



Torrington Board of Education

HUGH W. POTTER
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES

CHERYL F. KLOCZKO
SUPERINTENDENT

Budget Committee Meeting **Wednesday, February 11, 2015** **355 Migeon Avenue**

MINUTES

Members Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Committee Chair; Mr. Hinman; Mr. Thibault
Also Present: Mr. Traub, Board Chair; Ms. Hoehne, Board Secretary; Mr. Kissko, Board member; Ms. Kloczko, Superintendent; Ms. Lubomski, Asst. Superintendent; Mr. Potter, Dir. of Business Services; Ms. Aird, Dir. of Student Services; Mr. Bascetta, Dir. of Facilities; Mr. Kavanaugh, Board of Education Clerk

1. Call to order at 8:25 p.m.
2. Roll Call: New committee membership: Fiona Cappabianca, Committee Chair; Jeremy Hinman; Daniel Thibault.
3. Minutes for the Budget Committee meeting of January 14, 2015 were not approved due to a quorum of the members who had attended that meeting not being present at this meeting. Ms. Cappabianca declared that the minutes would be approved at the next committee meeting.
4. Monthly Budget Report for January and Budget update: Mr. Potter reviewed accounts that are currently overspent, e.g., transportation, out of district tuition. Superintendent Kloczko shared with the committee her letter to Glen Peterson of the Conn. School Choice office, and the committee read the letter which questions the need for Torrington Public Schools to participate in the magnet school program. Committee members expressed approval of the letter, and Ms. Kloczko said she would be sending a copy of the letter to local State legislators, and committee members expressed approval.
5. RFQ for Early Childhood Grant: Mr. Potter cited the RFQ language and process which took place and reported on his meeting with grant writer Donna Labbe to review results. Torrington Childcare Center was the only institution to respond with all requirements.

This topic was tabled in order to return to the budget discussion.

6. The meeting calendar for special Board of Education meetings on the 2015-16 budget was proposed, debated and amended. Motion to send the calendar to the full Board for approval was made by Ms. Cappabianca and seconded by Mr. Thibault. The motion carried all in favor.

Ms. Aird, Director of Student Services, shared information regarding out-of-district transportation. The committee asked Ms. Aird for a breakdown of the information to show ages of the students, i.e., with totals grouped as PreK, Elementary, Middle School, and High School. Mr. Thibault asked for daily rates and explanation of why they vary in different cases. Mr. Hinman questioned why Arch Bridge had a cost but had zero students listed. Ms. Cappabianca asked if the district gets any State reimbursement. Ms. Aird agreed to provide answers to these questions.

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7. The committee returned to the topic of the Early Childhood Grant RFQ. Ms. Kloczko and the committee discussed the budget for the grant and Ms. Kloczko presented the option of keeping the new slots created by the grant in the public schools. There was discussion on the latter.

Ms. Kloczko shared that there has been communication regarding the possibility of Winchester students coming to TPS if Gilbert School in Winsted no longer provides for the public in the future. The committee agreed that the superintendent could continue her conversations with parties regarding the Winchester students.

8. Budget Transfer Request: Mr. Potter presented a budget transfer request regarding salaries and snow plow maintenance at all TPS schools. Motion to send the budget transfer request to the full Board for approval was made by Mr. Thibault and seconded by Ms. Cappabianca. The motion carried all in favor.
9. Comments for the Good of the Order – None
10. Topics for Future Meetings – 2015-16 Budget
11. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Thibault and seconded by Mr. Hinman. Motion carried all in favor.
12. Meeting was adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Submitted by Hugh W. Potter