

Minutes of the Town of Farmington  
Special Town Council Meeting  
September 25, 2018

Present:

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair  
Patricia Boye-Williams  
Bruce Charette  
Paul Cianci  
Edward Giannaros  
Beth Kintner  
C. J. Thomas

Erica Robertson, Asst. Town Manager  
Paula B. Ray, Clerk

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Council and members of the public recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Comment

There were no public comments made.

D. Consideration of Special Topics.

1. Tour of Miss Porter's Campus

The Council toured the school with Mr. Michael Bergin, CFO; Ms. Kathryn Bradley, Director of Campus Planning and Design and Mr. Richard Higley, Director of Facility Services.

2. Roundtable discussion with representatives from Miss Porter's School to discuss various topics of mutual interest

Ms. Kate Windsor, Head of School welcomed the Council to Miss Porter's School and distributed the handout recorded with these minutes as Agenda Item D-2. She reviewed MPS's history, mission, vision and core characteristics for the Council. She explained how MPS has integrated into the Town through both the staff and students volunteering for Town activities and through the sharing and renting of facilities. She also highlighted the support to local business from the MPS. Mr. Bergin and Ms. Windsor talked about the financial model used by MPS and future concerns. The Council asked questions and thanked MPS for their positive relationship with the Town.

D. Adjournment

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Adopted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula B. Ray".

Paula B. Ray, Clerk

**Miss Porter's School  
Meeting with Farmington Town Council  
Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

**School History**

Sarah Porter came from an illustrious and learned Farmington family. Her father was the minister of the Congregational Church for 60 years and one of her brothers was the president of Yale University. She received the most advanced education available to a young woman of her time, including tutoring by Yale professors. A life-long scholar, she not only mastered four languages but taught herself Hebrew when she was in her 80s.

In 1843, she founded Miss Porter's School in Farmington, Conn. The school, which had only 18 students its first year, grew with the support of a progressive group of Farmington fathers who wanted their daughters to be educated in the liberal arts. By the 1880s, Miss Porter's School had risen to national prominence and boasted nearly 100 young women as students

Today, Miss Porter's School continues Sarah Porter's mission of educating young women to shape the world in which they live. By providing students access to an excellent academic program, a premier arts curriculum, an array of high caliber sports teams, and community service, our graduates are prepared to become the local and global leaders of the future. Yet, Porter's remains a place where girls are supported by a close-knit community of students and faculty. For Porter's, **Farmington is home.**

**Our Mission**

Miss Porter's School educates young women to become informed, bold, resourceful and ethical global citizens. We expect our graduates to shape a changing world.

**Our Vision**

In keeping with our founder's vision, Miss Porter's School joins tradition with innovation to provide an exemplary education to young women. Generation after generation, our leadership is defined by our ability to articulate how young women think, how young women learn, and why gender matters. Within our legacy lies our future.

**Our Core Characteristics**

The Miss Porter's School community cultivates and commends the following core characteristics: Intellectual Curiosity, Leadership, Global Citizenship, Integrity and Courage

## **Miss Porter's School:**

### **Fast Facts for 2018-19**

- 48 teaching faculty
- 312 girls
  - 207 Boarding students
  - 105 Day students
    - 97 new girls including:
      - a child of Syrian refugees whose goal is to return to Syria and heal her country; a girl with a patent pending on a device that could analyze progression of scoliosis without radiation; a student who has acted on Broadway; and numerous accomplished athletes and leaders - captains of elite travel teams
  - 29 Countries and 20 States are represented
  - 29 Girls from Farmington and Unionville
    - Including 4 boarding students!
  - 68 Girls from the Farmington Valley (Avon, West Hartford, Simsbury, Canton, Burlington, New Britain, and Windsor)
  - 30% Students of Color
  - 17% International Students (some with dual citizenship)
  - Provide \$4.267M in financial aid
- Miss Porter's School as a business:
  - \$26.7M operating budget
  - \$126.8M endowment
  - In 2018-19, Porter's employed more than 150 individuals. The school also indirectly employs more than 20 people through our food service contractor.

### **175 year relationship between town and Porter's**

- Strengthened by:
  - active collaboration around shared goals in maintaining and preserving the historic character of Farmington Village
  - shared use of the Farmington River boathouse for MPS and FHS crew teams
  - MPS pool as home for FHS swim teams
  - strong professional and personal relationships
- Farmington Fire Department
  - MPS allows our staff to take fire/emergency calls while working
  - Many top responders at Farmington Fire Department are MPS employees including Chief Donny Antigiovanni (Farmington Fire), Chief Rich Higley (Tunxis Hose), Captain Michael Lusitani and Doug Marshall.

- Miss Porter's School closes our dining hall when the Farmington Fire Department holds their bi-annual breakfasts and we send our girls and community to fire house. We make a significant contribution to the FFD to cover the costs of feeding our girls.
- Training on campus in our buildings
- Farmington Police Department
  - Very strong relationship with Chief Melanson, Assistant Chief Ryan, command staff and officers
  - Share our commitment to safety for all of our girls and community
  - Working together on crisis planning, lockdown and evacuation drills
  - Training on campus in our buildings
- Farmington School system:
  - Helps us recruit and retain the best faculty as our children can attend the high quality Farmington schools
  - Miss Porter's provides outreach to Noah Wallace through Reading Buddies program
- We are very grateful to Kathy Eagen and her highly engaged team for their support of our school operations
  - In particular, Russ Arnold has been a great support around issues in the Farmington Village and campus projects

### **Employee Volunteer Service: hundreds of annual hours in town**

- Town of Farmington Volunteer Fire department
- Farmington Youth sports coaching and volunteering
- Farmington High School College & Career Day speakers
- Farmington Historical Society volunteers
- Board service for local organizations
- Active leadership in Scouts, Churches, etc.
- Town-wide clean up: MPS students have collected the most refuse in their category each of the past several years!

### **Facility Rentals and Event Hosting**

#### Farmington High School Swim Teams

- 2017-18: 193 hours of pool usage for practices and meets
- Rental rate has not increased since 2011

Farmington Fire Department

Farmington Garden Club

Farmington Heritage Alliance

Farmington Historical Society

Farmington Land Trust

Farmington Parks and Recreation Department (for pool)

Farmington Police Department  
Farmington Schools Extended Day (for pool)  
Farmington Soccer Association  
Farmington Youth Lacrosse  
Farmington Girls' and Boys' Travel Basketball

- 2017-18: 283 hours of gym usage
- Rental rate has not increased since 2012

Farmington Girls and Boys Travel Soccer  
Stanley Whitman House

**Patronage of Local & Area Businesses**

*Farmington first approach...*

Calvert Safe & Lock  
ConnectiCare  
Contempo Restoration  
Dunning Sand and Gravel  
Farmington Valley Equipment  
GKess Films  
JR Multiple Services  
Modern Mechanical  
Quinoco Cadwell  
State-Wide Electric Inc.