

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of August 31, 2017
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice-Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand
Mary Minor

Board Members Absent:

William Oros, Board Chairman
Frank Infante

Also Present:

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

Audience Members Present: Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Todd Giansanti, PSSS Director; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Ronda Lezberg, CGS Principal; Community Members, Susan Frarie, Kathleen Ryan, and Terri Carpenter; Chunping Li, TCLP Teacher; Laura Boates, CEP Teacher; William Vanderrest, CHS Track and Field Coach; community members; parents; students; and the Chronicle newspaper was represented.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil asked for a student volunteer to lead the pledge. CHS senior, Kirsten Krause volunteered and led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

Pamela Miller of 347 Shore Drive was present to talk about the Coventry Lake Rowing group, which rows on Coventry Lake. She gave statistics about participation by Coventry High School students and how the sport is growing. She hopes to return to the Board with more good news in the future.

IV. Report of Superintendent

Dr. Petrone welcomed everyone back and talked about how busy and productive the summer was.

IV.A. Recognition: CHS Track and Field Team with Coach Vanderrest

Dr. Petrone introduced Coach Vanderrest who shared the accomplishments of the Track and Field Team at Nationals. He introduced the team members who were present. He noted, it was the first

time Coventry had athletes compete at Nationals. He talked about the support of the school community and said a number of school records were broken at the event.

E. Marchand said how proud the Board was and gave congratulations to the Team.

Coach Vanderrest thanked the parents for their support as well.

Dr. Petrone presented the team with a gift of appreciation from the Board.

IV.B. Recognition: Teachers of Critical Languages Program - 2017-18 Teacher, Li Chungping; Staff Member, Terri Carpenter; and Community Members, Susan Frarie and Kathleen Ryan

Dr. Petrone introduced Chungping Li and talked about the excitement in Coventry's surrounding her arrival and also in receiving the grant for a second year.

J. Beausoleil thanked Ms. Li for her sacrifices in spending the year here and said how fortunate that Coventry is to have her here. She presented Ms. Li with presents from the Board.

Dr. Petrone continued and recognized community members who have supported the China exchange/learning program for years. Susan Frarie, Kathleen Ryan, and Terri Carpenter were each presented with a token of the Board's appreciation.

IV.C. Recognition: Future Problem Solvers with Laura Boates, CEP Teacher

Dr. Petrone introduced Laura Boates who traveled with the FPS group to Wisconsin for the international competition. Ms. Boates talked about the program and also introduced students who were present who participated. Ms. Boates thanked the Board and Superintendent for their support.

J. Beausoleil noted the growth of the FPS program and said what an important program it is. She said it is non-traditional learning and that's why it works. She thanked the group.

IV.D. Opening of School 2017-2018

Dr. Petrone talked about the opening of school and he shared a video of the day's events.

E. Marchand said the production of convocation was amazing. He talked about how proud he was.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda

V.A. Accept the Resignation of Tammy Gonyaw-Langdo, Para-educator

V.B. Accept the Retirement of Ken Goodale, CNH Teacher

V.C. Accept the Resignation of Jack Hayes, Custodian

V.D. Accept the Resignation of Brian Maltese, Athletic Director

V.E. Accept the Resignation of Susan Mike, CHS Teacher

V.F. Accept the Resignation of Margaret Treiber, GHR Teacher

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as presented

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Report of Chairman

J. Beausoleil welcomed everyone back from summer break. She officially welcomed Ronda Lezberg to the administrative team. She also noted the excitement of receiving the TCLP grant and the visiting China teacher.

She mentioned the recent meeting with the Town Council. She thanked the staff for their responsiveness and thoughtfulness in the budget process to be sure students had a stable environment to come back to.

J. Beausoleil continued and encouraged folks to download the new athletic app to keep up-to-date on upcoming events.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VIII.A. Approve the Minutes of June 22, 2017

MOTION: Approve the Minutes of June 22, 2017

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Sobol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VIII.B. Approve the Minutes of July 20, 2017

MOTION: To approve the minutes of July 20, 2017

By: M. Minor

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes 4-0-1 (E. Marchand abstained)

IX. Old Business

IX.A. Discussion and Possible VOTE: Preschool Fund MOA

J. Beausoleil reviewed the most recent change.

M. Sobol said he believes this is a good final draft.

MOTION: To authorize Dr. Petrone to sign the attached MOA regarding the Operation of the Coventry Preschool Fund marked FINAL

By: M. Kortmann

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

J. Beausoleil thanked M. Minor for her thoughtfulness in regard to this item.

Dr. Petrone talked about the work done this summer in staffing the preschool, now that it is under the direction of the Board. He said it should be a seamless transition for parents. He also said the administration is watching everything very closely.

E. Marchand thanked Dr. Petrone and Mr. Carroll for their perseverance in going through this process.

X. New Business

X.A. Information: Summer of 2017 Work Update

E. Marchand asked about the repairs to the track and tennis courts. Dr. Petrone said the district is disappointed with what's been done on the track and they are working with the vendor to be sure it is rectified.

Dr. Petrone went on to talk about the different facility projects that were completed during the summer months.

E. Marchand asked if the new cameras at CHS would cover that front field. Dr. Petrone said yes, they were installed with that in mind.

M. Kortmann asked about the LED lighting. Dr. Petrone talked about the process of turning over to LED lighting. The Board discussed the challenges.

Dr. Petrone went on to review other facility items that were addressed during the summer.

M. Kortmann asked if there was a big back log of items to be completed. Dr. Petrone said there are things that need to be addressed, but due to the financial situation, most things are on hold.

X.B. Information: Reappoint Dena DeJulius, Board of Education Representative, to the Insurance Advisory Committee

J. Beausoleil said the Board would like to reappoint Ms. DeJulius. There was consensus she would continue in this position.

XI. Report of Board Members

XI.A. Transportation Committee Report - Meeting of August 10, 2017

M. Sobol reviewed the meeting held on August 10. He said one minor adjustment was made to the submitted routes. He said the Committee was to meet again on September 28 to review routing software and also the newer GPS system.

The Board talked about the concerns with the bus company with not using the routing software and also the newer GPS system.

XI.B. Fiscal Committee Meeting - Report Meetings of August 10, 2017

M. Sobol talked about the dire budget situation of the state and also the town. The Board discussed the challenges of working off a 90-day budget and the worry about what happens if a budget is not passed within that 90 days.

J. Beausoleil confirmed that a 90-day budget is based on last year's budget plus \$40,000.

The Board continued to talk about the 90-day budget and the complications surrounding planning for that financially and what happens if the district goes to 30-day budgets.

The group continued to talk about how the process might move forward with the Town Council, once the state has a budget.

XII. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

By: M. Sobol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme

Approved: September 14, 2017