Coventry Board of Education  
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Approved Minutes of May 09, 2019  
Administration Building Conference Room

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

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

Audience members present: Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Ronda Carrie, CGS Principal; Jennifer DeRagon, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; first year teachers Carly Burriesci, Christina Chow, Rebecca Knauf, and Kathryn O’Connor; CHS teacher Phil Gatcomb; Technology Coach, Jeff Spivey; Heather McPeck, CGS teacher; Stacey Fortin, CEP teacher; Ajit Gopalakrishnan, SDE Chief Performance Officer; CHS students; families; citizens; and gentlemen from EcoSolar Installations, LLC to review the Microgrid.

I. Call to Order  
J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:36 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 was pleased to publicly announce that Mr. Blake has received Principal of the Year recognition from the Connecticut Association of Schools. Dr. Petrone continued and talked about various items taking place around the district and state.

IV.A. Information: State Department of Education (SDE) Next Generation Accountability System Results with Ajit Gopalakrishnan, SDE Chief Performance Officer  
Dr. Petrone introduced Ajit Gopalakrishnan, SDE Chief Performance Officer. Mr. Gopalakrishnan reviewed various aspects of the state’s accountability system.

M. Kortmann asked about the graduation rate and the 18-21 year old program. She said those students count as a part of Coventry’s graduation rate, which is difficult to accept because they do
not graduate in four years. Mr. Gopalakrishnan said you cannot discount those students, but he explained they are taken into consideration.

J. Beausoleil asked where Coventry could focus on for improvement. Mr. Gopalakrishnan said Coventry could focus on growth at the middle school and the achievement gap at the high school. He added, due to the age of the adolescents, the middle school level is difficult for all districts.

Dr. Petrone and the Board thanked Mr. Gopalakrishnan for coming to Coventry.

**IV.B. Staff Recognition: Rookie of the Year - Outstanding First Year Teachers Carly Burriesci, Christina Chow, Rebecca Knauf, and Kathryn O’Connor**

Dr. Petrone said the district is so proud of the new staff who have been hired and there are a few who deserve the spotlight.

He introduced Ms. DeJulius who spoke highly about Carly Burriesci and noted how highly talented she is as a first year teacher.

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. DeRagon who spoke about Christina Chow and her strong advocacy for her students.

Ms. DeRagon went on to recognize Kathryn O’Connor noting how masterful she is at her teaching.

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. Carrie who spoke about Rebecca Knauf who teaches as a veteran teacher. Each teacher was presented with an award noting this recognition.

**IV.C. Staff Recognition: CECA Presentations - CHS Aviation Flight/Sim Project by Phil Gatcomb & Jeff Spivey; and PLTW Grids and Games by Heather McPeck & Stacey Fortin**

Dr. Petrone talked about the CECA Tech Expo. He introduced Mr. Gatcomb who shared his experience. Ms. Fortin and Ms. McPeck also talked about their experience at the Expo. J. Beausoleil said it is great to show the state representatives what the students are doing. Dr. Petrone presented each teacher with a gift of appreciation.

**IV.D. Staff Recognition: UConn iPad Conference Presentation by Jeff Spivey, Technology Coach**

Dr. Petrone recognized Mr. Spivey for being chosen to present at the UConn iPad conference. Mr. Spivey talked about presenting and how honored he is.

**IV.E. Information: Innovative Grant Update - Student Innovations in 3D Printing/Markerspace Support with Jeff Spivey**

Mr. Spivey talked about the project and the goals that were involved in the development of the project. He introduced student Brianna Green who spoke about her experience as a student in working with the 3D Printing/Markerspace.

All Board members were impressed and gave commendations.

**MOTION: To move the Microgrid item to next on the agenda**

By: E. Marchand Seconded by: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously
V. Microgrid

Mr. John O’Brien, Michael Sahm, Patrick Early, and Chuck Brody were present to speak about the Coventry Microgrid and shared a review of the Microgrid proposal.

The Board asked questions regarding costs now vs costs with the Microgrid. Mr. Sahm said that the program will save the town and district money.

F. Infante wanted to know if there was a projected savings. Mr. Brody said those figures are being determined. Mr. O’Brien said the design needs to be fine-tuned before figures can be discussed. Mr. O’Brien said the biggest savings will be seen at the complex, as the highest user.

Ms. Kortmann asked about the current generator and if it is needed as part of the project. The response was no, the district can do as they wish with it.

Mr. Brody continued and reviewed the timeline.

J. Beausoleil asked by when the Board would have to decide. Mr. O’Brien said they are targeting the June 13 BOE meeting.

J. Beausoleil said the full Board would need to hear the presentation as the full body needs to vote.

The Board continued to talk about the timeline. The group said coming back in June and presenting to the full Board would be a good idea.

J. Beausoleil reviewed expectations for the June 13 Joint Town Finance / BOE Fiscal.

VI. VOTE: Consent Agenda

VI.A. Approve the June 2019 GHR Field Experience to Sturbridge, MA
VI.B. Accept the resignation of Lincoln Breault, Custodian
VI.C. Accept the resignation of Christopher Jones, CHS Teacher

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

VII. Report of Chairman

J. Beausoleil noted congratulations to Mr. Blake for his award. She thanked the community for the vote of affirmation for the budget proposal.

IX. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

IX.A. Approve Minutes of April 25, 2019

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 25, 2019
By: K. Sobol Seconded: M. Kortmann
Result: Motion passes unanimously

X. Old Business

X.B. Information: Facilities Projects Update

X.B.1. Security Grant Award

Dr. Petrone reviewed the facilities projects that are being worked on presently.

He mentioned the security grant and funds that Coventry will receive for CGS and GHR.
J. Beausoleil said how nice it is that Coventry received these funds again.

XI. Report of Board Members

XI.A. Information: Fiscal Committee Report Meeting of May 9, 2019

M. Kortmann said that everything is in good shape. She continued and noted the items that were approved at the meeting to move forward from unexpended funds:

- Chairs in the LMC $3,300
- Replacement floor machine $11,000
- Athletic pitching machine $2,800
- Milestone Software $86,000
- Master Key Set $30,000
- Penetration resistant vestibule at the middle school $12,300

XI.A.1. Information and VOTE: Approve the 2019-2020 Tuition Rate at $14,682

M. Kortmann said this follows the calculation set in the policy

**MOTION:** Approve the 2019-2020 Tuition Rate at $14,682  
By: E. Marchand  
Seconded: K. Sobol  
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XII. 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  
By: M. Kortmann  
Seconded: W. Oros  
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XIII. Open Session

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 10:10 p.m.

**MOTION:** To accept the evaluation as written of the Superintendent  
By: E. Marchand  
Seconded: W. Oros  
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XIV. Adjournment

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting at 10:17 p.m.  
By: M. Kortmann  
Seconded: K. Sobol  
Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme  
Board Clerk

Approved: May 30, 2019