

October 9, 2019

Minutes of the Lawrence Alliance for Education Board

A meeting of the Lawrence Alliance for Education Board was held at 6:00 P.M. in the North Common Educational Complex Library, 233 Haverhill Street, with the following members present: Julia Silverio, Lawrence City Councilor and local business owner, Jessica Andors, Executive Director for Lawrence Community Works, Patricia Mariano, Lawrence School Committee member, Dr. Noemi Custodia-Lora, VP of NECC Lawrence Campus, and Chairman John Connolly, Executive Director of The 1647, Inc. Absent were: Honorable Dan Rivera, Mayor of Lawrence and Dr. Ventura Rodriguez, Associate Commission for statewide support DESE,

Also present was Superintendent Cynthia Paris and Joan Milone, Recording Secretary for this meeting.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair, John Connolly called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. and held the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Public Participation

Homayan Maale, 53 Chester Street – He addressed the board on the Superintendent’s leadership, upcoming election and the renovation of the Bruce School.

III. New Business

Report of the Chair

- Superintendent’s Evaluation – Chair Connolly reviewed the steps in the process to evaluate the Superintendent. Each LAE member completed their evaluation and the Chair compiled all the evaluations into the final one. The evaluation presented is for the members’ approval. The Chair and LAE members provided their public commendation to the Superintendent and credit for her leadership.

Jessica Andors arrived at 6:07 P.M.

Upon the recommendation by the Chair, motion made by Julia Silverio, seconded by Jessica Andors, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the end of cycle summary evaluation report for the Superintendent as presented.

- Earned Autonomy Framework and Turnaround Plan - Chair Connolly noted that these would be major endeavors for the district this year. He reviewed the processes for both endeavors and recommended an appointment of a subcommittee to oversee the Turnaround

Plan and the Earned Autonomy framework. The appointed TAP subcommittee is Jessica Andors, Noemi Custodia-Lora, Patricia Mariano and 2 Lawrence residents. The appointed EA subcommittee is John Connolly, Dr. Ventura Rodriguez and Patricia Mariano. DESE provided funding to hire a facilitator and the LTU would participate in the process.

- Student Representative - Chair Connolly noted that a new student representative was in need for the LAE Board. The schools have submitted the candidates for the Board's review. He designated a subcommittee of Mayor Rivera, Jessica Andors and Julia Silverio to select the candidate for the Board's approval at the November meeting. Jessica Andors suggested a brief meeting with each student prior to selection, which the Superintendent approved.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Paris opened her report with highlights of the district. The district's Adult Learning Center held ESOL classes to 265 Lawrence adults. The district is a finalist for the highly competitive Schusterman grant.

- District Accountability Presentation – Kristyn Sullivan, Supervisor for Assessment, provided the district's MCAS data with a detailed PowerPoint presentation. The Superintendent and Ms. Sullivan answered questions from the Board. Ms. Andors requested an analysis report to compare the Gateway cities.
- Enrollment Presentation – Denise Snyder, Assistant Superintendent, and Lizoette Young, Enrollment Manager, provided the enrollments and the projections for this upcoming year with a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Snyder answered questions from the Board.

Upon the recommendation of the Chair and motion made by Julia Silveria, seconded by Patricia Mariano, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.
meeting.

John Connolly, Chair