project schools and non-project schools. The Board of Education will therefore:

1. Establish and maintain a district-wide salary schedule.
2. Provide services with federal, state and local funds in schools serving Title I project areas that are at least comparable to services in non-project areas.
3. Use federal, state and local funds to provide for an equivalence among all schools with the same grade levels in teachers, administrators, auxiliary personnel.
4. Use federal, state and local funds to provide for an equivalence among all schools with the same grade levels in the provision of curriculum and instructional materials, books and supplies.

The District shall maintain records that are updated annually documenting its compliance with this ESSA requirement.

## **POLICY 6161.3(b)**

### **Instruction**

#### **Comparability of Services (continued)**

For the purposes of determining comparability in compliance with 20 U.S.C. 6321(c), the District, may exclude:

1. State and local funds expended for English Learners language instruction education programs.
2. Excess costs associated with providing services to students with disabilities.
3. Unexpected changes in enrollment or personnel assignments occurring after the beginning of the school year.
4. Other expenditures from supplemental state or local funds consistent with the intent of Title I (serving only children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet the State's standards)

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall provide in a timely manner all assurances, documentation, or other information required by the State Department of Education to demonstrate the District's compliance with Title I fiscal requirements.

Nothing in this policy will prohibit the administration from addressing identified problems at individual schools.

#### **Legal Reference:**

Title I Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies, Improving Every Student Succeeds Act, P.L. 114-95, Section 1118c of Title I, ESEA/ESSA  
20 U.S.C. Section 6321(c)  
Agostini v. Felton 521 U.S. 203 (1997)

Policy adopted: September 3, 1996  
Policy revised: June 12, 2001  
Policy readopted: June 20, 2006  
Policy revised: September 10, 2019

**MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Middletown, Connecticut

## Instruction

### Title I Program

In order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged or deprived children, the Board of Education directs the Superintendent or his/her designee to pursue funding under Title I of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act for compensatory instructional services and activities. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall also ensure that the District appropriately uses any funds received.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall, after timely and meaningful consultation with appropriate private school officials, provide such children, educational services equitable in comparison to services and other benefits for public school children participating under Title I. Such educational services or other benefits including materials and equipment, shall be secular, neutral, non-ideological.

To ensure timely and meaningful consultation, the administration shall consult with appropriate private school officials during the design and development of such agency's programs under this part, on issues such as:

- A) how the children's needs will be identified;
- B) what services will be offered;
- C) how and where the services will be provided
- D) how the services will be assessed, and
- E) the size and scope of the equitable services to be provided to the eligible private school children, and what is the proportion of funds allocated for such services.

Such consultation shall occur before the local educational agency makes any decision that affects the opportunities of eligible private school children to participate in programs under this part.

Title I personnel shall be accountable to the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. The provision of services under this section shall be employees of the Board of Education or contracted by the Board of Education with an individual, association, agency, or organization.

The control of funds provided under this part, and title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with such funds, shall be within the Board of Education, and the Board of Education shall administer such funds and property.

Legal Reference: Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. §6301-6514, as implemented by 34 C.F.R. parts 200, 201, 203, 205, and 212.

Agostini v. Felton 521 U.S. 203 (1997)

Policy adopted: June 12, 2001

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Middletown, Connecticut

## **Instruction**

### **Testing Program:**

#### **Test Exclusion**

The Board of Education believes that the annual assessment of student and district progress is a vital component of the instructional process. It is recognized that some students may need to be excluded from the system-wide testing program and/or the statewide mastery testing program, (grades 4, 6, 8, & 10) because of unique exceptionalities. All exclusions shall be made as a result of the planning and placement team process.

Special education students shall participate in mastery testing except in the rare case when their Planning and Placement Team determines that participation would be inappropriate and recommends the use of an alternative assessment as specified by the State Board of Education.

The provisions on mastery testing shall not apply to any student enrolled for ten (10) months or less in a bilingual program, or English as a Second Language program.

- Legal Reference:
- 10-14m Development and submission of educational evaluation and remedial assistance plan.
  - 10-14n Statewide mastery.
  - 10-14o Compensatory education grant. Financial statement of expenditures.
  - 10-14p Reports by local and regional boards re instructional improvement and student progress.
  - 10-14q Exceptions. (As amended by PA 01-205)