



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, September 26, 2018, 6:30 PM
THS Media Center, 50 Major Besse Drive**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order 6:33PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call:
Board Members Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Maniccia, Ms. Richardson
Absent: Ms. Spino, Mr. Corey, Mr. Thibault
Administration Present: Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Forzano, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Perzan, Mr. Bascetta
4. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Kissko made the motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Maniccia second. All in favor.
5. New Board Members:
 - A. Introduction and Appointment of New Board Members: Mr. Eucalitto is a Democrat. Ms. Todor is a Republican.
 - B. Action Items:
 1. Appointment of Democratic Nominee: Ms. Richardson made the motion to appoint Mr. Eucalitto, Mr. Maniccia Second. All in favor.
 2. Appointment of Republican Nominee: Mr. Kissko made the motion to appoint Ms. Todor, Mr. Maniccia second. All in favor.
 - C. Swearing in of New Board Members: Mr. Eucalitto was sworn in by Ms. Hoehne. Swearing in of Ms. Todor will happen at a later date.
6. Recognitions: Ms. Lubomski and Ms. Cappabianca awarded recognition plaques and certificates to recipients.
7. School/Community Service/Public Participation:
Mr. Michael Conway of Torrington spoke to encourage the Board of Education to permanently appoint Interim Superintendent and Interim Assistant Superintendent to the positions as they have many years invested in the Torrington Public School system.
8. Information Sharing Session:
 - A. Superintendent's Report: In spite of the early release days because of the extreme heat, there was a great beginning to the new school year. Convocation was motivating and inspiring. "Together we are Stronger" is the message for the new year. Elementary schools are all adjusting to the new sister school redistricting model. TMS will be hosting the Chinese delegation next week. There is a hope for an exchange of teachers between the two countries. The NEASC will occur May 5 – 9, 2019 at THS. Compliments to Mr. Spletstoeszer, THS Band and Music Teacher, for being recognized as a role model teacher, band leader, presenter and website/resource media exemplar at the Music Conference in Boston as well as for the THS Marching Band for earning 1ST place in the Bristol Mum Festival. TPS received a huge donation from local Walmart of multiple carriages of school supplies. AllStar Bus Company has been willing to store these items,

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so the district can use them as needed. Many thanks to all the Central Office Team for their hard-work and dedication during these times of transition.

- B. Assistant Superintendent Report: A detailed overview of the SAT/SBAC scores was presented. There were significant gains in 8th grade in ELA and Math. Scores were presented from a variety of perspectives including “historical, cohort, and subgroups.” Torrington’s performance was also shown compared to other districts in our DRG as well as other Alliance Districts. One reason for wavering math scores is the numerous change in instructional programs. Currently, we are using the Bridges resource at the elementary level and Open Up Math in grades 6,7,8. We are confident fidelity of instructional strategy and consistency of programming will strengthen our students’ math performance.
 - C. Monthly Financials: Some line items have overages; however, most items are encumbered, so they appear that they are over budget, but they are not.
 - D. Budget Transfers: Items presented.
 - E. Capital Projects: Mr. Bascetta discussed the RFP for the Underground Storage Treatment. The Ground Permit expires 10/31/18. The removal is time sensitive, testing has been done for the removal of the tank and possible ground contamination. The testing did not find any contamination. The environmental testing completed in October 2017 will expire soon. The tree removal of a rotted tree at Vogel-Wetmore was completed.
 - F. Grants: K-1 Primary Mental Health which supports school acclimation; The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Grant (Promoted by the Mayor’s Office) is an initiative to assist 16-21 year olds’ transition into jobs.
 - G. Mr. Kissko made a motion to enter into Executive Session, Ms. Hoehne second. All in favor. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:46PM.
The Board returned into Open Session at 7:58PM
9. Committee Reports:
- A. Policy Committee: Ms. Hoehne stated they are working are on various policies.
 - B. School Improvement Committee: Discussion items were presented by Mr. Kissko: Ms. Gelormino was accepted to SIC as the teacher representative; Board Goals & District Strategic Plan, AP Testing, encouraging students to participate. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October, 3, 2108 at 6PM at Vogel-Wetmore school. Mr. Deacon will set an appointment with Mr. Kissko to tour Vogel-Wetmore. Marketing: Tim Gaffney will be creating a Districtwide Magazine which will have grant funding support. The list of college acceptances and future plans of our seniors will continue to be presented to SIC.
 - C. Budget Committee: Presented by Mr. Maniccia: Reviewed the usual documents; Cost of leaky piping at THS was presented by Mr. Bascetta.
 - D. Personnel Report: will reconvene soon. This committee will set the parameters for the superintendent search. Ms. Schulte will work with the committee to establish the needs of the district. The Search be internal and external, but the Interims may apply. The process is to be determined and voted on by the Board.
 - E. Ed Advanced: Mr. Kissko attended the EdAdvance October Annual meeting. He said anyone wishing further information can contact him.
 - F. Curriculum Committee: Curriculum Council has not met yet.
 - G. Secondary Ad Hoc Committee: They met to tour TMS and THS to obtain the needs of each school facility.
10. Action Items
- A. Field Trip: Mr. Kissko made the motion, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.

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- B. Monthly Financials: Mr. Maniccia made the motion, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
 - C. Budget Transfers: Mr. Maniccia made the motion, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
 - D. Capital Project: RFP Underground Storage Tank: Mr. Kissko made the motion, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
 - E. Superintendent Grants-PMHP and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity: Mr. Kissko motion, Mr. Eucalitto second. All in favor.
 - F. MOA: TEA & TPSAA Interim Dean: Mr. Kissko made the motion as amended, Mr. Maniccia second. Ms. Richardson abstained. All in favor.
 - G. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes: August 22, 2018: Motion made by Mr. Maniccia, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
 - H. Receive Subcommittee Minutes: Motion by Ms. Hoehne, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in Favor.
 - i. Budget Committee – August 22, 2018
 - ii. Policy Committee – August 15, 2018
 - iii. School Improvement Committee – August 15, 2018
 - iv. Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee – August 30, 2018 & September 4, 2018
 - I. Consent Agenda: Appointments & Resignations: Ms. Richardson made the motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
11. Comments for the Good of the Order: Vogel-Wetmore excited about new playground which was fundraised and built with assistance of parents. School year off to a great start. Held joint meeting of PTO from Southwest School. Huge turnout of parents. Mr. Kissko shared that Banned Book Week was held at the THS Library. This event involved Mayor, school faculty, students, town librarian. It was a great success. Ms. Cappabianca welcomed new Board Members; Mr. Eucalitto is happy to be involved.
12. Items for Upcoming Agenda:
13. Future Meetings:
- A. NEASC Report
 - B. Budget Transfers
14. Next Meetings:
- Wednesday, October 3, 2018 (at Vogel Wetmore)**
6:00 p.m. – School Improvement and Community Relations Committee
7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee
- Wednesday, October 10, 2018 (at Migeon Ave.)**
6:30 p.m. – Personnel Committee
7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee
- Wednesday, October 24, 2017 (at THS)**
6:30 p.m. – Regular Board of Education Meeting
15. Adjournment: Mr. Kissko made the motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:54PM.