



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 18, 2015
355 Migeon Avenue**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Fiona Cappabianca; Jeremy Hinman; Ellen G. Hoehne; John Kissko; Bill Knight; Jim Lamoin; Andrew Nargi; Jessica Richardson; Daniel Thibault; Kenneth P. Traub, Chair

Administration: David Bascetta, Director of Facilities; Paula LaChance, Interim Director of Student Services; Susan M. Lubomski, Assistant Superintendent; Lynda T. Reitman, Interim Superintendent

Absent: Mayor Carbone

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

The Chair outlined the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session.

There were two (2) speakers regarding cell phones and committees.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. All in favor.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Superintendent's Report

1. KidsMarathon Report

Ms. Reitman informed the Board of hosting of KidsMarathon.

2. Special Education Report follow-up

Ms. LaChance updated the Board on the changes in the Special Education report.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about reimbursements.

Mr. Knight asked about a deficit.

3. Live Broadcasts reinstated

Ms. Reitman informed the Board the meetings are now being broadcast live.

4. New World training

Ms. Reitman explained when the New World training would begin and what it will entail.

5. New legislation training for site leaders

Ms. Reitman informed the Board that changes and mandates will need to be discussed in the near future.

6. Requested information on field trips approved last month

The costs of the Six Flags trip and Paris trip were discussed. The JROTC trip costs were also discussed.

Ms. Reitman congratulated the THS football team on their statewide recognition of good sportsmanship.

B. BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Presentation

Four (4) students from grades nine (9) through twelve (12) presented to the Board regarding personal electronic devices.

Ms. Hoehne commented on the infrastructure and policy.

Mr. Thibault commented on the way the policy is currently written. He also spoke about security threats.

Mr. Lamoin also spoke about security threats and infrastructure.

Ms. Robinson asked about other schools with similar policies having security issues.

Mr. Knight commended the students on the hard work they have done.

Mr. Nargi asked about the search the students did on other schools. He also asked limiting the type of devices and the constant changing of technology.

Mr. Kissko asked about the kind of damage that a security threat would entail. The use of different types of devices and operating systems was discussed.

Security issues were discussed.

Ms. Hoehne explained the policy can always be changed in the future.

C. 2015-16 Capital Budget Review

Ms. Reitman reviewed the capital projects for the Board.

Mr. Nargi asked about the budgeted amount for technology.

Windows based systems vs. web based systems were discussed.

Mr. Thibault asked to bring the vendor in to answer technical questions.

Purchasing protocol was discussed.

D. Staffing Reports

Mr. Thibault updated the Board on the staffing report. He spoke about the amount of absences.

Mr. Nargi asked about protocol for doctor's notes.

Contract negotiation regarding the number of sick days were discussed.

E. ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School

Mr. Bascetta presented to the Board the ADA compliance interior project for the Torrington High School.

F. City emergency drill report

Mr. Bascetta informed the Board of the participants and results of the emergency drill.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about the protocol for each building.

G. SIC announcement on Marketing Presentation

Mr. Kissko informed the Board of an upcoming presentation regarding the "marketing" of Torrington School District.

H. Superintendent and Director of Student Services searches

The Chair updated the Board on the searches for the Director of Student Services and Superintendent. He said it was requested by administration to extend the date for the search for a Director of Student Services.

Ms. Cappabianca said she would like to discuss the positions and what would be expected of them.

Mr. Thibault asked the interim Director of Student Services to provide information on the specific position and the direction it may go in.

I. Board Clerk search update

The Chair updated the Board on the search and the amount of money in the budget for this position.

J. Curriculum for Drawing I, half credit art course at THS

The Board heard from Mr. Leger, art teacher, on the curriculum for the new course, Drawing I.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about staff.

Ms. Richardson spoke about new course protocol.

The new course manual was discussed.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of curriculum for *Drawing I* (half credit art course at THS)

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the curriculum for Drawing I course to January 20, 2015 regular meeting per current Board of Education policy.

Ms. Richardson seconded the motion. All in favor.

The timeframe for getting information for the course manual was discussed.

B. Approval of amended policy 6041 *Use of Private Technology Devices by Students*

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve amended policy 6041: Use of Private Technology Devices by Students. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote passed with four (4) opposed, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight, Mr. Nargi and Mr. Thibault. The Chair abstained.

Mr. Thibault said he would not vote to pass without limiting the device operating system.

Mr. Kissko and Mr. Nargi agreed with Mr. Thibault.

