

**“NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Norwich, Connecticut**

**MINUTES OF:  
December 16, 2013  
Rescheduled from 12/10/13  
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, Dennis Slopak and Joyce Werden.

**ABSENT:** Lynn Norris

**STAFF:** Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent  
Joseph Stefon, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Joan Barber, Administrative Assistant  
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

**MEDIA:** The Day

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

Dr. Jacaruso asked Joyce Werden to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Aaron Daniels) to approve the minutes of the 11/12/13 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Dr. Jacaruso reported on the CABE Convention as well as Cora, Joyce and Al. They all agreed that it was a worthwhile conference with good information. Dr. Jacaruso reported on the NPS Staff Follies, and what a great success it was, and how much fun was had by all. Yvette thanked Joyce Werden for all her hard work in putting it together. Dr. Jacaruso stated that she visited Moriarty and Stanton Schools, and was quite impressed with her visits. Dr. Jacaruso gave an update on the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting with the NFA Partner District Schools; she stated that the meetings have been quite productive.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mark Cook, 62 Gulliver Circle, Norwich spoke in support of bringing back Instrumental and Choral Music to the middle Schools. Erica Rosado, 18 Division St, and Mike Kaiser, 171 Harland Road, Norwich also spoke in support of bringing music back into the middle schools. Dennis Slopak, Board Member, spoke about Nelson Mandela.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Abby Dolliver reported on a resignation of a teacher. Abby has met with the former Mayor, Ben Lathrop and Brandon Hyde regarding the Read to Ride Program; which we will take part in this year. Brandon Hyde will also be the liaison between the Ledyard VoAg Program and the Norwich Public Schools. Abby gave an update the SEED Teacher and Administrator plans and how they are progressing. Abby stated that the Commissioner visited Stanton Network School on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Abby attended the Teacher of the Year Awards with our TOY, Elisha Millerd-Lewis, and was invited to a special ceremony for the 15 state finalists, of which Elisha was one. Our students attended a luncheon hosted by the Norwich Rotary for the CAPSS Award winners, along with their parents and teacher or principal. The Adult Education program hosted a Multicultural Celebration on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Abby said that the Dear Abby Dolliver Show is alive and well, they have a new format which includes students in the audience. Abby has been invited to sit on the LEARN Executive Board. Abby stated that at this time we have approximately 50 homeless students.

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES**

Joe Stefon, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Kristie Bourdoulous, Administrative Literacy Specialist, and Darcy Strauss, Instructional Specialist gave a detailed presentation on the new Readers Workshop Curriculum.

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

Yvette Jacaruso gave a brief report on the December 12, 2013 meeting. Joe Stefon gave an update on grants; and which grants are still pending. No meeting has been set for the next meeting.

**BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS**

Al Daniels gave a report on the LEARN monthly meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- MOTION:** Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the Policy on Pesticide Application on School Property Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by John LeVangie) to approve the Policy on Physical Activity & Student Discipline. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Cora Lee Boulware) to approve the Policy on Curricular Exemptions. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Jesshua Ballaro (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve the following Federal/State Notifications:
- Parent Consent to Access Public Benefits or Insurance to Pay for Services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;
  - Accessing Public Benefits or Insurance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
  - Homebound and Hospitalization Instruction Verified Medical Reason
  - PPT Notice

- School Attendance Option Form (Children age 5 or 6)
- Extraordinary Educational Experience Request Form - Motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Made by John LeVangie (seconded by Robert Aldi) to go into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 8:00 p.m. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

**MOTION:** Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by John LeVangie) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Lee Boulware,  
Secretary