

The Business Meeting of the New London Board of Education was held on January 26, 2026 virtually 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
Karen Bergin
Nanci DeRobbio
Scott Garbini
Susan Hambey
Richard Martin

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*

Due to the meeting being held virtually, all votes were taken by roll call.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Reports and Communications

- Board Chairperson's Report

Ms. Maynard-Adams reported that she attended the CABA Area 9 Legislative Breakfast. She stated that a movement that appears to be gaining steam and support is to add an annual COLA adjustment to city and town ECS funding. She noted that the legislative session begins February 4, and if this were to happen this year it could be beneficial. She added that Board Liaison updates will be added to

future Board agendas so Board members can have the opportunity to share any information as well as they complete their duties as school representatives.

- Reports of Committees
 - Finance & Audit Committee
 - Ms. Maynard-Adams stated that the committee met earlier this evening. There is a recommendation to approve new Special Education Tuition Rates for next year as well as some line item transfers on the agenda for this evening.
 - Community Information Committee
 - Ms. Bergin stated that conversations have continued about areas of interest that the committee should address. She stated that the Board will soon be receiving a list of dates and topics for upcoming City Council Meetings for the “Did You Know” campaign. The request is that Board members will sign up to speak on the different topics. Ms. Maynard-Adams clarified that these “Did You Know” topics are prepared in coordination with administration.
- Superintendent’s Report – Multilingual Learners Department Update
 - Ms. Maria Carrillo, Director of Multilingual Learners gave a presentation on the Multilingual Learner Department Updates. This presentation included the following:
 - MLL Administration
 - Our Mission
 - District Enrollment
 - Let’s Celebrate
 - New London Student Community
 - Native Languages Spoken
 - Connecticut’s Bilingual Statue
 - MLL Programming
 - Latinos in Action (K-12)
 - World Language Department
 - World Language Courses
 - MLL Department – Budget

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

4. Approval of the Minutes

- January 12, 2026 – Business Meeting

Motion by Mr. Garbini, seconded by Ms. DeRobbio, to approve the January 12, 2026– Business Meeting minutes.

*Motion carried, 6-0-1
Abstaining: Ms. Bergin*

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approve the Proposed Special Education Tuition Rate as Recommended by the Finance & Audit Committee

Motion by Ms. Maynard-Adams, seconded by Mr. Garbini, to approve the proposed Special Education tuition rate as recommended by the Finance & Audit Committee.

Motion carried, 7-0

- B. Approve Line Item Transfers as Recommended by the Finance & Audit Committee

Motion by Ms. DeRobbio, seconded by Mr. Garbini, to approve the line item transfers as recommended by the Finance & Audit Committee.

Motion carried, 7-0

6. Board Comments, Questions

Mr. Garbini requested that the term “SpEd” not be used, but instead Special Education be said in its entirety.

Ms. Bergin appreciated the work that went into this evening’s presentation, and she thought it was helpful and beneficial.

Mr. Martin thanked Ms. Carrillo for her presentation.

Ms. DeRobbio shared that she echoed the comments of her colleagues on a job well done on the presentation. She added that she had the opportunity to visit Jennings in her role as the Board Representative to the school and thought it was an exciting experience. She shared she is also looking forward to meeting with Dr. Hills-Papetti.

Ms. Amanti stated that she was impressed with the presentation as well as with the presentation from the Human Resources Department at the previous meeting. She stated that the professionalism is amazing, and the love that folks have for their work is very apparent.

Ms. Hambey thanked Ms. Carrillo for a wonderful presentation.

7. Adjournment

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

Motion carried, 7-0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Recording Secretary, Board of Education