

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, May 26, 2016
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:30 p.m.:

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice-Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Frank Infante
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand

Board Members Absent:

Michael Griswold

Others Present:

Emily Oliver, Student BOE Representative

Administrators Present:

David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations

Audience Members Present: Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Marybeth Moyer, CGS Principal; Cathie Drury, Educational Technology Director; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Brian Maltese, Athletic Director; parent and students.

I. Call to Order

W. Oros called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

W. Oros led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

There were none.

IV. Report of Superintendent

Mr. Petrone reviewed the many different happenings taking place in and around the district. He gave commendations to all of the staff, administrators, and students who are so busy this time of year working hard on all of these events.

IV.A. Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report

Ms. Oliver talked about the different sporting events happening at this time of the year.

IV.B. Recognition: CABA Student Leadership Awards to CNH Students Alexandra Dziura and Quincy Miller and to CHS Students Alison Akerley and Michael Coulombe

Mr. Petrone noted the students who were recognized by receiving the CABA Student Leadership Award. Ms. DeJulius said a few words about the middle school students. Mr. Blake said a few words about the high school students who received the award.

IV.C. Information: 2015-2016 Administrators' Goal Achievement Update

IV.C.1. Athletics

Mr. Petrone introduced Mr. Maltese who shared the athletic department's goal achievement report for the 2015-16 school year, which is available on the district's website.

There was discussion regarding athletes monitoring their own grades and the best avenue to use for that.

J. Beausoleil noted the professional development for athletic staff, the online registration, and also the unified sports program.

E. Marchand asked questions about the unified sports program. Mr. Maltese answered.

IV.C.2. Capt. Nathan Hale School

Mr. Petrone introduced Ms. DeJulius who shared the Capt. Nathan Hale School goal achievement report for the 2015-16 school year, which is also available on the district's website.

The Board asked questions about the RiT scores and asked for clarification on the relativity of the scoring.

M. Kortmann asked about the data related to referrals. Ms. DeJulius addressed those and noted she was not concerned. Mr. Petrone agreed and said that is based on data in other areas. Ms. DeJulius and Mr. Petrone talked about the new alternative education program that will be put in place next year and noted that may be of assistance in this area.

IV.C.3. Coventry High School

Mr. Petrone introduced Mr. Blake who shared the Coventry High School Goal Achievement report for the 2015-16 school year, which is also available on the district website.

M. Kortmann asked about the iPad initiative and since this was the first year with all students having iPads, was there a culture shift? Mr. Blake said there was for sure. He added that most all of the classes are mixed grades and now that all students have the technology, it assists teachers in their methods. He noted several programs where this has been a benefit and has been a great assistance.

J. Beausoleil talked positively about the scheduling process.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda

V.A. Approve the 2016-17 Tuition Rate for Non-Resident Students at \$14,044

V.B. Accept the resignation of Stephanie Golaski, CGS Teacher

J. Beausoleil noted the language regarding the Administration Building furnace and that it would not be under anyone's oversight according to the project language. Mr. Petrone and M. Kortmann talked to that point. The Board continued to discuss the project and who will manage the smaller aspects of the project, including the Administration Building. J. Beausoleil asked that we receive in writing who will manage the conversion of the Administration Building.

J. Beausoleil continued and talked about the excess oil inventory cost. Mr. Petrone and Mr. Carroll said it would be "netted out" by the town.

The Board asked that the item of excess oil inventory cost be clarified as well.

Mr. Petrone suggested he could get those two items of language adjusted in the MOU. The Board agreed.

MOTION: Authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town Manager regarding the natural gas conversion project with revisions to items number one and number six of the MOU

By: J. Beausoleil

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Discussion: The Board talked about the gas project in general and also the excess oil inventory cost and J. Beausoleil said the original motion, which the Board approved at a recent meeting, said "at no additional cost to the district" and she is concerned there will be additional costs. The Board continued to discuss oil costs and whether the savings will be seen in natural gas. They also discussed how the current oil stock would be moved and/or sold.

Result: Motion passes 5-1 (J. Beausoleil against)

IX.C. Discussion and possible VOTE: iPad Replacement Plan

Mr. Petrone said he would like to move forward with selling the iPads that are at the end of their life to the third party company. M. Sobol said he is in agreement with moving the whole lot at one time to one company. J. Beausoleil asked about selling them to students. Mr. Petrone said there are some liability issues with selling to students. E. Marchand said he believes this is the best way to go, selling to a third party company. M. Sobol said the money goes to Apple, where the district would have a credit to apply toward the purchase the new iPads. F. Infante asked for clarification on which iPads are being sold back. Ms. Drury talked to that point. She continued to talk about at what age we need to upgrade to new iPads. F. Infante asked if there are any savings seen from having iPads as a cost in the budget annually. Mr. Petrone noted several areas where there is a savings. E. Marchand said that he is so pleased with the educational advantages that this provides our students and noted that it is necessary.

MOTION: To approve the iPad replacement plan as presented by the Superintendent

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Discussion: J. Beausoleil commended Ms. Drury on the amount of information that was provided to the Board. She said she truly appreciates the level of detail given. F. Infante said he is concerned with the next budget going to the taxpayer and if the answer is no, he is concerned other services would need to be cut. E. Marchand argued that point saying the parents need to support the budget with all items that are needed, including technology. J. Beausoleil talked about the process and evaluating all programs. She said at that time, if a budget does not pass, all programs would be looked at, including the iPads and technology and additional decisions can be made at that time. The Board continued to talk about the plan in general.

Result: Motion passes unanimously

X. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 10:04 p.m.

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Sobol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: June 9, 2016