



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 6:30PM
50 Major Besse Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:38PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Joanne Brogis; Fiona Cappabianca; Ellen G. Hoehne; John Kissko, Armand Maniccia; Jessica Richardson; Molly Spino; Daniel Thibault; Peter Vergaro

Administration: David Bascetta, Director of Facilities; Rose Forzano, Interim Business Director; Susan M. Lubomski, Assistant Superintendent; Kim Schulte, Human Resources Director

Absent: Edward Corey; Judy Benson; Interm Special Education Director, Denise L. Clemons, Superintendent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Brogis made the motion to amend the agenda replacing item H with Executive Session Regarding the Superintendent Contract and move Item H - Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment or Materials Policy #2020 to item P. Mr. Thibault second. All in favor.

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Vanessa spoke about the difficult school year.

Carissa spoke about her frustrations with East School.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Student Recognition: The following students and staff were presented with certificates from the Assistant Superintendent and the Chair for various great achievements:

1. Student:

- **Dylan Myrie – THS**
- **Nadia Rinaldi – THS**
- **Sydney Johnson – THS**

2. Staff:

- **Robin Ledversis – THS**
- **Andrew Marchand – THS**
- **Mary Magnoli – Social Worker Vogel-Wetmore**

B. Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Ms. Lubomski presented. She reported that is has been a very busy month. The staff and the students are happy that their testing is done. On May 17 there was a retirement dinner and there was 321 years of service in total retiring. Academic and athletic awards night was very successful.

C. JROTC Presentation

The cadets presented a PowerPoint. The cadets come up with several goals every year and they strive to achieve them. The cadets do various recruiting drives and community service work. The Chair thanked them for being amazing role models for the school and the community.

D. Halo Awards

The Chair recognized the phenomenal program. There are 17 nominations for the HALO awards.

E. Nomination of Middle School Principal

Ms. Schulte nominated Bryan Olkowski to be the Middle School Principal and discussed his impression credentials.

F. Board Goals

Mr. Kissko presented the Board Goals:

- 1) Maintain and improve relationships with state legislators and monitor and attempt to impact state legislation decisions regarding education and the district
- 2) Create a systemic process to enhance communication and relationships within the district and community.
- 3) Monitor and support the compliance and implementation of the district strategic plan.
- 4) Monitor and support the implementation of the "sister school" model: K-3, grades 4-5.
- 5) Explore the feasibility of renovating Torrington High School and expanding its programs.

G. Commissioner's Network

The Chair wanted to check with the Board if they wanted to be a part of the Commissioner's Network. There is nothing the Board sees would benefit them positively through this program.

H. Executive Session Regarding Superintendent's Contract

Mr. Thibault made a motion to go into Executive Session Regarding the Superintendent's Contract. Ms. Spino second the motion. All in favor.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:35PM.

The Board returned to open session at 8:11PM.

I. Transportation Policy #6200

This Transportation Policy had the necessary updated language.

J. 2018-19 Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant

We have had this program the last 5 years. It really benefits the parents.

K. Special Education Transportation Services RFP - #2018-0011

This RFP incorporates different vendors if need be so there will be transportation provided.

L. Transportation Services RFP - #2018-0012

The Board was presented the amendments that will take place in the RFP. It will be a 5 year contracts.

M. Alliance Grant Update

We have received the funds in April and have to spend them by June 30. The State needs to the Board to approve that they have received a breakdown of the expenditures.

N. Monthly Financials

The monthly financials were discussed.

O. Budget Transfers

There is 1 budget transfer to different overages for a total of \$515,200.

P. Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment or Materials Policy #2020

Due to the redistricting, this policy is necessary for all of the surplus equipment and material.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Policy Committee

The Committee discussed the Transportation Policy #6200 and Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment or Materials Policy #2020.

B. School Improvement Committee

The Committee discussed the Board Goals and how to implement them.

C. Budget Committee

The Committee discussed the monthly financials, budget transfer, cost of substitutes being high and they received a proposed 0 cut list.

D. Personnel Committee

The Committee was updated on the fill rates on substitutes.

E. Grievance Committee

None.

F. Ed-Advance

The Committee had a productive meeting about budget.

