Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, October 29, 2015
Administration Building Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:26 p.m.:

Board Members Present:
Mary Kortmann, Vice Chairman
Eugene Marchand
William Oros
Denise Ryan
Michael Sobol (arrived at 7:44 p.m.)

Board Members Absent:
Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
Mary Minor, Secretary

Also Present:
Emily Oliver, Student Board of Education Representative

Administrators Present:
David J. Petrone, Superintendent of School
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations

Audience Members Present: Beth Giller, G. H. Robertson School Principal; Marybeth Moyer, Coventry Grammar School Principal; Michele Mullaly, Director of Teaching and Learning; Christine Murphy, Director of Pupil and Staff Support Services; Dena DeJulius, Capt. Nathan Hale School Principal; Joseph Blake, Coventry High School Principal; William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities; Carolyn Bennett, grade two teacher; Maria Tata, Educational Technology Project Manager; Antonia Conti, BOE Candidate; several citizens; and several Coventry High School students.

I. Call to Order
M. Kortmann called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag
M. Kortmann led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens
There were none.

IV. Report of Superintendent
Mr. Petrone noted the upcoming fall CHS drama production, Just Another High School Play, taking place on November 5, 6, and 7. He continued talking about different items happening around the district and across the state. Mr. Petrone also congratulated the Board for receiving the CABE Leadership Award, which will be presented at the CABE/CAPSS Convention in November.
V.A. Information: Student Board of Education Representative Report
Miss Oliver talked about the different high school activities taking place.

IV.B. Information: Community Recognition - James Galey, President of Fuss & O’Neill Design Build Services
Mr. Petrone talked about Mr. Galey’s dedication to the development of the new preschool space. He noted the outstanding work that Mr. Galey did and thanked him publicly. Mr. Galey said a few words and noted it was a team effort. E. Marchand said everyone is extremely proud for the town to have such a great facility. Mr. Petrone added that the Town working collaboratively with the Board of Education was just outstanding. M. Kortmann said it was an unbelievable tight time frame and the project was done so well.

IV.C. Information: Teacher Evaluation System Report
Mr. Petrone introduced Carolyn Bennett, CGS grade two teacher, who is a member of the Teacher Evaluation Committee. Ms. Bennett talked about the process of the development of the teacher evaluation program. She said there is a good relationship between the teachers, the Board of Education, and the administration. She said this has made it so much less stressful for staff. She reviewed some of the positive aspects of the plan.

M. Sobol arrived (7:44 p.m.)

Mr. Petrone noted that the committee is a well-oiled machine and there is a lot of authentic dialog that takes place when the committee meets. He said how proud he is of the teachers.

IV.D. Information: Administrator 2015-2016 Goal Presentations
IV.D.1. Coventry Grammar School
Ms. Moyer shared the Coventry Grammar School goals for the 2015-16 school year. That document is available on the district’s website.

Board members asked a variety of questions, which Ms. Moyer answered.

IV.D.2. G. H. Robertson School
Dr. Giller presented the GHR goals for the 2015-16 school year. That document is available on the district website.

M. Kortmann asked about the parent feedback goal. Dr. Giller talked about that item and how to get full participation.

W. Oros gave kudos to the K-5 principals for the collaboration they have and how well they work together.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda
V.A. Approve the CHS February 2016 Field Experience to New York, NY

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as presented
By: D. Ryan Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Approval of Minutes
VI.A. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the Meeting of October 8, 2015
MOTION: To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 8, 2015
By: W. Oros Seconded: D. Ryan
Result: Motion passes unanimously

VII. Old Business
VII.A. VOTE to Approve the following Policy Revisions
VII.A.1. 1251 - Prohibition Against Smoking - DRAFT Revision
VII.A.2. 4116.35 - Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children or Sexual Assault of Students by School Employees - DRAFT Revision
VII.A.3. 4216.2 - Alcohol. Tobacco, and Drug-Free Workplace - DRAFT Revision
VII.A.4. 5131.2 Student Use of the District’s Computer Systems and Internet Safety - DRAFT Revision
VII.A.5. 5141.21 Administration of Student Medication in the Schools - DRAFT Revision
VII.A.6. 5144 Student Discipline - DRAFT Revision
VII.A.7. 6164 Curricular Exemptions - DRAFT Revision

MOTION: To approve the policies up for revision as listed on the agenda
By: D. Ryan Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

VII.B. Information: ADA and Structural Projects update
W. Trudelle talked about the ADA projects, outside and inside, and how those are progressing. The Board talked about the different items that need to be fixed and have already been fixed.

Mr. Petrone talked about the structural concerns and where the district is at trying to move forward. Mr. Petrone said there are funding concerns, which are trying to be deciphered. The Board talked about the issues and how they came to light.

VIII. VOTE: Executive Session

MOTION: Pursuant to CGS-1-200(c)(6)(A), the Board of Education will go into Executive Session for discussions related to Bargaining Unit Negotiations with the Superintendent and Director of Finance and Operations in attendance at 8:53 p.m.
By: W. Oros Seconded: D. Ryan
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IX. Open Session
The Board returned to Open Session at 9:10 p.m.

X. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.
BY: W. Oros Seconded: D. Ryan
Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully Submitted:

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: November 12, 2015