



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, June 27, 2018, 6:30PM  
50 Major Besse Drive**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Joanne Brogis; Fiona Cappabianca; Edward Corey; Ellen G. Hoehne; John Kissko; Jessica Richardson; Molly Spino; Peter Vergaro

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

**Absent:** Armand Maniccia (excused), Daniel Thibault

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dr. Brogis made the motion to approve the agenda removing Budget Committee minute meeting May 23, 2018, Mr. Corey second the motion. All in favor.

Amend the agenda to swap D and B. Mr. Vergaro motioned and Dr. Brogis second. All in favor.

**SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION**

Steven spoke on the former Superintendent Denise Clemons contract.

Glen Royals spoke on getting answers from the Board of Education regarding the former Superintendent Denise Clemons.

Andrew shared some thoughts about on the past school year and thank the Board of Education.

Diane Holland spoke about the Board of Education goals to add Student Achievement.

Mary spoke about her term ending and thanked the Board of Education.

Gary spoke about how the town wants a little more information about the decisions made.

**INFORMATION SHARING SESSION**

**A. Recognitions:** The Chair and the Interim Superintendent recognized the following members:

- 1. Ad-Hoc Committee Members:** The Chair thanked all of the members who have inspired, helped shape the thinking, help realize the amazing potential of Torrington Public Schools. The group has accepted responsibility, embraced change, and has an incredible work ethic.
- 2. Administrators:** The Chair thanked all of the administrators for taking amazing responsibilities with everything that is going on. She stated that each of them are the first ones that are there in the morning and last one to leave at night and still

working with your community. As the leaders of your district you balance all of this and you make each and one of us on the Torrington Board of Education proud and we appreciate you.

**Fonta Clark-Cole**

The Interim Superintendent spoke about how Fonta brought the staff together and she is our Union rep 1579.

**3. Mary Svetz-Juliano**

The Interim Superintendent Union President for 6 years and is an amazing teacher and role model and she's been there for everyone.

**4. Lisa Miller**

The Interim Superintendent spoke about the amazing qualities she has as a paraprofessional at TMS.

**B. Kindergarten Fire Truck Ride Raffle Prize Winner Drawing**

Carter Flyn from Vogel-Wetmore school was chosen.

**C. Interim Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Lubomski spoke about our beautiful graduation ceremony. The students did an excellent job with their speeches. Distinguished alumnus – John Janko – this year he was magnificent and motivating and giving them good sound advice. We had all of our moves from the redistricting and we had so much help from everyone.

**D. Board Report**

Dr. Brogis was elected in November 2015 to the Torrington Board of Education. She is retiring. She brought the JROTC and Career Center to THS. Dr. Brogis is currently a Transitions Counselor for Western Connecticut Regional Adult Education in Danbury Public Schools, encompassing credit diploma, GED, Adult Basic Education, English as a Second language, and citizenship. She will be greatly missed. She is passionate about the Torrington Board of Education. The JROTC did a presentation to honor her. She is establishing residency in South Carolina.

The Chair addressed the public comments that the community needs to stop posting bad information on social media. We have the best legal education representation in the CT.

**E. Board Goals Implementation Plan Recommendation**

Mr. Kissko stated that we are at the stage now we have to figure out how to make the Board Goals work. He presented what the School Improvement Committee approved to turn these goals into action. School Improvement Committee will have parts of the strategic plan on the agenda every month. Curriculum Development Schedule was passed out to all of the members.

**F. Secondary Ad-Hoc**

The Chair stated that as part of our Board Goals she will establish this committee tonight and operate similarly as the Ad-Hoc. We want to look at our grades 6-12. If people are interested in joining the committee, they can e-mail me to schedule the next meeting two weeks from now. This is open to the public.

**G. Bus Contract**

Ms. Forzano presented the information in the packet and talked about the Special Education bids. All the bus companies do background checks, fingerprinting, drug tests, and criminal background checks.

Regular bussing – 1 response from All Star Transportation. Mr. Vergaro believes that this should be re-bid because he does not believe that the modification the Board voted for were made in the RFP.

The Chair made a statement that said that the first year we take a hit and then over the 5 years we are in the line with the other bus companies in the district. If we send it out to Bid, the company could increase their price and it is a huge risk.

Dr. Brogis said that All Star has been positive to work with when it comes to the disciplinary issues on the bus.

**H. Monthly Financials**

The Chair stated that the Budget has been frozen for the entire year and we will end up in the surplus and we will be returning some money to the city. We are in a good position.

**I. Budget Transfers**

Ms. Forzano presented the Budget Transfers that were approved by the Budget Committee.

**J. Naxolone Policy**

Ms. Hoehne presented there is a need for the Naxolone Policy and they can get kits for each school with a grant. This is only available for school hours. We are not concerned with our kids but more for the visitors. We want to be proactive. The nurses did a thorough presentation at the Policy Committee.

**K. Southwest Alternative Energy Proposal**

Mr. Vergaro presented. We have \$100,000 available and the Board of Finance said that we can spend the money. Mr. Bascetta came up with maintenance items that we believe are favorable.

**L. THS Elevator Bids**

Mr. Vergaro presented – 3 Bids and we want to go with the bidder J.A. Rosa Construction, LLC but we need a reference check first. I propose that the board of approves this contingent on Mr. Bascetta checking the references.

