



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, June 21, 2017  
50 Major Besse Drive**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:03PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Fiona Cappabianca, Chair; Daniel Thibault; Ellen G. Hoehne;  
Bill Knight; Armand Maniccia; Jessica Richardson; Kenneth P. Traub;  
Peter Vegaro

Administration: David Bascetta, Director of Facilities; Denise L.  
Clemons, Superintendent; Le'Tanya Lawrence; Director of Student  
Services; Susan M. Lubomski, Assistant Superintendent; Steven Manley,  
IT Director

**Absent:** Joanne Brogis; Ms. Pataky

**SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION**

Doug Traub spoke about the Torrington Community Pool Project. He is a representative and his goal is to place a community swimming pool at the Middle School. The plan is to attach the pool to the existing school. He just wanted to give the BOE a heads up that he would like a feasibility study to occur to see if it is still possible to place a pool at the Middle School.

Dr. Beauchanan spoke. She was the acting Principal of TMS. She stated that they had some hardships this year but the hardworking teachers still made good memories for the student. There are two big goals and they are to improve commination and to maintain the importance of the middle school model.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Knight. All in favor.

**INFORMATION SHARING SESSION**

**A. Student Representative Report – Darnell Battle**

Darnell Battle was not at the meeting.

**B. Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Clemons spoke highly of the graduating class of 2016. She announced that next year

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we will be using Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram to publicize all the great things that happen in our school districts.

Ms. Clemons recognized Raymond Cambell, OAKE Youth Choir. He received a certificate of recognition.

Ms. Clemons introduced the new Torrington Elementary School Principal, Kelly Galullo. Ms. Galullo thanked the BOE and stated that she is excited to go back to Torrington.

Ms. Clemons introduced the new Vogel Wetmore Principal, Peter Michelson. Mr. Michelson thanked everyone for the opportunity. He is very excited to get started and believes that this is a great place to work.

Ms. Clemons wished a happy retirement to those who are retiring and a happy summer to all.

**C. Kindergarten Fire Truck Ride Raffle Drawing 2017-18 School Year—Katherine Vasquez**

The incorrect name was provided on the Agenda. The correct name of the student who did the drawing is Sophie Loizeau. Michelle from Torrington won the raffle.

**D. Board Retreat**

The Chair proposed two evening dates July 19 and July 26. She wants everyone to e-mail her their preference and more will follow.

**E. Monthly Financials**

Mr. Traub reported that they were not provided the necessary documents for the budget meeting. However, he is pleased that they projected a 100,000 surplus.

**F. Budget Year End Update**

No report.

**G. Student Activity Report**

No report.

**H. Budget Transfers**

No report.

**I. RFP/Bid Review**

Mr. Traub reported that Bus Propane was awarded to Suburban Propane. They were able to rewrite the Special Education RFP in a simple millage format. We are hoping to have it back very quickly and will probably need a Special Meeting.

**J. Recommendation on Capital Projects**

Mr. Traub reported that this was tabled at Budget pending at what happened with the city

at our projected capital project.

**K. Recommendation on Naming Rights**

Mr. Traub reported that this should not have come to the BOE meeting. This will be discussed in a future meeting.

**L. East School Options**

Mr. Traub respectfully asks that the East School Ad Hoc Committee be extended beyond the 30 days. The Superintendent will provide them with a feasibility report.

**M. New Course Adoption Policy—5032**

Ms. Lubomski stated that the updated policy is clearer on making sure that we are following the proper procedures. Basically, it cleaned up verbiage.

**N. Wellness Policy—5071**

Ms. Lubomski stated that this policy was written a very long time ago. They just wanted to make it clearer and streamlined. The goal is to make sure that our students are thriving.

**O. Executive Session—Non-bargain Unit Contracts**

Motion to go into Executive Session was made by Mr. Thibault and seconded by Mr. Knight at 6:35. All in favor.

Mr. Thibault amended his motion to invite the Superintendent. Mr. Knight seconded. All in favor. Executive Session began at 6:36.

