

The Business Meeting of the New London Board of Education was held on January 12, 2026 in the New London Public Schools' Welcome Center and via Zoom Webinars.

1. Call to Order

President Maynard-Adams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present for the Board of Education: President – Elaine Maynard-Adams

Board Members Present: Rebecca Amanti
Nanci DeRobbio
Susan Hambey
Richard Martin

Board Members Absent: Karen Bergin
Scott Garbini

Present for the administration: Dr. Cynthia Ritchie, *Superintendent of Schools*
Dr. Jennifer Hills-Papetti, *Assistant Superintendent of Schools*
Mr. Rob Funk, *Chief Financial Officer*
Ms. Carrie Rivera, *Executive Director of School and Family Supports*
Ms. Christine Pemberton, *Executive Director of Talent & Human Resources*
Mr. Miguel Gautier, Jr. – *Executive Director of Operations*
Ms. Kristea Francolino – *Manager of Executive Support Services*

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Reports and Communications

- Board Chairperson's Report

Ms. Maynard-Adams reported that she has been working on an effort to bring local authors to the schools, and that Ms. West of the New London Rotary has reached out with a list of many volunteers who would like to read to our students. She shared that soon there should be clubs at the secondary level up and running thanks to a grant from the New London Education Foundation. Ms. Maynard-Adams reported that she has been taking the time to speak with our local legislative

delegation about the dire state of the upcoming budget cycle. She added that there are some upcoming legislative breakfasts as well, including for CAGE Area 9. She stated that there was a meeting prior to the holiday break with a potential new partner for families experiencing mental health issues. Additionally, she attended a presentation of the CT Voices for Children, a premiere non-profit in the state which studies and lobbies issues which affect students and families.

- Reports of Committees
 - School Facilities & Program Design Committee
 - Ms. Hambey reported that the committee met earlier this evening. They heard an update on the Public Address (PA) system at Nathan Hale, and the upcoming boiler replacement at Jennings. She noted that bonding was approved for the boiler replacement project. She added that the committee also reviewed the current operations budget, and also discussed that one of the bollards outside of Winthrop School was hit by a plow. The bollard (a sphere) subsequently rolled down the hill and hit an unoccupied car. This incident is going through the city's insurance.
- Superintendent's Report – Human Resources
 - Ms. Christine Pemberton, Executive Director of Talent & Human Resources, along with Ms. Nicole Haggerty, Benefits and ERP Coordinator and Ms. Ashley Kenyon, Talent Acquisition & Engagement Specialist provided an update on Human Resources Data. This presentation included the following:
 - Human Resources Organizational Chart
 - Employee Demographics
 - Survey Data
 - Human Resources Legislative update
 - HR New Initiatives

A copy of this report is available in its entirety upon request.

4. Approval of the Minutes

- November 24, 2025 – Business Meeting

Motion by Ms. Maynard-Adams, seconded by Ms. Hambey, to approve the November 24, 2025 – Business Meeting minutes.

Motion carried, 3-2
Abstaining: Ms. Amanti
Ms. DeRobbio

- December 1, 2025 – Organizational Meeting

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Ms. Amanti, to approve the December 1, 2025 – Organizational Meeting minutes.

Motion carried, 5-0

- December 1, 2025 – Special Meeting

Motion Ms. Amanti, seconded by Mr. Martin, to approve the December 1, 2025 – Special Meeting minutes.

Motion carried, 5-0

- December 15, 2025 – Special Meeting

Motion by Ms. Hambey, seconded by Ms. DeRobbio, to approve the December 15, 2025 – Special Meeting minutes as amended.

Motion carried, 5-0

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion by Ms. Maynard-Adams, seconded by Ms. Hambey, that the following items, as set forth on the Consent Agenda for the Business Meeting of January 12, 2026 be approved unless removed by a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools:

A. Superintendent's Written Report

- I. Human Resources
- II. Student & Family Support Services
- III. Business & Finance
- IV. Operations – Includes Magnet Pathways, Athletics, Facilities and Technology

B. Action Items

- I. Adopt Policy 3542.41 – Professional Standards for Food Service Personnel for its Second and Final Reading
- II. Adopt Policy 3542.22 – Food Service Personnel – Code of Conduct for its Second and Final Reading
- III. Approve Policy 6142.10 – Health Education Program for its Second and Final Reading

Motion carried, 5-0

6. Items Pulled from Consent Agenda

- Superintendent's Written Report: Academics

Motion by Ms. Maynard-Adams, seconded by Ms. Hambey, to accept the Superintendent's Written Report – Academics.

Ms. Maynard-Adams stated that she assumed the Board would be receiving a mid-year data report. She requested that there be cohort data provided for approximately three years. She stated that she finds this data to be important because it shows the same students' progress year over year.

Motion carried, 5-0

7. Board Comments, Questions

Ms. Hambey thanked the Human Resources department for a knowledgeable and informative presentation.

Ms. Maynard-Adams shared that she has spoken with the Superintendent about the possibility of an "AI Workshop" for the Board of Education in the future.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Ms. DeRobbio, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried, 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Recording Secretary, Board of Education