**M. Executive Session Discussion of the Non-Union and Non-Certified Personnel Contracts**

Mr. Kissko made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the Non-Union and Non-Certified Personnel Contracts inviting Susan Lubomski. Dr. Brogis second. All in favor.

8:13PM - the Board went into executive session.

8:40PM – The Board returned into open session.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Policy Committee**

Ms. Hohene reported that they discussed Naxolone Policy and Food and Service. We are taking July off.

**B. School Improvement Committee**

Mr. Kissko already presented the Board Goals.

**C. Budget Committee**

Mr. Vergaro everything was discussed and we might have a July meeting.

**D. Personnel Committee**

Dr. Brogis nothing new to update at this point.

**E. Grievance Committee**

None.

**F. Ed-Advance**

Dr. Brogis presented that there was a meeting. Mr. Kissko will become the Ed-Advance representative.

**G. Curriculum Committee**

They met one last time in June to talk about summer work and plans for next year.

**H. Torrington Public Schools Redistrict Ad-Hoc Committee**

Everyone is on standby and everyone is focused on moving.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Action on Resignation**

Mr. Kissko made the motion to accept the resignation of Joanne Brogis with sadness, Mr. Corey second. All in favor.

**B. Board Goals Implementation Plan**

Ms. Spino made the motion to accept the board goal implementation plan, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

**C. Secondary Ad-Hoc**

Ms. Spino made a motion to form a secondary ad hoc committee to start in July 2018 with monthly reports to the board commencing in October 2018, Mr. Corey second. All in favor.

**D. Bus Contracts**

Mr. Kissko made the motion to approve the special ed and regular bus contract, Ms. Hoehne second. No-Vergaro, Abstain-Ms. Spino. Everyone else voted in favor. Motion carries.

**E. Budget Transfers**

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

**F. Naxolone Policy**

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the Naxolone Policy, Ms. Spino second. All in favor.

**G. Southwest Alternative Energy Proposal**

Mr. Vergaro made a motion to approve the proposal, Mr. Corey second. All in favor.

**H. THS Elevator Bids**

Mr. Vergaro made a motion to vote to accept the bid for THS ADA Elevator Project #143-0074CV from J.A. Rosa Construction Company in the amount of \$488,532.00 contingent upon reference results, Mr. Corey second. All in favor.

**I. Possible Action Regarding Discussion of the Non-Union and Non-Certified Personnel**

Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve all the non-union and non-certified contracts, second by Ms. Hoehne. Abstain-Brogis, Vergaro, and Mr. Corey. Everyone else in favor. Motion carries.

**J. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2018**

Mr. Vergaro made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Mr. Kissko second. Abstained- Mr. Corey. Everyone else in favor. Motion carries.

**K. Approval of BOE Special Meeting Minutes**

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on August 22, 2018.

**1. May 16, 2018**

**2. June 1, 2018**

Mr. Vergaro made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Spino second. Abstain-Mr. Corey. Everyone else in favor. Motion carries.

**L. Approval of Consent Agenda**

**1. Approval of Monthly Financials**

**2. Receive Subcommittee Minutes:**

**i. Budget Committee – May 9, 2018**

**ii. Personnel Committee – May 9, 2018**

**iii. Policy Committee – May 9, 2018**

**iv. School Improvement Committee – May 2, 2018**

**3. Appointments & Resignations**

Mr. Vergaro made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Kissko second. All in favor.

**7. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mr. Corey - Thanked Dr. Brogis for being on the board and stated that he remembered her fondly from his time in school. He is happy to have served on the board with her.

Mr. Vergaro - Nothing.

Dr. Brogis – Stated that shes not going to be here and the board should review the Attendance Policy before the new school year. She is truly very sad to leave this board.

Ms. Richardson – Attended THS scholarship and awards night and there were 137 awards and scholarships given out.

Ms. Spino – Spoke about the Kids Marathon by Litchfield county sports and she cannot say enough good things about Mr. Gafney ad all the good things he does in Torrington. She had the honor to introduce and talk about John Janko as he as presented with Alumnus Distinguished awards. She also had the honor to attending the THS high school graduation.

Ms. Hoehne- Stated that she is sad that Dr. Brogis is leaving. She attended a lot of things this past month. The Yearend vent was phenomenal, over 700 people attended. She will now be the liaison for Vogel-Wetmore school.

Mr. Kissko- Wished Godspeed to Dr. Brogis. He also recognized Mrs. Theeb in successfully serving our public schools.

The chair- Apologized to Mr. Skarzynski and Mrs. Peterson for missing them in the certificates. THS will be receiving a digital sign courtesy of the PAC group. She also thanked everyone in the buildings.

**8. ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA**

Monthly financials

Secondary ad hoc

Attendance policy

Monitoring board goals

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on August 22, 2018.

9. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

***Wednesday, July 11, 2018 (at Migeon Ave.)***

6:30 p.m. — Personnel Committee **CANCELLED**

7:00 p.m. — Budget Committee

***Wednesday, July 18, 2018 (at Migeon Ave.)***

6:00 p.m. — School Improvement Committee **CANCELLED**

7:00 p.m. — Policy Committee **CANCELLED**

***No July Regular Meeting – Summer Break***

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Spino made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Corey second. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.