Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of November 08, 2018
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:
Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairman
Mary Kortmann
Peter Larson
Kelly Sobol

Board Members Absent:
Frank Infante
William Oros

Also present: Ryan Hayes, Student Board of Education Representative

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; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Pat Cox, Athletic Director; Beth Pratt, Food Services Director; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Beth Giller, Director of Pupil and Staff Support Services; Christine Kendall, CHS Teacher; several students and parents; the Chronicle newspaper was represented.

I. Call to Order
J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:38 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 reviewed meetings and events taking place around the district and state. One of the items he noted was the Board being recognized with a Board of Distinction Award by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education.

IV.A. Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report
Mr. Hayes provided an update on happenings, including athletics.
IV.B. Recognition: Sarah Sullivan, CHS Student and Participant at the Inspiring Women in Engineering and Medicine Workshop

Dr. Petrone introduced Mr. Blake who talked about the process to apply to participate in this workshop. Mr. Blake introduced Sarah, who excitedly talked about her experience at the workshop. J. Beausoleil asked about the application process and why Sarah thought she may have gotten accepted. Sarah relayed her thoughts on that and that she has always wanted to be a pediatric surgeon.

IV.C. Recognition: CAPSS Superintendent Student Award Winners: CNH Grade 8 Students - Aubrey Talaga and Justin Foran and CHS Seniors - Nancy Conti and Benjamin Liptrap

Dr. Petrone said he is proud to recognize this year’s winners of the CAPSS Superintendent Student Awards. He said these students give a lot back to the school community. He asked both Ms. DeJulius and Mr. Blake to say a few words about these students.

There was a round of applause and congratulations from the Board.

IV.D. Recognition: CHS Advanced Placement Teachers: Gabe Kendall, Christine Kendall, Laura de la Llave, Kristen Sparks, and Liz Wright

Dr. Petrone talked about the teachers who participated as Advanced Placement readers. Mr. Blake also talked about the amount of effort that goes into the work. Dr. Petrone noted that not all of the teachers could attend tonight. He recognized Ms. Kendall, who thanked the Board and Superintendent for their support. She also talked about the process.

E. Marchand said the teachers and administrators are giving individual attention to our students and the students notice it.

J. Beausoleil said teachers give up a lot of time for our programs and the students. She thanked Ms. Kendall for her efforts.

P. Larson said he knows from his experience how much Coventry teachers care about the students.

IV.E. Information: Department Updates

IV.E.1. Food Services Department

Ms. Pratt thanked the Board and Superintendent for the opportunity to share information from her department. Ms. Pratt shared the Food Services update with the Board.

J. Beausoleil noted that Food Services has a Facebook account.

IV.E.2. Technology Department

Ms. Drury shared the Technology Department update with the Board.

M. Kortmann asked how the Chromebooks are working out. Ms. Drury said overall damages have been less especially since the costs associated with iPad screen damages are much more.

E. Marchand asked the students in the audience how they felt about the Chromebooks. One students said she liked them more.

M. Kortmann asked about the summer work that was done. Ms. Drury spoke to that, noting it was a busy summer.

IV.E.3. Facilities Department

Mr. Trudelle shared the Facilities Department update with the Board.
IV.E.4. Athletics
Mr. Cox shared the Athletic department update with the Board.

E. Marchand talked about the condition of the different facilities, including the fields.

M. Kortmann asked about the Town’s schedule for over-seeding. She said it might be something to be addressed by the 1% account. The Board continued to discuss funding for field maintenance, and noted they did not want the item to be forgotten.

E. Marchand said it is awesome that one quarter of the high school population is involved in athletics.

IV.E.5. Teaching and Learning
Ms. Mullaly shared the update for the Teaching and Learning department.

