

LEARN Board of Directors
April 20, 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am
2. Present: Chester; Dale Bernardoni, East Lyme; Jill Carini, LEARN; Dr. Ryan Donlon for (Kate Ericson), Montville; Robert Mitchell, Norwich; Aaron Daniels, Preston; Cindy Luty, Stonington; Craig Esposito, Waterford; Mindy Stone

Not Attending and Not Represented: Clinton; Michael Hornyak, Deep River; vacant, East Haddam; Bryan Perry, East Hampton; Amy Ordonez, Essex; Carolyn Rotella, Groton; Rita Volkmann, Guilford; Kristen Peck, LEARN; Kate Ericson, Ledyard; Mary Harris, Madison; Mary Ann Connelly, New London; Jefferey Hart, North Stonington; Phil Mendolia, Old Saybrook; Steve Beeler, Region # 17; Jen Favalora, Region # 18; Steven Wilson, Salem; Sean Reith, Westbrook; Zack Hayden

Presenters, Staff, and Other Guests: Christine Pemberton, Joanne Lund, Michael Belden, Brian White, Donna Worst, Michael Moriarty
3. Public Comment: none
4. Reading and/or Review of Correspondence: Associate Executive Director Donlon shared correspondence from State Senator Martin Looney announcing the appointment of LEARN Nurse Supervisor, Christin Kondash, to serve on the *School-Based Health Center Advisory Committee*.
5. Superintendent’s Perspective: Region # 4 (Chester, Deep River., Essex) Superintendent, Brian White presented on the challenges of guiding the work in a regional district with schools spread over 3 towns and comprised of four forms of government and five governing boards but was pleased to state the strategic goal to present a long- range unified plan for the region is evolving.
6. Consent Agenda:
 - 6.1 Approval of the Minutes: Regular Business meeting—March 9, 2023
 - 6.2 Approval of 2022-2023 budget summary as of March 31, 2023.
 - 6.3 Approval of Grant Applications: no grant applications presented.
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by Mitchell, second by Luty
Motion passed unanimously.
7. Information from the Executive Director:
 - 7.1 Hiring- New Hires and Resignations summary update included in packet with accompanying trend reports.
 - 7.2 Distributions-RESC Executive Directors Testimony regarding SB 1200 Section 6.2 and letter to the Appropriations Committee.
 - 7.3 Executive Committee meeting minutes — March 24, 2023
 - 7.4 SSS Building Committee meeting minutes —March 24, 2023
 - 7.5 Legislative Updates were provided in distributions and discussed
 - 7.6 LEARN Agency Updates were provided and are forwarded in a post meeting synopsis
8. Old Business
 - 8.1 New Policy #6141-Series 6000; Instruction, “*Challenging Curriculum and Advanced Courses*”, Second Read
Motion to adopt new policy #6141, “Challenging Curriculum and Advanced Courses” as presented by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni
Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.2 New Policy #6148 Series 6000; Instruction, “*Completion of FAFSA*”, Second Read
Motion to adopt new policy #6148, “*Completion of FAFSA*” (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as presented by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni
Motion passed unanimously.
- 8.3 Revised Policy #6121 Series 6000; Instruction, “*Virtual High School; Online Coursework*”, Second Read
Motion to adopt new policy #6121, “*Virtual High School; Online Coursework*” as presented by Bernardoni, second by Mitchell
Motion passed unanimously
9. New Business
- 9.1 New Regulation for policy #1250; Community Relations, “*Visits to the Schools/Programs*” (included in packet for information – no vote required for adopted regulations)
- 9.2 Revised Policy #1300; Community Relations, “*Public Complaints*” – included in packet for review with minor revisions
Motion to approve revised policy #1300, “*Public Complaints*” as presented by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni.
Motion passed unanimously.
- 9.3 Revised Policy #1330; Community Relations, “*Gifts, Grants and Bequests*” – included in packet for review with minor revisions
Motion to approve revised policy #1330, “*Gifts, Grants, and Bequests*” as presented by Luty, second by Mitchell.
Motion passed unanimously
- 9.4 Revised Policy #1331; Community Relations, “*Smoke Free Environment*” – included in packet for review with minor revisions
Motion to approve revised policy #1331, “*Smoke Free Environment*” as presented by Daniels, second by Mitchell.
Motion passed unanimously
- 9.5 Retired Policy #3280; Business, “*Soliciting Funds from and by Students*” is considered an unnecessary duplicate of policy #1324
Motion to retire policy #3280, which is a duplicate of policy #1324 , “*Soliciting Funds from and by Students*” as presented by Daniels, second by Bernardoni.
Motion passed unanimously
- 9.6 Retired Policy #3290; Business, “*Gifts, Grants and Bequests*” is considered an unnecessary duplicate of policy #1330
Motion to retire policy #3290, which is a duplicate of policy #1330 , “*Gifts, Grants and Bequests*” as presented by Mitchell, second by Luty.
Motion passed unanimously
- 9.7 Revised 2023-2024 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule- Due to CABA Convention
Motion to revise the Executive Committee Meeting Schedule November 17, 2023 meeting to November 16, 2023 by Daniels, second by Mitchell.
Motion passed unanimously
- 9.8 Revised 2023-2024 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule- Due to April Recess
Motion to revise the Board of Directors April 11, 2024, meeting date to April 18, 2024, by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni

Motion passed unanimously

9.9 Establish Nominating Committee for the 2023-2024 Slate of Officers- Volunteers were named to the Nominating Committee to present the slate to the Executive Committee in May.

Motion to approve Craig Esposito, Aaron Daniels, Bob Mitchell, and Mindy Stone to the Nominating Committee for the 2023-2024 Slate of Officers by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni.

Motion passed unanimously

10. Educational Perspective: none scheduled

11. Roundtable/Future Agenda Items: Board member Mitchell brought up the challenge of day care in his district due to many daycare businesses closing under the restrictions during COVID-19. He noted it was creating an extreme hardship for working parents to the point where some may consider moving to another district. Other members of the board discussed what was available to working parents for before and after school care or lack of in their districts and agreed that it is a growing issue to find affordable and quality care for children. It was suggested that partnering with existing boys'/girls' clubs or community programs were offered as possibilities for addressing this growing need. More to come on this topic as well as the budget process

12. Adjournment-

Motion to adjourn at 10:11am by Mitchell, second by Bernardoni.

Motion passed unanimously.