

LEARN Board of Directors
June 8, 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am

2. Present: Chester; Dale Bernardoni, East Lyme; Cate Steel, Groton; Rita Volkmann, LEARN; Kate Ericson, Madison; Maryann Connelly, Montville; Robert Mitchell, 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, Essex; Carolyn Rotella, Guilford; Kristen Peck, Ledyard; Mary Harris, New London; Jefferey Hart, North Stonington; Phil Mendola, Norwich; Aaron Daniels, Old Saybrook; Steve Beeler, Region # 18; Steven Wilson, Salem; Sean Reith, Waterford; Mindy Stone, Westbrook; Zack Hayden

Presenters, Staff, and Other Guests: Christine Pemberton, Sarah Moon, Donna Worst

3. Public Comment: none

4. Reading and/or Review of Correspondence: Executive Director shared correspondence from Workman Compensation Trust announcing a premium refund of \$56,421.

5. Superintendent's Perspective: Sarah Moon presented *Overview of LEARN's role in the CSDE Special Education Contract*.

6. Consent Agenda:

6.1 Approval of the Minutes: Regular Business meeting—May 11, 2023

6.2 Approval of 2022-2023 budget summary as of May 31, 2023

6.3 Approval of Grant Applications: no grant applications presented.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by Mitchell, second by Luty
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.-Assistant principals for RMMS & Riverside were appointed

7.2 Distributions-

7.3 Executive Committee meeting minutes- May 26, 2023

7.4 SSS Building Committee meeting minutes —May 26, 2023

7.5 Legislative Updates – the budget was approved with some additional funding provided for educations and the language was revised regarding restraint and seclusion for special ed students

7.6 LEARN Agency Updates- OALA Project 2 should be competed in August

8. Old Business:

8.1 Revised Policy 4129/4229- Personnel- Certified/Non-Certified, “*Graduate Study Reimbursement for Employees in categories of Directors, Coordinators, Managers, Teachers, Therapists, and Nurses*”, Second Read (regulations included)

Motion to approve policy 4129/4229, Tuition Reimbursement, as presented by Mitchell, second by Steel

Motion approved unanimously

8.2 New Policy #41581.1/42581.1- Certifies/Non-Certified Personnel, “*Code of Conduct*” Second Read

Motion to approve policy 41581.1 / 42581.1 policy, Code of Conduct, as presented by Volkmann, second by Steel

8.3 **Motion approved unanimously**
Approval of 2023-2024 Slate of Officers
Motion to approve the following slate of officers for 2023-2024: Bob Mitchell; Chair, Aaron Daniels; Vice Chair, Secretary; Dale Bernardoni, and Fiscal Officer; Mindy Stone by Luty, second by Steel.

8.4 **Motion approved unanimously**
Approval of 2023-2024 proposed LEARN Budget
Motion to approve the 2023-2024 budget as presented by Mithcell, second by Bernardoni,
Motion approved unanimously

9. New Business: *Executive Session

9.1 Evaluation of Executive Director*

***Motion to move into Executive Session by Volkmann, second by Connelly**

Motion approved unanimously

Executive Session began: 10:18am

Executive Session ended: 10:38am

9.2 Executive Director Salary & Benefits

Motion to approve the Executive Director's salary at a 2.75% increase for outstanding performance and extend one year to the current 3-year contract by Luty, second by Volkmann

Motion approved unanimously

9.3 Teacher Negotiations Committee members- Board members to serve on the Teacher Negotiations Committee are Cindy Luty, Cate Steel, Bob Mitchell, alternate Rita Volkmann, and Craig Esposito.

9.4 Grant application for construction project for building at 51 Daniels Avenue, Waterford, Connecticut – working with Waterford town leaders to acquire 51 Daniels Avenue, Waterford property. Conceptional design and contract have been completed. Current environmental studies are ongoing. To be voted upon by the RTM in 2024.

9.4a *First Motion to authorize the Grant Application, Building Committee, and Preparation of Educational Specifications*

Motion 1:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Connecticut General Statute, Sections 10-66a, 10-66b, and 10-66c, LEARN is a Regional Educational Service Center and the LEARN Board of Directors is the legislative body authorized to issue bonds, notes or other obligations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED, that the LEARN Board of Directors (LEARN's Governing Board) authorizes LEARN's Executive Director to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the LEARN building project at 51 Daniels Avenue, Waterford and

RESOLVED, that the LEARN Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the building project at 51 Daniels Avenue, Waterford.

and

RESOLVED, that the LEARN Board of Directors hereby authorizes the preparation of schematic drawings and educational specifications for the building project at 51 Daniels Avenue, Waterford by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni

Motion approved unanimously

10. Educational Perspective:

11. Roundtable/Future Agenda Items:

12. Adjournment: Adjourned 11:17am

Motion to adjourn Luty, second by Bernardoni

Motion approved unanimously