

The New London Board of Education School Facilities & Program Design Committee meeting was held on January 12, 2026 in the New London Public Schools Welcome Center and via Zoom Webinars.

DRAFT

1. Call to Order

Ms. Hambey, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present for the Committee: Susan Hambey – Committee Chair
Rich Martin – Committee Member
Aaron Ide – Community Member

Absent for the Committee: Karen Bergin – Committee Member

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

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Accept the Minutes

- September 8, 2025

Motion by Ms. Hambey, seconded by Mr. Martin, to accept the minutes of the September 8, 2025 meeting.

Motion passed, 3-0

- November 10, 2025

Motion by Ms. Hambey seconded by Mr. Martin, to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025 meeting

Motion passed, 3-0

4. Discussion on the Following

- Public Address (P.A.) System at Nathan Hale

Mr. Gautier reminded the committee that at the previous meeting he had shared that the Nathan Hale PA needed to be replaced. He shared that the estimate for the materials when looking at the website is approximately \$90,000. The public bid has been put out. The

desire is for a customizable cloud-based system. After testing out some parts it appears that this is the best option.

- Boiler Replacement Project at Jennings

The boiler replacement project at Jennings is a part of the Capital Improvement Plan. The City Council has approved the bonding for this project. The next steps are for the Board of Finance to approve the projects, and then it will go back to Council for the approval of \$450,000. If all goes well, the plan is to complete this project over the summer.

- Operations Budget FY26

Mr. Gautier provided an overview of the Operations Budget for FY26. He stated that the department is beginning to run low on funds. Approximately 70% of the budget has been used through December 31. He stated that he is sure the department will run out of money, it is only a matter of when. Mr. Ide asked what can be done if the department runs out of money. Mr. Gautier responded that there are some vacancies that funds can potentially be pulled from, but ultimately they still need to continue to run the buildings. He clarified that no cosmetic repairs are being completed. Only items that are related to safety are being completed. He also added that his expectation is that money will be depleted by March. He stated he is trying to be as efficient as possible, but there have been some unexpected issues, such as the PA at Nathan Hale.

Mr. Gautier also reported that after the recent snowstorm, one of the city plows backed into a safety bollard in front of Winthrop. Later in the day when some snow had melted the bollard rolled down the street and hit an unoccupied car. He stated that the owner of the car has been in contact with him and the city, and the city's insurance will be involved regarding the vehicle claim.

5. Committee Member Comments

None.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Ide, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried, 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Manager of Executive Support Services