

LEARN Board of Directors
February 9, 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00am
2. Present: Chester; Dale Bernardoni, Groton; Rita Volkmann, LEARN; Kate Ericson, Ledyard; Mary Harris, Madison; Mary Ann Connelly, Norwich; Al Daniels, Preston; Cindy Luty, Region # 17; Jen Favalora, Stonington; Craig Esposito

Not Attending and Not Represented: Clinton; Michael Hornyak, Deep River; vacant, East Haddam; Bryan Perry, East Hampton; Amy Ordonez, East Lyme; Catherine Steel, Essex; Carolyn Rotella, Guilford; Kristen Peck, Montville; Robert Mitchell, New London; Jefferey Hart, North Stonington; Phil Mendolia, Old Saybrook; vacant, Region # 18; Steven Wilson, Salem; Sean Reith, Waterford; Michele Devine, Westbrook; Zack Hayden

Presenters, Staff, and Other Guests: Superintendent Jeffrey Wihbey, Michael Belden, Dr. Linda Darcy, Donna Worst
3. Public Comment: none
4. Reading and/or Review of Correspondence: Executive Director Ericson shared correspondence regarding the Worker's Compensation Trust Safety Grant program. LEARN will apply for the annual safety grant offered by its workman's compensation insurer.
5. Superintendent's Perspective: Region #17 (Haddam-Killingworth) Superintendent, Jeffrey Wihbey, shared - district goals, challenges, and successes encompassing his presentation, "Strategic Coherence, Accountability and Growth," with emphasis on equity and the educational *growth* of *every* student.
6. Consent Agenda:
 - 6.1 Approval of the Minutes: Regular Business meeting—January 12, 2023
 - 6.2 Approval of 2022-2023 budget summary as of Jan. 31, 2023.
 - 6.3 Approval of Grant Applications: **1.** Interdistrict Cooperative Grant for School Year 2023-2024, "Sustainers of the Sound" for \$96,219. Participating districts: Groton, East Lyme, Ledyard, New London, Stonington, Region 17, and Waterford, funded by CT State Dept of Education, funding agency; CSDE. **2.** Public Broadcasting Service gifts to the Regional Multicultural Magnet School (\$600 in Oct. 2022 & anticipated \$1,200 in Feb. 2023), in thanks for allowing the "PBS KIDS" programming team to read future episode stories to students for their feedback. The funds will go into the RMMS student activities accounts.
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by Luty, second by Bernardoni
Motion passed unanimously.
7. Information from the Executive Director:
 - 7.1 Hiring- New Hires and Resignations summary update included in packet with accompanying trend reports.
 - 7.2 Distributions- "Governor Lamont Launches New Round of School Security Grants"-to be distributed electronically.
 - 7.3 Executive Committee meeting minutes — January 27, 2023
 - 7.4 SSS Building Committee meeting minutes —December 16, 2022
 - 7.5 Legislative Updates
 - 7.6 LEARN Agency Updates
8. Old Business: none

9. New Business:
 - 9.1 Revised Policy #5007- Series 5000; Students; *Bullying*, First Read
10. Educational Perspective: Office of Teaching & Learning Director, Dr. Linda Darcy, presented an update on the proposed educational programming to be incorporated in the future National Coast Guard Museum to be built in New London, CT.
11. Roundtable/Future Agenda Items: District bus contracts and budgets were discussed and continue to be a challenge for all districts with inflation playing heavily on increases in operational costs with up to double digit percentage increases in transportation and energy costs.
12. Adjournment: **Motion to Adjourn at 10:45am by Luty, second by Daniels**
Motion approved unanimously.

MISSION STATEMENT LEARN is a Regional Educational Service Center working with, and for, its member districts to improve the quality of public education for all learners. We provide leadership for teaching and learning; We provide high quality, innovative schools and programs; We identify and deliver customized and cost-effective programs and services; and we promote collaborative partnerships and reg