

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Coventry Board of Education Regular Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of Thursday, March 12, 2015  
Library Media Center - Capt. Nathan Hale/Coventry High School

**Attendance Taken at 8:29 p.m.:**

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman  
Mary Kortmann, Vice Chairman  
Mary Minor, Secretary  
Eugene Marchand  
William Oros  
Denise Ryan  
Michael Sobol

Administrators Present:

David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools  
Robert Carroll, Business Manager

**I. Call to Order**

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 8:29 p.m.

**II. Salute to the Flag**

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

**III. Audience of Citizens**

There were none.

**V. Old Business: Discussion - Budget FY16**

J. Beausoleil noted that Monday is the appearance of the Board at the Town Council meeting, related to budget. She also informed the Board that the Board's Executive Committee will be meeting with the Town Council Executive Committee at 6:30 p.m. on Monday in Conference Room B at Town Hall regarding the ADA compliance issues. She said it is a public meeting and all members are invited to attend.

M. Kortmann talked about the building committee and requirements under the law.

W. Oros had questions related to whether there will be one or two building committees.

J. Beausoleil talked about the historical process of how a building committee has been handled.

M. Kortmann noted it was her understanding that all the expenses associated with meeting ADA requirements are no longer in capital budget but have been put in the Bond.

The Board continued to discuss building committees and how to deal with money coming out of the Bond. It was noted that they believe it has to be a single building committee dealing with the Bond and that the Board cannot serve as a separate building committee, since they have no funding.

**VI. New Business - Discussion and Possible VOTE to allow the Superintendent to enter into a contract for the design portion of the preschool project**

**MOTION: To allow the Superintendent to enter into a contract for the design portion of the preschool project**

**By: W. Oros**

**Seconded: M. Sobol**

Discussion:

J. Beausoleil noted that a tremendous amount of effort has gone into securing the Smart Start grant.

D. Petrone said the district is looking at a total budget of \$300,000 for the next school year. He showed an illustration of the preschool classroom layout and where it would be located in the middle school facility. He said some funding will come through the Town for driveway and related parking at the preschool.

The Board discussed the relationship of the preschool and the district and how Smart Start Grant funding and the new facility will impact that relationship. Board members asked questions to understand how the preschool currently operates.

Mr. Petrone noted that it is anticipated that the preschool would be ready to open in the new facility for 2015-16.

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

#### **IV. Report of the Superintendent**

J. Beausoleil wanted the Board to know that the Journal Inquirer made an inquiry regarding what Boards of Education know about staff discipline statewide. D. Petrone noted that discipline records of public employees are available to the public under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. He continued that there are a number of legal issues involved in such FOI requests. J. Beausoleil just wanted to make sure all knew what a Board Member could discuss without violating privacy. She also wanted to remind members that the Board acts as a hearing body if discipline rises to certain level and that is why the Board is not made aware of discipline issues on a day-to-day basis; so as not to create conflict if any matter should reach the Board level.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

**MOTION: To Adjourn the Meeting at 9:45 p.m.**

**By: M. Sobol**

**Seconded: W. Oros**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

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Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Minor, BOE Secretary

**Approved: April 9, 2015**