

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of February 14, 2019  
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman  
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairman  
Peter Larson  
Mary Kortmann

Board Members Absent:

William Oros, Secretary  
Frank Infante  
Kelly Sobol

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members: Christian Marcinczyk, Dean of Students; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Jennifer DeRagon, GHR Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Ronda Carrie, CGS Principal; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Beth Giller, PSSS Director; Elisa Haveles, GHR Teacher; CGS student Olivia Diaz and family; the Journal Inquirer 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 led the salute to the flag.

**III. Audience of Citizens**

There were none.

**IV. Report of Superintendent**

Dr. Petrone noted that Mr. Richard Bednarz, a veteran teacher in Coventry recently passed away. He said how dearly Mr. Bednarz would be missed.

Dr. Petrone continued and reviewed happenings taking place around the district, region, and state.

**IV.A. Recognition: CGS Student Olivia Diaz Winner of Senator Murphy's Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest**

Dr. Petrone introduced Olivia Diaz. Mrs. Diaz spoke about the experience that Olivia had receiving her award at Senator Murphy's office. Dr. Petrone presented Olivia with a special award recognition from the Board of Education.

**IV.C. Information: NEASC Two-Year Update**

Mr. Blake reviewed details of the favorable two-year report that was received from NEASC.

E. Marchand asked about the privacy issue noted at the nurse's office. Mr. Blake said this was fixed with the reconfiguration of the front offices as now the guidance office is directly next door, which provides a space for private conversations.

E. Marchand asked about the work on the weight room. Dr. Petrone said it is on the Capital Improvement Plan and it is at least three years out. Mr. Blake added that this is within the time frame allowed by NEASC.

#### **V. VOTE: Consent Agenda**

##### **V.A. Accept the retirement of Janean Heckman, CHS Nurse**

**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 passing of Mr. Bednarz. She said this is the end of an error.

She talked about the anniversary of the Parkland Florida tragedy and asked for a moment of silence.

#### **VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes**

##### **VIII.A. Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 24, 2019**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of the special meeting of January 24, 2019**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: M. Kortmann**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

##### **VIII.B. Approve Minutes of January 31, 2019**

**MOTION: To approve Minutes of January 31, 2019**

**By: P. Larson**

**Seconded: M. Kortmann**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

#### **IX. Old Business**

##### **IX.A. VOTE: Adopt the following Policies**

###### **IX.A.1. 1250 - Visitors and Observations in Schools**

**MOTION: To approve 1250 - Visitors and Observations in Schools**

**By: M. Kortmann**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

###### **IX.A.2. 3120.1 - Board Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers - Preschool**

**MOTION: To approve 3120.1 - Board Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers - Preschool**

**By: M. Kortmann**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

###### **IX.A.3. 5127 - Graduation Requirements**

**MOTION: To approve 5127 - Graduation Requirements**

**By: P. Larson**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

## **IX.B. Discussion and Possible VOTE: FY20 Budget**

Mr. Carroll distributed the latest copies of updated budget book pages. Mr. Carroll spoke to the adjustments that have been taken into consideration regarding salaries based on recent resignations and retirements. Mr. Carroll also spoke about the adjustments to excess cost and also tuition. He said the transportation line has been increased to 4.95%, from 3%.

He said with all of these adjustments, we are now at a 1.17% increase over the current year. Dr. Petrone commented that we wanted to have the most accurate and current information reflected in the budget proposal. He said everything is based on known information.

E. Marchand said he hasn't seen any town come in close to what Coventry is proposing. M. Kortmann said she saw maybe one.

J. Beausoleil commented that none of the outstanding information is of a concern. Dr. Petrone agreed.

M. Kortmann said the budget looks wonderful.

E. Marchand said it is extremely thorough.

**MOTION: To approve the FY20 Budget at a bottom line of \$27,601,597 which is an increase of 1.17% over FY19**

**By: M. Kortmann**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

Discussion: Both J. Beausoleil and E. Marchand expressed how far the district has come and how well we are doing. Board members agreed.

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

## **X. New Business**

### **X.A. Assign Members to the Following Committees**

#### **X.A.1. EAC Negotiations (3-7)**

J. Beausoleil said she would like to go with past practice, where the Board serves as a whole. M. Kortmann agreed. J. Beausoleil said a Town Council member will be invited to join the committee.

#### **X.A.2. Cafeteria Negotiations (3)**

J. Beausoleil asked that K. Sobol be asked. M. Kortmann said she would serve. J. Beausoleil said she would serve.

#### **X.A.3. Scholarship Committee (3)**

E. Marchand volunteered. J. Beausoleil asked that W. Oros be asked. P. Larson volunteered.

## **XI. Report of Board Members**

### **XI.A. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meeting of February 14, 2019**

M. Kortmann said there is nothing in the various categories of concern. She said the per pupil is a little different than expected.

Mr. Carroll explained the budget transfer that is on the agenda, noting a School Psychologist at CGS resigned in November. He said, despite numerous efforts, PSSS has been unable to find a replacement, and it has been decided that we will contract with CREC for a psychologist for the remainder of the school year.

