

Executive Committee

MEETING SUMMARY



Date: May 23, 2025
Time: 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Location: LEARN, Room 216/ 44 Hatchetts 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 8:44 a.m.

1. Review June 2025 Board of Directors' Agenda

2. Legislation Update

The RESC Alliance continues to actively engage with state legislators to advocate for critical funding.

Each RESC Executive Director is dedicating several hours each week at the State Capitol, and Executive Director Ericson reported that during her recent afternoon at the Capitol, she successfully connected with half of the delegation representing the LEARN region. Advocacy efforts remain ongoing and persistent through the conclusion of the legislative session.

3. Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) Update

LEARN currently awaits final approval from the Connecticut Attorney General's office on the draft Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) contract. Receipt of the finalized contract is anticipated before the end of June, with an expected execution date of July 1, 2025.

4. Internal Review Board (IRB)

The Executive Director shared LEARN's plan to establish a policy and regulatory framework for the creation of an Internal Review Board (IRB). This policy will allow LEARN staff to formally conduct research within their respective fields, supporting professional growth and evidence-based practice. The Executive Director anticipates presenting the proposed policy to the Board for review and approval in September.

5. LEARN and University of Saint Joseph (USJ) ABA Master's Program MOU

Executive Director Ericson informed the Executive Committee of a new Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between LEARN and the University of Saint Joseph (USJ). Under this agreement, USJ will offer a 15% tuition discount per course to LEARN employees hired as Behavior Technicians, provided they meet the supervision requirements outlined in LEARN policy.

6. LEARN Annual Report

The Executive Committee engaged in a discussion about the upcoming LEARN Annual Report, focusing on how the report reflects the Board's leadership and vision. A key highlight will be the inclusion of Board member quotes to illustrate their guidance and commitment to advancing LEARN's mission. These contributions aim to capture the Board's role in shaping the agency's impact and strategic direction.

7. LEARN Update

The Executive Director shared several recent highlights across the agency. The Friendship School (TFS) Museum Night was a great success, with 826 students showcasing their work. LEARN is actively engaged in discussions with the Waterford Conservation Commission regarding plans for the development of a new Early Childhood School. Additionally, the Executive Committee was updated on the cyber incident.

8. Executive Director Evaluation Discussion (including survey results)

The Executive Committee held a private session to prepare for the upcoming Board discussion regarding the Executive Director's evaluation.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Join Meeting via Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 820 7162 4323

Passcode: 521615

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