

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, October 26, 2017
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Frank Infante
Mary Minor

Also Present

Ben Urbanski, Student Board Representative

Administrators 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; Cathie Drury, Educational Technology Director; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Ronda Lezberg, CGS Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Christina Hanks, CNH Teacher; community members; CHS students; and Peter Larson, BOE Candidate.

I. Call to Order

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

Dr. Petrone reviewed a few current topics. He thanked J. Beausoleil for her volunteer work, from which the district has benefited by receiving a check for \$400 due to a program through her employer, Northrup Grumman. He continued and recognized J. Beausoleil and M. Kortmann for their 10 years of service as Board of Education members, for which they will be recognized at the CABE/CAPSS Convention.

Dr. Petrone noted the Mock Interviews with CHS Seniors and he thanked E. Marchand and W. Oros for their participation. W. Oros said he was so impressed with the students. E. Marchand said he was also deeply impressed.

Dr. Petrone also talked about different facility projects that are in progress.

IV.A. Recognition: CNH Teachers Debby Page and Christina Hanks, Dedication to the Student-Led Conferences Initiative

Dr. Petrone recognized Debby Page and Christina Hanks for all of their work on the new Student-Led Conferences initiative. Ms. Hanks was present to receive recognition from the audience and the Board.

IV.B. Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report

Ben noted the end of the marking period is coming up. He also talked about different items taking place at the high school.

IV.C. Administrator Goal Presentations 2017-2018

IV.C.1. Capt. Nathan Hale School

Ms. DeJulius shared highlights of the CNH goals for the 2017-18 school year. The full goal document is available on the district's website.

The Board asked various questions about the math curriculum, the Chinese program, and the alternate education program.

IV.C.2. G. H. Robertson School

Dr. Giller shared highlights of the GHR goals for the 2017-18 school year. The full goal document is available on the district's website.

There were questions about the goal process of Student-Led conferences and the social-emotional learning goal.

IV.C.3. Coventry Grammar School

Ms. Lezberg shared highlights of the CGS goals for the 2017-18 school year. The full goal document is available on the district's website.

The Board talked about the Student-Led conferences and the social-emotional learning at the grammar school level.

M. Sobol talked about the continuity between the schools and how well all work as a team.

V. Report of Chairman

W. Oros shared a few comments with the Board and public regarding finishing this term on the Board. He noted the purpose of the Board and how well this group has worked together. W. Oros added that the success of the school system is due to the hard work of the staff and administration. He said the Board has supported the administration and superintendent throughout, and that success is measured in many ways. W. Oros continued and thanked the Board members for their partnership and hard work.

M. Sobol commented on how much he has learned as a Board member and he is very proud of all the work that has been done and he is proud of the administrators.

J. Beausoleil said how impressed she is with the Superintendent and administrators and their dedication to the students. She also agreed that the Board is not a success, but the school system and staff are the success. She said she has appreciated working with this Board over the last six years and the genuine collaboration that has been at the table.

M. Sobol added comments about the impressive early childhood education program that has been developed. He said it is an outstanding education center and not a daycare. He said he is proud he has been able to be a part of the development process.

VI. Communications

VII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VII.A. Approve Minutes of October 12, 2017

MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 12, 2017

By: M. Kortmann

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VIII. Old Business

VIII.A. Discussion and Possible VOTE: FY18 Budget

J. Beausoleil talked about the delay in the budget process. She said she is very concerned about the very late decisions that will now have to be made.

The Board talked about the current information available and how to move forward and if anything new should be updated or requested at the Town Council level.

The Board continued and reviewed what the options are going forward. They agreed there was nothing that could be done at this point, but that the district would have to wait for the state budget details to be released and reviewed and for the Town Council to make some decisions.

M. Sobol said he recommends the current information be used to forward to the Council. M. Kortmann agreed, and said if a budget has not been set by the next Fiscal meeting the new information could be forwarded to the Council at that time.

The Board was in agreement. J. Beausoleil said the Board would be open to meet with the Council if asked.

VIII.B. Discussion and VOTE: Capital Improvement Plan

Dr. Petrone did a brief review of the updates.

M. Kortmann verified priorities.

J. Beausoleil asked if there was a way to identify items that were on the CIP that we did not get for FY18. Mr. Carroll said he would do that.

MOTION: Approve the FY2019 - FY2023 Capital Improvement Plan for submission to the Town

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Adjournment

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

By: J. Beausoleil

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme

Approved: November 9, 2017