

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Transportation Committee Meeting
Approved Minutes of August 13, 2020
Remote/Electronic Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Board Chair
Eugene Marchand
Robert Williams

Committee Members Absent:

Barbara Pare, Transportation Chair

Others Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations
Christian Marcinczyk, Transportation Public Relations Liaison
David Dexter, M&J Dispatcher

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Audience of Citizens

J. Beausoleil indicated there were no audience of citizens' emails, but this would be a good time for Mr. Carroll to share feedback from the Q&A sessions.

Mr. Carroll reviewed those questions and answers, which included the best way to fill and unload a bus; whether students can ride the bus from GHR to CGS for parent pick up; and transportation of East Catholic students. The Committee decided to discuss these items during the meeting.

III. VOTE: Approve Minutes of May 14, 2020

MOTION: Approve the Transportation Committee Minutes of May 14, 2020

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: R. Williams

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV. Discuss: Reopening 2020-2021 School Year

A. Bus Cleaning Protocols

Dr. Petrone said they agreed that between each run the buses would be sanitized.

The Committee discussed the procedures surrounding this cleaning.

Dr. Petrone reiterated that there should be no special requests honored by the bus company; all requests need to be approved by the administration.

Mr. Carroll said the sanitizing solution will be provided by the facilities department, along with a limited number of face masks. Dr. Petrone requested that M&J give a two day lead time when running low on supplies.

The Committee continued to discuss cleaning protocols, accountability, driver capacity, contract tracing, and protocols for screening drivers each day. Mr. Dexter said he would forward the bus driver screening to the management.

The Committee expected back information on the driver health screenings and what the substitute driver pool looks like.

Dr. Petrone said that the bus company has to adhere to the state guidelines; the guidelines are not ours, but from the state.

V. Review and Approve 2020-2021 Bus Routes

The Committee talked about the procedures in place as bus routes are developed, run, and reviewed.

J. Beausoleil confirmed if M&J received all of the information needed from the district. Mr. Dexter said yes.

J. Beausoleil asked about the kindergarten stops. Mr. Dexter confirmed all current kindergartners, with accessible access, have door to door service.

J. Beausoleil asked if 2019-20 kindergarten were moved off of door to door service. Mr. Dexter said yes, where applicable.

The Committee reviewed the request to address a CNH/CHS stop at Windswept Way. It was decided it would stay as is for now.

Dr. Petrone discussed the decision to have school in person or hybrid and how much time the bus company would need to adjust routes. Mr. Dexter said area bus companies are running the same runs whether hybrid or not.

J. Beausoleil said she is wondering how the timing of that will work for parents.

Mr. Dexter said he would review the routes as soon as he knows the mode of learning.

The Committee discussed the challenges associated with the hybrid option.

Mr. Dexter said he would provide updated information to the schools as soon as possible.

The conversation turned to the actual routes as submitted.

Mr. Carroll noted the routes are available on CABA-meeting for the committee members to review. Mr. Carroll was able to share specific routes virtually via map software.

E. Marchand asked what metrics were used to pick the bus stops. Mr. Dexter said kindergartners are door to door; only right hand pick-ups and drop offs on Main Street and Route 44. He said they followed Board policy and past practice.

The Committee discussed special parent requests.

The Committee requested a follow up meeting.

MOTION: Accept a motion to provisionally accept the full reopen bus routes as presented tonight

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: R. Williams

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: R. Williams

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: August 26, 2020