

**Coventry Board of Education**  
Coventry, Connecticut

**Transportation Committee Meeting**  
Approved Minutes of Thursday, September 05, 2019  
Administration Conference Room

Committee Members Present:

Eugene Marchand, Chair  
Sean Gallagher  
Frank Infante  
Jennifer Beausoleil, BOE Chair

Administrators Present:

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

Audience Members Present: several parents and the Chronicle newspaper was represented.

**I. Call to Order**

G. Marchand called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

G. Marchand explained that the bus company was asked to find efficiencies in the bus routes. He added that the bus company also had a significant software change, which contributed to many of the issues at hand.

He continued and explained the procedures for the evening. He asked those who had a general concern or comments to speak during Audience of Citizens. He asked those who had unresolved specific requests to adjust bus stops to sign in and speak during the bus route review portion of the meeting.

**II. Audience of Citizens**

Ray Streeter, North River Road, a driver for M&J, said he and the other drivers wished they had been asked their opinion on the changes to this year's routes. He said there wouldn't have been this many issues if they had been asked. He added that the bus drivers have the best interest of the students and parents at heart. E. Marchand commented that they have requested that the bus drivers be consulted.

Patricia Beaudry, 301 Pucker Street, said she has two students, one at GHR and one at CNH. She talked about her concerns with her older student walking. E. Marchand commented that this stop has been reinstated. Ms. Beaudry thanked the committee and continued stating she also has an issue with the length of the bus drive.

Katarzyna Chrzanowski, 31 Noor Drive, is concerned with having to leave the house with a younger child to get the older child to the bus stop. J. Beausoleil explained that the routes are developed by software with human input. She explained that the software is needed for various reasons.

Michelle Hunt, 55 North Farms Road, is concerned with the late notice of the bus routes and also that the safety of the students is not the focus.

Tom MacDonald, 115 Stonecroft Lane, said he is concerned that his older daughter has to wait at a stop with no houses and then has to sit on the bus once she gets to school. He asked how much money was being saved by consolidating stops. E. Marchand explained it was more about efficiency of time saved and not money.

Angela Rejman, 122 Judd Road, asked how long students were allowed to be on the bus. J. Beausoleil said one hour. Ms. Rejman continued and asked that a parent representative be added to the Transportation Committee. She continued with various suggestions on how the Committee could move forward. J. Beausoleil and E. Marchand emphasized how much the drivers of M&J are respected and stated that there are no concerns with the drivers. E. Marchand reviewed the recent requests that have been made to the bus company to smooth out procedures. S. Gallagher clarified that the routes were not developed by computer software alone, but M&J was also supposed to provide human input. E. Marchand said he has a much better perspective of the routes and parents concerns.

Kathleen Breitenwischer, 61 Barbara Drive, asked how much time is being saved. J. Beausoleil said the bus company is supposed to provide a comparison. Ms. Breitenwischer said she is concerned going forward with the safety of the students. She continued to talk about timing and her thoughts on efficiencies.

Stephanie Hughes, 353 Swamp Road, said she is very concerned about safety and noted other areas of concerns. Dr. Petrone clarified which address she wants her students picked up at. Ms. Hughes said 305 Swamp Road. The Committee said they would address this concern this evening during the review portion.

Catherine Alfano, 44 North Farms Road, is very concerned with winter weather conditions. Dr. Petrone said those concerns are factored into his decisions.

Ray Streeter stated he appreciates the desire to have consolidated stops. He said we are fortunate to have 18 buses in Coventry.

Parker Rejman, student, thanked Dr. Petrone for changing his bus route back.

### **III. VOTE: Approve minutes of August 15, 2019**

#### **MOTION: To Approve the Minutes of August 15, 2019**

**By: S. Gallagher**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

The Committee asked that the motion to approve the bus routes be reviewed.

**Result: The approval of the minutes was tabled.**

### **IV. Review and Possible Adjustments to Bus Routes**

The Committee reviewed the following specific bus stop change requests that have been made tonight and via written request prior to the meeting:

Charles Tsirovasiles, 215 North Farms, said his situation has already been addressed. He did talk about the kindergarten stops and the confusion surrounding the reinstatement of stops.

Michelle Hunt, 55 North Farms Road: The Committee reviewed the stop for this household. E. Marchand said the Committee will take this back and study it more.

Brian Blood, 146 Wall Street, said there was a stop at the Booth & Dimock Library for several years. The Committee agreed this was a reasonable request.

**MOTION: To add back the stop at the Booth & Dimock Library**

**By: F. Infante**

**Seconded: Sean Gallagher**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Kristian Parsons, 123 Nathan Hale Drive, has always had a pick up at the house. He is very concerned with safety. The Committee reviewed the stop for the household. E. Marchand said Dr. Petrone will go out and take a look at this site.

Lorraine Catuccio, 57 Deer Hill Lane, talked about the safety of the CGS/GHR stop. She said the stop is on Merrow Rd, which is very busy. The Committee agreed this was a reasonable request due to safety concerns.

**MOTION: To have this stop adjusted to the end of the cul de sac**

**By: S. Gallagher**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Ms. Chrzanowski, 31 Noor Drive, reviewed the concerns she stated earlier. The Committee reviewed the stop for this GHR student. E. Marchand said the Committee will take this back and study it more.

Stephanie Hughes, 353/305 Swamp Road, reviewed the concerns she stated earlier. The Committee agreed Dr. Petrone will go out and take a look at this site.

Email regarding 105 Barnsbee Lane: The Committee reviewed the stop for the CNH student. The Committee felt the student was old enough to walk the length of the street and stay safe.

**MOTION: To deny this request**

**By: E. Marchand**

**Seconded: S. Gallagher**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Email regarding 105 Barnsbee Lane: The Committee reviewed the stop for the GHR student. The Committee felt an additional stop due to the younger age of this student was appropriate.

**MOTION: To pick up this student at the house**

**By: S. Gallagher**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Email regarding 105 Deborah Drive: The Committee reviewed the CGS/GHR stop for this address. The Committee agreed an added stop was reasonable.

**MOTION: To put a stop in the center of Deborah Drive according to the youngest student on Deborah**

**By: F. Infante**

**Seconded: S. Gallagher**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Tom MacDonald, 115 Stonecroft Lane: The Committee reviewed the stop for this address. The Committee agreed adjusting the stops for Stonecroft Lane made sense.

**MOTION To adjust the stop on South River to the first house on Stonecroft and add a stop in the cul de sac**

**By: F. Infante Seconded: S. Gallagher**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Written request, Sue Hoang, 38 John Paul Lane: The Committee reviewed the stop for this address for the CGS/GHR run. E. Marchand recommends denying the change for all age levels, due to the very short distance for students to walk and the safety of the area. The Committee agreed.

**MOTION: To deny this change**

**By: S. Gallagher**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

The Committee reviewed the stop for this address for the CNH/CHS run.

**MOTION: To deny this change**

**By: S. Gallagher**

**Seconded: F. Infante**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

Written request: Darby Muia, 10 Susan Lane: The Committee reviewed the stop for this grade 2 student. The Committee agreed the bus makes a stop to turn onto the street and adding a stop at that turn would make sense.

**MOTION: To add a stop at this address**

**By: F. Infante**

**Seconded: S. Gallagher**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

## **V. Adjournment**

**MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:11 p.m.**

**By: F. Infante**

**Seconded: S. Gallagher**

**Result: Motion passes unanimously**

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Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme  
Board Clerk

Approved: September 10, 2019