

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Norwich, Connecticut**

**MINUTES OF:  
March 10, 2015  
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, (arrived at 5:35) Dennis Slopak, Joyce Werden and Angelo Yeitz.

**ABSENT:** None

**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 Bulletin, The Day, WICH

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

Dr. Jacaruso asked John LeVangie to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2015 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Dr. Jacaruso introduced Alex Lazzari, Principal at Teachers Memorial Middle School, and Jason Smith, teacher at Teachers and students to talk about the Science Bowl. Dr. Jacaruso attended Magnet Night at Wequonnoc School. The Board had a tour of United Community & Family Services on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Jacaruso was a judge at Three Rivers for the Grace Jones Debate – the students debated the Common Core; students from New London, NFA, Plainfield, and Three Rivers Middle College participated, the winner was NFA in the advanced division – she said it was very well done. She also attended, along with other board members, the All City Chorus which was an outstanding performance and well attended.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

John Rynkiewicz thanked the NPS Education Foundation for a grant that they received for their classrooms for science and music.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Mrs. Dolliver invited Becky Pellerin, Principal from Moriarty Magnet School to come up and share that the school received 250 books from the VOYA Company. Abby stated that 2 groups from the NPS Education Foundation delivered to 8 schools \$250 mini grants to the classrooms. Uncas School received a grant for Bowlers Ed equipment. Bishop Early Learning Center has received the Smart Start Grant – a 5 year grant which will open up another classroom with 15 full day preschool slots. Bishop ELC also participated in a “mock” inspection by the state – which they did very well. Our enrollment is up 4 students this month and up 61 students since September.

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES**

Joe Stefon, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Billie Shea, Principal, Stanton Network School, Alexandria Lazzari, Principal, Teachers Memorial Middle School, Sara Fuchs, Administrative Literacy Specialist, Uncas Network School, and Dr. Barry Sheckley, from UCONN gave a presentation on our Mid-Year Progress.

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

Athena Nagel gave a report on the March 2 & 9<sup>th</sup>, Budget Expenditure meetings, and on the March 9<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- MOTION:** Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by John LeVangie) to approve the grant application “District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition to the New Standards 2014-2015. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve the Special Education Grant Program for FY 2016: Special Education, IDEA, Part B, Section 611& Preschool SPED, IDEA, Part B, Section 619. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the increase of paid schools lunches by \$0.10 as required by USDA (Currently \$2.10 for elementary & \$2.25 for middle school). Adult meals will increase to \$3.50. (Currently \$3.25) Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by John LeVangie) to approve the Healthy Food Certification Statement, July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016; Section 10-215f of the CT General Statues. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Jesshua Ballaro (seconded by Robert Aldi) 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 Robert Aldi) to approve Proposed 2015-2016 Norwich Public Schools Budget. 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 7:35 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 8:18 p.m. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cora Lee Boulware*

Cora Lee Boulware,  
Secretary