

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of Thursday, August 30, 2018  
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman  
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairman  
William Oros, Secretary  
Frank Infante  
Peter Larson  
Mary Kortmann  
Kelly Sobol

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Beth Pratt, Food Services Director; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Jeff Spivey, Education Technology Coach; Tim Sadler, ENCON Representative; and Ed Cofrancesco, Walls Committee Chair.

**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**

**IV.C. Information: Walls Committee Update**

Dr. Petrone introduced Ed Cofrancesco, Chair of the Town Walls Committee. Mr. Cofrancesco reviewed what the Committee was charged to do. He went on to talk about how the walls were designed to code at the time of the build vs what the code is now. He added that the walls are not in danger of coming down, even with a seismic event. He continued to talk about the next steps in the process.

The Board discussed the bidding process for the architectural engineering part.

E. Marchand noted that Mr. Cofrancesco has been the volunteer Chair to the Walls Committee. He noted how much he appreciated his leadership and knowledge.

The Board thanked Mr. Cofrancesco for his efforts.

#### **IV.A. Welcome and Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report**

Ryan Hayes talked about the start of school from a student's perspective, noting everything went well.

#### **IV.B. Information: Opening of School 2018-2019**

Dr. Petrone reviewed the work that was done over the summer by the facilities department. He added comments about the professional development that was provided.

Dr. Petrone shared a video of opening day activities for staff and the students' first day.

Dr. Petrone finished with a few comments about how special Convocation has become.

J. Beausoleil commented on how much she enjoyed the morning portion of Convocation.

W. Oros said the energy at Convocation was outstanding.

E. Marchand added positive comments about Ryan Hayes, as the new Student Board of Education Representative. He said we are very proud of the selection.

K. Sobol said kids were very excited to be at school yesterday. She said it was a great start to the year.

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

**V.A. Accept Resignation of Carol Bittner, Para-educator**

**V.B. Accept Resignation of Erin Bride, Special Education Teacher**

**V.C. Accept Resignation of Lisa Decker, HEEC Teacher**

**V.D. Accept Resignation of Karyn Deptula, CNH Teacher**

**V.E. Accept Resignation of Daniela de Sousa, CHS Teacher**

**V.F. Accept Resignation of Todd Giansanti, PSSS Director**

**V.G. Accept Resignation Kelly Myers, Para-educator**

**V.H. Accept Resignation of Katie Pease, CHS Teacher**

**V.I. Accept Resignation of Ayla Raes, Para-educator**

**V.J. Accept Resignation of Deanna Sokola, Special Education Teacher**

**V.K. Accept Resignation of Barbara Zuraw, Para-educator**

**MOTION: Approve the consent agenda as presented**

**By: E. Marchand                      Seconded: M. Kortmann**

Discussion: M. Kortmann asked if there was a reason for the number of resignations. Dr. Petrone said that it is not unusual to have a larger number during the month of August.

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

## **VI. Report of Chairman**

J. Beausoleil said she had the opportunity to meet the new teachers on their first day. She added again how great Convocation was. She also gave kudos to the parent who was in the Spike costume at GHR on a very hot Wednesday.

J. Beausoleil welcomed Dr. Beth Giller in her new role as the PSSS Director and also Jennifer DeRagon as the new Principal at GHR.

J. Beausoleil stated it is Open House season. She noted those dates: CGS is September 5; CHS is September 12; GHR is September 26; and CNH is October 3.

She continued and noted the technology support sessions that are scheduled for parents, and that they are available on the website.

E. Marchand read a letter to the editor of Journal Inquirer from grandparents of two Coventry graduates, thanking Coventry teachers for a job well done.

J. Beausoleil added her thanks to the facilities department for the work they did on the entries and for the patience of the staff of the offices who were displaced.

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

### **VIII.A. Approve Minutes of July 12, 2018**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of July 12, 2018**

**By: M. Kortmann**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

### **VIII.B. Approve Minutes of August 6, 2018**

**MOTION: Approve the minutes of August 6, 2018**

**By: P. Larson**

**Seconded: M. Kortmann**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

## **IX. Old Business**

### **IX.A. Information: Facilities Update**

Mr. Trudelle reviewed the projects. He noted that a couple of the doors had damage, so those will be replaced. The Board discussed various details of the different projects.

J. Beausoleil commented on the number of projects that were completed on time during the summer.

W. Oros gave kudos to Mr. Trudelle and his staff for their efforts.

Mr. Trudelle talked about a leak at the portable at GHR. He said the estimate is \$6,500 to be replaced. M. Kortmann said the 1% account could be used for this repair. Dr. Petrone agreed.

**MOTION: To add to the agenda discussion and possible vote to send a request to the Town Council to access the 1% account**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: M. Kortmann**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Mr. Trudelle reviewed the conditions of the Pickle-ball Court, Tennis Court, and Basketball Court. Mr. Trudelle reviewed the recent approval of projects by the Town's Energy Committee.

Dr. Petrone gave commendations to Mr. Trudelle and his staff for the great accomplishments of the summer.

J. Beausoleil asked to move the ECON presentation first under the Report of Board members.

**X.B.1. Information and possible VOTE: ENCON Proposal, Approve New ZREC Application Authorization**

Mr. Saddler explained the changes that were made to the proposal. He noted that this proposal would still qualify for the net rate.

The Board decided to continue this item until the next meeting to see what might happen with the Microgrid.

**IX.B. VOTE: To allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes, at the location of an event after the school day or on weekends.**

**MOTION: To allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes, at the location of an event after the school day or on weekends.**

**By: M. Kortmann**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

**X. Report of Board Members**

**X.A. Information: Transportation Committee Update**

E. Marchand noted the Transportation Committee met and bus routes were approved for the 2018-19 school year.

Dr. Petrone suggested that the Transportation Committee reconvene to review some of the concerns that have come up so far. Dr. Petrone reviewed the concerns, which included cul-de-sacs and overcrowding.

E. Marchand agreed that it would be acceptable to schedule a meeting in the near future.

The Board asked about this year's enrollment. Dr. Petrone reviewed those figures.

**X.B. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meeting of August 30, 2018**

M. Kortmann said it is early and there is not much to report. She said we are upside down in Special Education, due to unexpected outplacement tuition. J. Beausoleil noted the actual deficit amount in special education is \$147,000.

M. Kortmann added that the Town rejected the Board request to adjust the wording of the Town policy on the Board's 1% account, which would allow the Board to spend the funds on more facility items.

M. Kortmann talked about the drafted MOA with the Town regarding the tuition funds that come in from out of town students. She said the Board's policy will be enhanced to assist with this item.

## **XI. New Business**

### **XI.A. Information: Janus Report**

J. Beausoleil said she asked the Superintendent to provide some information about the recent Janus case, which involves union dues.

Dr. Petrone provided a brief summary regarding the decision. He said, it is very new and no one really knows how it will play out.

Dr. Petrone reviewed the language in Coventry's contracts.

J. Beausoleil asked for a brief recess.

### **XI.B. Information/Training: Chromebooks**

The Board received training regarding the new Chromebooks.

## **XII. Adjournment**

**MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 10:49 p.m.**

**By: W. Oros**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

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Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme  
Board Clerk

**Approved: September 13, 2018**