



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 6:30PM
50 Major Besse Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:34PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Fiona Cappabianca; Edward Corey (6:46PM); Ellen G. Hoehne; John Kissko, Armand Maniccia; Molly Spino; Daniel Thibault; Peter Vergaro

Administration: David Bascetta, Director of Facilities; Denise L. Clemons, Superintendent; Susan M. Lubomski, Assistant Superintendent; Kim Schulte, Human Resources Director

Absent: John Giansanti, Joanne Brogis, Le'Tanya Lawrence; Director of Student Services

The Board held a moment of silence for Douglas High School.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Hoehne made the motion to approve the agenda with the amendment to add Action item 6A- Results of the Ad-Hoc Committee and have the rest of the Action Item letters correspond alphabetically after 6A. Mr. Vergaro second. All in favor.

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Jason spoke about the field trips that were on the agenda, school calendar for next year, redistricting, and the Wizards Basketball game against the Torrington Warlocks.

Diane spoke about redistricting concerns.

Ms. Hoehne made the motion to extend the School/Community Session for 10 minutes. Mr. Vergaro second. All in favor.

Caroline spoke about redistricting plan concerns.

Mary spoke about the communication about the snow day make ups this year.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Superintendent Recognitions: The Superintendent recognized the following for the success they had in Torrington Public Schools

1. Lilyana Franco – Vogel-Wetmore student
2. Dylan Borja – Vogel-Wetmore student
3. Danielle Iannacito – Forbes student
4. Logan Miller – Forbes student
5. Martina Martin – Toringford Teacher
6. Megan Giampaolo – Toringford Teacher

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on March 28, 2018.

7. Michael McKenna – High School, Athletic Director
8. Tom Olivero – Southwest Head Custodian
9. Jennifer Lopez – Southwest PTO Co-President
10. Stephanie Elliott – Southwest PTO Co-President

B. THS Facility Assessment Presentation: This presentation was done in preparing the High School for the NEASC visit. Mr. Cruz explained that the first part that him and his team do is they look at existing conditions. The second part is taking pen to paper and looking at few designs with the price. Mr. Cruz said they didn't really find anything in the health and safety category just some more due diligence. The code compliance was still within the code. The building is still not fully handicap accessible. The biggest problem with the building is that it is not energy efficient.

C. Superintendent's Report: Ms. Clemons reported that there will be a decision tonight on the redistricting based on the Boards vote. There will still be a small Ad-Hoc committee to work on several phases of the redistrict. The first Budget meeting will be held March 9 and there will be a 2%, 1%, and 0% budget presented. As of right now, 16 classroom teachers' positions will be eliminated. She addressed the board about what options there are if we have another snow day.

D. Field Trips

1. Forbes – Sturbridge Village, May 2018
2. High School – Canada, June 2018
3. Middle School – NYC, May 2018
4. Middle School – NYC, May 2019

There were no questions on these field trips.

E. Proposed 18-19 School Year Calendar: After discussion, it was decided that the first day of school will be August 29 with 6 school cancellations. February 19 will be a regular school day.

F. Monthly Financial: The new interim business manager was introduced. As of right now, the budget is okay but we are still in a freeze.

G. Budget Transfers: None.

H. Primary Mental Health Program Continuation Grant Approval: This is a \$20,000 grant for 2-5th grade for Forbes.

I. CCM Electric Supply Contract: Mr. Bascetta stated that this was brought to budget. There will be a project done on us and our usage and the company will answer any questions.

J. Elevator Project #143-0074CV: The architect answered any questions. There was discussion on the change orders. The change orders are standard phrasing.

K. Cost and Estimate Re: Elevator Project #143-0074CV: This was presented to the board in their packet.

L. ADA Compliance, THS, Phase 2 #143-0072CV: After discussion, the board needs another document that is clear what is being submitted for dollars and what is not. It was sent back to budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Policy Committee

Ms. Hoehne reported that they are discussing grading.

B. School Improvement Committee

Mr. Kissko reported that they are discussing educational issues, AP and Honors at the High School, set the process to select our Distinguished Alumnus Award. He stated that they will be looking at the Attendance Policy in the first few months of implementation.

C. Budget Committee

Mr. Maniccia reported that they discussed the Elevator Project and the ADA Compliance project. They also are working on getting some dates for the Budget Committee meetings.

