

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

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

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
Amber Longolucco, Administrative Assistant
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

MEDIA: WNLC-98.7 FM

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 John LeVangie (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2015 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE FOR NORWICH STUDENTS

Superintendent Jeff Mathieu & Bacon Academy Principal Matthew Peel presented information on a partnership with Colchester to include Bacon Academy as a possible high school choice for Norwich students. They currently have 850 students and would like to offer Bacon Academy as a small school setting option for students.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Jacaruso thanked John LeVangie for his 20 years of service to the board. Tonight is Mr. LeVangie's last board meeting. Dr. Jacaruso attended the Billy Holiday & Ella Fitzgerald tribute at the Donald L. Oak Theater in Norwich. She said it was outstanding and well worth it.

Dates to Remember:

- 10/15/15 at 10:00 am-Congressman Courtney's visit to Moriarty Magnet School
- 10/16/15 at 9:00 am-Gathering of the Hearts & Mind-Uncas Network School
- 10/24/15 at 6:00 pm-NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner
- 10/28/15 at 7:45 am-Eastern CT Chamber Breakfast with Governor Malloy at Mohegan Sun

- 10/30/15 at 5:00 pm-NPS Foundation Art Auction & Wine Tasting at the Holiday Inn (Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door the night of the event)
- 11/20/15 & 11/21/15-CABE/CAPSS Convention at the Mystic Marriott

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Dolliver reported on the following items:

- 2016 Teacher of the Year award presented to Keely Backus
- Enrollment
- English Language Learners
- School Nutrition Association Appointment
- Schools serving boxed dinners
- Homeless students
- Alliance & Network Schools-State Monitoring Visits
- SBAC Forum at Kelly Middle School for parents
- Quinnebaug Middle College
- Norwich Lion's Club book donation

Cheryl Egan from Norwich Adult Education reported on the number of their students who have children attending Norwich Public Schools. Save the date for the November Fall Festival & Multicultural Brunch on November 24th from 10-11 am at St. Mary's church in Norwich.

Athena Nagel gave an update on transportation issues.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Principal Adam Rosenberg and staff from Veterans Memorial School gave a presentation on the School Improvement Grant.

STANDING COMMITTEES**Policy Committee**

Next meeting is on October 14, 2015 at 3:30 pm.

Budget/Expenditure Committee

Next meeting is on November 17, 2015 at 4:30 pm.

Building & Space Committee

None

OTHER COMMITTEES

Professional Learning/Curriculum

Joe Stefon & Darcy Strauss (Instructional Specialist) discussed the upcoming LED days, which will feature both literacy & math professional development options for teachers. Norwich Public Schools will host next year's Invention Convention.

FACILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Angelo Yeitz, Dennis Slopak, Abby Dolliver, and Athena Nagel were part of a committee that selected JCJ Architecture for strategic planning services for Norwich Public Schools.

BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS

Al Daniels reported that he attended the LEARN board meeting.

John LeVangie wished everyone well in the upcoming election.

ACTION ITEMS

MOTION: Made by Cora Lee Boulware (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve Policy #5540-Transportation. Motion passed 6-2. Cora Lee Boulware, Joyce Werden, Yvette Jacaruso, Aaron Daniels, John LeVangie, and Angelo Yeitz voted to approve; Jesshua Ballaro and Dennis Slopak voted in opposition.

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Cora Lee Boulware) to approve the submission of an application for "General Improvements to Alliance Districts' School Buildings Grant Program.". Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by John LeVangie) to approve working with the City of Norwich who will contract with JCJ Architecture to complete the strategic planning services for Norwich Public Schools. Fees of \$70,000 for the services provided by JCJ, which are expected not to exceed \$143,000, to be approved by the Norwich City Council, from the City of Norwich Capital Contingency Account. Any fees for the services to be provided by JCJ pursuant to this contract in excess of \$70,000 shall be paid for from Norwich Public Schools. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MOTION: Made by John LeVangie (seconded by Jesshua Ballaro) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Lee Boulware

Cora Lee Boulware,
Secretary