

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

APPROVED MINUTES OF:

May 8, 2018

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Dr. Yvette Jacaruso, Joyce Werden, Heather Romanski, Aaron Daniels, Dennis Slopak, Robert Aldi (arrived at 5:48 pm), James Maloney, Mark Kulos, and Patricia Staley.

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent
Dr. Thomas J. Baird, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
Athena L. Nagel, Business Administrator
Jamie H. Bender, Director of Student Services & Special Education
Amber Rutigliano, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

MEDIA: The Day, The Bulletin, WICH/WCTY

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Jacaruso asked Patricia Staley to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Mark Kulos) to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2018 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

Dr. Jacaruso reported on:

- Trip to Hartford to meet with Senator Cathy Osten and Representative Kevin Ryan
- National Teacher Appreciation Day

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Mark Kulos) to approve the Norwich Board of Education to authorize the Board Chair to send written notification to Norwich Free Academy providing notice of the termination of the contract with Norwich Free Academy upon the expiration of the current contract, June 30, 2020, and requesting the commencement of negotiations for a subsequent contract between the parties. Motion passed 8-0. Robert Aldi was not present at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mrs. Dolliver reported on:

- Enrollment
- Kelly STEAM band to participate in Memorial Day parade
- Spring Concert at KMS on June 13th
- BCBA Jessica Mias inducted into Cambridge Center Distinguished Scholars
- Mahan school facilitated discussion with State Dept. of Education-SBAC
- Uncas School to state capitol on 5/11 for the Choose Love program
- Math Competition Finals at KMS on May 22nd from 5-7 pm
- District Art Show at Huntington School on May 23rd from 5-7 pm
- Adult Education graduation on May 24th at KMS
- End of Year celebration activities

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Aaron Daniels) for the Norwich Board of Education to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Norwich School Administrators Association. Motion passed 8-1. James Maloney voted in opposition.

MOTION: Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Mark Kulos) for the Board of Education to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Norwich Teachers League. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT

Dr. Baird reported on:

- Family, Staff & Student Climate survey
- \$10,000 from Community Foundation of Eastern CT for summer learning program
- Impact AID Application
- District Improvement Plan updates
- IDEA Special Education Grant

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to approve the submission of the IDEA Grant for Fiscal Year 2019. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES:**Policy Committee**

Joyce Werden reported that the policy committee will meet again in the fall of 2018.

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve Policy#5110-Student Attendance, Truancy & Chronic Absenteeism. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Mark Kulos) to approve Policy#5114-Student Discipline. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve Policy#5115-Confidentiality and Access to Student Records. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve Policy#4154/4254-Employment Checks. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Patricia Staley (seconded by Mark Kulos) to approve Policy#4117.1(a)/4217.1(a)-Employees-Retirement. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget/Expenditure Committee

Athena Nagel reported on the joint meeting between the Board of Education and the City Council. The City Council 2nd public budget hearing is on May 14th. There will be a 2% shortage for this year.

Transportation Committee

Athena Nagel reported that First Student is working on routes and times for next year's bus runs.

School Facilities Committee

Patricia Staley reported that the School Facilities Committee met last week. They are in the process of arranging tours of the schools. The 2016 consultant's report was reviewed. There is a survey for residents in progress. Their next meeting will take place on June 6th at 6:00 pm at KMS.

LIAISONS:

Integrated Day Charter School Liaison

Joyce Werden reported that she informed the IDCS board about the budget situation with the Board of Education. Anna James the Director is retiring this year. The next meeting is on May 16th.

Otis Library Liaison

Yvette Jacaruso reported that she attended Otis Library Evening with an Author at the Norwich Inn with Abby Dolliver. The author was John Bohrer.

LEARN Liaison

Al Daniels reported that LEARN discussed their in-house Special Education facility. They will have a psychiatrist on staff. They are also in the process of creating a transitional academy for students aged 18-21. Norwich Special Education students make up 29% of LEARN's program. A regionalized transportation system was discussed.

BOARD REPORTS:

Joyce Werden reported that she attended Stanton School's PTO Meeting last month. It was a small turnout but was a very dedicated group of parents.

Patricia Staley reported that she attended the Bishop ELC Health & Wellness Fair.

Heather Romanski reported that she attended Moriarty School's Health & Wellness Fair.

Alex Lazzari, Principal of Teacher's Memorial Global Studies Magnet School reported to the Board that they have two students that have advanced to the Nationals for Invention Convention. The students are Mackenzie Brown and Damian Rios.

Stanton School, Principal Susan Lessard reported to the Board that they had a 5K run this past weekend for their Girls on the Run Program.

Dennis Slopak reported that his granddaughter, who is a graduate of NPS is on the NFA tennis team and is playing the #1 singles spot as a Freshman.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (seconded by James Maloney) to go into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:10 pm.

Dennis Slopak left the meeting at 7:45 pm.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:14 pm. There were no votes take in Executive Session.

MOTION: Made by Aaron Daniels (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve the Superintendent's evaluation. Motion passed 8-0. Dennis Slopak was not present for the vote.

MOTION: Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Joyce Werden) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Romanski

Heather Romanski,
Secretary