

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, May 31, 2018
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairman
Mary Minor, Secretary
Frank Infante
Mary Kortmann

Board Members Absent:

Peter Larson
William Oros

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: Todd Giansanti, PSSS Director; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Ronda Lezberg, CGS Principal; Meredith Kirkpatrick, CHS Teacher; Jennifer Faenza, CHS Teacher; and Emily Robinson, CHS Teacher. The Chronicle Newspaper was represented.

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:31 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 events that have taken place over the past few weeks in district and around the state.

E. Marchand commented on the Systemic Transformation workshop series. He noted how advanced Coventry is compared to some other districts. He added that the commitment of Coventry staff is incredible.

IV.A. Staff Recognition: Meredith Kirkpatrick, CHS Teacher - Winner BrainDance Award

Dr. Petrone talked about the award won by Ms. Kirkpatrick. Mr. Blake said a few words about the work that Ms. Kirkpatrick does. Ms. Kirkpatrick talked about the BrainDance Award and the issue of mental health and how the students participate in something that is important to them.

IV.B. Staff Recognition: Emily Robinson and Jennifer Faenza, CHS Teachers - Presentation at the Teaching and Learning with Technology Conference at UCONN

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. Robinson and Ms. Faenza who presented recently at the UConn conference. The teachers talked about the presentation. Mr. Blake said a few words about the work the teachers do.

IV.D. Information: 2017-2018 Administrators' Goal Achievement Updates

IV.D.1. Facilities

Dr. Petrone introduced Mr. Trudelle who shared highlights from the Facilities Goal Report for the 2017-18 school year. The entire report is available on the district's website.

J. Beausoleil told Mr. Trudelle that he has a good understanding of the inventory and maintenance plan which has enabled him to concentrate on important items.

M. Kortmann suggested a way be found to share some of this information with the Town.

IV.D.2. Coventry Grammar School

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. Lezberg who shared highlights of the CGS Goal Report for 2018-19. The entire report is available on the district's website.

The Board talked about students who are struggling at the end of the year and what the beginning of the next school year looks like for those students. Dr. Petrone talked about the transition and intervention programs.

IV.D.3. Coventry High School

Dr. Petrone introduced Mr. Blake who shared highlights of the CHS Goal Update for the 2017-18 school year. The entire report is available on the district's website.

E. Marchand talked about parent participation in the Student Led Conferences. Mr. Blake responded with how the scheduling went during this first year.

The Board continued to discuss parent input in regards to their availability.

IV.D.4. Pupil and Staff Support Services

Dr. Petrone introduced Mr. Giansanti who shared highlights of the PSSS Goal Update for the 2017-18 school year. The entire report is available on the district's website.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda

V.A. Approve the CNH May 2020 Field Experience to Philadelphia PA and Washington DC

V.B. Accept Retirement of Hedwig Itsou, CGS Para-Educator

V.C. Accept Resignation of Shaena Malone, CGS Teacher

V.D. Accept the Resignation of Tammy Noyes, GHR Para-educator

V.E. Accept Retirement of Esperanza Nugent, CNH Guidance Counselor

V.F. Accept Resignation of Marie Reynolds, CGS Para-Educator

MOTION: Approve the consent agenda as presented

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Report of Chairman

J. Beausoleil talked about the Kindergarten Orientation coming up and the high school Senior Awards Night event, both taking place next week.

J. Beausoleil noted the staff recognition celebration which took place earlier in the evening. She said both staff celebrating 25 years of service and those retiring were recognized.

VII. Communications

J. Beausoleil noted items attached in CABA-meeting for the Board that have been sent to the Town Council Chair in response to a question that was raised by a Council member. She reviewed the items, noting the topic was related to FERPA regulations and what is appropriate as far as what student information to share.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VIII.A. Approve Minutes of May 10, 2018

MOTION: To approve the minutes of May 10, 2018

By: M. Kortmann

Seconded: M. Minor

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Old Business

IX.A. VOTE: Approve the HEEC 2018-19 Budget

MOTION: To approve the HEEC 2018-19 Budget as submitted

By: M. Kortmann

Seconded: E. Marchand

Discussion: J. Beausoleil noted this was discussed at the last meeting. She asked if there were any questions. She added that there will be a policy developed to be sure this vote takes place as an annual procedure.

Dr. Petrone talked about the option for online payments for parents. He said this is in an exploration stage with the hope to have it available by the start of the 18-19 school year. The Board discussed various details of this process.

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX.B. Information: Facilities Projects Updates

Mr. Trudelle provided updates on projects that have been approved for completion, including electrical, sound boards at CNH, replacement of the warehouse doors, doors for the academy, Patriots Park Youth Building, among others.

The Board talked about the two RFPs involving the Coventry Academy work. Dr. Petrone noted those items will come to Fiscal on June 14, before anything is signed.

X. New Business

X.A. VOTE: Accept the Resignation of Board Member Mary Minor

MOTION: To accept the resignation of Mary Minor from the Board with extreme regret.

By: M. Kortmann

Seconded: F. Infante

Discussion: J. Beausoleil told M. Minor how much she would be missed. M. Kortmann agreed. E. Marchand noted he was very pleased that Mary returned to the Board and

thanked her for her contributions. J. Beausoleil said M. Minor's input has been very valuable.

M. Minor said it has been her privilege to serve and be involved in the community in this way. She encouraged parents to think about serving. She said this has been a bitter sweet decision.

Result: Motion passes 4-0-1 (M. Minor abstained)

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

J. Beausoleil noted the procedures that are outlined for filling this vacancy. She added that vacancies on the Board of Education are different and are handled differently than on the Town Council. She continued saying that registered voters in Coventry who are interested should submit a letter and resume to the Superintendent's Office by June 13. She added that those folks will have the opportunity to speak to the Board on June 14 and the vacancy will be filled at that meeting. She said any registered voter in the Town of Coventry can apply and asked for anyone with questions to contact her. She said she will ask for consensus this evening from the Board regarding the procedures that have been included. She reviewed those in further details. There was consensus on the process reviewed.

XI. Report of Board Members

XI.A. Information: Scholarship Committee Report

E. Marchand said the Committee members were extremely impressed with the group of students who applied.

M. Kortmann talked about the discussions the Committee had with the students.

F. Infante said it was a very difficult decision to make.

XI.B. Information: Policy Committee Meeting of May 24, 2018

XI.B.1. Information and Discussion of Policy 3323/3300 Purchasing up for Revision (To be warned for a VOTE at a future regular Board Meeting)

J. Beausoleil reviewed the purchasing policy that was discussed. She said that the consulting noted in the policy is a common practice that happens in Coventry. J. Beausoleil said that the Policy Committee asked that tracking be put in place to verify that the mandate has been followed.

There were no objections and the Board agreed the policy could move forward for approval.

XII. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

By: M. Minor

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: June 14, 2018