

*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  
January 9, 2020**

Present: Lenore Grunko, Deep River; Patricia Stricker, East Haddam; Amy Ordonez, East Hampton; Tim Hagen, East Lyme; Rita Volkmann, Groton; Kristen Peck, Guilford; Kate Ericson, LEARN; Naomi Rodriguez, Ledyard; Diane Infantine-Vyce, Madison; Robert Mitchell, Montville; Al Daniels, Norwich; Cindy Luty, Preston; Jan Furman, Old Saybrook; Suzanne Sack, Region #17; Diane Linderman, Region 18; Craig Esposito, Stonington

Representatives not attending: Michael Hornyak, Clinton; Carolyn Rotella, Essex; Jefferey Hart, New London; Phil Mendolia, North Stonington; Sean Reith, Salem; Christopher Jones, Waterford

Not Attending and Not Represented: Chester, Westbrook

Presenters, Staff and Other Guests: Michael Belden, Nat Brown, Jen Favalora, Donna Worst

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Public Comment:**

**Reading or Review of Correspondence:** Mrs. Ericson shared correspondence from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges that The Friendship School has been awarded continued accreditation in NEASC. She also shared that Goodwin College is now Goodwin University, the current campus for LEARNs' Riverside Magnet School and the Connecticut River Academy

**Superintendent's Perspective:**

LEARN Executive Director, Kate Ericson, and Chief Financial Officer, Michael Belden, presented "The Fiscal State of the Agency"

**Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Minutes- December 12, 2019

Approval of the Budget for 2019-2020

Approval of grant applications: State Minority Teacher Recruitment (MTR) Grant (\$5,000) funded by the Connecticut State Department of Education; Regional Minority Recruiting Consortium Seed Money (\$5,316) funded by the Connecticut State Department of Education as directed by the Connecticut State Legislature

**Motion to approve the consent agenda by Daniels, second by Mitchell**

**Abstain: Infantine-Vyce**

**Motion passed**

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**Information from the Executive Director**

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

Hiring Updates: 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 December 19, 2019

Student Support Services Building Committee special meeting minutes December 10, 2019

Legislative update- the next Legislative session will convene in February and is expected to review later school start times.

Agency update- LEARN's Birth to Three Program was not selected to receive a grant award for funding in 2020-2021. There is an ongoing assessment of the Early Childhood Department at LEARN regarding how to move forward. LEARN leadership met with the State Department of Administrative Services regarding funding for the new renovation project at the Student Support Services Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy and was encouraged by the optimism of state officials to proceed with the next renovation project of the facility. LEARN will be submitting an application in June 2020, for 80% state funding for the building project.

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

**Motion to approve policy #3323, business purchasing policy as presented by Luty, second by Daniels**

**Abstain: Infantine-Vyce**

**Motion passed**

**New Business:** LEARN Board of Directors 2020-2021 meeting schedule

**Motion to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Board of Directors meeting schedule as presented by Daniels, second by Mitchell**

**Motion passed unanimously**

LEARN Executive Committee 2020-2021 meeting schedule

**Motion to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Executive Committee meeting schedule as presented by Hagen, second by Luty**

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Educational Perspective:** Kate Ericson presented: "Board Member Orientation."

**Roundtable/Future Agenda Item**

Tabled due to time constraints- Health Insurance Consortiums, High School Start Times and additional discussion about regionalism and sharing services.

**Adjournment: Motion by Sack, second by Stricker, to adjourn at 11:00 am**