

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Board of Education Regular Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of Thursday, July 28, 2022  
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson  
Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairperson  
Peter DePaola  
Emma Eaton  
Courtney Rossignol  
Christina Williams

Board Members Absent:

Mary Kortmann, Secretary

Administrators Present:

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

Audience: Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching & Learning; Ross Sward, CNH Principal; Jennifer DeRagon, GHR Principal; Ronda Carrie, CGS Principal; and Donna Zuber, CNH Psychologist

**I. Call to Order**

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**II. Salute to the Flag**

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

**III. Audience of Citizens**

There were none.

**IV. Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Petrone mentioned a few summer items. He noted we have an approved budget and that summer is busy with hiring, facilities projects, and preparing for the next school year.

**IV.A. Information: ESSER II ARP/ESSER Student Achievement Presentation**

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. Mullaly who began the presentation on ESSER II ARP/ESSER Student Achievement, which is available via the district's website. Ms. Carrie, Ms. DeRagon, Mr. Sward, Ms. Zuber and Mr. Carroll all took turns presenting.

E. Marchand said he was very impressed with the information provided. He asked how students were recruited to the programs. Ms. Carrie said some parents reached out, flyers were also distributed, and students involved in the intervention programs were invited. She added that every student who needed support this school year received it in one way or another. Dr. Petrone said schedules were adjusted to meet the needs of families. He added that there were students who could not attend and, for those, their needs were addressed during the school day.

The Board discussed kindergarten preparedness, comparing results from last year to this summer, continuing and improving Best Practices, the "drop in" approach at the 6-12 level, and outreach Saturdays.

P. DePaola asked about tracking the data for those students who did not attend the programs and about the data on performance pre-COVID and post-COVID - comparing ourselves. Dr. Petrone said we always look at the data from the assessment results. P. DePaola asked about the social emotional aspect. Dr. Petrone said that was presented in the spring to the Board.

C. Williams asked about the tutoring at the middle school vs the high school. Ms. Mullaly said it has to do with the availability of the students and high school students have a different, more fluid schedule. Dr. Petrone said we will be studying the results from the middle school.

The Board discussed tracking intervention data, peer to peer support, and funding from the grants and how it is allocated.

#### **IV.B. Information: Curriculum Update**

Dr. Petrone reintroduced Ms. Mullaly, who presented an update on the curriculum. That presentation is available through the district's website.

C. Williams expressed her delight with the new curriculum website.

The Board discussed the possible waiver option from the State, the number of business courses and student attendance, how to review courses and units on the new curriculum webpage, health curriculum, firearm safety, and suicide prevention.

E. Eaton thanked Ms. Mullaly and Ms. Drury and their teams for their efforts with developing the website.

#### **V. VOTE: Consent Agenda**

J. Beausoleil asked that the retirement be removed from the Consent Agenda.

#### **V.A. Accept retirement of Janine Goldsnider, GHR Teacher**

**MOTION: To accept the retirement of Janine Goldsnider with regret.**

**By: E. Eaton**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

Discussion: J. Beausoleil noted what an outstanding educator Ms. Goldsnider is and wished her well in her retirement. E. Eaton commented on Ms. Goldsnider and that it is a loss for GHR.

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

**VI. Report of the Chairman**

J. Beausoleil commented on the budget passing and what a relief it is.

**VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes**

**VIII.A. Approve Minutes of June 16, 2022**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of June 16, 2022.**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: P. DePaola**

**Result: Motion passes 5-1 (C. Williams abstains)**

**IX. Old Business**

**IX.A. VOTE: Adopt the Final FY2022-2023 Budget**

**MOTION: To adopt the final FY2023 budget that was passed at the June 28, 2022 referendum**

**By: E. Eaton**

**Seconded: C. Williams**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

**X. Report of Board Members**

**X.A. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meetings of July 14, 2022 (Joint Finance and July Fiscal)**

Mr. Carroll said we finished the year with \$3,700 of unexpended funds, which were returned to the Town. He said the transfer of \$40,000 was made to the Board's 2% non-lapsing account. Mr. Carroll continued and noted the Food Service program and preschool program did excellent, coming in with better revenues than expected. Dr. Petrone said special education has been adjusted and there was \$13,000 in savings.

Mr. Carroll said a transfer is up for discussion and approval tonight.

Dr. Petrone said at the joint Town Finance/Fiscal meeting the CIP was discussed for clarification. J. Beausoleil asked that an updated CIP be brought to the next Fiscal meeting.

The Board discussed the student meals and the funding that is coming from the state.

**X.A.1. VOTE: Approve Budget Transfer**

**MOTION: To approve the transfer of \$40,000 from account 100 salaries to account 200 employee benefits**

**By: E. Eaton**

**Seconded: E. Marchand**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

**X.A.2. VOTE: Increase Food Service Student Meal Prices 22-23**

J. Beausoleil asked for questions related to the increase in prices.

C. Williams asked if we have to increase the prices. Dr. Petrone said yes, due to federal regulations.

C. Rossignol asked if surplus funds from the Food Service accounts could be used to offset the increase. J. Beausoleil said the funds cannot be used that way, but can be used in other areas, such as equipment. C. Williams expressed her concern with raising these prices. Dr. Petrone explained, unfortunately, these regulations are set at the federal level.

**MOTION: To approve the meal price increases as presented in the attachment**

**By: E. Eaton**

**Seconded: P. DePaola**

**Result: Motion passes 4-1-1 (C. Williams against, C. Rossignol abstains)**

## **XI. Adjournment**

**MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.**

**By: C. Williams**

**Seconded: E. Eaton**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

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Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme  
Board Clerk

Approved: August 25, 2022