

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, January 12, 2017
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:28 p.m.:

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice Chair
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand
Mary Minor

Board Members Absent:

Frank Infante

Also present:

Ben Urbanski, Student BOE Representative

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: Debby Page, CNH World Language Teacher; Kathleen Ryan, China Program Liaison; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Marybeth Moyer, CGS Principal; Todd Giansanti, PSSS Director; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; several students and citizens.

I. Call to Order

W. Oros called the meeting to order at 7:30 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 a few items happening around the district. He included a notation about the CHS Program of Studies event held Wednesday evening. M. Minor also commented positively on the event.

IV.A. Recognition: CNH 8th Grader - Kendall Schenck, Paralyzed Veterans of America Poetry Contest Grand Prize Winner

his concern that all families and parents need to see this and what the schools are doing. The Board discussed different options for getting this information out to the public. Mr. Petrone spoke to all of the different ways the district does relay this information to parents. J. Beausoleil talked positively about the Superintendent's budget presentations, vision and the development of a District Strategic Plan.

IX.A.2. Technology Department

Ms. Drury presented the technology portion of the FY18 budget.

M. Kortmann asked about the iPad initiative. Ms. Drury shared the outline for the iPad replacement information.

M. Sobol asked about the condition of the network switches. Ms. Drury said they are in good shape and are kept track of with the infrastructure and big ticket items.

M. Kortmann asked about big ticket software items and how the future expenses are being handled - will there be any big "bumps" in one year. Ms. Drury talked to that point saying they are tracking that well and there should not be.

IX.A.3. Physical Plant and Facilities

W. Trudelle presented the Facilities FY18 budget.

The Board talked about the decrease in this budget, which is highly unusual. W. Trudelle thanked Mr. Petrone and Mr. Carroll for their assistance.

The Board continued talking about the different facilities items including continued maintenance tracking, oil prices, and electricity.

J. Beausoleil asked for a breakdown of where the budgeted amount of electricity comes from.

IX.A.4. Central Office

Mr. Carroll reviewed the Central Office budget for FY2018.

The Board touched on the insurance rate and that good work has been done for this more predictable impact. J. Beausoleil talked about the ECS rate and if the 73% budgeted for is worth revisiting. M. Kortmann talked about the unstable condition of this item and it may not be worth adjusting at this early point.

The conversation turned to the new phone system and the increase in that account. J. Beausoleil noted that the system had to be replaced, as it was antiquated and was no longer supported.

The Board talked about employment recruiting issues. Mr. Petrone focused on the intern programs and how that does help.

IX.A.5. Pupil and Staff Support Services

Mr. Giansanti shared his review of the PSSS budget for FY18.

J. Beausoleil said it is important to note that when the special education budget is developed it is based on known facts, not estimates or placeholders.

M. Sobol asked about the 100 series and if the increase was due to contractual salaries. Mr. Petrone and Mr. Carroll verified yes.

M. Kortmann reviewed the BCBA and the contracted services line. Mr. Giansanti spoke to that point.

