

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, September 29, 2016
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:29 p.m.:

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Frank Infante
Eugene Marchand

Board Members Absent:

Michael Griswold

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Marybeth Moyer, CGS Principal; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Steve Merlino, CHS Assistant Principal; Todd Giansanti, Director of PSSS; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Dan Bologna, Dean of Students; Tony Susi, Retiree and Substitute CHS Band Teacher; Hannah Cole, CNH Band Teacher; Adam Apicella, CHS Teacher; Christopher Jones, CHS Teacher; Parents; Students and the Journal Inquirer was represented.

I. Call to Order

W. Oros called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

W. Order led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

There were none.

MOTION: Move item V, the consent agenda to before IV-D, goal presentations

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: F. Infante

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV. Report of Superintendent

Mr. Petrone talked about different items and events happening around the district. He reviewed facilities' projects and Open House events.

IV.A. Information: Staff Recognition - Tony Susi, Substitute CHS Band Teacher

Mr. Petrone thanked Tony Susi for all of the effort he put into stepping up and substituting as the high school band teacher during the vacancy.

J. Beausoleil noted what a big heart Mr. Susi has and his dedication to Coventry's music program is so special. She said the students had who they needed at the right time.

Mr. Petrone presented Mr. Susi with a small gift as a token of the Board's appreciation.

IV.B. Information: Student and Staff Recognition - Grace LaBella CNH Student and UConn JOY! Participant and Hannah Cole, CNH Music Teacher

Mr. Petrone talked about the program at UConn that Grace has been invited to participate in. He also recognized music teacher, Hannah Cole, who encouraged Grace to apply. Ms. Cole talked about encouraging students and how proud she is of Grace.

IV.C. Information: CABA Board Leadership Award

Mr. Petrone talked about the leadership award organized by CABA. He said the Board was awarded this recognition last year and he wanted to nominate the Board again this year.

He said this Board sets an example for the community and the staff and students of working collaboratively together.

IV.D. VOTE: Consent Agenda

M. Kortmann asked that the England, Ireland, Wales details be discussed. Adam Apicella, CHS teacher, reviewed the trip details with the Board.

IV.D.1. Approve the November GHR Field Experience to New York, NY

IV.D.2. Approve the CHS February 2017 Field Experience to Newry, ME

IV.D.3. Approve the CHS February 2017 Field Experience to New York, NY

IV.D.5. Approve the CHS April 2017 Field Experience to Orlando, FL

MOTION: Approve the consent agenda

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: F. Infante

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.D.4. Approve the CHS April 2017 Field Experience to Ireland-England-Wales

MOTION: To approve the Ireland-England-Wales Field Experience

By: J. Beausoleil

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Motion passes unanimously

IV.E. Information: Administrator 2016-2017 Goal Presentations

IV.E.1. Business Office

Mr. Carroll reviewed the Goals for the Business Office for the 2016-17 school year. Those can be found on the district's website.

J. Beausoleil said there are a lot of moving pieces to what Mr. Carroll and his staff do every day.

IV.E.2. Coventry Grammar School

Ms. Moyer presented the CGS goals for the 2016-17 school year. Those goals can be found on the district's website.

IV.E.3. G. H. Robertson School

Dr. Giller presented the goals for GHR for the 2016-17 school year. Those goals can be found on the website.

Dr. Giller answered a few questions regarding data and science standards.

IV.F. Information: 2016 Student Assessment Results Summary

Mr. Petrone talked about student assessments. He recognized the administrators and Ms. DeJulius for their hard work in looking at and analyzing data.

Ms. DeJulius shared the SBAC data with the Board. [That slide show is available through the website on CABE-meeting.] Dr. Giller also shared portions of the presentations.

M. Kortmann asked questions about the SBAC Math cohort Achievement Levels for grades 4/5. J. Beausoleil asked about the data analysis process. The administrators answered those questions. Ms. Mullaly talked about the work being done focusing on the new Eureka Math program.

J. Beausoleil talked about the State mandates and how the demands are not reasonable or fair for districts.

M. Kortmann asked about students taking algebra classes and J. Beausoleil noted those who do not. Ms. DeJulius said she would get more specific data.

The administrators switched the presentation to CMT-CAPT results. [That presentation is also available through the website on CABE-meeting.]

J. Beausoleil, in looking at the science data, asked what year CNH introduced STEM. Ms. DeJulius noted we are entering year 3.

Ms. DeJulius thanked all staff for their efforts and also noted the high school staff for their support and assistance.

Mr. Merlino presented the CAPT information. J. Beausoleil asked for more specific information about the SAT results. M. Kortmann asked questions about AP tests and participation. J. Beausoleil asked for further information regarding ECE numbers.

Ms. DeJulius shared final thoughts on the assessment data presentation.

V. Report of Chairman

Mr. Oros said there is a Board member's resignation to accept this evening and his comments will be noted in New Business.

VII. Approval of Minutes

VII.A. Approve Minutes of September 8, 2016

MOTION To approve the minutes of September 8, 2016

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VIII. New Business

VIII.A. VOTE: Accept the resignation of Michael Griswold

MOTION: To accept the resignation of Michael Griswold with deep regret effective September 29, 2016

By: J. Beausoleil

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VIII.B. Discussion/Review: Procedures for Filling the BOE Vacancy

J. Beausoleil said it is always sad when a Board member has to step down. She said she appreciated Mr. Griswold's voice at the table and his service.

W. Oros said we are now looking at the process of filling the vacancy. He said the Board has the statutory responsibility to fill this vacancy and makes the final decision.

He noted that letters of interest and resumes are accepted through October 7. He added the Board will have the vote to fill the vacancy on the October 13 meeting agenda. He said people will not be accepted as possible candidates unless a letter of interest and resume are received by October 7. J. Beausoleil said the timeline is in place to be sure information is available in time for Board members to review before the October 13 meeting. W. Oros said that he would like to see the person sworn in that evening as well.

W. Oros reviewed the actual procedures for filling the vacancy at the meeting on October 13.

The Board considered details of the procedures. It was decided that a voiced roll-call vote would be the way to vote.

In addition the board clarified what a caucus would mean that evening. J. Beausoleil said that a caucus is by party.

E. Marchand summarized the procedures.

J. Beausoleil added that school employees cannot be considered as candidates.

IX. Report of Board Members

IX.A. Information: Report of the Policy Committee Meeting of September 29, 2016

J. Beausoleil noted the committee met earlier in the evening. She said it was an informational meeting as a refresher of how the procedures work.

E. Marchand asked about the transportation of Coventry residents who attend East Catholic High School and if that procedure would be included in the Transportation Policy. J. Beausoleil noted that could be an item of discussion.

IX.B. Information: Report of the Transportation Committee Meeting of September 29, 2016

M. Sobol said the Committee heard that bus routes are moving smoothly.

He continued saying that two requests to change stops were received and the Committee reviewed those. He said they denied one change and tabled the second to gather further information and review.

X. 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 10:26 p.m.

By: J. Beausoleil

Seconded: M. Sobol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

XI. Open Session

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 10:59 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 11:00 p.m.

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: F. Infante

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: October 13, 2016