

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of March 11, 2021
Remote/Electronic

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
William Oros, Vice-Chairman
Eugene Marchand, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Christina Williams
Robert Williams

Administrators Present:

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

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

J. Beausoleil read the one Audience of Citizens letter from parent Lorraine Catuccio, which is attached to these minutes.

IV. New Business

A. VOTE: Accept the Resignation of Board Member Barbara Paré

J. Beausoleil said this meeting was needed to conduct business related to Barbara Paré's resignation from the Board. She read the resignation in full, which is attached to these minutes.

MOTION: Accept the resignation of Board Member Barbara Paré effective March 2, 2021, with regret.

By: W. Oros

Seconded: C. Williams

Discussion: C. Williams publicly thanked Barbara for her service. R. Williams thanked Barbara for her service. J. Beausoleil added she appreciated Barbara's perspective and experiences.

Result: Motion passes unanimously

B. Discussion/Review: Procedures for Filling the BOE Vacancy

J. Beausoleil reviewed the timeline and process to fill the vacancy.

W. Oros verified that interested people will submit a resume with the intent.

C. Williams asked how the swearing in goes. Dr. Petrone said the swearing in cannot happen virtually, but must happen in person.

C. Williams asked if folks can speak on behalf of those who are interested in filling the spot. J. Beausoleil said yes, they can submit that through the audience of citizens email address.

E. Marchand said the process has been used and it makes sense.

J. Beausoleil said the deadline to submit by is March 24. She added that the information can be posted for the Board's review prior to the meeting.

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

By: W. Oros

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: March 25, 2021

From: [Lorraine Fraga](#)
To: [audienceBOE](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Thank you for keeping our kids in school!
Date: Monday, March 8, 2021 11:12:10 AM

Hello Dr Petrone and Board of Ed members,

My name is Lorraine Catuccio, I have 1 daughter in CGS and 2 at GHR. I want to take this time to thank you all for making it your top priority to have all Coventry schools full in person learning since Sept 28th. I can not express how grateful my family is for the opportunity to have the kids in school. I know many others in the community feel this way as well. I don't need to tell you all the reasons why I think it is the best option for kids, because I'm sure you are well aware of them. And I understand that the decision to keep schools open was most likely met with some backlash from others. Thank you for relying on facts and science, not fear, to keep our schools open. I cringe every time I hear a school is finally going from remote/hybrid to in person just now! I am not an educator, but I can only imagine how difficult it is even for the most seasoned teacher to teach in any other manner than in person. With that said, I think we have the most remarkable teachers who have risen to the occasion and are doing a phenomenal job!

Thank you for keeping parents in the loop every step of the way. I appreciate the open communication throughout the year and how you handled the quarantine situation as they occurred class by class.

My friends and family from out of town are always so surprised when I tell them Coventry schools have been full in since Sept 28th. And I always reply with, "It's working, it can be done!"

So, again, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am so proud to be a member of this community. Your administrators, principals, teachers, para educators, nurses, office staff, custodians, cafeteria workers and every single staff member (just in case I forgot anyone else) that walks through those school doors have all gone above and beyond!

Sincerely,
Lorraine Catuccio

Subject:

FW: [EXTERNAL] Coventry Board of Education

----- Original message -----

From: Barbara Pare

Date: 3/2/21 8:21 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Lori Tollmann

Cc: Jennifer Beausoleil

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Coventry Board of Education

Hello Lori,

Effectively immediately I am resigning from the Board of Education. It has been an honor and a pleasure serving the citizens of Coventry.

It was my intention to serve my term and remain in Coventry even after the sale of my home. This morning, my plans for residency in Coventry have not gone as planned, and I will need to temporarily have an address outside of town. I worked hard to prevent having to live outside of Coventry being that I have been here for over 25 years and have much love for my town. Now that my address will not be Coventry, it's for this reason I know I am not able to remain as a member of the Board of Education.

Sincerely,

Barbara Paré

Providing Opportunities So People Can Live Healthier Lives!

Barbara Paré

Event Manager, A Balanced Life