



## Torrington Public Schools

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INTERIM ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

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INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

### **TPS Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Thursday, October 4, 2018, 5:30 PM THS Library Media Center**

1. Call to Order: 5:34 PM
2. Roll Call: Ed Arum, Jill Baranowitz, Dave Bascetta, Darlene Battle, Fiona Cappabianca, Joanne Creedon, Gary Eucalitto, Sue Fergusson, Roni Gelormino, Ellen Hoehne, Diane Holland, Donna Labbe, Jason Lafreniere, Robin Ledversis, Sue Lubomski, Sandy Mangan, Armand Maniccia, Charlie McSpirit, Peter Michelson, Wendy Pataky, Kathi Peterson, Jeff Putnam, Jess Richardson, Lisa Roche, Jeff Shannon, Jasmine Skarupa, Andy Skarzynski, Joann Stefurak, Hilary Sterling
3. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
4. Presentation by Administration: Student-Centered Learning PowerPoint (Attached)
5. Discussion: A Question & Answer for the Secondary Ad Hoc Administrator Panel followed the presentation.

Highlights are as follows: Details on Dual Enrollment and High School Partnership at NCCC were shared along with Service Based Learning at THS where the Community Service Club has 30 active students and several other initiatives that involve students volunteering. Student Centered Learning Environment can be guided by classroom layout, interdisciplinary course work, co-teacher model and flexible learning environment.

Ad Hoc Member Recommendations: ROTC should be a part of the plan and highlighted. RTI Social Emotional Supports needed in addition to Literacy and Numeracy. The panel shared that Hilary Sterling has been active in a School Based Diversion Initiative Grant for grades 6-12 and has received training on helping students with social emotion supports and infuse strategies throughout the schools as well as on Teach CT. Funding professional development will help make the shift to the new vision/initiatives. Professional development is also needed to build skills on how to effectively engage students. Co-teaching training would be beneficial. The definition of ELL needs was explained as primary language spoken in the home reported by parents as other than English. A question on how student competency is ensured. The panel clarified that data is used to address student learning. An ad hoc member emphasized the importance of critical thinking. Competency based learning is being implemented at the elementary level. Regarding Career Pathways internships and apprenticeships, who assesses/monitors student progress and compliance with credits earned and curriculum? At some schools, they do Job Credit as an elective. A thorough look at assessments is completed, analyzing student's individual progress. Classes need to be content based to prepare students for

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careers and can be complimented by internships. A enrollment data sheet was shared by Ed Arum showing a decline from 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

6. Next steps: The committee was asked to send their top three preferences for the content area sub-committees listed below to: Fiona Cappabianca – [cappabianca@torrington.org](mailto:cappabianca@torrington.org) and Susan M. Lubomski – [slubomski@torrington.org](mailto:slubomski@torrington.org) by Tuesday, October 9, 2018.
  1. Facilities-space for additional grades, Architectural Design, Referendum timelines, Construction
  2. Marketing and Communication-Parent/Student/Alumni\_Surveys, “Good News”
  3. Secondary Educational Models-Gr 8-12, Gr 7-12, Pros/Cons
  4. Review of Current Course Offerings grades 7-12-Review Course of Studies-THS and Course Offerings-TMS-how do they fit with new ways of teaching and the TPS vision

Gathering Information to create Short and Long Term Goals

7. Adjournment: Mr. Lafreniere made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Gelormino. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.