

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on August 26, 2020.



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Budget and Facilities & Technology Joint Committee Meeting Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 5:00 PM Zoom/Remote Dial In

Minutes

People were able to watch the meeting via Zoom and dial in for public participation.

1. Call to Order: 5:03 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Maniccia, Ms. Spino, Mr. Corey, Mr. Lafreniere (Teacher Rep.) Ms. Mangan (Teacher Rep.)
Also Present: Ms. Richardson, Ms. Todor, Ms. Mr. Kissko, Ms. Fappiano, Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Mr. Arum, Ms. Klimaszewski, Ms. Schulte, Mr. Barlow
3. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Maniccia second, All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Budget Committee Meeting Minutes 5/13/2020: Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
 - b. Special Budget Committee Meeting Minutes 5/20/2020: Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the minutes with Ms. Fappiano's amendment to include the laptop figures and the comments be specific to each person, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
 - c. Facilities & Technology Committee Meeting Minutes 5/13/2020: Approved for full board.
5. Public Participation: None.
6. Discussion/Next Steps:
 - a. Monthly Financials: Mr. Arum presented the monthly financials. We have a \$742,200 surplus currently.

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- b. Lunch Program: The board needs to approve certain items. Mr. Arum presented the Management Agreement with EdAdvance. He said if we don't do the CEP, the district must increase the prices of lunches. Ms. Lubomski stated that CEP would be worth doing in at least grades K-8. Mr. Maniccia asked if there would be a penalty if we do not distribute a certain number of meals a year. Mr. Arum will find out that information. Ms. Fappiano asked what the downside is to not implementing the CEP program? Ms. Hoehne stated that with the CEP program every student gets the lunch, and it is up to them if they eat it or not. Mr. Corey and Ms. Spino think this is a great program, and we should give kids free food and if it does not work then we will reassess. Ms. Cappabianca stated that in the past there was a discussion of not wanting the CEP program as a negative reflection on the district.
Move to full board.
 - c. Copier Update: Mr. Arum is investigating companies to see if they are using cheaper appliances, so he is waiting to hear back. Move to full board.
 - d. Eversource Project: We get reimbursement from CEPF fund: the THS gymnasium lights and Torrington school gym and cafeteria lighting. The district was able to put two schools under one project. Our savings would be \$15,000 a year. It would reduce our electric bill by \$9,000. If we approve this, we would be able to complete this within the next month. Move to full board.
 - e. Update of Custodial and Maintenance at Buildings – 6/1/2020: Mr. Barlow presented a list for the board of all the custodial maintenance in all the schools.
Move to full board.
 - f. Timeclock – Recommend going with Frontline. Move to full board.
 - g. Facilities Update: Mr. Barlow and Ms. Spino are going to go visit Forbes school next.
 - h. TMS Roof Project – The project is moving right along and there may be one change order – the roof is about 80% complete. The change order is \$50,000. We will look at those costs to make sure there is merit or to see if they are inflated. \$40,000 of the work is subcontracted by the mason.
 - i. COVID-19 Update: Ms. Lubomski stated that the Governor shared he is pleased with his phasing process and the low positivity numbers. Districts still have not gotten the formal guidelines for re-opening the school year. Information is forthcoming. Future budgetary needs: Cleaning supplies will be a must. There has been statewide input regarding what parents' priorities. In our district survey, the parents are split 50/50 about sending students in the fall and not sending students if there is no vaccine. One of the questions was if students are required to wear a mask would they send their kids to school and about 65% parents said no. The district will ask parents to do another survey in about a month to get more information and hopefully we will have guidance from the Governor on this as well. Ms. Ferguson will send the current survey data to the board members.
7. Comments for the Good of the Order: The following comments were paraphrased.

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Fiona Cappabianca – “Thank you to John Barlow and all the custodians. They went above and beyond on more than one occasion. They work at the food distribution every week and they never complain. Thank you to everyone.”

Ellen Hoehne and Armand Maniccia echoed Fiona’s comment.

John Kissko – “I am ready to come back to teach my certification is still valid.”

Jason Lafreniere – “Last week of school and it was nice to meet every principal today.”

Ed Corey – “Thank you to everyone whose helping with the food drive.”

8. Topics for Future Meetings:
 - a. Monthly Financials
 - b. Copier Update
 - c. Update of Custodial and Maintenance at Buildings
 - d. Facilities Update
 - e. TMS Roof Project
9. Adjournment: Ms. Spino made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.