

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of Thursday, November 11, 2021  
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil  
Peter DePaola  
Emma Eaton  
Mary Kortmann  
Eugene Marchand  
Courtney Rossignol  
Christina Williams

Others Present: Celia Delvecchio, Student Board of Education Representative

Administrators Present:

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

Audience: Several community members; Dorothy Grady, Justice of the Peace; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Ronda Carrie, CGS Principal; Jennifer DeRagon, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; and Christian Marcinczyk, CNH Assistant Principal.

**I. Call to Order – Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Petrone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Salute to the Flag**

Dr. Petrone led the salute to the flag.

**III. Swearing in of Board of Education Members**

Ms. Grady swore in all members of the Board of Education.

**IV. Election of Board Officers: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary**

Dr. Petrone explained the process for electing officers and began with the election of the Chairperson.

Dr. Petrone asked for nominations for Chairperson.

**MOTION: To nominate J. Beausoleil as Chairperson**

**By: C. Williams**                      **No second needed**

There were no other nominations. D. Petrone asked for a roll call vote, which was as follows:

C. Williams voted for J. Beausoleil  
P. DePaola voted for J. Beausoleil  
C. Rossignol voted for J. Beausoleil  
J. Beausoleil voted for J. Beausoleil  
M. Kortmann voted for J. Beausoleil  
E. Eaton voted for J. Beausoleil  
E. Marchand voted for J. Beausoleil

**Result: The vote was 7-0. J. Beausoleil was appointed as the Chairperson**

J. Beausoleil asked for nominations for Vice-Chairperson

**MOTION: To nominate E. Marchand as Vice-Chairperson**

**By: M. Kortmann**                      **No second needed**

**MOTION: To nominate P. DePaola as Vice-Chairperson**

**By: C. Williams**                      **No second needed**

There were no other nominations. J. Beausoleil asked for a roll call vote, which was as follows:

C. Williams voted for P. DePaola  
P. DePaola voted for P. DePaola  
C. Rossignol voted for P. DePaola  
J. Beausoleil voted for E. Marchand  
M. Kortmann voted for E. Marchand  
E. Eaton voted for E. Marchand  
E. Marchand voted for E. Marchand

**Result: The vote was 4-3, in favor of E. Marchand. E. Marchand was appointed Vice-Chairman.**

J. Beausoleil asked for nominations for Secretary.

**MOTION: Nominate M. Kortmann as Secretary**

**By: E. Eaton** **No second needed**

**MOTION: Nominate P. DePaola as Secretary**

**By: P. DePaola** **No second needed**

There were no other nominations. J. Beausoleil asked for a roll call vote, which was as follows:

C. Williams voted for P. DePaola  
P. DePaola voted for P. DePaola  
C. Rossignol voted for P. DePaola  
J. Beausoleil voted for M. Kortmann  
M. Kortmann voted for M. Kortmann

E. Eaton voted for M. Kortmann  
E. Marchand voted for M. Kortmann

**Result: The vote was 4-3, in favor of M. Kortmann. M. Kortmann was appointed as Secretary.**

## **V. Audience of Citizens**

Lisa Thomas, 255 Geraldine Drive, Town Council Chairperson, thanked the new Board for serving and congratulating them on being elected.

Caroline Davis, 302 Pine Lake Drive, congratulated the Board on being elected. She also spoke about the importance of students still wearing masks in schools.

## **VI. Report of Superintendent**

Dr. Petrone talked about the activities taking place in the schools on Veterans Day. He continued and noted several other items related to local, regional, and state issues.

C. Williams said she was appreciative of the activities surrounding Veterans Day. She added it would be great if a Junior ROTC program could be added as an option for students.

P. DePaola complimented the schools for being open on Veterans Day and focusing on the importance of veterans.

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

Miss Delvecchio introduced herself to the new Board members. She continued and relayed activities happening at CHS, including Veterans Day, the end of the first quarter, athletics, and senior class happenings.

E. Marchand talked about the position of Student Board of Education Representative and how fortunate the Board is to have this position in place.

### **B. Information: Administrator 2021-2022 Goal Presentations**

#### **VI. B. 1. Coventry Grammar School**

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. Carrie, who shared the goals for Coventry Grammar School for the 2021-22 school year. These goals are available on the district's website.