C. Approval for classified ad to be placed for sale of district-owned 2002 plow/sander/truck

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to place the classified ad for the sale of district-owned 2002 plow/sander truck. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed, Mr. Nargi. The Chair abstained.

D. Approval of ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School educational specifications

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the ADA Compliance Interior Project for Torrington High School educational specifications. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. All in favor.

E. ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School - approval to request that the City Council establish a Building Committee for the project naming David Bascetta, Director of Facilities, as the Building Committee

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the request that City Council establish a Building Committee for the project naming David Bascetta, Director of Facilities, as the Building Committee for the ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. All in favor.

F. ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School – approval authorizing at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the proposed Project

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the authorization of at least the preparation of schematic drawing and outline specifications for the proposed Project for the ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. All in favor.

G. ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School – Approval authorizing the filing of the grant applications

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the authorizing of filing the grant applications for the ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. All in favor.

H. ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School – Approval authorizing funding for the Project

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve funding for the Project for the ADA Compliance Interior Project – Torrington High School. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. All in favor.

I. Consent Agenda

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the following amendments: 1. Approval of the minutes of the September 23, 2015 Budget Committee meeting be added to the minutes of the October 14, 2015 Budget Committee Meeting, and 2. That “budget adjustments” be replaced by “salary schedule adjustments” in Action Item C of the minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting of October 21, 2015. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. All in favor.

1. Approval of October 21, 2015 Regular BOE Meeting minutes
2. Approval of October 27, 2015 Special Board of Education meeting
3. Approval of Subcommittee minutes
 - a. Budget Committee meeting – June 3, 2015
 - b. Budget Committee meeting – June 15, 2015
 - c. Policy Committee meeting – October 5, 2015
 - d. School Improvement Committee meeting – October 7, 2015
 - e. Personnel Committee meeting – October 14, 2015
 - f. Budget Committee meeting – October 14, 2015
4. Appointment & Resignations
5. Notices for Homeschooling
 - a. O.H., (DOB: 7/7/05) eff. 2015-16

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Nargi asked about AP test scores. He also spoke about the length of discussion on Policy 6041 and believed Mr. Thibault's recommendations should have been considered more carefully.

Mr. Knight asked to discuss the policy and effectiveness for emergency lunches at a future meeting.

Ms. Richardson spoke about the Veterans breakfast at Vogel-Wetmore. She also said the course manual should be correct and up to date.

Mr. Lamoin asked for a listing of the courses and the number of students in each course.

Ms. Cappabianca spoke about the response of the teachers to participate in the subcommittee.

Mr. Hinman spoke about his service on the Board over the last two (2) years. He stated that he would be leaving the Board for other ventures in the community.

Mr. Thibault thanked the Board members for listening to him regarding Policy 6041, he also stated he is expecting the policy to fail and will wait for the repercussions.

Mr. Kissko spoke about the Veterans Day ceremony at THS. He informed the Board of the open house for the family learning center at Vogel-Wetmore.

The Chair thanked Mr. Hinman for his service and Michael Kavanaugh for his service as Board Clerk.

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to extend the meeting past 9:00 p.m. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote passed with four (4) opposed, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight, Mr. Nargi and Mr. Thibault. The Chair abstained.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Budget Committee – Ms. Cappabianca reported.
- B. Grievance Committee – Mr. Lamoin reported.

- C. Personnel Committee – Mr. Thibault reported.
- D. Policy Committee – Ms. Hoehne reported.
- E. School Improvement Committee – Mr. Kissko reported.
- F. THS Oversight Panel – Mr. Kissko reported
- G. Education Connection – Mr. Kissko reported.
- H. Turf Field Committee – No report.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

- A. Financial Statement
- B. Committee Reports
- C. AP test scores
- D. Policy for emergency lunches
- E. THS course annual enrollment reports

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Wednesday, December 2, 2015 (Migeon Ave.)
 - 6:00 p.m. – Policy Committee
 - 7:00 p.m. – School Improvement and Community Relations Committee
(adjourned to November 30, 2015)
 - 8:00 p.m. – THS Oversight Committee (rescheduled to 7:00 p.m.)
- B. Wednesday, December 9, 2015 (Migeon Ave.)
 - 6:00 p.m. – Personnel Committee
 - 6:30 p.m. – Budget Committee
- C. Wednesday, December 16, 2015 (THS)
 - 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Education Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hinman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. All in favor.