



Thursday, October 26, 2023
School Committee Meeting: 6:00 p.m.

Coventry Town Hall 1670 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI 02816

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Oct 26, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: 10/26/2023 School Committee Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Pierson 6:00 p.m. **(6:00 p.m.)**

Roll	Call	James Pierson, Chairperson	Aye
Vote:			
		Ana Isabel dos Reis-Couto, Vice-Chairperson	<u>Aye</u>
		David Florio, Member	<u>Aye</u>
		John Cambio, Jr., Member	<u>Aye</u>
		Bradford Mayer, Member	<u>Aye</u>
		Don Cowart	<u>Aye</u>
		Christopher DeVerna	<u></u>

Vote to Go Into Executive Session

Motion No. 23-19-1 by Member dos Reis Couto, seconded by Member Mayer that the Committee recess into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. to consider matter(s) relating specifically to:

- Student Matters: R.I.G.L. §42-46-5 (a)(8) (Homeschool Requests)
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes 10/12/2023, the following items were discussed: 1.) Student Matters: R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(8) (Homeschool Requests),

2.) Approval of Executive Session Minutes 9/28/2023 3.) Review of School Safety Plans: R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(3)

Motion passed 5/0.

Reconvene Open Session

The Open Meeting reconvened at 6:11 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence/Safety Notification/Reading of Mission Statement

Vote to Seal Minutes of Executive Session

Motion No. 23-19-2 by Member Mayer, seconded by Member Florio, that the records of the Executive Session be kept closed pursuant to Sections §42-46-4 and §42-46-5.

Motion passed 5/0.

Executive Session Report

In executive session two votes were taken, the first to approve homeschool requests and the second to approve executive session minutes of 10/12/2023. Both motions passed.

Approval of Minutes 10/12/2023 Motion No. 23-19-3 by Member Florio, seconded by Member dos Reis-Couto, to approve the minutes of 10/12/2023 as presented. Motion passed 5/0.

Citizens Comments on Topics Listed on the Agenda

No comments

Food Truck Presentation: Discussion

Mr. Cowart said the food truck was delivered about a week ago. Mr. Cowart said the school department is excited to have it. He hopes they will be able to bring the truck to a future meeting. Mr. Cowart asked Ms. Ferguson to present on the food truck. Ms. Ferguson said the trucks were provided through a \$1.6 million grant from RIDE. Thirteen districts were offered a food truck, costing approximately \$125,000 per a truck, including the equipment and the wrap. Having the truck helps the culinary program and also collaborates with other CTE programs, such as auto and the graphics program. Ms. Ferguson introduced members of the culinary team including Nicole Burlingame and Chef Marcella. It was stated that the program has been granted exlamlatory status. The program is the only one in RI and 1 of 20 in the entire northeast. The program must have 2 cycles with no deficiencies which has been done for 10 years. The program offers prostart certification, serv safe, and participation in skills USA. Dan's Place has an apprenticeship program for the students. Three students (Janielle Gervais, Brianna Wilson, and Doug Levins) were also introduced to the school committee to speak about the program. It was stated that Jon walked them through the truck and that he had designed all 13 trucks that were paid through the grant. Ms. Ferguson reviewed the plan to get the truck up and working. The culinary team supplied the committee with food samples. It was announced that RIDE's kickoff event is May 4, 2024 in Lincoln at Chase

Farms. The menu and events are listed on the website. Ms. Ferguson is excited to implement the food truck but they need to get licensed through the Department of Health and pass a fire inspection. The plan is do community events. Mr. Marcello thanked Ms. Ferguson for her support. Chairperson Pierson opened for questions from the committee. Question and answer sessions followed. The committee thanked the culinary team.

Title IX Presentation: Discussion

Mr. Dawn Cabral presented on Title IX. She gave a brief description on Title IX and it's process. She recommended all the members review the Title IX policy and reminded them if someone reports a Title IX issue that they must report it. Chairperson Pierson opened for questions from the committee. The committee thanked Ms. Cabral for the information.

