

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Fiscal Committee Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, March 9, 2023
Administration Building Conference Room

Committee Members Present:

Mary Kortmann, Chair
Peter DePaola
Emma Eaton

Others Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Ex-Officio

Administrators Present:

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

Audience: BOE member Eugene Marchand and one observer.

I. Call to Order

M. Kortmann called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. VOTE: Approve Fiscal Minutes of February 9, 2023

MOTION: To approve Fiscal Minutes of February 9, 2023

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III. Financial Reports for February 28, 2023

III.A. Management Report

Mr. Carroll said we picked up a few dollars in non-certified salaries and also in transportation due to the remote snow day and the usual buses that may not run on any given day. He continued that heat is better; gas and diesel went the other way; and special education excess cost has gained funds.

The Committee discussed **III.D. Special Education Tuition/Excess Cost**

Mr. Carroll said the information for the reimbursement has been submitted to the state and the percentage has been adjusted to 80% for this school year. He added that one of the tuitions was also adjusted and with all of this we went from \$270,000 to \$330,000 to the positive. Dr. Petrone said we do have another possible out-of-district placement. He added, we are hopeful we will have 3 total tuition-in students soon.

Mr. Carroll said the use of the 2% account was approved by the Town Council; maintenance will get that credit of \$43,000.

III.B. Encumbrance Reports

Mr. Carroll said there is still a little carryover grant money, which should be gone by the end of the year. He said we are receiving more grant funds. He reviewed various grant items.

III.C. Capital and Special Funds

Mr. Carroll said there was not a lot of activity here. He said the tuition fund is the only fund with activity; receiving funds in January. He said there was some income in Use of Facilities, due to the Winter Farmers Market.

III.C.1. Non-Resident Tuition

Mr. Carroll reviewed the tuition funds coming in. Dr. Petrone said we are finalizing contracts for two other towns and reviewing files for 1-2 other students.

III.E. Preschool Fund

Mr. Carroll said we received a small grant through School Readiness Enrollment Based. He said it was applied to salaries. He said HEEC is running well. Dr. Petrone said next year is looking good as well. He added that staff coverage for the child care portion is good in the morning; afterschool is still a challenge. Dr. Petrone said they will be bringing next year's tuition to Fiscal for review. Mr. Carroll said we are on track to be at \$575,000 in the fund balance by the end of the year.

III.F. Food Service

Mr. Carroll said this is another month of typical operations. He said we went back to free lunch starting on March 1. M. Kortmann said January made money. Mr. Carroll said much of that is due to an earned revenue amount of \$34,000, which can be seen in the P&L report. The Committee talked about the food supply challenges facing the industry.

IV. Information: Increasing Educator Diversity Grant

Dr. Petrone said receiving this grant was added for information purposes.

V. Information: Special Education Van

The Committee discussed the situation and what is being done: another RFP will be put out; they are currently using the old van through the town; they will begin calling dealerships again; and we have reached out to M&J.

VI. Information: UCONN School Psychologist Intern

Dr. Petrone noted a UCONN School Psychologist Intern would begin next school year for a stipend of \$10,000. He said he is really pleased with this placement.

VII. Information: Possible New Solar Program

Dr. Petrone said there has been a lot of buzz regarding the solar project and this new proposal. He said, for a variety of reasons, the administration is not supporting the new proposal at this time. Dr. Petrone said, Mr. Sadler emailed this afternoon that he is withdrawing this proposal at this time.

VIII. Adjournment

MOTION: To Adjourn the Fiscal Meeting at 6;12 p.m.

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion carries unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme

Board Clerk

Approved: April 27, 2023