



## Torrington Public Schools

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SUPERINTENDENT

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### **School Improvement Committee Meeting Thursday, September 4, 2018, 6:00 PM Migeon Ave**

#### **Minutes**

1. Call to Order: 6:00 PM
2. Roll Call: Mr. Kissko, Ms. Hoehne, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Todor,  
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Ledversis, Ms. Labbe
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the amended agenda adding 6cv. PO, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion and Next Steps:
  - a. Communications, Recognition of Informal Reports from Teachers, etc. – The positivity of the beginning of the school year was felt district wide. THS has seen an increase in enrollment. Clubs are thriving as it is a part of the academic plan for all students with the largest draw being a community service-based club. The creation of a Robotics League is of great interest. Great start to the new year!
  - b. Updates and Reports as available:
    - i. Community Partners Update (Community Health & Wellness) – Jason Kersten/LCSW. We have a 4 year partnership which has grown. As of October there will be a LCSW at the high school and another at the middle school. Supports are given for Social Skills, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Crisis Intervention.
    - ii. 2019-2020 Board Goals – September 10<sup>th</sup> Visioning & Reimagining to be held at THS.
    - iii. Strategic Plan – table till next meeting.
    - iv. Social Media – Proposing a 3-5 year Marketing Plan to include increased social media presence.

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on October 23, 2019.

- v. Calendar Change – Move June PD day to February 19<sup>th</sup> (teachers only) – move to full board.
  - c. THS Freshman Orientation Course (The Science of Learning) – Mandatory course for all freshman. Focus is on habits of mind that help students to be successful (organization, time management, communication, etc.) Meets criteria for STEM credit. 6 teachers are currently teaching the course. This course has always been on the books, however, it is now updated & current.
  - d. System-wide Initiatives from Convocation – 1) Attendance: committees in place at all schools to address chronic absenteeism/work with students and families. Secretaries receiving on-going training to ensure consistent procedures district-wide. 2) Engagement: Multi-year Professional Learning Plan in place to incorporate Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, Differentiation, Highly Engaging Instructional Strategies. 3) Building Independence: The PL Plan will also address this. Our SpEd Director and Supervisors are working closely with staff at all sites to differentiate instructional strategies to increase independence for all learners.
  - e. Alliance Progress – Report sent recently.
7. Comments for the Good of the Order:  
PD taught by SERC trainer to create trainers to teach to Paras in the district. IDEA funded through SERC  
PLC – Teachers will draft proposals for self-directed professional learning.  
Students taking Soldering course will receive 3 college credits (free) from Northwestern CT Community College. In discussion with the college to apply this same benefit to some other courses that may be eligible.  
Overall comments about the start of the school year, the positivity, the energy, enthusiasm, excitement felt by administration, teachers and students alike. Looking forward to a great year!
8. Topics for Future Meetings:
- a. Community Partners
  - b. NEASC
  - c. Updates to New Legislation
  - d. Graduation Dates
  - e. Strategic Plan
  - f. Branding of TPS
  - g. Weighted Grading
9. Adjournment: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:04PM.

Future Meetings:

October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Vogel Wetmore

November 4<sup>th</sup> – Torrington

December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Southwest

January 8<sup>th</sup> – Forbes

February 5<sup>th</sup> – TMS

March 4<sup>th</sup> – THS

April 1<sup>st</sup> – Migeon Avenue

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Migeon Avenue

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June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Migeon Avenue