



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

**Building Committee Meeting Thursday
August 20, 2020, 5:30 P.M.
Torrington School Library/Media Center**

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 5:35 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Arum, Mr. Longobucco, Mr. Dominov, Ms. Mangiagli, Ms. Todor, Ms. Mattiello, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Finn, Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson
3. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Longobucco made the motion to approve the agenda, Ms. Cappabianca second. All in favor.
4. Public Participation: None.
5. Information Sharing Session:
 - a. Education Specifications for 7-12: KBA reviewed the Education Specifications and discussed the process. Visioning, Interviews, Conceptual Plans
 - i. Compact and efficient building design
 - ii. Open design as a Hub for the building and the community
 - iii. Gym – State only approved capacity of 1,000, now it holds 1,800
 - iv. Currently, Grades 9-12 and 7 & 8: $900 + 650 = 1,550$, this would be over the 1571 capacity set by the state. If we needed more space, Mr. Mele suggested they build up rather than out.
 - v. Mr. Dominov discussed the separations between Middle School/High School and the new security measures that could be put into place.
 - vi. The outdoor amphitheater could be built on the slope and work with the topography. There could even be a place for students to eat outside.
 - vii. Ms. Cappabianca stressed the possibilities of the community using the building, featuring music & performing arts with all of the security measures in place.

Questions:

- How long do we have to reach the 1,571 enrollment set by the state?
KBA explained the enrollment is set by the state by using the NESDEC enrollment numbers

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on September 21, 2020.

- A question was raised: If the enrollment goes over the 1,571 and more space is needed, could the district plan for grades 8-12 instead? Yes, it's possible.

Ms. Lubomski clarified that the NESDEC enrollment projections were based on declining enrollment, since throughout Connecticut the birth rate is decreasing. People are getting married later and having less children. Therefore, an enrollment decline is projected.

Questions to Investigate:

- Would sports, clubs, and activities include grades 7-12 or just 9-12?
 - Could we request that the state allow a space standard waiver?
 - Should we request a NESDEC Update?
 - A concern was raised about entrance and accessibility. Mr. Roise said he would investigate the possibility of a 2 lane entry or exit.
 - Students are starting to return to THS. Enrollment is up to 916 from 865. Some students from OWT and VOAG are starting to return.
6. Update on Marketing Committee: Marketing Committee vs PAC: Marketing must go through the PAC (Political Action Committee) FAQ's have already been started and KBA has the document. Website: the website will be activated when we are ready. KBA has already set it up.
 7. Comments for the Good of the Order: None
 8. Topics for Future Meetings:
 - a. THS Tours
 - b. NESDEC Enrollment Projections
 - c. Floor Plan
 - d. Space Standard Waivers
 - e. Invite Bill Findley who provided the Project Bonds & Notes, review his figures
 9. Next Meeting: THS Tour; Thursday, Sept 3, 5:30PM at THS LMC
 10. Adjournment: Mr. Longobucco made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Cappabianca second. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.