

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Transportation Committee Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of October 08, 2020  
Remote/Electronic

Committee Members Present:

Barbara Paré, Committee Chair  
Eugene Marchand  
Jennifer Beausoleil, Board Chair

Committee Members Absent:

Robert Williams

Administrators Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools  
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations  
Christian Marcinczyk, Transportation Public Liaison

**I. Call to Order**

B. Paré called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**II. Audience of Citizens**

There were none.

**III. VOTE: Approve Minutes of August 26, 2020**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of August 26, 2020**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: J. Beausoleil**

Discussion: B. Paré asked that her name be spelled correctly throughout.

**Result: Motion to approve the minutes with corrections to the spelling of Paré**

**IV. Discussion: Review Additional Information Regarding Bus Stop Request**

B. Paré reviewed the information received by the Uriano family.

Dr. Petrone said the parents felt there was additional information, beyond the first request, for the Committee to hear.

E. Marchand said he feels it is the same information with the exception of the pictures and asked for an update from the administration.

C. Marcinczyk said yes, the pictures added are new and have different aspects available. She added that Mr. Uriano shared a recent incident of a dog being hit and killed, while being walked on a short leash. She said there wasn't any confirmation of this information. She

reviewed the data provided by the police department. She added that Mr. Carroll, herself, and Dr. Petrone all visited the site in person.

Dr. Petrone said the parents wanted to share that due to the pandemic there is an increase in traffic of parents dropping off students to the middle/high school. J. Beausoleil noted this could actually decrease traffic speed.

E. Marchand asked for the age of the student and the distance from the house to the school. Ms. Marcinczyk said it is a sixth grade student. She said the distance is just under a half of a mile. She added that there about 34 students in that neighborhood walking to school.

E. Marchand said he is concerned that this is only a half a mile and it is well within our walking guidelines. He added, he is concerned with setting a precedent, keeping in mind that many other roads in Coventry might have the same type of hazards. He said he appreciates the parents' concerns and the time spent and pictures they sent.

J. Beausoleil said this is within a half a mile and not even near the extreme range in the policy. She said this would open up a significant precedent for all walkers to the complex. She added that this is a new neighborhood and the streets are wider and nicer than 70% of other streets in this community. She said she is cautious about approving a weak case and what that would mean going forward when requests come in. E. Marchand agreed.

Ms. Marcinczyk said this is not significantly different than some of the other areas where students have to walk. She said there is always the parents' perception of what might be dangerous compared to others. She said she is not seeing how this area is more dangerous than others and the police data confirmed that.

E. Marchand said the Committee has reviewed many pictures over the years and these pictures do not compare to some of the more dangerous areas.

B. Paré asked for clarification regarding the Administrators' recommendation.

E. Marchand said the parents are appealing the administration's decision. He said it is the Committee's call at this point.

**MOTION: To respectfully deny this request**

Discussion: C. Marcinczyk said it is her role to provide the data and she is not comfortable giving her vote.

Dr. Petrone said he believes all information has been provided as requested.

B. Paré asked if any other alternatives or suggestions have been given to the parents. J. Beausoleil said the purview of the Transportation Committee is to offer the bus or walking and it is not the committee's responsibility to go beyond that.

J. Beausoleil asked for B. Pare's view of the motion on the table.

B. Paré said she is trying to consider what would happen if we would approve the request. J. Beausoleil asked what aspect of the policy gives that justification.

B. Paré said she is being asked to deny this appeal and she feels she should weigh all options. E. Marchand said if there is an extraordinary circumstance, the decision should be made based on policy or any new information.

J. Beausoleil said there is a difference between safety and preference.  
B. Paré said her decision is based on the safety of one individual.

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

**V. Adjournment**

**MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 5:27 p.m.**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: J. Beausoleil**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

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Respectfully submitted:

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme  
Board Clerk

Approved: July 21, 2021