

LEARN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY

February 24, 2023

8:30-10:00

Present: Craig Esposito; Chair, Robert Mitchell; Fiscal Officer, Rita Volkmann; Secretary Katherine Ericson; LEARN Executive Director, Maryann O'Donnell; Superintendent, Clinton Public Schools, Cynthia Ritchie; Superintendent, New London Public Schools,

Not in attendance: Aaron Daniels; Vice Chair

Guests: Michael Belden

Meeting began 8:33am

1.0 Review March Agenda

2.0 Capital Improvement Discussion

Mike Belden presented the Executive Committee LEARN's updated 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan. This plan accounts for the projected costs for each LEARN site. Also, part of the improvement plan is a proposal of how to distribute the surplus funds from the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The Chief Finance Officer is proposing an allocation of approximately \$600,000 into LEARN's Capital Improvement Fund.

3.0 LEARN Architect Selection Quotes and Selection Process- Per policy #3323; Business, "Purchasing Policy," three quotes were requested for architectural services for the proposed Friendship School project. The firms submitting quotes were: 1. Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. (DRA); 2. Kenneth Boroson Architects; 3 Tecton Architects. Executive Director Ericson provided information regarding the selection process and selected to move forward with the Drummey Rosane Anderson proposal @ \$23,000.

4.0 Goodwin University Magnet School System New Administrative Positions

Goodwin University Magnet Schools (GUMS) and the LEARN Admin team are finalizing a one-year contract for next year. In an effort to support the transition to full independence, GUMS will be hiring 3 assistant superintendent positions to lead the district. The three positions will need to be approved by the LEARN Board per LEARN policy.

5.0 The Friendship School update

Kate Ericson has informed the Board that the TFS staff have been notified of the long-term vision for The Friendship School. The vision would include the purchase and building of a new school that would be reconfigured to a PreK-Grade 2 school. If LEARN is awarded infant/toddler slots from the Office of Early Childhood, there would also be 30 infant/toddlers served at the program. Additionally, LEARN will be placing a regional special education self-contained classroom, starting this next year. All three of these strategic moves would assist the school in becoming a regional early childhood center. This school would then feed into a reconfigured Regional Multicultural School that would serve students in grades 3-8. This agreement will be contingent on the successful purchase of a plot of land as well as state approval for 80% reimbursement for a regional early childhood center.

6.0 Student Support Services Transition Academy (for 18-22-year-olds) Lease update. Mrs. Ericson provided an update on the relocation of the Transition Academy. Currently, LEARN is in negotiations for a new site that would increase the square footage compared to our current location. In turn, a larger space will support LEARN's ability to serve the region's transition needs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 am