



## Torrington Public Schools

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### TPS Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Tuesday, September 4 2018, 5:30 PM THS Library Media Center

1. Call to Order: 5:30 PM
2. Roll Call: Fiona Cappabianca, Ellen Hoehne, John Kissko, Armand Maniccia, Jess Richardson, Sue Lubomski, Sue Fergusson, Kim Schulte, Dave Bascetta, Jasmine Skarupa, Don Rapuano, Wayne Spletstoeszer, Peter Michelson, Donna Labbe, Allie Therian, Ed Arum, Jill Baranowitz, Darlene Holland, Kelly Browning, Joanne Creedon, David, Mary DeMarchi, Gary Eucalitto, Roni Gelormino, Diane Holland, Jason Lafreniere, Andrew Marchand, Sandy Mangan, Bryan Olkowski, Wendy Pataky, Kathi Peterson, Kim Petzel, Jeff Putnam, Sally Richtmeyer, Trina Milanese, Andy Skarzynski, Joann Stefurak, Hilary Sterling, John Sullivan, Teresa Sullivan
3. Discussion: The Ad Hoc Committee discussed the following after a tour of the Torrington Middle School:  
Areas of improvement

#### Facility

Some tiles on first floor in need of replacement  
Discoloration of some tiles is smudge due to the air returns bringing dirt into the handlers  
Flat roof needs to be replaced to avoid leaks – has been in capital plan but was removed for several years Boys' bathroom in need of repair  
Walls need to be painted - Can volunteers do this?  
Safety issue on entry – put window in office wall?  
Suggestion: Put cameras on outside of locker room doors

#### Academic & Other:

Both science rooms should have science labs and a science room  
Be conscious of how scheduling effects IEP's – plan two years out  
Cutting a team in 6<sup>th</sup> grade impacted class sizes and special education enrollment in each class 35% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students didn't go to THS last year

#### Positive Comments/Ideas:

##### Facility

Girls' bathroom was updated by staff with paint and positive comments – remained in good shape Can we do some small things to make facility more appealing?  
Less vandalism when more staff were assigned to Key areas  
Student work crews over the summer to help with maintenance has been done in the past When first built, there were many leaks – since then the majority have been addressed

##### Academic

Teams work well, promote specials idea to keep students here

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on September 26, 2018.

Suggestion: Bio Medical Team/Engineering/Arts and Humanities Pathways that lead to Torrington High School  
tracts

Looking into grants for specialized college/career ready pathways

Torrington Public Schools has partnership National Science Foundation STEM Grant with Northwestern  
Community College that creates opportunities for college/career readiness

The District Strategic Vision and Goal was used as a guide

Provide curriculum development status

Quick discussion on other school repairs needed:

1999-2000 Last time THS was renovated – many items remain from 1967 – windows, mechanicals etc...

Roof was done 15 years ago, Vogel Wetmore will need a new roof in two approx. years

Quick fixes don't make big impact in overall building repairs or appearance

THS energy user – single pane windows from 1962 – no insulation anywhere

4. Next Steps:

a. Explore facility 7-12 grade school models

b. Send out NEASC Indicators prior to THS visit

c. Create both short-term and long term goals just in case what is put forward with respect to facilities  
doesn't pass a referendum.

d. Tour of THS followed by discussion of facility status and needs: Tuesday, September 25 5:30

5. Adjournment: 7:45 p.m. Motion made by Jason Lafreniere, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ellen Hoehne - All in favor