

COVENTRY VILLAGE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

There was a regular meeting of the Coventry Village School Board on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 5:30 pm. **These are the unofficial minutes until approved by the Board.**

Present: Frank Carbonneau, Viola Poirier, Amanda Jensen, Matt Maxwell and Rosalie Bowen

Community: Kathleen Ahearn, Chris Whiting, Carol Simons and Daniel Medina

Administration/Staff: Debbie Brunelle – Finance Assistant, Matthew Baughman – Principal, John Castle – Superintendent,

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by Chair Frank Carbonneau.
- II. A **Motion** was made to approve the August 17, 2016 Regular Board minutes. Motion **Approved [MM/RB]**
- III. **Public Comment** - None
- IV. **Program Presentation** - None
- V. **Financial Report**

The Board reviewed and signed warrants as follows:

GENERAL FUND		FY17
Accounts Payable	8/22/16	486.35
Payroll	9/2/16	\$29,131.67
Payroll	9/16/16	\$33,798.65
Payroll	9/15/16	\$12,725.59
Accounts Payable	9/21/16	\$184,787.53
Accounts Payable	9/21/16	\$2,752.09
TOTAL ORDERS		\$263,681.88
FOOD SERVICE FUND		
Accounts Payable	9/21/16	\$3,207.43
Accounts Payable	9/21/16	\$1,176.61

TOTAL ORDERS

\$4,384.04

Debbie Brunelle presented the August Financial statement. Discussion Followed.

A Motion was made to accept the August 2016 Financial Statement. Motion **Approved [MM/AJ]**

Treasurers Report – Deb Tanguay was unable to attend but she did verify the REDUCS account through Debbie Brunelle.

VI. Principal's Report

Corinna Lancaster has asked to be released from her contract due to personal reasons. The Board regretfully accepted her resignation.

We have hired two new Para-educators, Dawn Perry and Sara Eastman.

We have been informed that the amount of arsenic in the town water is above the state allowable level. Matthew has spoken with Pedro (?) who is the Public Health Officer for the town of Coventry. Pedro informed Matthew that there is no need to find alternate sources of water; there is no danger of acute health issues. We have asked Jay Gonyaw from Gonyaw Environmental to test our water just to be sure we are at a safe level. The Board would like to see what the results of the tests are before taking any formal action.

A Motion was made in regard to the arsenic level that pending the test results, the building committee will meet and take action and if necessary, they will call a special Board meeting. Motion **Approved [VP/MM]**

There have been no issues with the repaired bathrooms.

Matthew has proposed a new vision for the school. ***“Students at Coventry Village School will grow into confident, kind, and persistent people who will go out into the world and make a positive difference. We will engage students in relevant and meaningful learning that leads to independence and competence.”*** He hopes to create a vision that is more inline with what our purpose is as a school. He has asked staff and CVS families to weigh in on the new vision statement. He has asked the Board to consider the vision statement and give him their thoughts and feedback. The Board in general is in favor of the revised vision. Matthew would also like some input on how to get more parent/guardian opinion.

Students in grades 7 & 8 spent 4 days at Nature's classroom in Freedom, New Hampshire. Overall it was a positive experience for both students and staff. This experience fits into the new model for the middle school in terms of experiential learning opportunities.

VII. Superintendent's Report - None

VIII. Board Business & Operations

VSBA: There are some who believe that the VSBA is pushing an Act 46 model. There is tension among the VSBA Board regarding some consultants and their willingness to help with alternative models.

Policy: Approved revised Policy G. 16 Instructional Place (prior policy was called Grade Level Advancement) Policy G.1 Curriculum Development and Coordination go back to leadership for further feedback.

Full Board (Retreat): Viola gave an overview of the fall retreat

Discussion was held regarding Act 46 and what the next steps are for the town of Coventry.

The Board retreat was a positive one. It was a good kick off to help individuals understand the language of the law surrounding Act 46. The purpose of the retreat was to talk about the process of informing communities of what their options are and asking them what they want. Superintendent Castle felt this course of action would produce better results as apposed to forming a study committee.

Coventry has a couple of options going forward. The decision to belong to a Supervisory Union or Supervisory District will affect school choice for Coventry students. Although under federal law all 9 -12 student have school choice, there are limited slots available at every high school so for some it will become school chance rather than school choice. In our current model we tuition our students out so they all have school choice. The Board does not have to do anything right now but it would behoove the Board to get an idea of what the community would like to see happen. Based on community feedback the Board will need to decide if it will seek a governance model other than what we current have through NCSU.

The Board will host a community forum on November 19th following a condensed regular Board meeting. The forum will be informal with a short Act 46 presentation and a meal.

The Math interventionist will be paid \$18/hour. We have also purchased licenses for VMATH for the math interventionist to use with students.

The Board and Treasurer will receive their annual stipend during the 1st October billing cycle. The school Board will have \$50 deducted from their pay to offset the purchase of Board kindles earlier this year.

IX. Unfinished/New Business -

We have received over 100 books purchased through the CLIF grant. Viola expressed how pleased she is with the progress that is being made in the library and she and Frank thanked Kathleen for her hard work.

On November 4th there will be a CLIF kickoff in the CVS library.

Frank mentioned that we need to be vigilant with tracking the food service revenue and expenditures, as the program is new.

VSBA regional meeting is next Wednesday at the Lyndon Town School. The VSBA annual meeting at Lake Morey is on October 20th.

X. Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting

Josh Estes will be presenting
Proposed new school vision
Principal's report – Budget parameters
Board Food – payment process

- XI. The Board entered **Executive Session** at 7:47pm to discuss a contractual matter [FC/MM]. Exited executive session at 7:59 pm. **No action taken.**

The Board adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Prue