NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut

DRAFT MINUTES OF:
June 11, 2019
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM

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

ABSENT: None

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
Dr. Kristen Stringfellow
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

MEDIA: WICH/WCTY, The Day, The Bulletin

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Jacaruso asked Aaron Daniels to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (seconded by Aaron Daniels) to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:
Dr. Jacaruso presented Abby Dolliver with a retirement gift and read a statement about her positive impact on the Norwich Public Schools, the community and the children of Norwich. She read an "Irish Blessing".

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:
Mrs. Dolliver introduced Sarah Duso, new principal of Wequonnoc Arts & Technology Magnet School. Ms. Duso came forward and addressed the board and introduced her family that attended.

Mrs. Dolliver thanked camera operator, John Green for his service to the board and presented him with a certificate and small gift.

Mrs. Dolliver read a statement to the Board regarding her experience and upcoming retirement.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
Dr. Baird reported on:

- Closing out of grants/update on new allocations
- Update on proposed alternate use of Priority & Alliance Grant funding

- Update on hiring of new staff & administrators
- New mentoring & support program for new administrators
- Curriculum projects planned for summer
- Update on revisions to Educator & Administrator evaluation plans
- August professional development

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Athena Nagel reported on:

- Facilities Updates: Summer equipment up and running, roof exhaust fans at Moriarty School, quotes for strobe issues, exterior lights at Kelly, HVAC evaluation & vendor supply quotes
- Business Office Updates: Munis conversion & training continues, moved from testing to training platform, upcoming training for financials, HR and Payroll
- Food Service Updates: 2.82% increase in breakfast participation, 9.57% increase in lunch participation, increase TBD for suppers at this point, preparing for summer meal sites
- Technology Updates: May-Technology Dept. resolved 263 technical requests, configured & added 167 Chromebook devices and 30 new iPads, repurpose of Kelly desktop computers

Budget Expenditure Committee

Athena Nagel updated the Board on the information that was presented at the Budget Expenditure meeting prior to the board meeting.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to approve the 2019-2020 Norwich Board of Education budget for the amount of $81,039,000. Motion passed 7-2. Dennis Slopak and Robert Aldi voted against the motion.

MOTION: Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to approve the submission of the 2019-2020 Program Enhancement Projects (PEP) grant for Adult Education. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to amend the agenda to add accepting of the Alliance/Priority grant. Motion passed unanimously.

School Facilities Committee

Tricia Staley reported that the next step is for the Mayor and others to meet with the Department of Administrative Services. A formal building committee will need to be formed.

LEARN Liaison

Al Daniels reported on an event he attended last week. The LEARNing Academy in New London is now open. The next meeting will be held on June 13th, he invited other board members to attend.

Board Reports

Mark Kulos reported on the concerts, promotion ceremonies and events he attended in district. He attended the Kelly band concert, the Wequonnoc band concert, the Uncas chorus concert, the Stanton awards ceremony, the Wequonnoc village walk and awards night, the middle school graduations. He thanked Principal Scott Fain for his time in Norwich and welcomed Sarah Duso has the new Wequonnoc Principal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Aaron Daniels) to go into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:25 pm. The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:33 pm. There were no votes taken.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to accept the Superintendent's evaluation. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Heather Romanski) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Romanski

Heather Romanski,
Secretary