Executive Committee

MEETING AGENDA SUMMARY

Friday, October 23, 2026
44 Hatchetts Hill Road, Old Lyme, CT 06371 | 8:30 – 10:00 AM

Present: Robert Mitchell, Chair; Dale Bernardoni, Vice Chair; Jennifer Favalora, Fiscal Officer; Beverly Washington, Secretary; Maryann O'Donnell, Superintendent of Schools Clinton; and Katherine Ericson, LEARN Executive Director

Not Attending: Dr. Cynthia Ritchie, Superintendent of Schools New London

Guests: N/A

Meeting began at 8:33 a.m.

1. Review November 2026 Board of Directors' Agenda

Executive Director Ericson reviewed the draft agenda with the Executive Committee. The Committee discussed the need for Board approval of the State Supplemental Funds. LEARN is awaiting confirmation of the final funding amount to be distributed to the magnet schools. Once the state's contribution is confirmed, LEARN will seek Board approval for the proposed expenditures.

2. Review Executive Director's Goals

Executive Director Ericson shared her leadership goals with the Executive Committee.

3. Connecticut K-12 Blue Ribbon Committee

Executive Director Ericson shared a summary of the meeting highlights from the Blue Ribbon Committee as it relates to LEARN. Over the past few months, the committee has examined the potential role of Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs) in supporting the State's effort to create efficiencies and develop cost-effective strategies to support education systems. Joan Wade, Executive Director of AESA, has been invited to present on several occasions and share a national perspective on how states across the country strategically utilize Educational Service Centers. Executive Director Ericson noted that the increased focus and ongoing discussion around RESCs increases the visibility and supports efforts to build understanding about the role and value of RESCs.

4. LEARN Agency Updates

Executive Director Ericson reported that she and her leadership team continue to visit districts in the LEARN region as a mechanism for building relationships, increasing LEARN's awareness of the work across LEARN districts, as well as receiving feedback from districts around LEARN services.

5. L.I.L.A. at MassCUE

LEARN's Office of Teaching and LEARNing team recently presented L.I.L.A. at MassCUE, a regional educational technology conference affiliated with the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). The presentation generated significant interest, with attendees making serious inquiries about the tool. The response suggests promising opportunities for the App to expand on a national scale.

6. Regional Shared Service Solutions (RSSS) Update

Executive Director Ericson hosted a Regional Shared Service Solutions (RSSS) discussion with some superintendents currently participating in the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) grant program. District Leaders discussed the grant's impact on their districts, shared insights on the grant's conclusion in 2028, and brainstormed possible ideas for a future regional funding application.

7. Quote Request Summary: **Biagiarelli Electric LLC**

Executive Director Ericson shared the need for LEARN to update its door swipe mechanisms. The contracted company previously installed, maintained, and updated the current system. The total proposed amount is $21,700.00 and the work includes upgrading the existing security door panels to ensure compatibility with the current keycard access system. The four LEARN sites (HH, RMMS, OALA, MSMHS) requiring panel updates are Hatchetts Hill, Regional Multicultural Magnet School (RMMS), Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy (OALA), and Marine Science Magnet High School (MSMHS). The updates will allow for continued use of the current system.

8. Quote Request Summary: **SHI**

SHI provided pricing for LEARN's Microsoft renewals through the competitively bid CT RESC Alliance contract. As the pricing was obtained through an established competitively bid contract, three additional quotes were not requested. The total quote amount is $37,313.49.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:45 a.m.

- **Presented by Robert Mitchell**
- **Second by Beverly Washington**
- **Motion Passed, unanimously**

Respectfully submitted by: Jamella A. A. Etienne