G. Curriculum Committee

Reported when next meeting will be.

H. Torrington Public Schools Redistrict Ad-Hoc Committee

The Committee is working hard. There is information on the website about what is going on with the redistricting thus far.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Nomination of Middle School Principal

Dr. Brogis made a motion to accept Bryan Olkowski as the TMS Principal, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

B. Board Goals

Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the Board Goals, Ms. Spino second. All in favor.

C. Commissioner's Network

Ms. Spino made a motion to decline the participation in Commissioner's Network, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

D. Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment or Materials Policy #2020

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy #2020, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

E. Transportation Policy #6200

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy #6200, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

F. Approval of 2018-19 Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant

Dr. Brogis made a motion to approve the Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant, Ms. Spino second. All in favor.

G. Special Education Transportation Services RFP - #2018-0011

Dr. Brogis made a motion to approve the RFP - #2018-0011, Ms. Spino second. All in favor.

H. Transportation Services RFP - #2018-0012

Mr. Vergaro made a motion to approve the RFP - #2018-012 with the amendments discussed, Dr. Brogis second. Y-7, N-1(Richardson). Motion carries.

I. Budget Transfers

Dr. Brogis made a motion to approve the budget transfers, Mr. Vergaro second. All in favor.

J. Possible Action Regarding Alliance Grant

Dr. Brogis made a motion that the BOE had received the breakdown of the expenditures regarding the Alliance Grant, Mr. Vergaro second. All in favor.

K. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2018

Dr. Brogis made a motion to approve the minutes with the addition of Ms. Spino's comments for the good of the order, Mr. Vergaro second. All in favor.

L. Approval of BOE Special Meeting Discussion of Confidential Student Matter Minutes:

1. **April 23, 2018**
2. **May 1, 2018 (5:30PM)**
3. **May 1, 2018 (6:30PM)**

Ms. Hoehne made the motion to approve all 3 minutes, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

M. Approval of BOE Special Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2018

Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Hoehne second. All in favor.

N. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. **Approval of Monthly Financials**
2. **Receive Subcommittee Minutes:**
 - i. **Budget Committee – April 11, 2018**
 - ii. **Personnel Committee – April 11, 2018**
 - iii. **Policy Committee – February 21, 2018 & May 2, 2018**
 - iv. **School Improvement Committee – April 4, 2018**
3. **Appointments & Resignations**

Dr. Brogis made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Vergaro second. All in favor.

7. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Thibault - None.

Mr. Vergaro - Would like to tackle in the next meeting on last minutes change of law and how it impacts out budget.

Mr. Maniccia - Attended the play In The Heights and it was great show. He attended the 7th and 8th grade band concert and they did a great job.

Dr. Brogis - Reported that our own JROTC will lead the Memorial Day parade.

Ms. Richardson - Attended the Academic Awards Ceremony and she reported that it was amazing. Cindy Amaroso was nominated as the teacher speaker for Graduation.

8:56PM - Ms. Richardson made a motion to extend the meeting to 9:05PM, Ms. Spino second. Y-6, N-2(Kissko and Thibault). Motion carries. Meeting is extended until 9:05PM.

Ms. Spino - Reported about being briefed on the new laws that were passed this year. It is important that we are aware of them. She stated that it is a great thing for us to work with our legislators. She attended the Academic Awards Ceremony and was very impressed. Scholarship night is on June 7.

Ms. Hoehne - Talked about the positive feedback she received about the Torrington School walkthrough. East School is having their Spring Concert and they are going to White Memorial.

Mr. Kissko - Made a comment that the BOE is not accountable to the City Council.

Chair – Feels strongly that the community needs to decide what type of reputation they want due to the few people who are loudly voicing their negativity. There are a lot of people working hard and a lot of positive things occurring. Do not get your facts on social media.

8. ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

Budget

VOAG

Implementation of Board Goals

Monthly Financials

9. FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 6, 2018 (at THS Media Center)

5:30 p.m. – Personnel Committee

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

7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee

Wednesday, June 13, 2018 (at Migeon Ave.)

7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee

Wednesday, June 27, 2018 (at THS)

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kissko made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Hoehne second. All in favor. The Torrington Board of Education meeting adjourned at 9:04PM.