

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Norwich, Connecticut**

**MINUTES OF:  
November 12, 2014  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION  
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

**5:15 P.M.** CAPSS Award Presentation in the Jacqueline Owens Auditorium. The following students were the recipients of the 2014 CT Association of Public Schools Superintendents Student recognition awards: Mallory Surprenant, Huntington; Karen Lau, Mahan; Novalee Sanchez, Moriarty; Gabriella Beams, Stanton; Brayan Serrano-Collado, Uncas; Earl Louis, Jr., Veterans; Tanisha Shakil, Wequonnoc; Norine Andrade, Kelly Middle; Abby Bargnesi, Teachers Memorial; Christina Hughes, Adult Ed; and Ivan Lewis, Hickory Street School.

The Regular Board Meeting moved to the Community Room and came to order at 6:15 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Yvette Jacaruso, 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

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and a quorum was declared. Dr. Jacaruso asked John LeVangie to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by Angelo Yeitz) to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2014 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES**

Dr. Eileen Howley, Executive Director at LEARN and Mr. Ken Biega, Assistant Vice President of O & G gave a presentation on the NEXTT Proposal Master Plan – for the district long term facilities plan.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Dr. Jacaruso reported on the following information items:

- Visit to Teachers Memorial with Alderman Pete Desaulniers
- US Citizenship Recognition Ceremony
- 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Freedom Fund Gala – Mary Berry honored
- O'tis Festival, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at Otis Library
- NPS Staff Follies

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alderman Mark Bettencourt, 129 Merchants Ave, Taftville, spoke regarding the Board of Ed and City Council working together, especially with regard to the Long term Facilities Plan.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Abby Dolliver reported on the following informational items:

- Connecticut Association of Schools ~ Principal Of the Year ~ Billie Shea
- Ebola Letter to Parents
- “Norwich School Food Director Revamping Menu’s”
- NPS Matters
- Special Education Update with Mary Donnelly
- Abby asked Karen Urgitis to talk about the Security Grant that we were awarded.

**STANDING COMMITTEES****Policy Committee**

John LeVangie gave a report on the October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, and stated that the next meeting will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:45.

**OTHER COMMITTEES****Professional Learning/Curriculum**

Joe Stefon gave a report on the November 4<sup>th</sup> Inservice Day, and also on the McKinney Vento Homeless grant.

**BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS**

Joyce thanked Mark Bettencourt for his remarks to the Board, and stated that her Adopted City Leader is Mayor Hinchey, and about her interview with her. Cora stated that she commends the Board and to Mark Bettencourt, her adopted city council member, for coming forth to speak.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Made by Angelo Yeitz (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to go into Executive Session.  
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:52 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 8:14 p.m. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- MOTION:** Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Angelo Yeitz) to approve the Contract between the Norwich Board of Education and the Norwich Teachers League. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by John LeVangie) to approve the contract between the Norwich Board of Education and the Norwich School Administrators Association. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by John LeVangie (seconded by Aaron Daniels) to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Norwich Board of Education and the Custodians and Maintainers (MEUI) that Effective January 1, 2015 those bargaining unit employees who are enrolled in the City of Norwich Retirement Fund (the "Fund") and who are not receiving a pension under the Fund shall be covered by the plan ratified by the city on July 1, 2008. Such employees shall be subject to all of the revised plan conditions, including increased employee contributions. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by Jesshua Ballaro) to approve an update our Cafeteria Plan to allow for the Flexible Spending increase from \$2,500 annually to \$2,550 effective 01/01/15. Motion passed unanimously.
- MOTION:** Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Angelo Yeitz) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Lee Boulware,  
Secretary