**P. Healthy Food Certification**

The Chair stated that people wanted more time to think about this topic. This was brought up in Policy. There was no one that attended to speak on this topic besides Principal Ferguson. Mr. Vergaro stated that he believes we are able to get better tasting items under the certification. There was discussion that the benefit of participating in the Healthy Food Certification was receiving \$45,000. However, there are restrictions. For example, we would not be able to sell pies for a fundraiser unless the students' parents were willing to pick up the pies after school.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Budget Committee – Mr. Traub reported all meeting on Budget and there was nothing new to add.

B. Grievance Committee – The Chair reported they have been quiet.

C. Personnel Committee – Mr. Thibault reported they are doing very well as to the teacher fill rates and substitute fills.

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- D. Policy Committee – Ms. Hoehne reported that New Course Adoption Policy and Wellness Policy have been completed. In the future, they are looking at Attendance and Graduation.
- E. School Improvement Committee – Ms. Richardson reported that the Distinguished Alumnus Award was awarded June 1. They will start hosting their meetings off site so they can better familiarize themselves with other schools.
- F. Education Connection – No report.
- G. Curriculum Committee – Mr. Maniccia stated that there is nothing to report.
- H. East School Ad-Hoc Committee – Mr. Traub requested an extension for 60 days. It was granted.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Monthly Financials**  
No action required.
- B. Budget Year End Update**  
No action required.
- C. Student Activity Report**  
No action required.
- D. Budget Transfers**  
No action required.
- E. RFP/Bid Review**  
No action required.
- F. Possible Action on Capital Projects**  
No action required.
- G. Possible Action on Naming Rights**  
No action required.
- H. Possible Action on East School Options**  
No action required.
- I. New Course Adoption Policy—5032**  
Ms. Hoehne made the motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
- J. Wellness Policy—5071**  
Ms. Hoehne made the motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
- K. Non-Bargain Unit Contracts**  
Mr. Knight made the motion to approve the following Contracts: Accountant, Assistant Superintendent, Clerk of the Board, Director of Facilities, Director of Human Recourses, Director of Student Services, Grant Writer/Manager and Early Childhood Coordinator, and Director of IT. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. All in favor.
- L. Healthy Food Certification**  
Ms. Richardson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Vergaro . Y-1 (Vergaro), N-6, motion does not carry.
- M. Approval of Consent Agenda**

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- i. Approval of Monthly Financials**
- ii. Approval of Board of Education meeting minutes**
- iii. Minutes of Special Meeting May 16, 2017**
- iv. Minutes of Special Meeting May 30, 2017**
- v. Receive Subcommittee minutes**
  - 1. School Improvement – May 3, 2017**
  - 2. Policy Committee – May 3, 2017**
  - 3. Budget Committee – May 10, 2017**
  - 4. Personnel Committee – May 10, 2017**
- vi. Appointments & Resignations**

Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Mr. Thibault. All in favor.

### **COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mr. Thibault – Welcoming all to Summer!

Mr. Traub – Requesting analysis on how all day Kindergarten is preparation for grade 1.

Mr. Vergaro – At some point he would like to be able to tell the Superintendent on their decision about East School.

Ms. Hoehne – East School is having students attend school from 7am to 5pm for Pre-K development.

Ms. Richardson – Recognized Litchfield County Sports for always having a positive voice for our district.

Chair – Thanked all the interim people that have stepped up this year.

The Board has decided that the new name for “East School Ad Hoc Committee” is “Torrington Public School Restructure Ad Hoc Committee.”

### **ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA**

1. All Day Kindergarten-Pre K analysis
2. Special Education State of the Union
3. Torrington Public School Restructure Ad Hoc Update
4. Budget Year End

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

***Wednesday, July 5, 2017 (at Migeon Ave.)***

6:00 p.m. – School Improvement and Community Relations Committee – Cancelled

7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee – Cancelled

***Wednesday, July 12, 2017 (at Migeon Ave.)***

6:30 p.m. – Personnel Committee – Cancelled

7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee – Cancelled

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*No July Regular Meeting – Summer Break*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Knight made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Traub seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:44PM