

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Norwich, Connecticut**

**MINUTES OF:  
March 12, 2013  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION  
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

**PRESENT:** Yvette Jacaruso, John LeVangie, Cora Lee Boulware, Robert Aldi Jesshua Ballaro, Aaron Daniels, Lynn Norris (left early), Dennis Slopak and Joyce Werden.

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent  
Joseph Stefon, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Athena Nagel, Business Administrator  
Dr. Lloyd Johnson, Interim Director of Student Services & Special Education  
Joan Barber, Administrative Assistant  
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

**MEDIA:** The Bulletin & The Day

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Jacaruso asked Aaron Daniels to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Cora Lee Boulware ) to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2013 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso introduced Dr. Lloyd Johnson, Interim Director of Student Services & Special Education, who is filling in for Mary Donnelly who is on medical leave. Dr. Jacaruso asked Charlie Jaskiewicz to come up. Charlie gave the board some good news that Pfizer is going to pay the \$5000 deductible and donate 40 computers and printers to Kelly Middle School due to the fire. The Board was very appreciative of their generosity. Yvette gave an update on the Lighthouse Training that they have on a monthly basis with CAFE and the SDE. Yvette, John LeVangie, Abby and Laura Wedge, attended CAFE Day on the Hill. Yvette congratulated the music staff and students for the wonderful All City Choral performance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Flora L. Philippe, 36 Convent Avenue, Gina C. Demetrious, 32 Prospect Street, Kevlaine J Baptiste, 59 McKinley Avenue, Mercedes Aguilar, 36 Pratt Street, Mirna Aguilar, 36 Pratt Street – all students at Adult Education, thanks the Board for their support of the Adult Ed program. Mary Berry, Director of the Adult Education Program thanked the Board for the proposed increase to Adult Ed.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Abby Dolliver stated that March is Board Appreciation Month, and presented the board members with a framed piece of art work from our students. Abby introduced Christie Gilluly, Cheryl Vocatura and Marianne Nardone who will be retiring. Abby asked them to say a few words. Abby thanked them all for their dedicated years of service to the Norwich Public Schools, they will be missed. Abby stated that there would be a presentation of our Bilingual Program to the City Council on March 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. A draft letter was included to be sent to the Norwich Free Academy to open up discussions with them regarding the contract between NFA and us. Janis Sawicki reported on a book donation Uncas School received from ING, Janis brought a sample of the books that they received. Abby reported that they would be moving the majority of our preschool classes to Bishop School for the 2013-2014 school year, and it will be called Bishop School Early Learning Center. Abby introduced Deb Kendall who is the new Education Chair of the NAACP to the Board.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Roberta Jacobs, Food Service Director gave a presentation on all the good programs they are offering. Roberta stated that during CMT's, all students will be receiving free breakfast, and on March 27<sup>th</sup> there would be a food show at Bishop School from 9:00 – 12:30 should anyone like to attend. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, all students will be receiving free breakfast.

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE**

Christie Gilluly and Billie Shea gave an update on the Stanton Network School and the progress they are making.

**STANDING COMMITTEES****Budget/Expenditure Committee**

Yvette Jacaruso reported on the March 5<sup>th</sup> Budget Expenditure meeting and the Public Hearing. There was a discussion of the proposed 2013-2014 NPS Budget which will be voted on this evening.

**BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS**

Aaron Daniels stated that we need to get the word out about all the good things that Norwich Public Schools is doing, example our food services program and the new preschool center at Bishop.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**MOTION:** Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Aaron Daniels) to approve the Healthy Food Certification Statement, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014; Section 10-215F of the CT General Statutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by Jesshua Ballaro) to approve that the Norwich Public Schools participate in the Summer Food Service Program funded by USDA, and that the authorized signer of the application be Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by John LeVangie) to approve the Special Education Grant Program for FY 2013: Special Education, IDEA, Part B, Section 611 and Preschool Special Education, IDEA, Part B, Section 619. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Cora Lee Boulware) to inform the Norwich Free Academy of our intent to negotiate our contract. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Jesshua Ballaro) to approve the proposed Norwich Public Schools 2013-2014 of \$71,898,494 Budget. Motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Made by Jesshua Ballaro (seconded by Joyce Werden) to go into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 8:32 p.m. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

**MOTION:** Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Robert Aldi) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Lee Boulware,  
Secretary