



## Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI  
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSSON  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

### **School Improvement Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 6:00PM Vogel-Wetmore School**

#### **Minutes**

1. Call to Order: 6:00PM
2. Roll Call: Jessica Richardson, Ellen Hoehne, John Kissko  
Also present: Roni Gelormino, Gary Eucalitto, Fiona Cappabianca, Cathy Todor, Sue Fergusson, Sue Lubomski, Peter Michelson
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment to add Weighted Grading as a topic for Future Meeting, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion:
  - a. Communications, Informal Reports from Teachers: (Site Visits should be added to the agenda next time.) John Kissko reported on his VW visit. During his hour and a half visit, he was able to see engaging instruction, kindergarten students utilizing classroom technology (interactive smartboards, document cameras, etc.), and a positive environment for learning. He noted the analog clock and cursive writing.  
Mr. Michelson added that teachers were analyzing data and how to best use RTI supports. They were learning about DIBELS and providing test prep for SBAC. The Board requested the link to the SBAC test. Ms. Fergusson will provide the link to all Board members.
  - b. Community Partner Presentation (Jessica Stewart, Fit Together): Jessica Stewart from Fit Together spoke about our partnership. Partnership started in 2011. Purpose: To develop healthy kids and families within the community. 2018-Café Yum-A chef went to THS to teach about the preparation of healthy foods and nutrition. It was a fun way to learn about healthy life styles.

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on November 20, 2019.

Funding was provided for a Traveling Golf set which is used at all the elementary schools around district.

2019-2020-Helped to fund, support and participated in the creation of the TMS Fitness Trail; sensory hallways at Torrington; Fit Together is also sponsoring a Fitness Trail weekend in October. In September, they held a bike event along Sue Grossman Trail. Twenty-five families participated.

Tim Gaffney and Kids Marathon have partnered with the district for the last several years.

New program: Working with families who want help on maintaining a healthy weight. They have developed an intense program that meets twice a week for two and a half hours for 26 weeks. It involves meal planning, nutrition information and how to have fun while staying healthy. All families had the opportunity to participate. The organization is looking to have bilingual supports in the future.

- c. SBAC: Details and Discussions: Ms. Fergusson reviewed the SBAC info. There is a concern that we are not achieving in comparison to our DRG, especially with other Alliance districts. The committee agreed to establish a study group (board members, teachers and administrators) to complete a data analysis to determine root causes as well as to identify the 3-5 plan. This will include an analysis of the technology and computer skills necessary to administer and take the tests.
- d. Updates, Reports, Brief Discussion:
  - i. Board Goals-Maria Horn is providing weekly legislative updates to the Board Chair. All Board members and Central Office administration will also receive this communication.  
Ad Hoc Update: The next meeting is on 10/24. The Visioning Summary and any other survey information will be presented by Kaestle Boos and the Central Office administration.  
Update on Sister Schools-Data will be provided at the next meeting.
  - ii. Strategic Plan-on-going
  - iii. Social Media: Suggestions: Gather more alumni input; training staff/students to help with getting a positive message out through social media; create a live feed; provide consistent press releases; be interesting and current; ensure that upcoming events are posted in a prominent place: athletic calendar and events posted on front page
  - iv. System-wide Focus Areas: Ms. Lubomski and Ms. Fergusson spoke about new ideas and the monthly monitoring process to address the focus areas.
    - 1. Attendance-Home Visits; Attendance Meetings; Attendance teams
    - 2. Engagement-PD on engagement; Instructional Rounds; Discussion of new strategies
    - 3. Building Independence-For all students so they are ready for the colleges and careers of their choosing.
- e. Topics Introduced at the September SIC Meeting:
  - i. Laws Passed in 2019 Legislative: Ms. Lubomski clarified the legislation that graduation dates can be established regardless of the number of snow days.

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ii. Branding-on-going

7. Comments for the Good of the Order: District calendar. Focus on data analysis. Ms. Gelormino will be establishing a 6<sup>th</sup> as well as 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade production. Ms. Richardson posed the idea of using the announcements on power school and other communications on power school for other notifications on social media.
8. Topics for Future Meetings:
  - a. School Visit: TF
  - b. Reorganization to Sister Schools
  - c. Discipline and Behavior & Restorative Practices
  - d. GPA and Weighted Grading and Honor Roll
9. Adjournment: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:07PM.

<b>Future Meeting Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>
December 2, 2019	Southwest
January 8, 2020	Forbes
February 5, 2020	TMS
March 4, 2020	THS
April 1, 2020	Migeon Ave.
May 6, 2020	Migeon Ave.
June 3, 2020	Migeon Ave.