D. Personnel Committee

Dr. Brogis was not in attendance to report.

E. Grievance Committee

Ms. Cappabianca said there is nothing to report.

F. Ed-Advance

Dr. Brogis was not in attendance to report.

G. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Maniccia reported that they discussed grade level articulations.

H. Torrington Public Schools Redistrict Ad-Hoc Committee

Ms. Cappabianca reported that this committee worked so hard. They met on 5 separate meetings ranging from 2-4 hours. The committee worked very hard together to figure out what is best for the children of Torrington. She reported that they battled with misinformation on social media. There was never an option that this was going to be a one year plan. The option that is best for students and in the long term is to go with sister schools. She hopes that the committee can continue to iron out the details about transition. The recommendation of the Ad-Hoc committee is:

- New Location would be found for the Pre-K Students.
- Two sets of sister grade level schools
- Torrington School would have K-3 and the sister school would be Forbes with grades 4-5.
- Vogel would have k-3 and the sister school would be Southwest with grades 4-5.
- Before the end of the year, there will be a tour of the buildings.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Results of the TPS Redistrict Ad-Hoc Committee

Hoehne made the motion to approve the recommendation by the Ad-Hoc committee to implement sister schools effective July 1st with Pre-K being in a new location. Spino second the motion. Y-6, N-1(Thibault). Motion carries.

B. Field Trips

1. **Forbes – Sturbridge Village, May 2018:** Kissko made the motion to approve the field trip. Corey second the motion. All in favor.
2. **High School – Canada, June 2018:** Corey made the motion to approve the field trip. Spino second the motion. All in favor.
3. **Middle School – NYC, May 2018:** Corey made the motion to approve the field trip. Spino second the motion. All in favor.
4. **Middle School – NYC, May 2019:** Corey made the motion to approve the field trip. Spino second the motion. All in favor.

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on March 28, 2018.

- C. Proposed 18-19 School Year Calendar:** Kissko made the motion to approve the calendar with the proposed changes. Vergaro second the motion. All in favor.
- D. Primary Mental Health Program Continuation Grant Approval:** Corey made the motion to approve the grant. Spino second the motion. All in favor.
- E. CCM Electric Supply Contract:** Maniccia made the motion to approve the contract. Vergaro second the motion. All in favor.
- F. Elevator Project #143-0074CV:** Maniccia made the motion to approve the contract. Vergaro second the motion. All in favor.

G. Cost and Estimate Re: Elevator Project #143-0074CV

“We hereby certify that these final plans and project manual(s) as prepared for bidding and dated February 9, 2018 , and the professional cost estimate, completed in accordance with Level 3 of ASTM International Standard E1557, Standard Classification of Building Elements and Related Sitework-UNIFORMAT II for this project, dated February 9, 2018, have been reviewed and approved for this project on February 28, 2018.”

Thibault made the motion to approve this motion. Vergaro second the motion. All in favor.

H. ADA Compliance, THS, Phase 2 #143-0072CV: Removed.

I. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes – January 24, 20178

Corey made the motion to approve the minutes. Maniccia second the motion. All in favor.

J. Approval of Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of Monthly Financials**
- 2. Receive Subcommittee Minutes:**
 - i. Policy Committee – November 1, 2017**
 - ii. Budget Committee – January 10, 2018**
 - iii. Personnel Committee – September 13, 2017**
- 3. Appointments & Resignations**

Corey made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Kissko second the motion. All in favor.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Maniccia reported on the events that are happening at TMS.

Mr. Thibault wanted more information on the PowerSchool update for next meeting.

Ms. Spino reported on Torrington school.

Mr. Corey stated that he was not happy to cast the vote on the Ad-Hoc issue but hopes to move forward in a positive manor.

Mr. Vergaro has high hopes regarding the Ad-Hoc decision.

Ms. Hoehne reported on East School.

Mr. Kissko stated that he attended a workshop that went into more details about the alliance programs.

The Chair thanked the central office staff and the board members who put extra time into the Ad-Hoc committee meetings.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

Monthly Financials

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on March 28, 2018.

PowerSchool
ADA Compliance
Update on Redistrict
Budget Transfers

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 14, 2018 (at Migeon Ave.)

6:00 p.m. – Personnel Committee

7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 (at Tarringford School)

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

7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee

Wednesday, March 28, 2018 (at THS)

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thibault made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Maniccia second the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:51PM.