

Executive Committee

MEETING SUMMARY



Date: February 28, 2025
Time: 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Location: LEARN, Room 216/ 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; Jennifer Favalora, Fiscal Officer; Beverly Washington, Secretary; Dr. Cynthia Ritchie, Superintendent of Schools New London; and Katherine Ericson, LEARN Executive Director

Not Attending: Maryann O'Donnell, Superintendent of Schools Clinton

Meeting began at 8:32 a.m.

1. Review March 2025 Board of Directors' Agenda

2. TFS Infant/Toddler Program Update

Executive Director Ericson updated the committee on the progress of the Infant/Toddler program. The program is currently moving through the state licensing process, and the next step will be to schedule a site visit, to be completed before an official opening date can be set.

3. RESC Alliance Legislative Update

Executive Director Ericson reported on ongoing efforts to lobby the Education Appropriations Committee regarding magnet funding and the Connecticut Teachers Residency Program. LEARN is particularly excited about the potential legislative language that would provide reimbursement for the agency's costs associated with the Infant/Toddler program and regional specialized classrooms.

4. Repair Work Order Bid Waiver: Marine Science Magnet High School, authorizing TK Elevator Corporation to perform elevator work in the amount of \$88,005.34

Motion to approve the bid waiver authorizing TK Elevator Corporation to perform elevator repairs at Marine Science Magnet High School for \$88,005.34, as they are the sole source provider for the proprietary elevator system and required parts.

- **Presented by Robert Mitchell**
- **Second by Dale Bernardoni**
- **Motion Passed, unanimously**

5. LEARN Payroll MOU

Executive Director Ericson informed the Executive Committee of a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the teachers' union (LEA) to address a payroll anomaly, which occurred due to the presence of five payrolls prior to September. The MOU details steps to resolve the issue.

6. Annual Report—Board Participation

The Executive Committee discussed how the board would like to contribute their voice to LEARN's upcoming annual report. The Committee expressed support for including Board messaging and recognized its value in highlighting the board's involvement and leadership within the organization.

7. U.S. Department of Education Update

The Executive Director provided the committee with an update on the current state of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives within the U.S. Department of Education. The discussion focused on recent developments, challenges, and how these trends may impact LEARN's programs and operations moving forward.

8. LEARN Updates

The Executive Director provided an update on the current status of remote learning within LEARN. The discussion covered ongoing efforts, challenges, and potential improvements as regional efforts adapt to the evolving needs of students and staff in a remote learning environment.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Join Meeting via Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 820 7162 4323

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