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**LEARN BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR/BUSINESS MEETING
November 8, 2018**

Present: Joanne Barmasse, East Hampton; Tim Hagen, East Lyme; Rita Volkmann, Groton; Dr. Eileen Howley, LEARN; Jefferey Hart, New London; Cindy Luty, Preston; Suzanne Sack, Region #17; Stacey Leonardo, Region #18; Michael Siebert, Salem; Craig Esposito, Stonington; Christopher Jones, Waterford;

Representatives not attending: Jane Cavanaugh, Chester; Doug Traynor, Clinton; Imran Munawar, Deep River; Karin Blaschik, East Haddam; Carolyn Rotella, Essex; Vince Baglio, Guilford; Stephanie Calhoun, Ledyard; Emily Rosenthal, Madison; Robert Mitchell, Montville; Pam Potemri, North Stonington; Al Daniels, Norwich; Jan Furman, Old Saybrook; Dee Adorno, Westbrook

Not Attending and Not Represented:

Presenters, Staff and Other Guests: Cynthia Ritchie, Nat Brown, Lynn Nenni, Donna Worst

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment:

Reading or Review of Correspondence: Dr. Howley shared two letters from the CT Association of Boards of Educations (CABE) congratulating LEARN for earning three communications' awards and one honorable mention for the following: Awards for the Student Support Services Parent/Student handbook, The LEARN Leader, and the LEARN Convocation Slideshow; Honorable mention for the LEARN Admin. Calendar 2018-2019. A letter from the U. S. Dept. of Education informing LEARN that the Office for Civil Rights has completed its monitoring of the implementation of the Resolution Agreement regarding a complaint dated Sept. 8, 2017 and that the investigation has been closed.

Superintendent's Perspective: Cynthia Ritchie, New London public Schools Superintendent presented New London's Strategic Plan.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes- October 11, 2018

Approval of the Budget for 2018-2019

Approval of grant applications: Gift from Social Security Administration office (located at Shaw's Cove, New London) of two computer desks and one podium valued at \$700.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Sack, second by Hart

Motion passed unanimously

Information from the Executive Director

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

Hiring Update-

Executive Committee Minutes- October 26, 2018

Student Support Services Building Committee Minutes- October 11, 2018

Legislative Update- Dr. Howley reported that the 2018 election resulted in Democratic majorities in both the State Senate and House in addition to a Democratic Governor. She distributed contact lists for the newly elected members of the legislature to each board member.

Agency updates-The audit has been prepared (waiting on the TRB # from the state) and will be presented at the next board meeting. Dr. Howley shared a few samples of LEARN Professional Development on the Regional PD Day. The Regional Multicultural Magnet School hosted a 2 day International Baccalaureate training, and the Marine Science Magnet High School partnered with Groton Police Department for an Active Violence Training experience as well as curriculum work. LEARN Student Support Services and related services staff worked together on Dyslexia.

Old Business: Policy #5125: Student Records Confidentiality-second read

Motion to approve policy #5125: Student Records Confidentiality as presented, by Hart, second by Barmasse

Passed unanimously

Teacher negotiations Executive Session was moved further down the agenda

New Business: Organizational Re-design, 2018-2019- Dr. Howley presented the historical evolution of the agency responding to the changing needs and growth of the districts it serves.

Educational Perspective: none

Roundtable/Future Agenda Items: The start date for children entering school was discussed. Current legislation requires all public schools be open to children who turn five on or before January 1st of any school year (C.G.S. Sec.10-15c) and that public schools provide half-day kindergarten programming for at least 180 days for 450 hours of actual schoolwork during each year. If a public school chooses to offer full-day kindergarten, it must provide 900 hours of schoolwork for at least 180 days. (C.G.S. Sec. 10-15).

Members discussed the skills gap of those students entering without pre-k experience and the need for pre-k to be offered district-wide. Board member Hart provided additional information on this topic from the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood which will be distributed with the minutes.

Entered Executive Session to discuss teacher salary negotiations.

10:35a.m.

Concluded Executive Session

10:37a.m.

Motion to Adjourn by Hart, second by Hagen

Motion passed unanimously

Adjourned

10:43a.m.