Review of RICAS Scores: Discussion

Mr. Cowart asked Mrs. Anzalone to present on the RI assessments. Mrs. Anzalone said she would be reviewing the assessments that count to the accountability measure. PSATs are not included because they don't count to the accountability score. She reviewed the CHS results. All ELA and math scores are moving in the right direction which is good because the curriculum was changed. Science is not moving in the right direction which will be addressed with new curriculum. Mr. Cowart pointed out that the number of students not exceeding is shrinking. The science curriculum is old and the school department is waiting on a new high level curriculum which hopefully will be available this year. CHS took the SATs and not RICAS. Mrs. Anzalone reviewed ASMFS's RICAS scores. The school is moving in the right direction in ELA and math. Science has gone down. Mrs. Anzalone reviewed the overall elementary scores. She said the scores went up in ELA and minimally up in math. Science scores have gone down. New material is being used at middle school and is changing the way material is presented. She hopes to pilot a new elementary curriculum this year and hopefully in the high school if a new one comes out. She does still want to stagger curriculum for budgeting purposes. Mrs. Anzalone reviewed the High school ELA and Math comparisons. She then reviewed RICAS for 3-8 comparisons. Mrs. Anzalone then reviewed RICAS math and where we fall. Mrs. Anzalone stated we are on target to meet our strategic goals in ELA and math but not in science. She reviewed the next steps. Mr. Cowart said they will look at data and then customize the response to that need. Mr. Cowart said at the next meeting Mrs. Anzalone will go over some of the tools being used at the local level. Chairperson Pierson opened for questions from the committee. Question and answer sessions followed. The committee thanked Mrs. Anzalone for her presentation. Mrs. Anzalone noted happy principal's day and that she is proud to work with all of them. It was asked, when can we have a progress update? Mrs. Anzalone responded twice a year.

Approval of Food Service Contract: Discussion and Vote

Mr. Cowart explained that RIDE didn't approve the contract. RIDE had a concern with the RFP. There was an error on the RFP. The wrong box was checked. By checking this box we said we would have a gluten free option (not required). RIDE said everyone

who responded wasn't qualified because no one addressed the gluten free option. The Next step will be to have another RFP which will be put out in the spring. Until then, the school department now has to do an emergency contract until the spring. Both Attorney Anderson and Sodexo reviewed the contract and signed off that it is ok. Once the school department signs the contract it will be sent to RIDE for approval. Chairperson Pierson opened for questions from the committee. There were no questions or comments

Motion No. 23-19-4 by Member Cambio, and seconded by Member dos Reis Couto, to approve the Food Service Contract with Sodexo as presented. Motion passed 5/0.

3 Year Budget Projection: Discussion-was moved to the start of the meetin

Mr. Cowart stated it is a requirement to do 3 year budget projection. Mr. DeVerna is working on having it completed by November 1. A draft is in progress and upon competition it will be shared with the committee and then the town. Mr. DeVerna said he and Ms. Mangereli are working on the draft and continue to make updates. Chairperson Pierson opened for questions from the committee. There were no questions or comments

Superintendent Report: 1.) Meeting Location Reminder, 2.) School Committee Calendar, 3.) Principal's Month

1. The next school committee meeting is at Western Coventry,

2. A draft of the School committee calendar has been created. It will be brought to the school committee at the next meeting to be approved.

3. Mr. Cowart said Coventry's principal's are very hard workers and do an excellent job. He said he wanted to publicly thank the principals and for always putting the students first.

Chairperson Pierson opened for questions from the committee. No comments or questions

Citizens' Comments

none

Scheduling of the Next Meeting

Motion No. 23-19-5 by Member, dos Reis Couto and seconded by Member Florio, to schedule the next meeting for November 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Motion passed 5/0.

Adjournment

Motion No. 23-19-6 by Member Florio, and seconded by Member Mayer, to adjourn at 7:43 pm. Motion passed 5/0.