

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, March 30, 2017
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:34 p.m.:

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Frank Infante
Mary Kortmann
Mary Minor

Board Members Absent:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice Chair
Eugene Marchand

Also present:

Ben Urbanski, Student BOE Representative

Administrators Present:

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

Audience members present: William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Marybeth Moyer, CGS Principal; Todd Giansanti, Director of Pupil and Staff Support Services; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; high school students; citizens; and the Chronicle newspaper was represented.

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 items happening around the district.

IV.A. Information: Recognition of the Board of Education

Mr. Petrone noted that March is Board of Education appreciation month. He acknowledged all of the hard work the Board does on behalf of the district. Students from each of the schools (K-8) presented gifts of appreciation to the Board members present.

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

Mr. Urbanski talked about different events happening at the high school, including the spring drama production and senior portfolio night.

IV.C. Information: Superintendent Goal Achievement Report

Mr. Petrone shared his 2017-18 Goal Achievement Report presentation with the Board. (The entire report will be available on the district website.)

M. Kortmann asked which of the partnerships, ECSU or UCONN, was providing student teachers who were also substitutes. Mr. Petrone said it was ECSU.

M. Sobol talked about special education costs and looking at the cost savings of having in-district programs.

M. Kortmann asked about the alternative education program at the middle school and if the students would advance out of the program. Mr. Petrone talked about addressing these concerns early on and that it is the goal for the students to advance out.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda

V.A. Accept the Resignation of Alice Boudreau, Facilities Secretary

V.B. Accept the Resignation of Sean Cornell, Maintenance

V.C. Accept the Retirement of Kathie Elliott, PSSS Secretary

MOTION: Approve the consent agenda as presented

By: M. Minor

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Report of Chairman

W. Oros noted he attended an EASTCONN Board of Directors meeting. He continued and talked about CHS Portfolio Night and what pleasure it is to see how these students have progressed. In addition, he also mentioned several items of staff recognition.

VII. Communications

W. Oros noted the letter attached that he sent to the State Legislators in regard to concerns over the Governor's proposed budget.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VIII.A. VOTE: Approve Minutes of February 23, 2017

MOTION: To approve the minutes of February 23, 2017

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Discussion: M. Kortmann asked that on page 2, the discussion about the CHS Boys Track Team be adjusted to note that the Team was a Class S Runner Up, not just one member.

Result: Motion to pass the minutes with noted changes passes unanimously

VIII.B. VOTE: Approve Minutes of March 9, 2017

MOTION: To Approve Minutes of March 9, 2017

By: M. Minor

Seconded: M. Sobol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Old Business

IX.A. Information: Natural Gas Conversion Update

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

XI.A.2. Information: Preschool Fund Account

Mr. Petrone reviewed where the Board is at this time with the proposals to the Town Council in how to handle the accounting of the Preschool Fund.

Mr. Carroll talked about the homework he did on the format of the different types of funds in town. He said, in his opinion, the preschool fund is handled like these funds, e.g., Cemetery Fund, the Food Services Fund, and the WPCA Fund. The Board discussed funds budgeted out for maintenance items at the preschool.

M. Sobol said you can't plan for items that hit you without knowledge. Mr. Petrone agreed and said he believes this was the goal of suggesting using the WPCA fund as a model. M. Kortmann suggested putting \$25,000 into a line item that is called "Emergency Fund," and that would come out of the fund balance. Mr. Carroll said you would account for that through budgeted and actuals. The Board went on to discuss how this would work. Mr. Carroll said there would be designated and undesignated fund balances; there would be two lines.

M. Sobol asked Mr. Carroll if he was comfortable in setting up the account the way they want to see it. Mr. Carroll said he would set it up to look much like the Food Services account, and those other type of funds mentioned.

M. Kortmann said the only difference is that the WPCA accounts are handled through the town, with town personnel cutting checks, etc. Mr. Petrone said he does not believe that is the intent on the town side, with regard to the preschool fund.

The Board decided the designated and undesignated account lines would be added to the spreadsheet and be submitted to the Council with the MOA with the hopes the MOA will be approved.

XII. Possible VOTE: Executive Session (Superintendent Evaluation)

MOTION: Pursuant to CGS-1-200(c)(6)(A), the Board of Education will go into Executive Session for discussions related to the Superintendent's Evaluation at 9:26 p.m.

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

XIII. Open Session

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 10:09 p.m.

XIV. Adjournment

MOTION: To Adjourn the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

By: M. Kortmann

Seconded: M. Minor

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: April 27, 2017