

*LEARN Vision: To ensure that every child has access to high quality public education through systems of education, support, and service.*

**LEARN BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR/BUSINESS MEETING**

**Minutes  
December 12, 2019**

Present: Michael Hornyak, Clinton; Tim Hagen, East Lyme; Rita Volkmann, Groton; Kate Ericson, LEARN; Cindy Luty, Preston; Suzanne Sack, Region #17; Craig Esposito, Stonington

Representatives not attending: Imran Munawar, Deep River; Patricia Stricker, East Haddam; Amy Ordonez, East Hampton; Carolyn Rotella, Essex; Stephanie Calhoun, Ledyard; Diane Infantine-Vyce, Madison; Robert Mitchell, Montville; Jefferey Hart, New London; Phil Mendolia, North Stonington; Al Daniels, Norwich; Stacey Leonardo, Region #18; Jan Furman, Old Saybrook; Sean Reith, Salem; Christopher Jones, Waterford

Not Attending and Not Represented: Chester, Westbrook

Presenters, Staff and Other Guests: Bridgette Gordon-Hickey, Jessica Uzonyi, Michael Belden, Donna Worst

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Public Comment:**

**Reading or Review of Correspondence:** Mrs. Ericson shared correspondence from Workers Compensation Trust: notification that LEARN has qualified for a 2019 premium return of \$43,835. In addition, their board has approved an average rate reduction of 3.2% for 2020.

**Superintendent's Perspective:** Deputy Executive Director, Bridgette Gordon-Hickey and Certified Behavior Analyst and teacher, Jessica Uzonyi presented on school avoidance. (PowerPoint will be distributed per request)

**Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Minutes- November 14, 2019

Approval of the Budget for 2019-2020

Approval of grant applications: Grant Applications-. Title III, Part A: LEARN District Title III

Grant: English Language Acquisition and Language Enhancement, funded by Ct State Department of Education (\$32,367.00); Title III, Part A:LEARN Region Title II Consortium

Grant: English Language Acquisition and Language Enhancement, funded by Ct State

Department of Education (\$92,496.13); Title III, Part B: LEARN District Title III, Part B,

funded by the CT State Department of Education (\$30,000); State Bilingual (Education) Program

Grant funded by the CT State Department of Education (\$12,169.00)

**Motion to approve the consent agenda by Volkmann, second by Luty**

**Motion passed unanimously**

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**Information from the Executive Director**

The following Information from the Executive Director was included in the packet:

Hiring Updates: a new trending data format was presented which provides a 3 year snapshot of monthly hiring and resignation data for the following job classifications: teachers, administrative staff, non-certified school-based staff, and non-certified twelve month staff. In addition to the traditional format, the intent of the trending data is to provide additional insight to assist in staff retention and areas of need.

Executive Committee Minutes November 22, 2019

Student Support Services Building Committee minutes November 14, 2019

Legislative Update-The legislative session will convene in February. Later school start times will be reviewed in this session. The RESC lobbying firm, Rome, Lutz, Smith will provide updates to present to the board on this legislative session.

Agency Updates-Mrs. Ericson and a team from LEARN have nearly completed visiting all LEARN district Superintendents and their staffs. The questions raised, information shared, and face to face contact have proven highly valuable to all and steadily drive deeper collaboration across the region. The continued work of the RESC Alliance to support regionalism, improve collaboration and participate in shared services has resulted in a number of new alliances between districts which have resulted in cost savings and additional support. Mrs. Ericson & team also attended the AESA conference, the national organization of educational service centers dedicated to supporting RESCs and returned with additional perspectives from across the nation.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**

Policy # 3323, Business: Purchasing Policy, First Read (procedures and regulations are included in the packet)

Substitute positions: pay adjustments- the proposed increases are included in the packet with policy # 4121 and #4140

**Motion to approve the proposed substitute position pay adjustments as presented by Luty, second by Volkmann**

**Motion passed unanimously**

Proposed Magnet Tuitions for 2020-2021

**Motion to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Magnet School tuitions as amended by the board to the following rate increases: Regional Multicultural Magnet School @ 1.5%; Dual Language & Arts Magnet Middle School @ 2.3%; Marine Science Magnet High School @ 1.5%; Three Rivers Middle College @ 1.5%; and The Friendship School @ 2.3% by Hagen, second by Volkmann**

**Motion passed unanimously**

Proposed Special Education Tuitions for 2020-2021

**Motion to approve the 2020-2021 Special Education tuition rates as presented by Luty, second by Hagen**

**Motion passed unanimously**

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**Educational Perspective:**

**Roundtable/Future Agenda Items:** topics moved to next meeting due to time constraints.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Sack, second by Volkmann, to adjourn at 11:11am