C. Williams asked about the one year growth targets. R. Carrie explained how the process for evaluating a year's growth.

#### **VI. B. 2. G. H. Robertson School**

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. DeRagon, who shared the goals for the G. H. Robertson School for the 2021-22 school year. These goals are available on the district's website.

E. Marchand talked about the student led conferences. Ms. DeRagon talked about students using Google Slides as part of that process.

M. Kortmann asked about the test results and the impact of the pandemic. J. DeRagon said the preassessment data was right in line with September numbers for the past three years.

C. Williams asked about the trauma informed practice. J. DeRagon said it is a process of understanding the student's behavior instead of handing out a punishment.

C. Williams asked if the appropriate professional development is being provided to teachers. J. DeRagon said, yes, we are always working with teachers to determine what is needed.

P. DePaola asked about the interventions taking place. J. DeRagon talked about how that has looked since the beginning of the school year and stated they are always looking how to best service kids.

### **VI. B. 3. Capt. Nathan Hale School**

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. DeJulius, who shared the goals for the Capt. Nathan Hale School for the 2021-22 school year. Those goals are available on the district's website.

E. Eaton noted she is pleased with the self-advocacy and self-determination work with students at the middle school.

C. Williams asked about attendance problems. Ms. DeJulius said it is not a widespread problem, but it is something they are focusing on since the pandemic. Dr. Petrone said it is a state requirement that districts have to focus on this issue.

C. Williams talked about the parent communication goal. Ms. DeJulius said teachers are focused on completing PowerSchool tasks, sending their own communications to families, personalizing comments, and reaching out to parents whose child may be struggling. She added that time is being provided for teachers to work on parent communication.

Miss Delvecchio said she was very impressed with the student posters on diversity.

### **VII. Report of Chairman**

J. Beausoleil thanked Ms. Grady for coming tonight and she thanked the veterans who have served.

J. Beausoleil welcomed the new Board members and reviewed a few general items.

### **VII. A. Committee and Liaison Assignments**

Ms. Beausoleil assigned board members to serve on the various committees and as liaisons. She noted the list would be updated and provided to all members. The appointments were as follows:

- Expulsion Committee: E. Marchand (Chair), M. Kortmann, C. Williams (P. DePaola alternate)
- Fiscal Committee: M. Kortmann (Chair), P. DePaola, E. Eaton
- Grievance Committee: M. Kortmann (Chair), E. Marchand, C. Rossignol
- Negotiations – Custodians: J. Beausoleil, P. DePaola, E. Marchand
- Negotiations - Para-Educators: E. Eaton, M. Kortmann, C. Rossignol
- Policy Committee: E. Eaton (Chair), E. Marchand, C. Rossignol
- Residency Committee: E. Eaton (Chair), M. Kortmann, C. Williams
- Scholarship Committee: Three members are assigned each spring.
- Transportation: E. Marchand (Chair), P. DePaola, E. Eaton

- Curriculum Liaison: E. Marchand
- District Technology Committee Liaison: E. Eaton
- EASTCONN Representative: J. Beausoleil
- Athletic Advisory Representative: E. Marchand
- District Wellness Committee Liaison: C. Rossignol
- Cable Advisory Representative (Town): C. Williams
- Building and Energy Efficiency Committee (Town): M. Kortmann
- CHS Walls Code Compliance Building Committee (Town): E. Marchand
- Pension Committee (Town): M. Kortmann
- Community Conversations (Town): E. Eaton

**IX. VOTE: Approval of Minutes**

**Approve Minutes of October 28, 2021**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 28, 2021**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: M. Kortmann**

**Result: Motion passes 4-0-3 (P. DePaola, E. Eaton, C. Rossignol abstain)**

**X. Old Business**

**X. A. Information: Microgrid Update**

R. Carroll noted that there was no new news at this time. Dr. Petrone agreed.

**XI. New Business**

**XI. A. Information: COVID-19, Screen and Stay Initiative**

Dr. Petrone reviewed the new COVID-19 Screen and Stay protocol. He reviewed a few beneficial bullet points.

The Board discussed the various details.

**XII. Adjournment**

**MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m.**

**By: C. Williams**

**Seconded: M. Kortmann**

**Result: Motion carries unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,

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 Kimberlee Arey Delorme  
 Board Clerk

Approved: December 9, 2021