



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, June 26, 2019, 6:30 PM
THS Media Center, 50 Major Besse Drive**

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:30PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Todor, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Schulte, Mr. Bascetta
Absent: Mr. Maniccia, Ms. Spino, Mr. Corey, Mr. Thibault, Ms. Perzan, Mr. Arum
4. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment of moving item 8G up to #5, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
5. Kindergarten Ride to First Day of School Fire Truck Raffle: Maximus St. Germain won the firetruck raffle and he will ride on the firetruck for his first day of Kindergarten.
6. Recognitions: Superintendent and the Chair presented certificates to staff and students for outstanding contributions to our district.
7. School/Community Service/Public Participation: None.
8. Executive Session Regarding Non-Union Salary Agreements: Mr. Kissko made a motion to enter executive session regarding non-union salary agreements inviting in Superintendent Ms. Lubomski, second by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor.
The board entered into executive session at 6:37PM.
The board returned into open session at 7:15PM
9. Information Sharing Session:
 - A. Superintendent's Report: Many fabulous celebrations in June! THS Scholarship Night where over 60,000K was donated from our community to our students. Graduation was great and 197 students graduated. She passed out a sheet that represented the colleges the students are attending so far.
 - B. Alliance Funding: The application has not been released yet but the Superintendent handed out the proposal for next year. Our main focus is on special education. Over time we are hoping that we will not need all of this but right now we are in desperate need to turn things around. The total for salary would be \$1,808,752.00 for next year. The board first will look at this then we will present the proposal to the state in the fall. This is for the board to have a sense of where we are headed. There was discussion on the SRO for the Middle School.
 - C. Monthly Financials: The most recent piece was run on June, 25 and that paper was passed out. We projected out the payroll, bills, where we stand and we are in the black by 27,000\$. We are doing well.
 - D. RFP – Feasibility Study for Facility Improvements to THS: A PowerPoint was presented. There are 4 architects, community members, and board members – a well-rounded group. Kaestle Boos was a favorite with \$50,000 and pre-referendum services were included in that amount. They try to minimize the disruptions for staff and students. We saw some of their ideas. They were very approachable and supportive in answering the questions the group had asked. They usually try to do little phases and they believe this can be done in 15 phases. They have come in below their estimates. Ms. Hoehne had a question about Pre-K. Ms. Richardson had a question about where we are at this process – what are we

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looking to vote on. This is the company we are choosing and this is just an example of a proposal. You need someone to lead the charge on this. If we choose to use this architect, they would lay down all the ground work and we will weigh in on the cost.

- E. Tutoring for Pay Policy – We did not have this policy and we need it, it was discussed at length at the Policy Committee meeting.
 - F. Policy #5063 – Tutoring of Students – This policy needed to be updated. It was vetted through Shipman and Goodwin and it was discussed at length at the Policy Committee meeting.
 - G. Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant Approval – This is a grant we have had for a number of years. It is predominately for our ELL parents. This grant gives a lot of support for our families. It is for \$50,000. It is a renewal of what we have been doing. It does not cost the school district anything.
 - H. Field Trip – JROTC – Camp Niantic – 9/25/19 to 9/27/19 – The information was in the packet. This field trip is taken year after year and it is a great leadership opportunity for our students.
 - I. Recommendations from Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee: The Chair stated that before the ad-hoc committee vets these 4 ideas more, she wanted to get the boards opinion. We need good publicity and we need to instill raider pride in younger kids.
 - 1.) We considered all the schools in Torrington having raiders as the mascot instead of having separate mascots. Are you guys interested in considering making it a Raiders town? The schools and PTO will be surveyed. They discussed about the cost of changing the uniforms at TMS. This was brought up to see if anyone was adamantly opposed so the ad-hoc can continue to discussion.
 - 2.) Unifying the schools and possibly looking for sponsor to get shirts for all the students and all of the facility that has a T on the front and a raider on the back. We are looking around 42,000 shirts.
 - 3.) Online store – where people can buy their own Raider merchandise.
 - 4.) Advertising – big field behind the turf field where they were requesting a fence put in. We could sell some local advertising that would go on that fence that would pay for that fence that would go.
 - J. Budget 2019-2020 – The final budget reductions were presented. The total capital project budget reduction is \$1,175,075.00. The total technology capital budget reduction is \$465,175.00. The total 2019-2020 capital budget reductions are \$1,640,250.00.
 - K. Region 7 VOAG – Mr. Kissko reported that REGION 6 is not going to accept any more students and there are 9 students that need to be sent somewhere. We were instructed to come back and see if we would cover transportation for those students. Superintendent spoke about absorbing those routes and it is not possible without incurring a lot of cost. We cannot afford to do this. What we are looking for the board to make the definite answer regarding transportation.
10. Committee Reports:
- A. Policy Committee – Ms. Hoehne reported that there still need to be discussion on numerous topics like safe school climate, bullying, dress code for students and staff.
 - B. School Improvement Committee – Mr. Kissko reported that they had a good discussion about discipline the restorative discipline and emphasized that any disciplinary procedure have to follow board policy. Community partner programs will be on the agenda for August.
 - C. Budget Committee – Everything was presented.
 - D. Personnel Committee – No meeting.
 - E. Grievance Committee – No meeting.
 - F. Ed-Advance – Mr. Kissko reported that they wrapped up a busy year.

