

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Fiscal Committee Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, September 14, 2023
Administration Building Conference Room

Committee Members Present:

Mary Kortmann, Committee Chair
Peter DePaola (arrived 6:04 p.m.)
Emma Eaton

Administrators Present:

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

Also present: William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plants and Facilities; and audience members.

I. Call to Order

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

P. DePaola arrived.

II. VOTE: Approve Fiscal Minutes of August 31, 2023

MOTION: To approve Fiscal Minutes of August 31, 2023

By: E Eaton

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III. Financial Reports for August 31, 2023

III.A. Management Report

III.B. Encumbrance Reports

Mr. Carroll said it is still very very early in the year. He said there are still a couple of vacancies and that the savings for those, so far, have been identified as of August 31. Dr. Petrone said the costs for the strike will come off of M&J's bill. He said they are still waiting for all of those expenses to come in.

The Committee discussed the costs associated with the Transportation Contract.

III.C. Special Education Tuition/Excess Cost

Mr. Carroll reviewed the report and the new students, which were unknown when the budget was developed and as such were not included in the budget. Dr. Petrone said the bottom line is **-\$174,578**. He reviewed various options, such as using the IDEA money and/or adjusting the state reimbursement to 80-83%. The Committee discussed these

options. The Committee agreed that they would hold for another month before anything was adjusted.

III.D. Capital and Special Funds

Mr. Carroll reviewed the report and noted that the technology department is starting to spend their Capital funds.

III.E. Preschool Fund

Mr. Carroll reviewed the preschool fund and noted that the summer figures were down, because it is so costly. Dr. Petrone said we are obligated to provide this program.

IV. Discussion: CNH Door Security System

Dr. Petrone said the system failed and he noted it was the oldest one that was originally installed. He said the cost was approximately \$10,500. The Committee agreed to bring the request to the Board to access the 2% account to fund this expense.

V. Discussion: HEEC Storage Shed

Dr. Petrone noted that a much more secure shed was purchased and that the preschool fund is paying for the cost.

VI. Discussion: Capital Improvement Plan

Dr. Petrone reviewed the proposals. He said the HVAC equipment, that isn't covered under the grant, has been added.

The Committee discussed how best to present the HVAC equipment needs and what information would be helpful.

The Committee agreed to add costs for portable air conditioners and a new generator at CHS to the CIP.

The Committee discussed various items on the list.

VII. Information: Solar Update

Dr. Petrone informed the Committee that Earthlight approached the administration with a new project. He recommended that if the Board is interested in moving forward, an RFP would be the better way to go. The Committee agreed. P. DePaola suggested we wait things out for a few years. M. Kortmann said she would like to wait until the roofs are set.

VIII. Information: Open Choice Funding

Dr. Petrone said the information being provided is in response to a request to understand how the money flows for the Open Choice program. Mr. Carroll spoke to the flowchart and associated narrative.

M. Kortmann asked if the funds could be deposited into the Tuition account and then dispersed as needed. Mr. Carroll said he would look into it. M. Kortmann said this would allow it to show up on reports, so it could be seen and tracked.

IX. Information: Recurring State/Federal Grants - 5 Year History

The Committee reviewed the report.

X. Information: Grant Awards

This item was for the Committee's information.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION: To Adjourn the Fiscal Meeting at 6:55 p.m.

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: October 12, 2023