

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES
1675 FLAT RIVER ROAD

March 10, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Patenaude at 6:03 p.m.

Members present: Chairman Katherine Patenaude, Member Thomas Hetherman, Member Lisa Tomasso, Superintendent Kenneth Di Pietro, Assistant Superintendents Michael Convery and James Erinakes and Attorney Frederick Tobin.

Recording Secretary: Donna A. McDonald

Executive Session: Student Hearing, Personnel, Litigation, Negotiation

Motion No. 09-3-1 by Member Sprengelmeyer, seconded by Vice-Chairman Perra, that the Committee recess into executive session at 5:43 p.m. to consider matter(s) relating specifically to personnel, litigation and negotiation; said action being taken in accord with Open Meetings Act, Sections 42-46-5(a)(1)&(2).

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Chairman Patenaude	AYE
	Member Hetherman	AYE
	Member Tomasso	AYE

Motion No. 09-3-2 by Vice-Chairman Perra, seconded by Member Tomasso, to recess to the Open Meeting at 6:55 p.m.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Chairman Patenaude	AYE
	Member Hetherman	AYE
	Member Tomasso	AYE

BUSINESS AGENDA:

The regular business meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Assistant Superintendent Convery notified the public of emergency exits. Member Hetherman read the Mission Statement.

Consent Agenda:

Superintendent approval of a paid leave of absence for Tracy Whitehead, Assistant Principal at Feinstein Middle School, from approximately 4/27/09 to 6/9/09.

Superintendent approval of an unpaid leave of absence for Heather Murgida, Spanish Teacher at Coventry High School, from 4/20/09 to 5/29/09.

Superintendent approval of an extended unpaid leave of absence for Lisa Lagreca, .6 Art Teacher at Coventry High School, from 6/1/09 to 6/30/09.

Superintendent approval of one (1) request for home schooling for the 2008/2009 school year as reviewed and recommended by Assistant Superintendent Convery.

Field Trip: CHS – 4/28–5/3/09 – Marketing I Students – Anaheim, California

Bills, Warrants, Payroll: In the amount of \$4,667,433 for the month of February, 2009.

Municipal Year-End Report: In the amount of \$66,782,356 for the month of February, 2009.

Motion No. 09-3-3, by Member Hetherman, seconded by Member Tomasso, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented regarding leaves of absence, home schooling, field trip, and fiscal reports for February, 2009 as presented/amended. Motion unanimously approved.

Personnel:

Leave of Absence:

Motion No. 09-3-4 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Member Hetherman, to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Lolita Alves, Physical Education Teacher at Feinstein Middle School, from 8/26/2009 to 1/4/2010. Motion unanimously approved.

Certified Resignation:

Motion No. 09-3-5 by Member Hetherman, seconded by Member Tomasso, to affirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Cathryn White, Grade 1 Teacher at Tiogue School, effective 4/9/09. Motion unanimously approved.

Coaching Resignation:

Motion No. 09-3-6 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Member Hetherman, to affirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Jonathan Bartlett, Assistant Boys' Volleyball Coach at Coventry High School, effective 3/10/09. Motion unanimously approved.

Classified Resignation:

Motion No. 09-3-7 by Member Hetherman, seconded by Member Tomasso, to affirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Jeanne Iacobucci, .5 one-on-one Teacher Assistant at Washington Oak School, effective 2/27/09. Motion unanimously approved.

School Committee Communications:

There were no communications to report.

PUBLIC AGENDA

Salary Step Placement Policy:

This was a first reading of the revised Salary Step Placement Policy which was designed to clarify and represent the practice of Coventry Public Schools. The policy was reviewed by the CTA president.

Health Care Benefits Policy:

This was an Administrative Directive of the revised Health Care Benefits Policy. The language was cleaned up by the Human Resources Director and is now close to the federal and state policy. The policy was reviewed by the CTA president.

Motion No. 09-3-8 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Member Hetherman to accept the Administrative Director for the Health Care Benefits Policy. Motion unanimously approved.

PBIS and RTI Presentation:

Assistant Superintendent Erinakes and staff provided the public with an overview of the progress of RTI and PBIS in schools. These interventions represent both a requirement of RIDE to address disproportionality of

special education identification for learning disabled students and the strategic plan goal to implement more responsive systems to promote student achievement.

Update on Dental Bid:

Director of Business & Finance Anthony Ferrucci presented information on efforts to review and address dental insurance costs. The dental contract expired last school year, and the School Committee agreed to extend the contract for one year to allow time to prepare a bid and recommendation. The CTA president stated that both the CTA and the SRP provide for Delta Dental until 2010.

FY10 Budget Final Review:

The School Committee had previously approved the proposed FY2010 School Budget. The budget is in process of being formatted for transmittal to the Town. This final review of the format is a formality to have the Committee confirm the final proposal from a draft budget to a Recommended FY2010 Coventry School Department Budget with supporting detail.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Di Pietro reported on the visit of the Chinese educator shared a PowerPoint presentation. He also discussed the Professional Development Day on March 12, 2009. Assistant Superintendent Convery reported on the well problem at Western Coventry School which resulted in moving students to Washington Oak School.

Committee Liaison Reports:

Members Tomasso and Sprengelmeyer attended the PTA meeting at Tiogue School where they discussed the foods service and budgeting problems. It was asked that the trays used for serving food at the middle school be changed for health reasons. Chairperson Patenaude and Member Tomasso attended an RIASC workshop on Saturday, February 28, 2009. Member Tomasso also attended: Service Learning and a basketball game at CHS on March 3rd; an SRP pension meeting and CHS CTSA meeting on March 5th, a basketball game at Shea HS on March 8th and the Town Council meeting on March 9th. Member Hetherman attended the Athletic Task Force meeting.

Citizens' Comments:

There were no comments.

Scheduling of Next Meeting:

Motion No. 09-3-9 by Member Hetherman, supported by Member Tomasso, that the next meeting of the School Committee be scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at CHS for Service Learning. Motion unanimously approved.

Adjournment:

Motion No. 09-3-10 by Member Tomasso, supported by Member Hetherman, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.