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- G. Curriculum Committee – Met at the beginning of June to solidify plans for summer curriculum work.
- H. Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee – Already presented
- I. School Liaison Reports:
 - Forbes: They had a challenging year. They had Field Day and Kids Marathon.
 - THS: Two big events: Graduation and Scholarship Night.

11. Action Items:

- A. Non-Union Salary Agreements: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the agreements with the changes as discussed, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- B. Alliance Proposal: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to approve the authorization for the Superintendent to submit the alliance proposal as we saw to the State, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
- C. Monthly Financials – Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the monthly financials, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- D. RFP – Feasibility Study for Facility Improvements to THS – Mr. Kissko made a motion to go with the recommendation of the facility committee to retain Kessel Boose Associates Inc. for the facility improvements, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- E. Tutoring for Pay Policy – Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the policy, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
- F. Policy #5063 – Tutoring of Students – Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the policy, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- G. Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant Approval – Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the grant, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
- H. Field Trip – JROTC – Camp Niantic – 9/25/19 to 9/27/19 – Ms. Richardson made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
- I. Possible Action Regarding Recommendations from Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee: Removed. We will bring it back after we get some more information.
- J. Budget 2019-2020 – Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to finalize the budget 2019-2020, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- K. Region 7 VOAG – Mr. Kissko made a motion that that the Torrington Public School is unable to provide transportation to the VOAG students in excess of the 5 that are capped at our limit, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
- L. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2019: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- M. Approval of Board of Education Special Meeting – May 29, 2019: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
- N. Receive Subcommittee Minutes: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
 - i. Budget Committee – May 8, 2019
 - ii. Personnel Committee – May 8, 2019
 - iii. School Improvement Committee – May 1, 2019
 - iv. Policy Committee – May 1, 2019
 - v. Secondary Ad-Hoc – March 21, 2019
 - vi. Secondary Ad-Hoc – April 4, 2019
- O. Consent Agenda: Appointments & Resignations: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.

12. Comments for the Good of the Order:

- Cathy – She attended both Graduation and Scholarship night and they were wonderful events.
- Jessica – Thanked the Superintendent, the Chair and Central Office for all the work they had done for the budget.
- Ellen – Echoed Jessica’s sentiments.

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John – Attended make music day at CAFTA and saw two of our music students playing a duet violin and they did a fantastic job.

Chair – Stated that Mr. Dubois’ speech at graduation was amazing and really summed up what Torrington is about. The administration has posted it on the website and she encouraged everyone to read it. She thanked Central Office.

13. Items for Upcoming Agenda:

- A. Retreat is sometime in July
- B. Monthly Financials
- C. Disciplinary Triangle

14. Future Meetings:

Wednesday, July 10, 2019 (at Migeon Ave.)

~~6:00 p.m. – Personnel Committee~~ **CANCELED**

~~6:30 p.m. – Budget Committee~~ **CANCELED**

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 (at Migeon Ave.)

~~6:00 p.m. – School Improvement Committee~~ **CANCELED**

~~7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee~~ **CANCELED**

No July Regular Meeting – Summer Break

15. Adjournment: Mr. Kissko made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:52PM.