

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of October 29, 2020
Remote/Electronic

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
Eugene Marchand, Secretary
Mary Kortmann
Barbara Pare
Christina Williams (arrived at 6:12 p.m.)

Board Members Absent:

William Oros, Vice Chairman
Robert Williams

Administrator Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools

Also Present:

Jessica Ritter, Attorney with Shipman and Goodwin

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Information: Board Professional Development - Diversity Training

Jessica Ritter, of Shipman and Goodwin, reviewed with the Board a slide show presentation titled "Diversity, Inclusion, and Sensitivity Training."

C. Williams arrived at 6:12 p.m.

Ms. Ritter completed her presentation and left.

There was a brief recess.

Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations, joined the meeting.
Emma Murphy, Student Board of Education Representative, joined the meeting.

III. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag at 7:01 p.m.

IV. Audience of Citizens

There were none.

V. Report of Superintendent

Dr. Petrone started his report with announcing that the Lions Club made a donation of \$500 to each school. He said the funds would go into each school's activity fund. He continued that how the funds are spent will be reported back to the Board and the Club.

J. Beausoleil said this is a very generous donation and we are grateful to have this club in the community.

Dr. Petrone continued and spoke about the various meetings taking place around the region and state.

E. Marchand said he would like to hear more about the National Blue Ribbon School designation. Dr. Petrone said it is a really big deal; there were only four schools in Connecticut recognized. He said there will be celebrations in the spring.

A. Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report

Emma Murphy noted the first quarter ends tomorrow. She added that it has been spirit week at the high school this week. She said many college applications are due and students are starting to hear back. She said the seniors booked their prom for May.

VI. Report of Chairman

J. Beausoleil again thanked the Lions Club for their generous funding to the schools.

She reminded folks that there is no school on Election Day, due to voting at GHR and CHS.

J. Beausoleil said Project Graduation is continuing with their fundraising with bottle and can drives. She thanked the community for their support.

J. Beausoleil said the Town Council approved the Administrators' Agreement and also determined that they don't need to approve the 1% requests if the item is on the CIP list. She noted that on November 12 there will be a joint Fiscal/Finance meeting.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of October 8, 2020

MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 8, 2020

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Old Business

A. Information: COVID-19 Update

Dr. Petrone said we are going strong all in-person. He said we will continue as long as we can. He thanked the students and staff for all they do every day.

Dr. Petrone said, as of today, the rumor that the Governor is closing schools for two weeks after Thanksgiving is not true.

He continued that he is working with staff regarding Remote Learning Days on Snow Days. He said there is work to do and he would bring it back to the Board.

E. Marchand noted the Nursing position in the Reopening Plan; how are the nurses doing? Dr. Petrone said it is tasking for them, but they are doing a great job. He said he is working closely with Therese McKeever, who has been on the DPH calls with him.

Dr. Petrone spoke about athletics and it looks as if, as of today, basketball may be the only winter sport.

B. Pare asked if transportation needs have changed. Dr. Petrone said, everything is about the same. He added that some students, who have been remote, are changing their plans and coming back. He said parents have been so appreciative and supportive.

M. Kortmann asked about the rapid testing that might be available to schools. Dr. Petrone said this is not something that would benefit Coventry and we would not be pursuing it. He added that the accuracy of the tests is in question. M. Kortmann agreed and wanted to know if the State was pushing it on schools. Dr. Petrone said no, not yet.

C. Williams asked if remote students who contract the virus have to report that. Dr. Petrone said yes, and the District has to report it to the State Department of Public Health.

X. New Business

**A. Information and VOTE: Accept Completion of the following three projects: George Hersey Robertson School oil tank removal and replacement project 032-0060CV
Coventry Grammar School oil tank removal and replacement project 032-0063CV
Capt. Nathan Hale School oil tank removal project 032-0061CV**

MOTION: To accept as complete the George Hersey Robertson School oil tank removal and replacement project 032-0060CV

By: B. Paré

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

MOTION: To accept as complete the Coventry Grammar School oil tank removal and replacement project 032-0063CV

By: C. Williams

Seconded: B. Paré

Result: Motion passes unanimously

MOTION: To accept as complete the Capt. Nathan Hale School oil tank removal project 032-0061CV

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Williams

Result: Motion passes unanimously

XI. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

By: C. Williams

Seconded: B. Paré

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: November 12, 2020