



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 23, 2017, 6:30PM
50 Major Besse Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:39PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Joanne Brogis; Ellen G. Hoehne; Bill Knight; Armand Maniccia; Wendy Pataky; 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: Fiona Cappabianca, Daniel Thibault

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

No one spoke.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dr. Brogis. All in favor.

Mr. Traub made a motion to amend the agenda to add to Discussion item 3Q-Budget Transfer and add an Action Item 5I-Budget Transfer. Seconded by Mr. Knight. All in favor.

Mr. Maniccia made a motion to amend the add Action Item J-Extension of the TPS Restructure Ad Hoc Committee to Nov 30, 2017. Seconded by Dr. Brogis. All in favor.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Clemons reported on the district goals and strategies. Torrington Public Schools will successfully prepare students for life, learning, and work in the 21 century by ensuring all students can think critically and creatively to solve problems and construct arguments based on evidence. All staff evaluation processes will be aligned with demonstrations of student progress as measured by district and state assessments and the districts strategic achievement goal. Torrington Public School curriculum will clearly define course outcomes at all levels, provide consistency of program through common assessments,

contain units that are relevant and rigorous and integrate technology.

B. Pre-K All Day Kindergarten and Special Education State of the Union Analysis – Proposed Meeting Date of September 20, 2017

Ms. Clemons proposed to get the report out during a Special Board Meeting on September 20 at 6:30PM at THS.

C. District Goals and Strategic Plan Torrington Public Schools

Ms. Clemons reported that The Torrington public schools will fully reach success when every child who comes into the district, regardless of individual needs, is able to graduate and enter the college or career of their choosing. This will be done through engaging instruction that is relevant, rigorous, and tiered to student needs. Torrington Public Schools will successfully prepare students for life, learning, and work in the 21st century by ensuring all students can think critically and creatively to solve problems and construct arguments based on evidence. She asked the board to take a look at the packet and we will bring it back at the Sept meeting. If a board member has a question please send it to the Superintendent's e-mail and she will address it in her weekly memo.

D. S.A.T. Analysis

Ms. Clemons reported that there were different outliers that occurred as far as low test scores and low participation. There were some procedural concerns on how the test was administered. Now that we have a strategic plan, we believe our test scores will improve next year.

E. City Council and Board of Education Proposed Meeting Dates

Ms. Clemons reported that the intent behind this is to create a more collaborative atmosphere.

F. TEA Negotiations Committee

Tabled

G. Year End Closure

Ms. Clemons stated that we did end on a positive. We have a surplus of 321,465 and we asked the city to put it in our Capital Projects fund. The 3 projects that we are looking to undertake are THS Exterior Doors, South West Lighting Upgrade, and Slip Resistant Surfacing.

H. Food Service Loss Reimbursement

Ms. Clemons stated that she included this in her weekly memo. We no longer have a 45,000 stipend. She is proposing to do a bagel plate for students who have to go into a 3rd meal. We will make 20 cents off the bagel place. She also reported that we have to be diligent to inform the parents that there is no money in their child's account.

I. Food Service Equipment

Ms. Clemons is proposing to buy the following: Steamer and Walk in Cooler and Freezer at TMS. Dishwasher and for Walk in Fridge and Freezer Lines to be upgraded at THS. Water Filter and Scale for East School and Forbes School. She was informed that the

Board does not vote on this, it is at her discursion.

J. Torrington Solar Project Update

Mr. Bascetta reported that the state has no accepted our application for a grant due to the change in specifications. We cannot put Solar Panels on a 12 year old roof. This is no longer moving forward.

K. Prioritized List of Capital Projects

Mr. Bascetta reported that the three projects are the THS Slip Resistant Floor Resurfacing, South West Lighting Upgrade, and Exterior Door/Frames/Hardware at THS. This is a Municipal loan and it is a no interest loan. If we take the loan, it won't cover the entire cost, we will be about 90,000 short. We can do portions of this project. Mr. Traub stated that the Solar Fund money can be used to fund these projects. The board liked that idea. It is up to the Board of Finance to approve this idea.

