

**Attendance:**

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Sara Spaulding
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Dana Levin, Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent
Nina Daniel	Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance & Ops.
Denise Harvey	<i>Absent:</i> Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources
Elise Major	

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. Discussion of Long Term Planning for Facility Utilization and Possible Use of District Facilities by Town**

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, discussed the memo she issued to the Board after receiving the 2012 NESDEC demographer’s report, prior to the tragedy at Newtown. She then reviewed considerations for educational space and why the district began discussions of using space differently. Dr. Palmer recalled steps the district had taken prior to Newtown to address declining enrollment, and that the issue of sharing space in Hurlbutt Elementary School’s North House was tabled after the tragedy. She also discussed the steps leading up to the current five-year memorandum of understanding with the Town’s Senior Center, currently housed in South House; a possibility for the Town to utilize future space in Central Office; and other factors to be considered in planning for the future and the possibility of deciding to downsize the elementary school. Discussion by the Board followed on issues such as the size of the cafeterias in Hurlbutt Elementary School and Weston Intermediate School, Cohort sizes and planning for potential future increases, deviations in past enrollment projections, details of the Horace Hurlbutt deed, other locations for Central Office staff and alternate uses for Central Office space.

**III. Questions/Comments From Public**

**Neil Horner, Catbrier Road.** Mr. Horner urged the Board to move towards making a decision so that a plan can be developed with the Town.

**Sarah Schlechter, Woods End Lane.** Ms. Schlechter asked the Board what would replace the gym in Hurlbutt if that was taken away, commended the Board for their commitment to keeping public offices out of the schools, and urged against housing Parks and Rec within Hurlbutt Elementary School. Ms. Schlechter requested the Board consider creating a Community Center.

**Lois Guberman, Catbrier Road.** Ms. Guberman spoke in favor of Dr. Palmer's presentation, and appreciated learning that there is flexibility at three of the schools to accommodate future fluctuations.

**IV. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

Minutes reviewed/approved by Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent.

DRAFT