

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Unapproved Minutes of Thursday, April 28, 2022
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson
Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairperson
Peter DePaola
Emma Eaton
Christina Williams

Board Members Absent:

Mary Kortmann
Courtney Rossignol

Administrators:

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

Audience: Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Christian Marcinczyk, CNH Assistant Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Kyle Gore, CNH Teacher; Jennifer Starnick, CNH Teacher; Matt Dadona, Assistant Superintendent of Pathways and Partnerships Goodwin University Magnet School System; parents and students.

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

Craig Jordan, 115 Windswept Way, president of youth basketball, was present to speak about the program. The statement he provided is attached to these minutes.

IV. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Petrone talked about various happenings and meetings taking place in district, regionally, and state-wide.

E. Marchand commented on the grade 10 interdisciplinary event and noted it was very impressive.

IV.B. Information: Capt. Nathan Hale School Presentations: Navigate 360 and the Robotic Arm

Ms. DeJulius introduced Matt Dadona from Goodwin University, CNH teachers Kyle Gore and Jennifer Starnick, and students Mia Alderucci and Gianna Alderucci who were present to share a presentation about the Robotic Arm program.

Mr. Gore began and explained the history of the program. Mr. Dadona spoke about computer science and Goodwin University's involvement. Ms. Starnick and Mia and Gianna walked through the program using the Robotic Arm.

P. DePaola congratulated the students on a job well done.

J. Beausoleil noted her excitement for this program.

Dr. Petrone thanked all who came and especially Mr. Dadona.

Dr. Petrone introduced Ms. DeJulius who would now speak about the Navigate 360 program. Her presentation is available on the district website through the BoardBook portal. Ms. Marcinczyk also joined in presenting.

The Board discussed how soon the students get the assignment, when they complete it, repeat offenders, and relativeness.

P. DePaola thanked them for the presentation.

C. Williams asked for data on the long term return on investment and if the program works long-term. She also noted her concern that students may be providing answers they know administrators want to hear.

E. Marchand said this is good to track behaviors of students.

J. Beausoleil recognized the benefit to having multiple educators looking at the information.

E. Eaton noted there could be opportunities at tier 1 as well.

E. Marchand said he appreciated that this is team driven.

C. Williams talked about the disciplinary patterns.

J. Beausoleil said she appreciated the parent portal portion; she said there is a lot of potential here.

V. Report of the Chairman

J. Beausoleil asked members to let us know if they will not be available for meetings. She reviewed procedures for adding agenda items. She reminded the public of the referendum scheduled for May 3. J. Beausoleil noted the upcoming professional development scheduled for the Board. J. Beausoleil also talked about the new Teacher of the Year selection process.

VII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VII.A. Approve Updated Minutes of March 10, 2022

MOTION: To approve the updated minutes of March 10, 2022

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: E. Marchand

Discussion: E. Eaton asked that Robin Gallagher's name be spelled correctly. P. DePaola asked that his pronoun be changed to "he" on page 6.

Result: Motion to accept the minutes with these corrections passes unanimously

VII.B. Approve Minutes of March 31, 2022

MOTION: Approve the BOE Minutes of March 31, 2022

By: E. Marchand Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VII.C. Approve Minutes of April 7, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 7, 2022

By: E. Eaton Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

VIII. Old Business

VIII.A. Information: FY23 Budget

J. Beausoleil noted this item as a placeholder and that this will be on the agenda until a budget has been approved.

IX. New Business

IX.A. Information: Scholarship Committee Assignments (3)

J. Beausoleil noted that E. Marchand, P. DePaola, and J. Beausoleil would serve.

IX.B. Information and VOTE: Participation in the Healthy Food Option

MOTION: Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

Discussion: P. DePaola asked about the approval process for fundraising. Dr. Petrone said, for the most part, requests are not denied. P. DePaola confirmed that the district would lose funding if not approved. Mr. Carroll confirmed.

By: E. Eaton Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX.C. Information and VOTE: Allow for Combined Food and Beverage Exemptions

MOTION: The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The "school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the beverage sales.

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion passes unanimously

X. Report of Board Members

X.A. Information: School Building and Energy Efficiency Committee Report

Dr. Petrone reviewed the meeting that took place on Tuesday last week. W. Trudelle spoke to the roof project and noted it is sitting at the state and we do not know when we will get an approval.

Dr. Petrone noted that, at the next meeting in May, the Board will receive a comprehensive presentation regarding the building work that is being suggested for the complex. He said the middle school does qualify as "renovate as new." He reviewed how some of the spaces would be repurposed. He added, there is a tight timeline, because everything needs to be in place by June 30.