L. Contracts:

1. **Food Service** – Approved by the State.
2. **Medical Advisor Contract** - Dr. Curi was the low bidder-\$9,950; Dr. Milanese-\$15,000, more expensive and had fewer hours in the contract; awarded to Dr. Curi. The Board just will not utilize the services for physicals.
3. **Athletic Trainer Contract** – Trainer for Charlotte Hungerford will bill 21\$ hourly. There is protocol in place on who can order the trainer. The Athletic Director would be tracking the hours.
4. **Special Ed Transportation Contract** – Proposed to give the contract to EdAdvance.
5. **Propane Gas Contract** – Bids were received at the end of February. It is proposed to give the bid to Suburban Propane.

M. Policy #6004 – Regarding Section 504 Of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The State, OCR, and the Attorney has written this and approved it. These forms have been updated. They are most compliant with the Federal regulations.

N. Policy #6102 – Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease

Most accurately compliant policy. The language is much clearer. There are communications set in place between the nurse, parents and the community.

O. Discussion to Acknowledge the Governor's Revised Executive Order 58 Resource Allocation Plan

If this plan is executed, Torrington will lose 20 million dollars, 1/3 of our budget. We would have to close. There is another proposal that Torrington will lose ½ a million dollars. The vote will happen during the week of September 11. We will have to wait and see. Ms. Clemons reported that she will not touch personnel if our budget gets cut.

P. Executive Session – Possible Litigation

Bill made the motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Traub. All in favor. Ms.

Clemons was invited in. Executive session began at 8:22PM. The board came back in open session at 8:33PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Subcommittee Meetings were held in July.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. City Council and Board of Education Proposed Meeting Dates**
Dr. Brogis made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maniccia . All in favor.
- B. Food Service Loss Reimbursement**
No action required.
- C. Food Service Equipment**
No action required.
- D. Prioritized List of Capital Projects**
Mr. Traub made the motion, seconded by Mr. Knight . All in favor.
- E. Contracts**
- 1. Food Service Contract**
Mr. Traub made the motion, seconded by Dr. Brogis. All in favor.
 - 2. Medical Advisor Contract**
Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
 - 3. Athletic Trainer Contract**
Mr. Vergaro made the motion with the prevision that the Superintendent get the contract updated for the correct hourly rate and the deletion of the termination clause, seconded by Mr. Traub. All in favor.
 - 4. Special Ed Transportation Contract**
Dr. Brogis made the motion, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor.
 - 5. Propane Gas Contract**
Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor.
- F. Policy #6004 – Regarding Section 504 Of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973**
Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor.
- G. Policy #6102 – Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease**
Dr. Brogis made the motion with the amendment that the Agenda stated the full name of the policy “Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease”, seconded by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
- H. Approval of Consent Agenda**
- i. Approval of Monthly Financials**
 - ii. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes**

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on September 27, 2017.

- iii. **Minutes of Special Meeting June 14, 2017**
- iv. **Minutes of Special Meeting June 29, 2017 (A)**
- v. **Minutes of Special Meeting June 29, 2017 (B)**
- vi. **Appointments & Resignations**

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

I. Budget Transfer

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

J. Extension of the TPS Restructure Ad Hoc Committee to Nov 30, 2017

Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maniccia. Y-7, N-1(Vegaro). Motion passes.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Vegaro – had a good summer and he is looking forward to the beginning of a good school year.

Mr. Maniccia – wishes everyone well to the start of the school year

Dr. Brogis – the Meet and Greet was very successful and I had great feedback on it. Thank you Ms. Clemons.

Ms. Hoehne – I was at the Meet and Greet and it was phenomenal. A lot of kids attended and that was pretty cool. It was a beautiful day, thank you Ms. Clemons.

Mr. Traub – TPS Ad Hoc Committee are reviewing possible alternatives and we will be getting back to the board.

Ms. Richardson – Echo’s Ms. Hoehne’s sentiments about the Meet and Greet.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

1. Monthly Financials
2. Budget Transfer
3. Contracts
4. TPS Update

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 (at Migeon Ave.)

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

7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 (Migeon Ave.)

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on September 27, 2017.

6:30 p.m. – Personnel Committee

7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee

Wednesday, September 27, 2017 (at THS)

6:30 p.m. – Regular Board of Education Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Knight made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Brogis seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:52PM