

The New London Board of Education School Facilities & Program Design Committee meeting was held on February 9, 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

- January 12, 2026

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Ide, to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2026 meeting.

Motion passed, 3-0

4. Discussion on the Following

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

Mr. Gautier shared that from the bids, the cost for the new P.A. system came in lower than anticipated. This project will be completed in the upcoming months.

- Operations Budget FY26

Mr. Gautier provided an overview of the Operations Budget for FY26. He clarified that no cosmetic repairs are being completed. Only items that are related to safety are being completed.

5. Committee Member Comments

Mr. Gautier shared that an issue at the old Central Office building had been brought to his attention. Based on the new fire code, if there is a certain percentage of material in a building, then sprinkler lines must remain active. Due to the closure of the building, the pipes had been winterized. After a walkthrough with the Fire Marshal, it was determined that Mr. Gautier would have 30 days for the sprinklers, and therefore heat, to be on.

Mr. Gautier noted that the lights at the STEM building at the high school campus have been not working for quite some time. He noted that there is an open work order with the City but that they have not yet been able to fix them. He added that at the old front entrance on Jefferson Ave, a car hit a pole which created a short. Unfortunately, the work to fix these issues is union work, so there is nothing that the district can do at this time to rectify the issue.

Mr. Gautier also noted that there have been two significant sprinkler leaks at the high school in the connector. This was due to the freezing of pipes during the cold weather. They are actively working on a solution to insulate the pipes. This was not done during the construction of the connector.

6. Adjournment

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

Motion carried, 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Manager of Executive Support Services