

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Wednesday April 9, 2014**  
**Torrington High School**  
**Major Besse Drive**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Cappabianca, Mayor Carbone, Mr. Hinman, Mrs. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Raider, Mr. Rovero, Mr. Thibault, Mr. Traub, Mrs. Batchelder, Mr. Campolieta, Mrs. Kloczko

Absent: Mr. Brady

**SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION**

Mr. Traub explained the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session.

There were no speakers.

**BUDGET**

Mayor Carbone asked about previous practices regarding salary of staff for summer programs. She asked about the building use fund. She asked about moving custodial overtime into the building use fund and out of the operating budget. Mayor Carbone asked about the CIAT budget.

Mr. Kissko would like to get middle school sports added back into the budget and an upgraded TAG program.

Mr. Hinman said he would like to get middle school sports back into the budget and take the Mayors suggestion of eliminating three (3) evaluation positions. He spoke about revenue and athletics and how to generate community support.

Mrs. Kloczko said they three (3) positions are for more than evaluations. They are writing curriculum and performing other tasks.

Mr. Raider said teachers should be participating in writing curriculum.

Mr. Traub informed the Board they have received a \$391,998 reduction on the insurance.

Mr. Nargi would like to eliminate the expenditure for CAFE and eliminate one (1) CIAT position. He said the Board has to take into consideration the demands on the taxpayers

and demands of educational operations. He spoke about revenue associated with athletics.

Mr. Raider spoke about having a good school system in relation to tax rates.

Mrs. Cappabianca spoke about accountability and having the same curriculum for every student. She would like to keep the CIAT positions. She had questions about some athletic stipends. She had concerns about replacing so many musical instruments at once. She would like a full time TAG program, but would be willing to go part time for this year.

Mr. Rovero asked to restructure the budget to keep middle school sports. He would like a full TAG program but would choose all-day kindergarten first. He spoke about the CIAT positions.

The costs associated with the administrative restructuring were discussed.

Mrs. Hoehne would like to have middle school sports in the budget. She would like to see TAG but would like to have all-day kindergarten first. She would like to keep the CIAT positions.

Mr. Campolieta spoke about musical instrument replacement.

Costs associated with musical instruments was discussed.

Athletic revenue and booster clubs were discussed.

Mr. Traub supports a movement of a CIAT, not elimination of a CIAT. He spoke about the administration restructuring. He said an assistant superintendent would be beneficial. He spoke about middle school sports and other extracurricular activities. He would like to see a full time TAG program.

Middle School Athletics was discussed. Athletic trainers and costs associated with that position were discussed. The use of an ambulance at athletic games was discussed. The elimination of indoor track was discussed. Elimination of a diving coach was discussed.

Middle School sports was added back to the budget.

Summer pay was discussed.

The CIAT position was discussed. Mr. Nargi proposed they reduce the administration line item by \$122,000.

Mrs. Cappabianca proposed they instill "option B" TAG program. The TAG program was discussed. The costs associated with identifying gifted students was discussed. The recommendation to add \$45,970 for the TAG program was not supported by the Board.

Mr. Rovero proposed to recommend “option A” TAG program. This recommendation was not supported by the Board. Mr. Nargi proposed to eliminate the TAG program. This recommendation was not supported by the Board.

Mr. Nargi proposed CAFE dues and membership be eliminated. This recommendation was supported by the Board.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to add \$39,163.88 for all-day kindergarten. Mr. Rovero seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

All-day kindergarten and costs associated with it were discussed.

Mr. Rovero made a motion to extend the meeting past 9:00 to 10:00. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The total proposed Operating Budget stands at \$69,791,797.

Moving grades within the schools were discussed.

Proposed renovation plans for Southeast School were discussed.

Mr. Thibault asked about technology costs for the renovated school. He asked about energy reductions.

Athletic fields were discussed.

Mr. Traub recommended taking out \$170,000 of the capital budget.

\$34,606 was added for replacement instruments.

Mr. Nargi recommended allocating money to fix the driveway at the high school.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to move \$128,000 to the 2014-2015 capital budget from the 2015-2016 capital budget to fix the driveway at the high school. Mrs. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote passed with five (5) yeas.

Mr. Thibault said moving the money would be a “wash” with the cuts already made.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to move the \$30,000 cost of a new vehicle for maintenance to the 2015-2016 budget. There was no second.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to allocate \$25,000 for a new vehicle for maintenance. There was no second.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to add the costs for the renovation of Southeast School. Mr. Hinman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Cappabianca made a motion to approve \$742,578 for technology. Mr. Rovero seconded the motion. The motion did not pass.

Mr. Nargi asked if there was any reimbursement associated with this.

Mr. Traub suggested not adding the technology to the 2014-2015 capital budget.

Mr. Thibault clarified the costs of actual hardware. He said if the amount is not approved there will be a freeze in technology until the funds are approved.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked if student testing would be impacted if the funds are not approved.

Mr. Rovero made a motion to extend the meeting past 10:00. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to not add the additional \$323,280 for technology and move it to the 2015-2016 budget. Mr. Rovero seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The total capital budget is \$5,882,666.

Mr. Nargi asked if the capital will affect the minimal amount they have to spend next year.

The total amount of the Board of Education Budget is \$75,674,463. That is a 9.31% increase over 2013-2014 budget.

Mr. Rovero made a motion to approve the budget and send it to the Board of Finance for approval. Mr. Nargi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

## **ADJOURN**

Mr. Rovero made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:11. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.