

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, December 9, 2021
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairperson
Mary Kortmann, Secretary
Peter DePaola
Emma Eaton
Courtney Rossignol
Christina Williams

Administrator Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent

Also Present:

Jessica Ritter, Shipman and Goodwin

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

II. Information: Board of Education Professional Development - Roles and Responsibilities

Jessica Ritter provided a presentation on Board of Education roles and responsibilities.

There was a brief recess at the end of the presentation.

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members: Dr. Lois Hasty, Preschool and Early Childhood Education Coordinator and CNH Girls Soccer Coach; Patrick Cox, Athletic Director; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Michel Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Dr. Beth Giller, PSSS Director; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; parents and students from the CNH and CHS Girls Soccer Teams

III. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag at 7:05 p.m.

IV. Audience of Citizens

Christina Williams, 436 Ripley Hill Road, asked the Board, Administration, and Dr. Petrone to keep the improvement of the entrance at GHR, and facilities in general, in mind during the budget season.

V. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Petrone reviewed happenings taking place around the district, region, and state.

V.A. Student Recognition: CNH Girls Soccer Team - Winning the Northeast Middle School Athletic Conference Title

Dr. Petrone recognized the CNH Girls Soccer Team as the Northeast Middle School Athletic Conference champions. Dr. Hasty spoke about the team and the season they had. Ms. DeJulius expressed her pride in the team. There was congratulations by all.

V.B. Student Recognition: CHS Girls Soccer Team - 2020 Zenon J. Sosnowski Sportsmanship Award

Dr. Petrone congratulated the team for receiving the 2020 Zenon J. Sosnowski Sportsmanship Award. He introduced Mr. Cox who spoke about the team and the award. Mr. Blake also said a few words of commendation. There was congratulations by all.

V.C. Information: Board of Education Student Representative Report

Mr. Blake spoke on behalf of Celia Delvecchio. He noted there will be a live audience for the band concert next week, following all COVID-19 protocols. He added that PJ Day is tomorrow, Friday, December 10.

V.D. Information: Coventry Academy Update

Dr. Petrone reviewed the Coventry Academy Update presentation, which is available on the district's website via the BoardBook portal.

P. DePaola asked about the student population at the Academy. Dr. Petrone said they are all currently Coventry students. C. Williams asked about fire alarm. Dr. Petrone said there is already a fire alarm out there which will manage the new space as well.

J. Beausoleil noted that the results of Coventry Academy have been outstanding.

V.E. Information: Administrator 2021-2022 Goal Presentations

V.E. 1. Coventry High School

Dr. Petrone introduced Mr. Blake who shared the Coventry High School goals for the 2021-22 school year. [These goals are available on the district website.]

C. Williams talked about the smart goals and pushing the numbers higher. Mr. Blake said, the scale has just been adjusted by the state, we want to make sure we are in line with that.

J. Beausoleil talked about the dual enrollment coursework. She noted that there is not a lottery for these classes, but if a student is in good standing and is interested, they can take the course.

V.E.2.Pupil and Staff Support Services

Dr. Petrone introduced Dr. Giller who shared the Pupil and Staff Support Services goals for the 2021-22 school year. [These goals are on the district website.]

The Board discussed the Aperture Education CASEL-aligned social and emotional learning system; the attendance goal; and the ABA program.

V.F. Information: African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies

Mr. Blake shared the presentation, which is available on the district's website via the BoardBook portal.

Dr. Petrone said this course must be offered, but it is an elective. Mr. Blake said it does not have to be run, if there are not enough interested students.

E. Marchand said he hopes students will take advantage of this opportunity and this is a great piece to our evolving to a better understanding.

VI. Report of the Chairman

In reflecting on the recent holiday, J. Beausoleil thanked the staff for everything they do throughout the year.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VIII. A. Approve Minutes of November 11, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes of November 11, 2021.

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: E. Marchand

Discussion: C. Williams asked on page 3 of 5, during the Superintendent's Report, that her comment about wanting a Junior ROTC program be added as an option for students.

Result: The motion to approve the minutes as amended passes unanimously

IX. New Business

IX.A. Information: FY23 Budget Planning Dates 2022

J. Beausoleil reviewed the budget schedule.

C. Williams asked for the 5 year look back of the Management Reports. C. Williams asked for additional clarification of technology and enrichment to be a focus.

IX.B. Information and Possible VOTE: Addition of Early Release Day (01/14/22) to the 2021-22 Calendar

J. Beausoleil said the goal for this request is to provide time for staff to be able to get their booster. She added that this will reduce the need for substitutes. Dr. Petrone added that this is being backed up to a long weekend to allow for time for recovery from any reactions. Dr. Petrone said the hope is, with early notice, staff will schedule their booster for that day. E. Marchand said this is a thank you to our teachers.

E. Eaton asked if we know how many have already received their booster. Dr. Petrone said the feeling is that most are waiting for the Board to make a decision first.

MOTION: To approve the addition of an early release day on January 14, 2022.

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Williams

Result: Motion passes unanimously

X. Report of Board Members

X. A. Information: Walls Committee Report

E. Marchand reviewed the latest information from the Committee. He noted that, if all goes well, this could be completed this coming summer.

X.B. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meetings of November 11 and December 9

Dr. Petrone noted the minutes from November 11 are attached. M. Kortmann reviewed the meeting of December 9. She said we are upside down by \$50,000 in outplacements. She said the outplacement issue is being offset by transportation, which has savings due to the 18th bus not being run. She mentioned the concerns over the electricity line. Mr. Carroll noted the issue of the maintenance vehicle (truck) that needs replacing.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

By: C. Williams

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: January 13, 2022