

**LEARN Board of Directors
Minutes
November 9, 2023**

1. **Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance @ 9:02 am**

Present: Chester; Dale Bernardoni, Groton; Rita Volkmann, LEARN; Kate Ericson, Ledyard; Mary Harris, Madison; Mary Ann Connelly, Montville; Robert Mitchell, 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; vacant, East Lyme; Catherine Steel, Essex; Carolyn Rotella, Guilford; Kristen Peck, New London; Jefferey Hart, North Stonington; Christine Wagner, Norwich; Al Daniels, Old Saybrook; Steven Beeler, Region # 17; Jen Favalora, Region #18; Steven Wilson, Salem; Sean Reith, Westbrook; Zack Hayden

Presenters Staff and Other Guests: Kristina Martineau, Patrice McCarthy, Michael Belden, Beth McCaffery, Donna Worst

2. Audience and Guests: All present were introduced

3. Public Comment:

4. Reading and/or Review of Correspondence: Executive Director Ericson shared correspondence from the Student Support Services Ocean Avenue LEARNing Academy acknowledging a gift donation of disc golf equipment from the Sockibomb Foundation valued at \$400.

5. Superintendent's Perspective: Westbrook Superintendent of Schools, Kristina Martineau, presented and discussed a detailed PowerPoint on her district's strategic plan regarding programs of study and career pathways. *(PowerPoint was distributed with the synopsis)*

6. Consent Agenda:

6.1 Approval of the Minutes: Regular Business meeting, October 12, 2023

6.2 Approval of 2023-2024 Budget Summary as of October 31, 2023

6.3 Approval of Grant Application: Title IV (\$24,089) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) funding source- Federal Funding Agency, funding agency- CT Dept. of Education for July 1, 2023- June 30, 2025 *(grant summary was included in the packet)*

**Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented by Esposito, second by Luty
Motion passed unanimously**

7. Information from the Executive Director:

7.1 Hiring- *The New Hires and Resignations update was included in the packet with accompanying trend report and details provided in the meeting synopsis.*

7.2 Distributions – *provided by Supt. Kristina Martineau*

7.3 Executive Committee meeting minutes- October 27, 2023 *(were included in packet)*

7.4 SSS Building Committee minutes – *October 27, 2023 (were included in packet)*

7.5 Legislative Updates- presented by CAGE Executive Director and General Counsel, Attorney Patrice McCarthy

7.6 Agency Updates-LEARN Agency Updates: Mrs. Ericson provided updates and distributes a meeting synopsis for board members to review and share with their Boards of Education *(posted with minutes)*

8. Old Business: none

9. New Business: New Admin Position, “OTL Education Consultant” for the Office of Teaching and Learning (job description was included in packet)
Motion to approve the new Admin position , OTL Education Consultant for the Office of Teaching and Learning at a salary range of \$117,00- \$130,000 as proposed by Executive Director Ericson by Esposito, second by Bernardoni
Motion passed unanimously

10. Educational Perspective: CT Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Executive Director and General Counsel, Attorney Patrice McCarthy, provided a legislative update regarding work in various task forces and working groups preparing for the next legislative session. She noted that important work is being done in the Special Ed Task Force and improvement in the process regarding education mandates. She also thanked LEARN for providing the technical team to support the annual CABE Conference which will be held at the Mystic Marriott on November 17-18, 2023.

11. Roundtable/Future Agenda Items: - On-going discussions regarding childcare programs (a.m. & p.m.) union negotiations, and building conditions

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn @ 10:42 am by Volkmann, second by Luty
Motion passed unanimously