Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, February 08, 2018
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:
Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairman
Mary Minor, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Frank Infante
Peter Larson
William Oros

Also Present:
Ben Urbanski, Student BOE Representative

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

Audience Members Present: Ronda Lezberg, CGS Principal; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Todd Giancanti, PSSS Director; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; and the Chronicle and Journal Inquirer newspapers were represented.

I. Call to Order
J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag
J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens
There were none.

IV. Report of Superintendent
Dr. Petrone reviewed meetings and events taking place around the district, region and state.

Dr. Petrone talked about the recent school cancellations and noted a plan would be developed and brought back to the Board. Dr. Petrone discussed what goes into making a weather related decision in regard to school closings.

He noted that the District Strategic Plan is available for review and attached to CABE-meeting.

IV.A. Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report
Mr. Urbanski talked about various student activities taking place.
V. VOTE: Consent Agenda
V.A. Accept the Resignation of Mandy Castillo, HEEC Teacher
V.B. Accept Retirement of Colleen Hamblett, CGS Teacher
V.C. Accept Resignation of Mary Sposito, Secretary

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

VI. Report of Chairman
J. Beausoleil said she is optimistic that this will be a good budget season. She reviewed upcoming budget dates: Town Hearing is March 8 at 7:00 p.m. and the BOE meeting with the Town Council is March 12 at 7:00 p.m.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes
VIII.A. Approve Minutes of January 18, 2018
MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 18, 2018
By: M. Kortmann  Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes 6-0-1 (F. Infante abstains)

VIII.B. Approve Minutes of January 25, 2018
MOTION: Approve the Minutes of January 25, 2018
By: M. Kortmann  Seconded: M. Minor
Result: Motion passes 6-0-1 (F. Infante abstains)

IX. Report of Board Members
IX.A. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meeting of February 8, 2018
M. Kortmann reviewed the discussions of the Fiscal Committee. She noted the salary accounts and talked about the reason for the transfer that is up for a Board vote.

IX.A.1. Possible VOTE: Budget Transfer
M. Kortmann noted the transfer is due to funds in the salary account that are unspent because a vacant facilities position has not been filled. Dr. Petrone said unfortunately it has been a struggle to fill the electrician position this year and the intention is to fill the position next year.

MOTION: Approve the budget transfer of $54,971 from 100 Salaries to 400 Contracted Services
By: E. Marchand  Seconded: P. Larson
Result: Motion passes unanimously

M. Kortmann added all accounts are trending good.

X. Old Business
X.A. Facilities Update
Dr. Petrone said the only update to give was on the water heater issue at CGS, noting this will be addressed during the February long weekend.
J. Beausoleil asked if it was worth it to send something to the Council about the boilers, in regards to
their life expectancy. The Board asked the Superintendent to send a notice to the Town Manager
and Council regarding the urgency of replacing the boilers and request they are part the bond that
will address school energy and efficiency items.

**X.B. Discussion and Possible VOTE: FY19 Budget**

J. Beausoleil said the hope is to be able to approve the budget tonight, but if there are further
questions or uncertainties, a special meeting can be called.

Dr. Petrone reviewed the few changes made since the last meeting. Mr. Carroll said the current
percentage increase is .99%.

Mr. Carroll noted items on the assumptions page, including gas/diesel and heat energy.

J. Beausoleil asked about the description of "iPad" on page 21, under the 611 item. Mr. Carroll said
he would adjust that to "student technology." They noted it may need to be changed in several
places throughout the document.

While it is not part of this budget, M. Kortmann asked if the Board could get a one year projection of
the preschool budget. Mr. Carroll said he would do that.

M. Kortmann said the overall budget is really well done. She said she is happy with it. She reviewed
that the bulk of the budget is certified staff salaries and that increase alone is 3.85% and we are
only at .99% overall.

J. Beausoleil said these are not just refinements and a sharpening of the pencil. She said reductions
have been made in the past two years, and those items have not come back. Dr. Petrone expanded
on that noting staff has been cut and some programs had to be held back.

E. Marchand noted cuts that were made years ago, due to State cutbacks and it took years to get
those back.

E. Marchand said he said he thinks this is a fantastic budget.

W. Oros said if this type of low increase budget, without reinstating previous budget cuts, keeps
going forward it will catch up with the district. He said we have a class A school district, but it
needs to be supported financially.

All Board members agreed that they support this budget.

**MOTION:** Approve the FY19 budget at $27,312,347 a .99% increase over the FY18 budget

By: W. Oros Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

**XI. Possible VOTE: Executive Session (Superintendent’s 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 8:23 p.m.

By: M. Minor Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

**XII. Open Session**

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:48 p.m.

**XIII. Adjournment**
MOTION: To adjourn at 8:49 p.m.
By: E. Marchand  Seconded: F. Infante
Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: February 22, 2018