

**LEARN BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR/BUSINESS MEETING
Official Minutes
May 10, 2018**

Present: Joanne Barmasse, East Hampton; Tim Hagen, East Lyme; Rita Volkmann, Groton; Eileen Howley, LEARN; Stacey Leonardo, Region #18 Lyme-Old Lyme; Jefferey Hart, New London; Pamela Potemri, North Stonington; Michael Siebert, Salem; Craig Esposito, Stonington; Cindy Luty, Preston; Christopher Jones, Waterford; Dee Adorno, Westbrook

Representatives not attending: Doug Traynor, Clinton; Imran Munawar, Deep River; Karin Blaschik, East Haddam; Carolyn Rotella, Essex; Vinny Baglio, Guilford; Stephanie Calhoun, Ledyard; Emily Rosenthal, Madison; Colleen Rix, Montville; Al Daniels, Norwich; Suzanne Sack, Region #17 Haddam-Killingworth; Philip Broadhurst, Old Saybrook;

Not Attending and Not Represented: Region 4 (Chester, Deep River, Essex)

Presenters, Staff and Other Guests: Nat Brown, Lynn Nenni, Jack Cross, Donna Worst, Erica Robb, Brian Trost, David Howes, Nick Spera, Olivia Gonazalez, Daneille McIlqham

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Public Comment: None

Reading or Review of Correspondence: Dr. Howley shared a letter announcing that The Friendship School has achieved accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The Marine Science Magnet School was recognized as a Gold Medal School by U.S. News & World Report. Dr. Spera announced that the MSMHS was awarded a safety grant of \$9,000 to provide “Alert, Lockdown, Inform Counter, and Evacuate” (ALICE) training to LEARN schools

Superintendent’s Perspective: Dr. Howley and CFO, Lynn Nenni presented the 2018-2019 proposed budget. Copies of the proposed budget were distributed at the meeting and accompanied by a summary review PowerPoint presentation.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of the Minutes: Regular business meeting- April 12, 2018

Approval of the Budget for 2017-2018

Approval of Grant applications

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Luty, second by Barmasse

Motion approved unanimously.

Information from the Executive Director: .

The following information from Dr. Howley

Hiring Update

Executive Committee Minutes – April 27, 2018

Student Support Services (SSS) Building Committee Special meeting Minutes – April 27, 2018

Legislative update- The bonding for the Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy was approved by both the House and Senate and has been forwarded for the governor’s signature. The space waiver was also granted by the State for the school.

Agency updates- The May 9, 2018 ground breaking ceremony for the Ocean Avenue project was attended by New London’s mayor, interim and newly hired superintendents, LEARN’s board

and building committee members, construction management personnel, architectural staff, Student Support Services staff, and neighbors. A tour of the facility followed the ceremony.

Old Business: Executive Director's Evaluation Committee. Evaluation forms have been emailed to all board members and the Chairman encouraged all members to participate. The committee will review the evaluations on May 25, 8:30 a.m. at LEARN and present to the board in June. Regional Transportation Summary of Current Findings. Jack Cross distributed the data from the research to date on regional transportation. The review is ongoing. Dr. Howley encouraged all members to request that their district forward their transportation contracts as well as any other additional information to LEARN to assist in compiling the important data required to provide a comprehensive report.

Salary and Benefit recommendations: 2018-2019 proposed revisions

Motion to approve the revised 2018-2019 salary recommendations by Siebert, second by Jones.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approve revised 2018-2019 meeting schedule

Motion to approve the revised 2018-2019 meeting schedule by Hagen, second by Volkmann.

Motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Presentation of Proposed Slate of Officers. – This slate is normally presented at the May meeting and voted upon at the June meeting. The slate presented is Craig Esposito, Chair; Tim Hagen, Vice Chair; Joanne Barmasse, Fiscal Officer; and Rita Volkmann, Secretary

9.2 Authorization to Enter into Contracts- This is an annual request and is needed in order for LEARN to contract with various state agencies and departments.
Motion: Resolved, that Eileen S. Howley, Executive Director, is authorized to make, execute, and approve on behalf of LEARN, any or all contracts or amendments excluding loans, effective until June 30, 2019 by Hart, second by Barmasse.

Motion passed unanimously.

9.3 Approve Executive Director's authority to draw on established line of credit- This is an annual request and would only be used in an emergency situation to meet payroll expenses. An average payroll is approximately \$750,000. This line of credit has never been used.

Motion: Resolved, that Eileen S. Howley, Executive Director, is authorized to approve and execute on behalf of LEARN a draw on the established line of credit, effective until June 30, 2019 by Hart, second Barmasse.

Passed unanimously.

9.4 Healthy Food Certification- **Separate votes requested for the following:**

9.4.1 Motion to approve Healthy Foods certification statement: Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f of the C.G.S., the LEARN Governing Board certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2018 through June 20, 2019. This certification shall include all food offered for

sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups by Barmasse, second by Siebert.

Approved

Passed unanimously.

9.4.2 Motion to Exempt Certain Food Items: The LEARN Governing Board will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

Approved

Passed Unanimously

9.4.3 Motion to Approve Dr. Howley to sign the Healthy Foods Certification statement for the period July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 by Hart, second by

Barmasse

Approved

Passed unanimously.

Educational Perspective: Marine Science Magnet High School Principal, Dr. Nicholas Spera presented an overview, highlights of programs, and accomplishments of the school followed by a tour of the facility.

Roundtable/Future Agenda Items:

Adjournment: Motion by Hart, second by Barmasse.

Adjourned: 11:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Donna S. Worst
Executive Office Coordinator