

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF:
May 14, 2019
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Dr. Yvette Jacaruso, Joyce Werden, Heather Romanski, Dennis Slopak, Aaron Daniels, Mark Kulos, Patricia Staley and James Maloney.

ABSENT: Robert Aldi

STAFF: Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent
Dr. Thomas J. Baird, Assistant Superintendent
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: WICH/WCTY, The Day

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Jacaruso asked Joyce Werden to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Tricia Staley) to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2019 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2019 special meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE:

Norwich Free Academy Head of School-David Klein, Director of Student Affairs-John Iovino, Geoffrey Serra-Director of Public Affairs and Lisa Wheeler-Director of Student Services gave an overview of programs and services offered to students at Norwich Free Academy.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

Dr. Jacaruso reported on:

- Uncas Gathering of the Hearts and Minds Ceremony
- School visits with future Superintendent, Dr. Kristen Stringfellow
- Multi-cultural night at Teachers' Memorial Global Studies
- Facebook Live budget event
- Annie Jr. play at Kelly presented by the Drama club

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mrs. Dolliver reported on:

- Enrollment

- School Improvement & District Improvement Plan updates after July 1st
- New DCF worker located at Kelly Middle School: Erica McCormack
- Gathering of the Hearts and Minds ceremony-Uncas School
- Youth Council Freedom Fund Dinner-NAACP
- Two autism events in the district
- Multicultural Event at Teachers'
- Mahan/Starbucks traffic situation update
- Magnet lotteries
- Jenn Webb-SDE-final review for Uncas School
- Veterans-SIG Grant update
- Bully Busters Award dinner
- Sarah Duso-named new principal-Wequonnoc Magnet School
- Beth Hanlon-named new Supervisor of Special Education
- Huntington principal-update on interview process

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

Jody Lefkowitz, Director of the Norwich Regional Adult Education program gave a presentation to the Board regarding current programs offered, districts served, sources of funding as well as curriculum. She spoke of initiatives and challenges that the program faces.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Baird reported on:

- Magnet School lottery was held on April 26th
- Community Foundation-award of \$11,000 for Summer Learning Program
- Meeting with CSDE consultation to review progress at Veterans school
- Application & funding allocations for Priority, Alliance and Summer School expected early July
- Middle Magnet School site visits
- Wellness Advisory Council finalization of Wellness Goals & Guidelines
- School Mint update (application, registration & lottery system)

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Athena Nagel reported on:

- Food Services in the process of planning summer meals
- Breakfast, lunch & supper participation has increased
- Huntington & Stanton server upgrades by Technology Department
- New Chromebook devices at Kelly & Teachers funded through Alliance Grant
- The Technology Department answered & resolved 275 technical issues in April
- Completed projects by Facilities Department
- On-going facilities projects
- Munis conversion for Business office continues
- Voluntary benefits for employees
- Transportation: FirstView update

Policy Committee

MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to approve the following policies:

- Policy #1055: Pupil Participation in Civic and Community Affairs
- Policy #1330/1330(a): Use of School Facilities
- Policy #3260: Sale & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies
- Policy #3300: Expenditures/Expending Authority
- Policy #3323: Soliciting Prices (Bids & Quotations)

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Al Daniels (seconded by Mark Kulos) to delete the following policies:

- Policy #1140: Community Relations-Use of Students
- Policy #1314: Soliciting Funds from/by School Personnel
- Policy #1316(a): Public/Personnel Conduct on School Property
- Policy #1321(a): Public Performance by Students
- Policy #1322: Contests for Students
- Policy #1325(a): Advertising & Promotion
- Policy #1412: Fire Department
- Policy #1610/1620: Private School Access to NPS Programs
- Policy #2210: Leeway in Absence of Board Policy
- Policy #2220: Representative & Deliberative Groups
- Policy #2231(a): Policy & Regulation Systems-Policy Manual
- Policy #2250: Monitoring/Reporting of District Activities
- Policy #3400: Accounts-Accounting Records
- Policy #3440: Inventories

Motion passed unanimously.

School Facilities Committee

Tricia Staley reported that the next move for the committee is to finalize the plan to re-organize the school. Athena Nagel discussed the next steps necessary once the committee has a plan to move forward.

Integrated Day Charter School Liaison

Joyce Werden reported that at the last meeting, the board adopted the 19/20 school calendar and mention was made to align the calendar closely with the Norwich Public School's calendar.

LEARN Liaison

Al Daniels reported on a new accountability system being implemented that will be part of the student's permanent record. The magnet schools have a high chronic absenteeism rate.

Board Reports

Tricia Staley reported she attended a Military Child/Family celebration at Stanton School on April 24th. She also attended the Beth & Scott concert for Bishop ELC.

Al Daniels reported that he attended a meeting regarding the U.S. Census and he participated in the

Huntington and Veterans Multi-cultural day events.

Heather Romanski reported that she attended the Moriarty Health Fair. There is an upcoming event at Moriarty School on May 21st for Impact Projects.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Dennis Slopak) to go into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:00 pm. The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:09 pm. There were no votes taken.

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Al Daniels) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Romanski

Heather Romanski,
Secretary