Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, August 11, 2016
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:34 PM:

Board Members Present:
William Oros, Chairman
Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice-Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand

Board Members Absent:
Michael Griswold
Frank Infante

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

I. Call to Order

W. Oros called the meeting to order at 7:37 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 noted that CAPSS has invited him to be a member of the Task Force on Demography and Diversity. He also said he has been asked to continue as a Mentor as part of UConn's ELP program. He said he would accept the Mentor assignment if there was no objections by the Board.
He continued and reviewed facility projects that have been taking place throughout the district this summer, including the addition of another room at the preschool through the Smart Start grant.

MOTION: To add under New Business an item to VOTE to approve the Superintendent's request to continue as a Mentor as part of UConn's ELP program
By: J. Beausoleil Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.A. NEASC Report

Mr. Petrone introduced Mr. Blake who shared a presentation on the NEASC report.

J. Beausoleil commented on previous reports and how far Coventry has come in 20 years.

E. Marchand also commented on the positive report and how nice it is to see this validated on paper.

Mr. Blake and the Board talked about the few recommendations made, including the improvement needed to the weight room and the nurse's room.

Mr. Petrone commended Mr. Blake on his part with the NEASC re-accreditation. He said it was a very positive process and it speaks to the positive culture of the high school.

J. Beausoleil said it speaks to Mr. Blake's leadership. Mr. Blake noted Ms. Mullaly's involvement and how important that was.

Mr. Petrone said the staff has a lot to be proud of and it showed.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda
V.A. Accept resignation of Jessie Leonard, Para-educator
V.B. Accept resignation of Jessica Pawell, Para-educator
V.C. Accept resignation of Lauren Thomas, Para-educator

MOTION: Approve the consent agenda as presented
By: M. Sobol Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Report of Chairman

W. Oros noted this is the first meeting of the 2016-17 school year for the Board. He reminded the Board of upcoming dates in August. In addition he noted the early registration date of August 29 for the November CABE/CAPSS Convention is quickly approaching. W. Oros final comment was to remember Bob Plant, who recently passed away. He was a previous videographer for the Board. J. Beausoleil remembered his tremendous volunteer work in the community.

VII. Communications

E. Marchand thanked Richard Williams for attending and asked him to take back the success of the NEASC report to the Town Council. He said this success should be shared by all.

J. Beausoleil asked if CNG would be done with the natural gas installations by the end of December. Mr. Petrone said the last he heard was they were ahead of schedule.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

VIII.A. VOTE: Approve Minutes of June 23, 2016

MOTION: To approve the minutes of June 23, 2016
By: E. Marchand Seconded: M. Kortmann
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Old Business

IX.A. Information: VOIP Update

Ms. Drury shared a presentation on the VOIP progress. All points including emergency, security, and training were covered.

J. Beausoleil asked about the Town's involvement. Ms. Drury said she spoke to Ms. Bauer today who noted the Town is working with the vendor staff and that they are "phase 2."

X. New Business

VOTE: Approve the Superintendent's request to continue as a Mentor as part of UConn ELP program for the 2016-17 school year

J. Beausoleil noted an official approval by the Board places a value on the fact that Coventry and the Superintendent have been recognized this way.

MOTION: Approve the Superintendent's request to continue as a Mentor as part of UConn ELP program for the 2016-17 school year
By: J. Beausoleil Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XI. Report of Board Members

XI.A. Information: Report of Transportation Committee - Meeting of August 11, 2016

M. Sobol said there were a few minor changes to the bus routes. He said the committee made one modification which was to add back in a stop at Springdale and Main Street that was eliminated. He noted that while it was within policy the Committee felt it was better to keep it.

There was a brief conversation regarding if there was still an interest in the community of taking the Cheney Bus to East Catholic. Mr. Carroll reported he had received no requests to date.

J. Beausoleil asked if the routing software was being used and the answer by M&J was yes.

XI.B. Information: Fiscal Committee Report - Meeting of August 11, 2016

M. Sobol talked about the Fiscal Committee meeting discussions. He specifically noted the Disbursement Report and said this will be provided to the Town Council with the usual monthly reports.

M. Sobol continued to review the other reports that were discussed. He noted the end of the year figures and that $150,000 was transferred into the 1% non-lapsing account.

XI.B.1. VOTE: Approve Budget Transfers

Mr. Sobol explained the end of the year 15-16 transfer and that it was to finish the year clean.

Mr. Petrone talked about the 16-17 transfer and the plan to work with EASTCONN on developing our Autism program. J. Beausoleil expanded on that topic and noted that it is important that this is well thought out and she said she is glad to see this partnership. Mr. Petrone continued saying the cost savings to use an in-house program instead of sending students out of town will be well worth it.

W. Oros said there is salaries savings due to late resignations.

MOTION: To approve the following transfer for the 2015-16 school year - $2,460 from 100 salaries - $135 to 200 benefits and $2,325 to 600 supplies
By: J. Beausoleil Seconded: M. Kortmann
Result: Motion passes unanimously

MOTION: To approve the following budget transfers for the 2016-17 school year of $30,000 from 100 salaries to 430 contracted services
By: J. Beausoleil Seconded: M. Kortmann
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XII. Possible VOTE: Executive Session (Bargaining Unit Negotiations)

MOTION: Pursuant to CGS-1-200(c)(6)(A), the Board of Education will go into Executive Session for discussions related to bargaining unit negotiations with the Superintendent and Director of Finance and Operations present at 9:09 p.m.
By: J. Beausoleil Seconded: M. Sobol
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XIII. Open Session
The Board came out of Executive Session, returning to Open Session at 9:30 p.m.

XIV. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.
By: J. Beausoleil Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: September 8, 2016