

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF:
January 9, 2018
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Dr. Yvette Jacaruso, Joyce Werden, Heather Romanski, Aaron Daniels, Dennis Slopak, Robert Aldi, James Maloney, Mark Kulos, and Patricia Staley.

ABSENT: None

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

MEDIA: None

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

Dr. Jacaruso asked Tricia Staley to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by James Maloney) to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

Dr. Jacaruso reported on:

- Winter concerts at Wequonnoc and Stanton schools
- Straight No Chasers concert to support NPSEF

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mrs. Dolliver reported on:

- Enrollment
- Students entering district from Puerto Rico after hurricane: 29 students
- Winter concerts in district
- SCADD donation from Adult Education
- 145 gently used computer donation from Dime Bank

- Atty. Glenn Carberry book donation
- Staffing needs/Administrative changes
- Meeting with Joe DeLucia, Stephanie Burnham and Bill Nash
- Upcoming meeting with Mayor Peter Nystrom
- City Strategic Planning Session (Al Daniels & Dennis Slopak attending also)
- NAACP-MLK luncheon at Norwich Free Academy
- District calendar changes for middle school students

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Joyce Werden) to adjust the 2017-2018 school calendar to reflect 180 student days for Kelly STEAM Magnet Middle School & Teachers' Global Studies Magnet Middle School as well as 180 student days for the 2018-2019 school calendar. Motion passed unanimously.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES:

Dr. Thomas Baird and Kaitlyn O'Leary (Director of Strategic Initiatives) presented on the updated District Improvement Plan as well as Alliance Grant planning. The only change from the start of the year is the implementation pace of a few of the strategies. They will start drafting the 2018-2019 DIP within the next few months. The combined Alliance & Priority grant funding for this year is \$4,723,497.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT

Dr. Thomas Baird reported on:

- Submission of Alliance & Priority Grants
- The state accountability index
- 21st Century After School Grants update
- Safety & Security Grant update
- Dime Bank Foundation Grant of \$2,500 to support "Girls on the Run Program" at Stanton
- Transition to Middle School Magnet Schools update

COMMITTEES:

Policy Committee

- Next meeting: January 30, 2018 at 4pm-Central Office conference room

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Patricia Staley) to approve updates to Policy #5144-Physical Restraint & Seclusion of students

Budget/Expenditure Committee

Athena Nagel reported that she initiated a hard freeze for all spending in the district. The Stanton School partial roof project has been postponed until April break. Next meeting is January 24th at 5:30 pm in the Central Office conference room.

Transportation Committee

Athena Nagel reported that First Student has been very helpful with busing needs recently in the district. The RFP for the busing contract has been issued as of January 8th. There is a pre-bid meeting scheduled for January 16th. The final bids are due by February 5th.

Leadership Evaluation Committee

Joyce Werden reported that Heather Romanski and Tricia Staley have joined the committee. The next step is to look at how the plan is working and the timeline that has been established.

LIAISONS:**Integrated Day Charter School Liaison**

Joyce Werden reported that the next meeting is on January 17th.

Otis Library Liaison

Yvette Jacaruso reported that she went to the opening of the Anne Frank exhibit: "Anne Frank: A History for Today". The exhibit is open from January 3rd until January 31st.

LEARN Liaison

Al Daniels reported he is not able to attend the next meeting on January 11th from 9-11 am.

NFA Liaison

Al Daniels reported that he was not able to attend the last meeting.

BOARD REPORTS:

Dennis Slopak reported that he attended his first practice for the year with the Math Team at Uncas.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6: 55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Romanski

Heather Romanski,
Secretary