

The New London Board of Education School Facilities & Program Design Committee meeting was held on September 8, 2025 in the Shaw's Cove Family Engagement Room and via Zoom Webinars.

DRAFT

1. Call to Order

Ms. Hambey, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Present for the Committee: Susan Hambey – Committee Chair
Karen Bergin – Committee Member
Alisha Blake – Committee Member (*Attended virtually*)

Absent for the Committee: Aaron Ide – Community Member

Present for the Administration: Miguel Gautier, Jr. – Executive Director of District Operations

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of the Minutes

- June 9, 2025

Motion by Ms. Bergin seconded by Ms. Blake, to approve the June 9, 2025 minutes of the School Facilities & Program Design Committee.

Motion carried, 3-0

4. Discussion on the Following

- Fire Panel at Winthrop

Mr. Gautier reported that there have been issues with the Fire Panel at Winthrop, and only a limited number of contractors who have the ability to work on the equipment. He stated that he does have a contract now, but there have been issues since 2023. The fire marshal is aware of the issues with the panel. The solution that has been determined is that the wires can be re-routed to another panel, but that is about \$80,000 and that is money that he was not planning to spend this year. He stated he will be discussing this at School Building and Maintenance as well. He noted that he has spoken with other colleagues in facilities, and they are also finding the same issues with this company and the cost to do the work. He stated the only alternative is \$18,000 to replace the entire panel.

- Capital Improvement Plan updates

Mr. Gautier reported that the actual Capital Improvement Plan has a lot of information on it. Now that there are some grants available, he plans to reach out to the State to review what could be applied for, and then make suggestions of what could go for bonding. He stated that he is looking four years in advance instead of ten years, due to the significant inflation that has been seen.

- Operations Budget FY26

Mr. Gautier again reviewed an outline with the committee which is an overview of how he has planned for the SY26 budget funds. He expects that this information will be shared regularly with the Board throughout the school year. Additionally, Mr. Gautier noted that this information would also be shared with the School Maintenance and Building Committee.

A copy of this report can be found at the end of these minutes in its entirety.

5. Committee Member Comments

None.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Bergin, seconded by Ms. Blake, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried, 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Manager of Executive Support Services