

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Fiscal Committee Meeting

Approved Minutes of Thursday, February 9, 2023
Administration Building Conference Room

Committee Members Present:

Mary Kortmann, Fiscal Chair
Peter DePaola
Emma Eaton
Jennifer Beausoleil, Ex-Officio

Administrators Present:

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

Audience: Eugene Marchand, Board Vice-Chair; Christina Williams, Board Member;
Courtney Rossignol, Board Member; and one observer.

I. Call to Order

M. Kortmann called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. VOTE: Approve Fiscal Minutes of January 12, 2023

MOTION: To approve Fiscal Minutes of January 12, 2023

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III. Financial Reports for January 31, 2023

III.A. Management Report

Mr. Carroll noted the budget is in the red by approximately \$37,000. Dr. Petrone reviewed the various actions they are taking to address the situation, which they will discuss tonight.

Mr. Carroll said the CT House of Representatives has approved the excess cost reimbursement amount at 88%. He said it still has to go through the Senate and the Governor, but we are hopeful.

Mr. Carroll added that we are now down 2 buses almost every day, which could be a savings of approximately \$3,000 a month.

The Committee talked about health insurance, utilities, heat energy, unemployment, and tuition reimbursement.

III.B. Encumbrance Reports

Mr. Carroll said most of the grant carry over money has been spent.

III.C. Capital and Special Funds

Mr. Carroll noted the tuition fund. He said he moved the special education van and the stage curtains to July 1.

III.C.1. Tuition Fund Expenditures - 2 Year Look-Back

Dr. Petrone said he thought the attached information would be helpful as a review of how the funds are being used.

III.D. Special Education Tuition/Excess Cost

M. Kortmann noted this is the area with the big change, due to a special education outplacement.

The Committee discussed the new proposed reimbursement number of 88% and agreed nothing should be changed until it becomes official at the state level.

III.E. Preschool Fund

Mr. Carroll noted all is looking good.

III.F. Food Service

Mr. Carroll said if you look at December's numbers, this is what we are used to - no more federal funds supporting the program.

IV. Information: Use of the 2% Non-Lapsing Account for Emergency Items

Dr. Petrone said, as part of the work addressing the current budget shortfall, we looked at facilities which has gone over budget. He said they came up with a list of emergency items that could be covered out of the 2% account. The Committee discussed the items on the list.

There was consensus to send this for approval to the full Board.

V. Information: Solar Project Update

The Committee discussed the issues with developing the new contract. Mr. Carroll reviewed the three areas that the two sides focused on. There was consensus to move it forward to the full Board.

VI. Information: Grant/Funding Updates

VI.A. Information: Wage Supports for Early Childhood Educators Fund

Mr. Carroll reviewed the grant that was received.

VI.B. EV Charging Station Grant

Mr. Carroll provided an update noting that we are still waiting for a decision from the State.

VI.C. School Security Grants - New Funding

Dr. Petrone said we will apply for these new funds.

VI.D. ARPA School Mental Health Workers Grant

Dr. Petrone said this is one grant that we were not awarded. He said, it is assumed that we have adequate resources, compared to other districts, according to the guidelines of the grant.

VII. Information: Net Current Expenditures

Mr. Carroll noted that the Fiscal Committee requested information on how the Net Current Expenditures number is calculated.

VIII. Information: Joint Town Finance/BOE Fiscal Meeting 02/13/23

M. Kortmann noted the agenda is available for this meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday in the Annex.

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the Fiscal Meeting at 6:57 p.m.

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: March 9, 2023