

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, May 25, 2017
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice-Chair
Frank Infante
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand
Mary Minor

Board Members Absent:

Michael Sobol

Others Present:

Benjamin Urbanski, Student BOE Representative

Administrators Present:

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

Audience members present: several parents and students; Deborah Page, CNH Teacher and China Coordinator; Wenming and Susan Gu, Visiting Chinese Teachers; Kathleen Ryan, China Program Liaison; students being recognized - Joslyn Hoang, Timothy Morris, Emily Oliver, and Sean McHugo; Erin Beason and Lisa Dutton, CGS Teachers; Brian Maltese, Athletic Director; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Todd Giansanti, PSSS Director; and Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology.

I. Call to Order

W. Oros called the meeting to order at 7:29 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 talked about all of the events taking place in the district and different student activities at the State level as well.

IV.A. Recognition: China Program 2016-17

Mr. Petrone said a big part of the success of our China program is the effort of Debby Page. Mr. Petrone presented Mrs. Page with a token of the Board's appreciation. Mrs. Page shared a presentation of the trip the students made to China this spring and the next steps of the program.

IV.B. Recognition: Wenming and Susan Gu, Visiting Chinese Teachers

Mr. Petrone talked about how fortunate it has been to have Mr. Gu and his wife in Coventry. He presented Mr. Gu with an official citation from the State of Connecticut, provided by Representative Ackert. Mr. Gu thanked Mr. Petrone and the Board of Education for their hospitality and also added his appreciation for the new friends he has made in Coventry. He said he looks forward to continuing the relationship.

M. Minor said how enriched Coventry has become due to this program and having Mr. Gu come for the year.

J. Beausoleil noted how far Coventry has come since the beginning of the program.

IV.C. Recognition: CABA Student Leadership Award Recipients: Joslyn Hoang, Timothy Morris, Emily Oliver, and Sean McHugo

Mr. Petrone noted this year's student recipients of the CABA Student Leadership Award. Ms. DeJulius said a few words about the middle school students, Joslyn Hoang and Timothy Morris. Mr. Blake said a few words about Emily Oliver and Sean McHugo. Mr. Petrone presented the students with their certificates and the Board's gift of appreciation.

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

Mr. Urbanski noted the school year is coming to an end. He noted many of the events taking place at this time of year.

IV.E. Information: 2016-2017 Innovative Grant Update - Wiggle While You Work

Mr. Petrone introduced Ms. Beason and Ms. Dutton from CGS who shared a presentation of their grant program this year - Wiggle While You Work.

M. Kortmann noted if funding is needed, this sounds like something the PTO would be interested in.

IV.F. Information: 2016-2017 Administrators' Goal Achievement Update

IV.F.1. Athletics

Mr. Petrone introduced Mr. Maltese who shared a presentation of the Athletic Department's goal achievement for the 2016-17 school year. The document will be available on the website.

The Board talked about the irrigation of the fields, as an item that could be added to the CIP. The Board continued and talked about how far the outside athletic facilities have come over the years.

J. Beausoleil asked if the Board could get a copy of the protocol for the outside concession stand.

E. Marchand asked about the monitoring of the athletes grades. Mr. Maltese reviewed that process and noted how positive it has been.

IV.F.2. Business Office

Mr. Carroll shared the goal achievement report for the Business Office for 2016-17. That document is available on the district's website.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda

V.A. Accept Retirement of Michael Calli, CHS School Psychologist

V.B. Accept Resignation of Courtney Strekel, GHR Teacher

MOTION: Approve the consent agenda as presented

By: J. Beausoleil

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Report of Chairman

W. Oros noted the Staff Recognition Celebration held this evening. He said staff who had reached 25 years of service and this year's retirees were recognized. He said the staff of Coventry are so caring and it is one of the reasons Coventry is so successful. He added that the CHS senior awards night is Thursday, June 1 at 7:00 p.m. W. Oros said he was glad to hear the positive remarks made by Mr. Gu about Coventry.

VII. Communications

M. Minor noted the attached communication regarding the trip to DC and how the dates had changed and that the 2 year approval may not be available any longer. She said she was concerned with families being able to plan and pay ahead, if the Board has not approved the trip. Mr. Petrone spoke to that point and said the plan would be to let families know the trip should happen, and the Board will approve it a year in advance for further planning purposes. He said he believes there should not be an issue.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VIII.A. Approve Minutes of May 11, 2017

MOTION: To approve the minutes of May 11, 2017

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Old Business

IX.A. Discussion and Possible VOTE: FY2018 Budget

Mr. Petrone said the Town Manager has asked the schools to put together a 90-day budget since a town approved budget will not be in place on July 1. He added that the budget formed by Mr. Carroll and himself, which is being presented, is very realistic. He said it does include the \$1.2 million reduction given by the Town Council. J. Beausoleil asked about payroll and those teachers who select 26 pays vs 22 pays. Mr. Carroll said they get paid the additional pays before the end of the current fiscal year. M. Kortmann asked about legal and what if negotiations don't wrap up in June. Mr. Petrone said they do not foresee a delay in negotiations. Mr. Carroll said the Board will be held to the bottom line appropriations, not line by line.

E. Marchand confirmed this figure is based on the \$1.2 million cut by the Town Council. Mr. Petrone said yes. He said the Town Council has made it clear they will not make any further changes to the budget until they have more information from the State and he added, with that information, the schools have no choice but to operate by that number. J. Beausoleil asked if a different number could be given for the 90-day budget, which could include the special education costs that have come up since the schools' original budget was submitted. The Board talked about this and other items that effect the budget at the State and local level.

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: **June 8, 2017**