

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Special Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of April 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:30 p.m.:

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand
Mary Minor

Board Members Absent:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice-Chairman
Frank Infante

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Marybeth Moyer, CGS Principal; Todd Giansanti, PSSS Director; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Hannah Pietrantonio, Town Council Member; and parents from the CHS Music Boosters.

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

Cliff Stone (404 Woodmont Drive) said the school system was one of the reasons his family moved to Coventry. He noted how pleased he is with the schools. He said he is the President of the CHS Music Boosters and said he is here to provide support through the tough fiscal situation. He said he is here to advocate for the music programs. He said it is a strong program. He offered help and support to the Board.

IV. Old Business

IV.A. Discussion and possible VOTE: FY2018 Budget

W. Oros noted that the Town Council has voted to rescind the budget. He said there is some slight confusion as to what this means for the Board. He verified that the cut made originally by the Council to the Board's budget is 1,233,860.

Pension	\$	279,370	\$	271,245	\$	(8,125)
Diesel Fuel	\$	87,875	\$	83,405	\$	(4,470)

Mr. Carroll confirmed M. Kortmann's question.

The Board discussed various details of the recommended reductions, including FTEs, bus routes, magnet school tuition, technology software, and textbooks.

The Board asked to add to the "known" reductions the following items:

Drama Club (GHR)	\$2,500
Detention Monitor (CHS)	\$1,500
Tutoring (Special Education)	\$10,000
Professional Development	\$20,000
Complementary Evaluator	\$10,000
Vacancy Savings	\$24,201
Maintenance Helper (instead of Maintainer)	\$6,219
Textbooks (English, Social Studies, Math, Science)	\$18,000
iPad Price Savings Due to Apple Price Reduction (Technology)	\$55,000
Library Materials (CNH)	\$5,000
Electricity	\$7,500

This brings the total needed for further reductions to \$377,706. The Board emphasized that additional cuts to address the \$377K would be in cuts to staff.

The Board talked about recent actions by the Town Council.

M. Sobol said he appreciates the work that has been done by the Administration and he noted how it will not be easy going forward.

W. Oros said there will be time to continue to review numbers. He continued and said July 1 is a concern and how the budget will be handled, without an official figure.

M. Kortmann said she would like to officially notice the Town Council that we can get to a certain figure without cutting staff.

The Board agreed saying Mr. Petrone could add in that language to the letter going to the Town Council.

E. Marchand stressed how important it is to get this information out to parents.

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: May 11, 2017