

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

**MINUTES OF:
January 13, 2015
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Yvette Jacaruso (via telephone) John LeVangie, Cora Lee Boulware, Jesshua Ballaro, Aaron Daniels, Dennis Slopak, Joyce Werden and Angelo Yeitz.

ABSENT: Robert Aldi

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

MEDIA: The Day

John LeVangie called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Mr. LeVangie asked Jesshua Ballaro to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2014 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Jacaruso reminded board members to contact their adopt a city council member to invite them to a school, school function or board meeting. She also mentioned that there will be a Legislative Breakfast put on by CAFE on January 27th at 8:00 a.m. at Fitch High School.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Cook, 62 Gulliver Circle, Norwich on behalf of the NPS Education Foundation thanked the Board, especially Joyce Werden for all their work for the Staff Follies, he also thanked the staff of the NPS for their participation and hard work for the Follies. As a parent, he spoke in support of reinstating the Instrumental Program at both middle schools for the 2015-2016 budget.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Abby Dolliver asked Scott Fain, Principal at Wequonnoc School to talk about a grant received by one of his teachers, Samantha Cholewa from the Mohegan Tribe. She received \$1000 that will be used to purchase non-fiction books, Native American instruments and music. Abby reported on the enrollment. Since September 1st, we have gained 72 new students. Abby will report next month in more detail about how many left as well. Abby attended the Military Liaison group meeting at the US Coast Guard. Abby met 3 new Legislators at the Chamber, Paul Formica, Kathleen McCarty, and

Mike France. She has had conversations with 2 and met with Mike France. Next month we will have the 2015-2016 Calendar to approve.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Dr. Doug Kaufman, Associate Professor of Curriculum and Instruction at the NEAG School of Education at UCONN gave a presentation on the Writing Workshop Model. Kristie Bourdoulous, Darcy Strauss, Heather Main, and Joe Stefon contributed about their work with the program.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Policy Committee

John LeVangie stated that the policy regarding Designation of High School/Transportation was attached as a first read, and would be voted on at the next meeting.

OTHER COMMITTEES

TEVAL/PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Joe Stefon gave a report from the January 7th meeting. He stated that the March PD day would focus on Math. They will begin to plan for the 2015-2016 Professional Development and form a subcommittee.

ACTION ITEMS

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Dennis Slopak) approve the deletion of Policy #6159 Entrance Procedures for all new students to Thames River Academy. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by Angelo Yeitz) to approve the new Mission/Vision Statement. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Made by Jesshua Ballaro (seconded by Aaron Daniels) to go into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 7:32 p.m. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

MOTION: Made by Angelo Yeitz (seconded by Cora Lee Boulware) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Lee Boulware

Cora Lee Boulware, Secretary