

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

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

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

ABSENT: Aaron Daniels

STAFF: Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent
Dr. Thomas J. Baird, Assistant Superintendent
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 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Jacaruso asked Mark Kulos to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the amended minutes of the September 13, 2018 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

Dr. Jacaruso reported on her recent positive visits to Kelly STEAM and Teachers' Memorial Global Studies Magnet Middle Schools.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Norwich Public Schools Teacher of the Year Katie Ruffo gave her presentation from convocation to the Board.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mrs. Dolliver reported on:

- Enrollment
- City of Norwich cultural diversity celebrations
- Red Ribbon celebrations
- Meeting with the Colchester Superintendent to discuss high school choice

- Central Office volunteered at the United Way Mobile Food Pantry
- NPSEF fundraiser: Christine Aguilera concert on October 6th
- NPSEF fundraiser: pasta dinner on October 15th
- Sheila Osko-retirement and suitable replacement search
- Mayor's October 4th Special Education roundtable discussion

Dennis Slopak asked for a point of personal privilege.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES:

Scott Fain, principal of Wequonnoc Arts & Technology Magnet school gave a presentation on their School Improvement Plan that focuses on three areas: culture & climate, teaching & learning, and STEAM integration.

Dr. Thomas Baird updated the Board on the Elementary Smarter Balanced Assessment Data. This included ELA and math proficiency and growth numbers.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Baird reported on:

- Alliance tracker
- Chronic absenteeism
- Professional Development and Evaluation Committee meeting
- Magnet middle school site visits
- Title 1, 2, 3, 4, Bilingual and Immigrant grants
- Veterans School-SIG grant
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grant

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the submission of the McKinney-Vento homeless grant. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES:

Policy Committee

Joyce Werden reported on the Policy Committee meeting that took place on September 26, 2018. There are many policies that are outdated, are not necessary or are addressed within another current policy.

The following policies were presented to the Board for First Read for possible deletion:

- 3516.33(a)-Accident Prevention & Reporting First Aid
- 4100(a)-Certified Personnel-General Policy
- 4117.4(a)-Suspension
- 4117.2-Resignation
- 4118.3-Duties of Personnel
- 4118.3(a)-Duties of Personnel-Teachers
- 4120-Temporary Personnel

- 4121-Substitute Teachers
- 4126-Continuing Education for Certified Professional Employees
- 4132-Publication or Creation of Materials
- 4133-Travel-Reimbursement
- 4137/4237-Non-school Employment
- 4151/4251-Short-term Leaves
- 4151.1/4251.1-Personal Illness & Injury Leave
- 5000-Concept & Roles in Student Personnel
- 5112(a)-Ages of Attendance
- 5113-Attendance & Excuses-Written Excuses
- 5124-Reporting to Parents/Guardians
- 5126-Awards for Achievements
- 5131.2-Classroom, Hall & Ground Conduct
- 5131.5-Vandalism
- 5132-Student Dress Code
- 5134-Bring Your Own Device
- 5139.9-Gang Activity or Association
- 5131.911(a)-Hazing/Bullying
- 6113-Released Time
- 6114-Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness
- 6114.6-Inclement Weather
- 6121-Non-discrimination: Instructional Program
- 6164.12-Instruction on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Mark Kulos) to accept the policies as a whole and present them for First Read. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget/Expenditure Committee

Athena Nagel reported that the next meeting is on October 29th at 6pm. She discussed the Impact Aid that NPS received for the displaced students from the hurricane in Puerto Rico and the restrictions put on the money. She updated the board on the contract reduction requests. At the present time, the savings to the General Fund is \$10,000. She updated the board on the City's conversion to the MUNIS system.

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve Abby I. Dolliver and Athena L. Nagel as authorized signers for the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs with the Norwich Public School District. Motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee

Athena Nagel reported that the bus company has received its first new bus to the fleet.

Leadership Evaluation Committee

Joyce Werden reported on the Board of Education Self-Evaluation Workshop facilitated by Attorney Anne Littlefield that was held prior to the Board meeting.

School Facilities Committee

Yvette Jacaruso reported that the survey questions have been revised. The next meeting is on November 7th at 6:00 pm in the Kelly Community Room.

LIAISONS:**Integrated Day Charter School Liaison**

Joyce Werden reported that the next board meeting is on October 10th and the upcoming board retreat is scheduled for October 21st.

BOARD REPORTS:

Tricia Staley reported that the parking lot at Bishop Early Learning Center in the morning has been less gridlocked.

Heather Romanski reported that her and her family attended the NPS Color Run as well as the NPSEF Christina Aguilera concert. The pasta dinner that Moriarty School hosted sold over 108 tickets.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Romanski

Heather Romanski,
Secretary