

**Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut**

Special Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, January 21, 2016
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:30 p.m.:

Board Members Present:

William Oros, Chairman
Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice Chairman
Michael Sobol, Secretary
Michael Griswold
Frank Infante
Mary Kortmann
Eugene Marchand

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: Marybeth Moyer, CGS Principal; Beth Giller, GHR Principal; Dena DeJulius, CNH Principal; Joseph Blake, CHS Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Cathie Drury, Director of Educational Technology; Christine Murphy, Director Pupil and Staff Support Services; Daniel Bologna, Steve Merlino, CHS Assistant Principal; and Julie Blanchard, Town Council Member.

I. Call to Order

W. Oros called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

W. Oros led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

There were none.

IV. Old Business

IV.A. Information and Discussion: FY2017 Budget Presentations Continue

IV.A.1. Coventry Grammar School

Ms. Moyer reviewed the CGS budget as proposed for FY17.

J. Beausoleil asked about the Math Specialist position and asked if that was a previously cut position. Ms. Moyer and Mr. Petrone confirmed that it was.

J. Beausoleil asked what the current Social Worker positions looked like in the district. Ms. Moyer said CGS did not have a full time Social Worker. Mr. Petrone reviewed those positions and noted

that the high school is the only site with a full time Social Worker. He also talked about how the social work services are spread thin through the district.

M. Kortmann asked about where different positions were listed "FTE-wise" in the budget. Mr. Petrone explained the special education needs and how those positions are placed. M. Kortmann continued to verify where salaries were listed and asked about addition FTEs.

The Board asked about reading room support and how para-educators support the different grades and also the Autism program.

E. Marchand asked about the Math Specialist position. Ms. Moyer talked about the struggles at CGS in regard to that position.

M. Griswold asked for clarification regarding the Social Worker schedule. Mr. Petrone explained that there are gaps at each of the schools and this additional FTE will fill those gaps.

IV.A.2. G. H. Robertson School

Dr. Giller reviewed the GHR proposed budget for FY17.

M. Kortmann asked about the iPads that were listed in the GHR budget. Mr. Petrone and Dr. Giller explained that special need. Mr. Petrone agreed that those items should have been in the technology budget.

M. Griswold asked about the salary account and why the FTE stayed the same, but the amount decreased. Mr. Petrone verified it was due to veteran staff members leaving, and new, lower salary teachers coming in, which equals a lower salary line.

IV.A.3. Capt. Nathan Hale School

Ms. DeJulius presented the proposed FY17 budget for CNH.

E. Marchand verified an account number for trips.

J. Beausoleil asked about the Social Worker duties at the middle school and if the middle school Social Worker could also provide support at the intervention level related to security. Ms. DeJulius said absolutely and that quite often events and such are planned around the Social Worker's schedule. She said the need for a full-time social worker is immeasurable.

M. Sobol left the meeting (8:30 p.m.).

IV.A.4. Coventry High Schools

Mr. Blake reviewed the proposed CHS budget for the FY17 school year.

E. Marchand commented positively on the presentation at the Program of Studies evening. He continued to ask about the "travel regular" programs. Mr. Blake explained that this is the teacher professional development travel account. E. Marchand continued to ask about various CHS accounts and what they cover and why there were adjustments.

The Board talked about the use of Kindles, with Ms. Drury giving input.

W. Oros asked about the tuition account. M. Kortmann asked that the schools be listed.

The Board talked about the SAT costs. Mr. Blake said the State is paying.

J. Beausoleil asked about the athletic stipends and why they did not change. Mr. Petrone answered that they stayed the same in the union agreement for FY17. M. Kortmann reviewed the educational technology line for the high school. Mr. Petrone talked to that point.

E. Marchand asked about an outplacement location and noted the cost. Mr. Petrone explained that keeping these students in-district is important and keeps costs to the district lower.

E. Marchand commented that he thought the budget was well done and well put together.

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: February 11, 2016