

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF:
March 23, 2020
SPECIAL MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
VIRTUAL MEETING**

PRESENT: Heather Romanski, Kevin Saythany, Dr. Yvette Jacaruso, Aaron Daniels, Mark Kulos
Patricia Staley, Carline Charmelus, Christine DiStasio, Swaranjit Singh Bhatia

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Dr. Kristen E. Stringfellow, Superintendent
Athena L. Nagel, Business Administrator
Jamie H. Bender, Director of Student Services & Special Education
Amber Rutigliano, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Kaitlyn O’Leary, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Jessica Dolliver, Manager of Media Communications
Matt Warzecha, IT Director
Teachers and Parents

MEDIA: The Day, News1

Heather Romanski called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Stringfellow reviewed what percentage of property tax transfer is needed from the City to maintain status quo and add a handful of items to increase educational effectiveness and fiscal efficiency.

Dr. Stringfellow discussed how the current COVID-19 events have impacted how the school department does business. This could potentially change the amount that may need to be requested for next year, depending on the impact to this year’s budget. The district may not need as much as it initially thought but on the other hand more may be needed. How the district finishes the school year will affect the City’s fund balance.

Health insurance claims may be higher if people are getting sick.

The Board discussed different scenarios with respect to how varying amounts of budget increases will affect the time it takes to eliminate the dependence on the City’s fund balance.

The goal is to eliminate deficit spending, build instructional programs with adequate staffing and less the reliance on grants. The Board has decided to follow a three year plan with a 5.5% increase for year one, a 5.5% increase for year two and a 4.5% increase for the third year.

NFA overall tuition increase for the 2020-2021 school year is 6.6%.

MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (Swaranjit Singh Bhatia) to approve a proposed 2020-2021

Norwich Public Schools budget with a 5.5 % increase to the current budget.
Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Made by Yvette Jacaruso (Swaranjit Singh Bhatia) to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carline Charmelus

Carline Charmelus
Secretary