The Board discussed the pressure from the State in regard to Assessments and also the frustration by the districts regarding information that is not available in regard to the Next Generation Science Standards and the upcoming assessments.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda
V.A. Accept the retirement of Robert Longley, Custodian
V.B. Accept the resignation of Gene Trombley, Custodian
V.C. Accept the resignation of Heather Zilora, CGS Psychologist

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as presented
By: M. Kortmann Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Report of Chairman
J. Beausoleil noted the meeting that was held earlier this evening - the Joint Fiscal/Town Finance meeting. She also noted the CABE award that the Board is receiving and noted it is due to a combined effort with the Superintendent and administration. She talked about the budget season. J. Beausoleil also mentioned the recent page in the Chronicle showcasing Coventry school programs. She noted the CABE convention coming up next week.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes
VIII.A. Approve Minutes of October 4, 2018

MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 4, 2018
By: E. Marchand Seconded: M. Kortmann
Result: Motion passes unanimously

VIII.B. Approve Minutes of October 11, 2018

MOTION: To approve Minutes of October 11, 2018
By: M. Kortmann Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Old Business
IX.A. Information: Facilities Update
Board of Education Meeting Minutes of Thursday, November 8, 2018

Dr. Petrone noted this is a standing item, in case there are any questions. There were none.

IX.B. Policy Revisions
IX.B.1. VOTE: Approve the following policies as revised
IX.B.1.a. 1231 Non-Discrimination - Community
IX.B.1.b. 4110 Employment Checks
IX.B.1.c. 4111 Plan for Minority Staff Recruitment
IX.B.1.d. 4116.34 Abuse or Neglect of Disabled Adults
IX.B.1.e. 5125 Confidentiality and Access to Education Records
IX.B.1.f. 5131.6 Drug and Alcohol Use by Students
IX.B.1.g. 5141.4 Management Plan and Guidelines For Students with Food Allergies and-or Glycogen Storage Disease
IX.B.1.h. 5141.21 Administration of Medications in Schools
IX.B.1.i. 5143 Restraint and Seclusion

MOTION: To approve the following policies listed on the agenda as revised
By: E. Marchand  Seconded: M. Kortmann
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX.B.2. Information and Discussion of Policies up for Revision (To be warned for a VOTE at a future regular Board meeting)
IX.B.2.a. 4116.35 Child Abuse Neglect and Sexual Assault Reporting
IX.B.2.b. 5144 Student Discipline

There were no objections to move these forward for a vote at a future Board meeting.

X. New Business

X.A. Information and possible VOTE: Adjust April 9, 2019 Early Release Professional Development Day to April 10, 2019

Dr. Petrone reviewed the reason for changing the Early Release date to April 10. He stated this has to do with the date that SATs can be taken and the data that is available with the April 9 date.

MOTION: To approve the change of the April 2019 Early Release date as noted
By: P. Larson  Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

X.B. Information and Possible VOTE: Approve 2019 Board of Education Regular Meeting Dates

J. Beausoleil noted the Halloween holiday on a Thursday and that meeting would take place on Wednesday, October 30. She also said there would be one meeting in July and one in August, as has been our recent practice.

MOTION: To approve the 2019 Board of Education meeting dates
By: M. Kortmann  Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

XI. Report of Board Members

XI.A. Information: Fiscal Committee Report - Meeting of November 8, 2018

Mr. Carroll reviewed the reports for October. He talked about the bottom line of the management report, which picked up approximately an additional $41,000 in various line items, including
certified salaries. He continued to say a retirement for December 31 just came in. He added that health insurance is trending up. He said he factored in savings under heat, due to the new furnaces and the second season of using natural gas.

Mr. Carroll and Dr. Petrone reviewed the special education outplacements and the new ones of which we were recently informed.

J. Beausoleil noted that the special education line is $121,000 in the red. Dr. Petrone said it is still early. J. Beausoleil added that the August and September changes in staff, due to unexpected resignations and retirements, are helping to offset the special education line, otherwise we would be really upside-down.

The Board talked about retirements mid-year and how that affects different aspects of the school.

M. Kortmann noted Food Service looks terrible this time of year, as it always does. Mr. Carroll said the preschool report looks great.

XII. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:54 p.m.

By: M. Kortmann          Seconded: P. Larson

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: December 13, 2018