

Don Cowart
Superintendent

Jon M. Anderson, Esq.
School Committee Attorney

Jackie Zerba
School Committee Secretary



1675 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI 02816
Tel. 401-822-9400, Fax: 401-822-9464
TTY: 1-800-745-5555

School Committee Members

James Pierson, Chairperson - District 5
Ana Isabel dos Reis-Couto, Vice-Chairperson - District 1
Amanda Carlow, Member - District 4
John Cambio Jr., Member - District 3
Bradford Mayer, Member - District 2
Dorothy Jackvony, Member - Townwide
Cody Reidl, Member - Townwide

**Coventry School Committee Resolution in Support of Rhode Island House Bill 7420
Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act**

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island House Bill 7420 (2026) proposes critical amendments to the state's education funding structure to address inequities and unfunded mandates that directly impact the Coventry Public Schools and its taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Coventry School Committee is committed to providing high-quality educational opportunities to all students while maintaining fiscal responsibility to the Town of Coventry; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a poverty loss stabilization mechanism would help protect Coventry from sudden and unpredictable reductions in state aid, allowing for more stable long-term financial planning;

WHEREAS, the expansion of categorical state funding for high-cost areas, including special education, career and technical education, transportation, and early childhood programming, addresses significant budget pressures currently borne by local taxpayers in Coventry;

WHEREAS, the provision requiring the State of Rhode Island to assume the cost of dual enrollment programs will expand access for Coventry students while reducing local financial obligations;

WHEREAS, the legislation's requirement for annual reporting of unfunded and partially funded mandates will provide greater transparency and support more informed state-level decision-making that directly benefits districts such as Coventry;

WHEREAS, the allowance for districts to utilize lower-cost curriculum options aligned with state standards may provide Coventry with additional flexibility in managing instructional resources without compromising educational quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Coventry School Committee hereby expresses its strong support for the passage of Rhode Island House Bill 7420 (2026);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Coventry School Committee respectfully urges members of the Rhode Island General Assembly to enact this legislation to advance equity, fiscal stability, and transparency in public education funding;

"Working Together To Improve Our Schools"

The Coventry School Department is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, sex, race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability

Don Cowart
Superintendent

Jon M. Anderson, Esq.
School Committee Attorney

Jackie Zerba
School Committee Secretary



1675 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI 02816
Tel. 401-822-9400, Fax: 401-822-9464
TTY: 1-800-745-5555

School Committee Members

James Pierson, Chairperson - District 5
Ana Isabel dos Reis-Couto, Vice-Chairperson - District 1
Amanda Carlow, Member - District 4
John Cambio Jr., Member - District 3
Bradford Mayer, Member - District 2
Dorothy Jackvony, Member - Townwide
Cody Reidl, Member - Townwide

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Coventry's legislative delegation, and the Rhode Island Department of Education to communicate the Committee's position in support of this legislation.

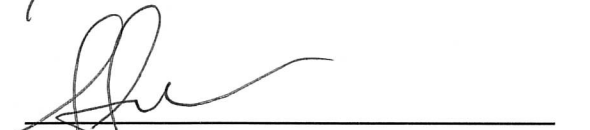
Adoption and Certification

Adopted by the Coventry School Committee on this 9th day of April, 2026.

Vote:

In Favor: 9
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0


Chairperson, Coventry School Committee


Clerk/Secretary, Coventry School Committee

“Working Together To Improve Our Schools”

The Coventry School Department is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, sex, race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability