

COVENTRY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
School Committee Meeting  
Coventry Resource and Senior Center, 50 Wood Street, Coventry, RI 02816  
Thursday, October 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Patenaude at 6: 00p.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Katherine Patenaude, Vice-Chairperson David Florio, Member Donna Kalunian, Member Luke Murray , Member James Pierson, Superintendent Levis, Assistant Superintendent Cowart, and Director of Finance Harold Sands

ROLL CALL:	Katherine M. Patenaude, Chairperson	<u>AYE</u>
	David Florio, Vice-Chairperson	<u>AYE</u>
	Donna Kalunian	<u>AYE</u>
	Luke Murray	<u>      </u>
	James Pierson	<u>AYE</u>
	Craig Levis, Superintendent	<u>AYE</u>
	Don Cowart, Assistant Superintendent	<u>AYE</u>
	Harold Sands, Director of Finance	<u>AYE</u>

Recording Secretary: Patty Martin

Motion by Member Florio and seconded by Member Kalunian that the Committee recess into executive session.  
(Vote4/0)

ROLL CALL:	Katherine M. Patenaude, Chairperson	<u>AYE</u>
	David Florio, Vice-Chairperson	<u>AYE</u>
	Donna Kalunian	<u>AYE</u>
	Luke Murray	<u>      </u>
	James Pierson	<u>AYE</u>

Member Murray joined as the Committee was going into Executive Session.

BUSINESS AGENDA

Reconvene Open Session at 6:39 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence, Safety Notification, and Vice Chairperson Florio reads the Mission Statement.

Chairperson Patenaude reports that in Executive Session the Committee discussed matters related to approval of Executive Session Minutes 9/23/2021 (Vote 5/0) and Home School Requests (Vote 5/0). Discussion with regards to Collective Bargaining Coventry Teachers Alliance (CTA) and Support Related Personnel (SRP) -R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

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Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

Motion by Member Florio and seconded by Member Kalunian that the records of the Executive Session be kept closed pursuant to Sections §42-46-4 and 42-46-5. Vote 5/0

ROLL CALL:	Katherine M. Patenaude, Chairperson	<u>AYE</u>
	David Florio, Vice-Chairperson	<u>AYE</u>
	Donna Kalunian	<u>AYE</u>
	Luke Murray	<u>AYE</u>
	James Pierson	<u>AYE</u>

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Member Florio and seconded by Member Kalunian to approve the minutes of 8/31/2021 and 9/23/2021 as presented/amended. Motion passes Vote 5/0

PUBLIC AGENDA

Celebration of Skills USA – Mrs. Ferguson Director of Regional Career and Technical Center at CHS and Mr. Reed Chapter Advisor begin the presentation. They introduce Blake Studley, Ashley Klingbert, Adriana Pike and the do a presentation and talk about their experience.

Discussion of Adding Zoom Platform to Future School Committee Meeting

Attorney Jon Anderson does an overview of adding zoom platform to the meeting. There is a discussion with the Committee and Mr. Anderson.

Student Dress Code Policy JICA: Second Reading Discussion and Approval:

Motion to dispense with the second reading of the Student Dress Code Policy JICA by Member Florio and second by Member Kalunian. Motion passes 5/0

No other Public Comment.

Motion by Member Florio and seconded by Member Kalunian to approve the Student Dress Code Policy JICA as presented/amended. Vote 4/1

Contract Signing Authority Policy DHA: First Reading

Motion to dispense with the first reading of the Contract Signing Authority Policy DHA. Motion passes 5/0

Lease Agreement for Facilities and Maintenance Vehicles: Presentation, Discussion and Vote

Motion to table the Lease Agreement for Facilities and Maintenance Vehicles. Motion passes 5/0

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Reallocation of Funds Necessary to Fully Fund Athletics for FY '22: Discussion and Vote

Motion by Member Florio and seconded by Member Kalunian to approve the Reallocation of Funds Necessary to Fully Fund Athletics for FY '22. Motion passes 4/1

Superintendent Levis presents on the history and background to this. We will need to take a look at this more going forward. Chairperson opens it to the Committee for questions. Mr. Levis and Mr. Sands answer the questions. Superintendent Levis said this will make it right now, but we will need to rectify this going forward. Chairperson Patenaude that maybe we need to develop a Steering Committee.

Purchase of Vans for Transporting Students Using American Recovery Plan Funds: Discussion and Vote

Superintendent Levis explains to the Committee that how this will save money and how this will help to transport students on a daily basis. He does a presentation on how much it would save for seven current students. Committee asks for Mr. Martin – Director of Transportation to speak to this purchase. Mr. Martin states that this is a first step in establishing flexibility. There are some things that we need to think about in the future with regards to maintenance and some other things.

Motion to approve the Purchase of Vans for Transporting Students Using American Recovery Plan Funds and that the Finance Director establish a restricted account for maintenance and replacement by Member Murray and seconded by Member Florio. Motion passes 5/0

American Recovery Plan Funds: Discussion and Vote:

Mr. Levis starts the discussion. He goes over the use of funds. He speaks to the Homecoming dance and the funds being used for that purpose. Assistant Superintendent Cowart speaks to the use of funds for curriculum. Mr. Cowart speaks to the STRIVE program. Chairperson Patenaude opens it to questions from the Committee.

Motion to approve the use of American Recovery Funds to be used as presented/amended.

School Building Committee Update

Mr. Murray does a brief update on the Building Committee about the bond and the presentation he did to the Town Council. Mr. Murray thanks everyone. Chairperson opens this for comments from the Committee. Mr. Levis said this coming Monday night there is a presentation by the Town Manager and the Finance Director with the regards to the bond.

FY' 22 Budget Update

Mr. Sands does an update on the FY' 22 budget. He invites anyone that may have questions to meet with him. Chairperson Patenaude opens it for questions or comments from the Committee. No comments or questions from the public.

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Superintendent's Update:

Mr. Levis does an update on the well at Western Coventry Elementary. The Committee has questions and comments. Superintendent Levis does a Covid update. He talks about the vaccine clinics that we have been hosting. He talks about the possibility of younger children getting vaccinated and if there is a clinic and how we will need to support clinic. Mr. Levis updates on Covid in the district. Superintendent Levis gives an update on the Performance Audit and asks for the Committee's input. No comments from the Public

Citizens Comments

There are no citizen's comments.

SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING:

Motion made by Member Florio supported by Member Kalunian to schedule the next meeting of School Committee for Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 6:00 at Coventry Resource and Senior Center, 50 Wood Street, Coventry, RI 02816.  
VOTE: 5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Member Florio, supported by Member Kulian, the meeting be adjourned at 9:21 p.m. Vote 5/0

/pam