

Executive Committee

MEETING SUMMARY



Date: September 27, 2024
Time: 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Location: LEARN, Room 107/ 44 Hatchedts Hill Road, Old Lyme, CT 06371

A remote meeting option is provided for those unable to attend in person. The login information can be found at the end of the agenda.

Present: Robert Mitchell, Chair; Dale Bernardoni, Vice Chair; Jen Favalora, Fiscal Officer; Beverly Washington, Secretary; Cynthia Ritchie, Superintendent of Schools New London; Maryann O'Donnell, Superintendent of Schools Clinton; and Katherine Ericson, LEARN Executive Director

Not Attending:

Meeting began at 8:35 a.m.

- 1.** Review of October 2024 Board of Directors' Agenda
- 2.** Ocean Avenue mini roof project

Executive Director Ericson shared that LEARN contracted with Offshore Construction Inc. to complete a small roof project for the Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy (OALA). The cost of the project cost is \$57,150.00. According to LEARN's Purchasing Policy 3323, LEARN was able to execute the contract due to the fact that the company is on the Connecticut state bid list.

- 3.** Tri-Share Program Update

Executive Director Ericson shared that LEARN is currently building a new system to support the Office of Early Childhood's new Tri-Share Child Care Matching Program. This program is an \$1.8 million workforce investment where businesses, the state of Connecticut, and caregivers share 1/3 of the cost of childcare.

- The purpose of the program is to support the recruitment and retention of workers in Connecticut.
- The goal of the program is to expand across Connecticut as more employers are recruited to partner.

4. Infant Toddler Program Update

The Executive Committee was updated on how LEARN's Infant Toddler Program continues to move closer to becoming fully operationalized. LEARN is looking to apply for a state license in October 2024, with the goal of opening its doors around January 20, 2025. Upon opening, LEARN will be able to accept 16 infant/toddlers into this new program.

5. New Student Training Program

Executive Director Ericson expressed excitement about LEARN's new partnership with Electric Boat. Electric Boat has invested \$40,000.00 to purchase virtual reality headsets with Transfer Software. This tool has the ability to train individuals in over 120 different occupations. Students will gain deeper insight into the skills and knowledge needed for various career fields. Coupled with this technology is a student-centered interest inventory series that supports students in connecting their passions and interest to specific career pathways.

6. Reimagining the LEARN Schools Update

Executive Director Ericson shared Dr. Donlon's efforts to collect feedback from current Regional Multicultural Magnet School (RMMS) families on what they would like to see in a middle school program. Last week, LEARN hosted two forums for families to share their hopes and dreams for their children's educational journeys.

7. Recap of visit with Secretary Beckham

Executive Director Ericson informed the Executive Committee of the RESC Alliance's lobbying efforts around magnet funding, and funding for the Teachers' Residency Program. The Executive Directors met with Secretary Beckham, Office of Policy and Management, to share our collective requests for state funding.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Join Meeting via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82071624323?pwd=RVxeElub9bcwpDVVPE7WM0U4LGDGQC.1>

Meeting ID: 820 7162 4323

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