J. Beausoleil said the SBEEC wants the Board to consider this because the work is on the capital improvement plan list, which will help with the reimbursement portion and will give the community a lower cost.

C. Williams asked for information to be available for the decision-making process. Dr. Petrone said Mr. Malik is prepared and should be able to answer questions at the May 12 meeting.

X.B. Information: CHS Athletic Advisory Committee Report

E. Marchand spoke about the meeting held earlier that evening. He talked about spring sports, which are well underway. He also spoke about transporting the student athletes and that M&J has been able to provide this service.

X.C. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meeting of April 28, 2022

Mr. Carroll reviewed the topics of the meeting (the agenda and attachments are available on the website through the BoardBook public portal).

X.C.1. VOTE: Approve Budget Transfer

The Board discussed the transfer. Mr. Carroll explained that the transfer is to cover the projected deficits in Heat Energy (supplies) and Other Equipment (teacher laptops thru e-rate). The savings in salaries is attributed to substitute teacher shortages, a 0.8 FTE vacancy at CHS, and a December retirement.

MOTION: Approve a budget transfer of \$120,000 from account 100 Salaries as follows: \$40,000 to account 600 supplies and \$80,000 to account 700 property.

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

XI. Possible VOTE: Executive Session [Superintendent's Evaluation]

MOTION: Pursuant to CGS-1-200(c)(6)(A), the Board of Education will go into Executive Session for discussions related to the Superintendent's Evaluation at 9:05 p.m.

By: P. DePaola

Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion passes unanimously

XII. Open Session

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 10:20 p.m.

XIII. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 10:21 p.m.

By: P. DePaola

Seconded: C. Williams

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: _____



Coventry Youth Basketball Association



Thank You to Coventry Board of Ed April 28, 2022

To Dr. David J. Petrone, Ed.D and the Coventry Board of Education:

My name is Craig Jordan and I am the president of the Coventry Youth Basketball Board that supports Coventry Parks & Recreation in running youth basketball in town.

This board is made up of 10 volunteers that help organize and run youth basketball, which includes finding coaches, running evaluations, creating teams & practice schedules, and dealing with variety of parent and league issues; we do whatever we can to assist Coventry Parks & Rec.

For this past 2021-2022 winter youth basketball season, we had 260 kids play from Kindergarten to 8th grade; for reference, our program is about the same size of Coventry Little League baseball.

Coventry youth basketball includes: (1) Kindergarten thru 2nd grade instructional program, (2) Lakes Region Recreation league for grades 3 thru 8 and sometimes high school grade levels, and (3) North Central CT Travel Basketball League for grades 5 thru 8. In the summer, we also run a 6-week clinic for these grade levels.

This past season we had 50 volunteer coaches that gave in total 850 volunteer hours. I can't thank them enough for the service that they provided to this town. It was a tremendous effort by them.

As you may imagine, this past season was met with incredible challenges given where COVID was at that time; as a result, we had limited gym space as the gyms were being used for additional cafeteria space. However, we worked extremely hard to provide a safe and enjoyable winter basketball season for these kids. It wasn't perfect, but our goal as a board is to get the kids to enjoy playing basketball and want to play next year, teach the game of basketball, and make the next season better than the last.

With that said, I wanted to come before Dr. Petrone and the Coventry Board of Education tonight to thank you on behalf of Coventry Youth Basketball and Coventry Parks & Recreation for opening the Coventry High School -Old gym for our program and the Captain Nathan Hale Middle School basketball teams to use this winter; also, thank you for allowing us to use the Coventry High School Hurlock gym this season. Without this happening, we would not have been able to have a season. We hope to continue to have a strong relationship with you in growing youth basketball in town.

I also want to thank a couple of others that were so important to us have a youth basketball season:

First, a thank you to Pat Cox, the Coventry HS and middle school Athletic Director in working with us throughout the season. He was a tremendous help to us and supporter of our program.

A thank you to Bill Trudelle, the head of facilities, as well as the school custodians for their work that goes unnoticed by a lot of people.

And finally, a special thank you to our new Coventry Parks & Recreation director Lesley Munshower, who did an amazing job in her first year here at Coventry, working nights and weekends, for this town to have a youth basketball season. I can't express enough what a good hire this town made in getting Lesley.

It was so critical for our children in town to be able to have youth basketball this past winter. We considered it a success to have completed the season, and believe it or not, we are already working on the 2022-2023 winter season!

Thank You,

Craig Jordan

Coventry Youth Basketball Board President

Coventry Youth Basketball Association Board

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