

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF:
November 15, 2016
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Aaron Daniels, Dennis Slopak, Angelo Yeitz Jr, Dr. Yvette Jacaruso, Kevin Saythany, Margaret Becotte and Joyce Werden.

Robert Aldi arrived at 6:06 pm.

ABSENT: Susan Thomas

STAFF: Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent
Dr. Thomas J. Baird, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
Athena Nagel, Business Administrator
Mary Donnelly, Director of Student Services & Special Education
Amber Longolucco, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

MEDIA: The Day

Aaron Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Mr. Daniels asked Joyce Werden to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Yvette Jacaruso (seconded by Kevin Saythany) to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

Mr. Daniels reported on:

- Susan Thomas-not resigning from the Board
- Integrated Day Charter School Legislative Breakfast on November 15th
- The Annual CABE/CAPSS Convention: Children First: Opening Opportunities for All: this weekend November 18th & 19th
- Recent visit to Mahan School

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mrs. Dolliver reported on:

- Enrollment

- Special Education Enrollment (IEPs & Specialized Programs)
- CAPSS Superintendent's Award Ceremony
- LEAD Connecticut
- Three Rivers Middle College Advisory Board
- Strategic Planning Session with BOE & City Council: 11/17/16-has been cancelled
- School Based Health Centers (6GA, KMS, Stanton Schools)
- Connecticut Teacher of the Year ceremony

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES:

Jody Lefkowitz, Director of the Norwich Regional Adult Education program presented on current programs, partner districts, off site locations, as well as current staffing. Enrollment over time as well as ESL students and funding was discussed. Mrs. Lefkowitz spoke of the Focus on Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) as well as PIPS grant focus and the approval process. She spoke of College and Career Readiness as well as the challenges that the program faces.

GRANT UPDATES:

Dr. Thomas Baird reported on:

- Title I, Title II & Title III grants
- Bilingual Education Grant
- New Alliance Priority tracker
- Letter of Intent-Community Foundation of Eastern CT
- Veterans School/Foster Grandparent program
- 21st Century Community Learning grant
- Working Cities Challenge Grant

COMMITTEES:**Teacher Evaluation/Professional Learning Committee**

Kevin Saythany & Dr. Thomas Baird reported on the November 14th meeting. Feedback from teachers, goal setting, evaluation of SPED teachers, and the Administrator Evaluation plan update was discussed. Team training, including summer training for new teachers and the new teacher orientation program was also discussed.

Policy Committee

Next Policy Committee meeting: November 30th at 4:00 pm in the Central Office conference room.

MOTION:

Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Kevin Saythany) for possible action to approve the following policies:

- Policy#4118.112(a)-Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment
- Policy#5143-Administration of Student Medications
- Policy#5131.8-Bullying Prevention & Intervention
- Policy#5141.3-Administrative Regulations Regarding Health Assessments/Screenings
- Policy#5141.31-Administrative Regulations Regarding Immunizations
- Policy#5135-Physical Activity and Student Discipline
- Policy#5145.5- Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment-Students

- Policy#6155-Curricular Exemptions
- Policy #1331-Prohibition of Smoking
- Policy #1330-Use of School Facilities
- Policy#4118-Prohibition of Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs

Motion passed unanimously.

Budget/Expenditure Committee

Athena Nagel reported that the transition from Bank of America to People's Bank for the Board's banking needs will take place in the next few weeks. She also reported that the Food Services Department has voted to form a union.

Transportation Committee

Athena Nagel reported that communication with First Student manager, Kelly Dixon has improved although there are still front line communication problems. Late runs and field trip transportation continues to cause challenges.

Facilities Review Committee

The Committee voted to accept the report of the consultants (renovate Mahan, Moriarty, Stanton, and 6GA "as new" with Uncas as the back-up school). The next meeting is on December 5th at 5:30 pm at City Hall.

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Robert Aldi) to appoint Aaron Daniels to the Facilities Review Committee to fill the vacancy created by Angelo Yeitz's resignation. Motion passed unanimously.

Leadership Evaluation Committee

Joyce Werden reported that the Leadership Evaluation Committee met to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation as well as the Board of Education evaluation based on CAFE documents. There are 3 different frameworks for the Superintendent's Evaluation. The Committee is recommending the expanded version with 6 areas of evaluation. The next meeting will be held on 12/6/16 at 5:30 pm at Central Office.

LIAISONS:

Integrated Day Charter School Liaison

Al Daniels and Joyce Werden both attended the IDCS Legislative Breakfast.

Otis Library Liaison

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso reported that Otis Library will hold its 8th Annual Holiday Festival this Saturday, November 19th from 10:00 am-3:00 pm.

BOARD REPORTS:

Kevin Saythany attended the United Arts Event at Wequonnoc Magnet School hosted by teachers: Megan Engelhardt, Ray Guillet, Jessie Wraichette and Kylene Perrone.

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso visited the 6th Grade Academy and feels they are very fortunate for the parent participation at the school. Al Daniels visited Mahan School and was impressed with the programs that incorporate student needs and student wants.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo Yeitz Jr.

Angelo Yeitz, Jr.,
Secretary