

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

**MINUTES OF:
September 8, 2015
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Yvette Jacaruso, John LeVangie, Cora Lee Boulware, Robert Aldi, Jesshua Ballaro, Dennis Slopak, Joyce Werden and Angelo Yeitz.

ABSENT: Aaron Daniels

STAFF: Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent
Joseph Stefon, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Athena Nagel, Business Administrator
Mary Donnelly, Director of Student Services & Special Education
Amber Longolucco, 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 Jesshua Ballaro to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Dolliver introduced the new camera person from Kelly Middle School, Madison Ramsey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Cora Lee Boulware) to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2015, June 24, 2015, and August 18, 2015 meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Jacaruso presented John LeVangie, with an award for his 20 years of service on the Board. He has never missed a board meeting in 20 years. Mr. LeVangie stated that the major events for him included the 1996 bond issue for Bishop & Huntington schools, the expansion of Kelly Middle School in 2007, and the fire at Teachers in 2002. He also stated that education is more complicated today and that teachers are not paid enough for the education they are required to have.

Dr. Jacaruso and Joyce Werden attended the CBE Summer Leadership Conference on July 20, 2015. Topics included Self Evaluation for Boards of Education, Vision & Mission based on the beliefs of the district, as well as Board Ethics.

COMMUNICATION:

- Letter from Dr. Yvette Jacaruso to Norwich Free Academy
- Letter from Norwich Free Academy to Dr. Yvette Jacaruso

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Dolliver reported on the following items:

- Enrollment
- Personnel: new staff hired and resignations
- NPS Education Foundation donation for musical instrument repair
- 6th Grade Academy & Kelly Middle School
- Adult Education
- Adopt-a-School Program with Norwich Police Department
- Eastern CT Chamber of Commerce breakfast
- Dinner program for students
- Donation to Case Street Early Learning Center for fencing
- November 3rd elections/voting in the schools
- State monitoring visits

Athena Nagel reported on transportation issues due to the beginning of the school year. They are monitoring pick up and drop off times closely & have called in additional assistance for First Student.

Sheila Osko reported that there are 105 new students to the district that receive ELL services. There are 516 ELL students total in the district. ELL students are required to take the SBAC and MAP tests.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Joe Stefon gave a power point presentation on Multiple Measures of Student Achievement. Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) measures growth over time and this year's results are just a baseline.

STANDING COMMITTEES:**Policy Committee**

A schedule of 15-16 meeting dates as well as a first read for the General Transportation Policy-5000 series was presented to the Board.

Professional Learning/Curriculum

Joe Stefon and Sarah Fuchs (Administrative Literacy Coach) gave updates on the professional learning that took place over the summer. These included Teachers' College for 150 teachers, Kim Marshall teacher evaluation training, SIOP training, and Math In Focus training.

BOARD REPORTS

Cora Lee Boulware reported that she attended the 10th Anniversary on August 21, 2015 for the STMHS New London Magnet school. She also attended the open house at Stanton Network School.

Robert Aldi reported that he recently visited Bishop Early Learning Center and commended director, Lynn Depina for running a “well controlled ship”.

MOTION: Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Lee Boulware

Cora Lee Boulware,
Secretary