



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 6:00 PM  
THS Media Center, 50 Major Besse Drive**

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order: 6:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mayor Carbone, Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Corey, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Todor, Mr. Maniccia, Ms. Spino, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Fappiano, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Klimaszewski, Mr. Barlow  
Absent: Mr. Arum
3. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Kissko made a motion to amend the agenda to swap #8 and #9 so Information Sharing Session could occur before the Executive Session. Ms. Spino second. All in favor.
4. Student Representatives: Justin Mattiello and Julia McCarthy gave a report on the various events happenings at Torrington High School.
5. Recognitions: Ms. Lubomski and the Board Chair passed out certificates of recognition to various staff and students.
6. School/Community Service/Public Participation: Diane Jones spoke about her concerns regarding the proposed course Weightlifting and Yoga. She objected to the concept of “yoga” as religious.
7. Information Sharing Session:
  - A. Superintendent’s Report: Updates on Coronavirus
  - B. Superintendent’s Budget Proposal 2020-2021: Ms. Lubomski presented a PowerPoint on her proposed Budget. There is a 3.8% increase over the last year’s adopted budget, 3.3% being contractual. Superintendent’s Budget Proposal 2020-2021 can be found online here: <http://www.torrington.org/superintendentsproposedbudget2020-2021>
  - C. Monthly Financials were reviewed.
  - D. Budget Calendar was discussed and finalized.
  - E. SBAC Ad-Hoc Update: Mr. Kissko provided a summary of the last SBAC Ad Hoc, highlighting areas of concern
  - F. TMS Windows Update: Cost estimates for operable and inoperable windows were presented
  - G. Special Education Update: Ms. Klimaszewski provided the board a monthly update on SPED. Ninety children have moved into Torrington needing special education services. Twenty-seven children needing special education services moved out of Torrington. For every 1 identified child that has moved out of the district, 3 identified children have moved in.
  - H. Policy Updates: Ms. Hoehne reported on all 3 policies. They were thoroughly vetted through the Policy Committee.
    1. Grading Policy #6111
    2. Use of Private Technology Devices by Students Policy #6041
    3. Minority Recruitment - Model Policy #4062
  - I. New Course Proposals: These courses were vetted in the School Improvement Committee.
    1. Ceramics III
    2. Intro to Investment

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3. Weightlifting & Yoga
4. Creativity & Conflict
5. Local History
6. Sheltered History of Film
- J. Retirement Incentive: Discussion about offering the incentive to all 7 bargaining units. This would reflect the same agreement as the 2019-2020 school year.
- K. Field Trips: Discussion of the following:
  1. Alumni Healthful Living Center at Western New England University – 3/21/2020 and 3/22/2020
  2. Androscoggin Bank Colisee – 4/2/2020 to 4/4/2020
  3. The Big E – 4/9/2020, 4/10/2020, and 4/11/2020
  4. TCF Center Washington Blvd. – 4/28/2020 through 5/3/2020
  5. NYC Intrepid Museum, 9/11 Memorial Museum – 5/19/2020
  6. NYC Intrepid Museum, 9/11 Memorial Museum – 5/26/2021
- L. BOE By-Laws were discussed by the Board
8. Executive Session Regarding a Personnel Matter: Ms. Spino made a motion to enter executive session regarding a personnel matter, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.  
The board entered executive session at 7:24 P.M.  
The board returned to open session at 7:36 P.M.
9. Committee Reports:
  - A. Policy Committee: Ms. Hoehne reported on the policies that they have been reviewing.
  - B. School Improvement Committee: Mr. Kissko gave an update on the Distinguished Alumnus process
  - C. Budget Committee: Mr. Maniccia provided an update on the progress of the 2020-2021 Budget
  - D. Personnel Committee: Ms. Spino reported on the Superintendent and Board evaluations and Teacher and Para Profession attendance rates. This was the last meeting of the Personnel Committee.
  - E. Grievance Hearing: None
  - F. Ed-Advance: Mr. Kissko provided a report on the current events.
  - G. Curriculum Committee: Curriculum work is on-going. Ms. Fergusson stated that social studies and math met during February.
  - H. Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee: Next meeting is March 19.
  - I. SBAC Ad-Hoc Committee: Mr. Kissko highlighted the summary of the site visits.
  - J. Insurance Review Ad-Hoc Committee: Currently working on a date to meet.
  - K. School Liaison Reports: The board members reported on events that are happening in their assigned schools.
10. Action Items:
  - A. Possible Action Regarding a Personnel Matter: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the 2 non bargaining contracts with prorated salary, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
  - B. Receive Superintendent's Budget: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to receive the Superintendent's budget and move it to the Budget Committee, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
  - C. Monthly Financials: Ms. Spino made a motion to approve the monthly financials, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
  - D. Budget Calendar: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to receive the Budget Calendar, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
  - E. Policy Updates:
    1. Grading Policy #6111: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy #6111, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.

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2. Use of Private Technology Devices by Students Policy #6041: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy #6041, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
3. Minority Recruitment - Model Policy #4062: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy #4062, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- F. New Course Proposals:
  1. Ceramics III: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the course, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
  2. Intro to Investment: Mr. Maniccia made a motion to approve the course, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
  3. Weightlifting & Yoga: Mr. Maniccia made a motion to table this course, second by Mr. Kissko. Mr. Corey opposed. Everyone else in favor. This motion is tabled.
  4. Creativity & Conflict: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the course, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
  5. Local History: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the course, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
  6. Sheltered History of Film: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the course, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
- G. Retirement Incentive: Ms. Spino made a motion to approve the retirement incentive same as last year, second by Ms. Todor. All in favor.
- H. Field Trips:
  1. Alumni Healthful Living Center at Western New England University – 3/21/2020 and 3/22/2020: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
  2. Androscoggin Bank Colisee – 4/2/2020 to 4/4/2020: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
  3. The Big E – 4/9/2020, 4/10/2020, and 4/11/2020: Ms. Todor made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
  4. TCF Center Washington Blvd. – 4/28/2020 through 5/3/2020: Ms. Spino made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
  5. NYC Intrepid Museum, 9/11 Memorial Museum – 5/19/2020: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
  6. NYC Intrepid Museum, 9/11 Memorial Museum – 5/26/2021: Mr. Maniccia made a motion to approve the field trip, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
- I. BOE By-laws: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the BOE By-Laws as presented, second by Ms. Spino. All in favor.
- J. Approval of Board of Education Meeting Minutes – January 29, 2020: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.
- K. Receive Subcommittee Minutes: Ms. Todor made a motion to approve the subcommittee minutes, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
  1. School Improvement – January 8, 2020
  2. Policy Committee – January 8, 2020
  3. SBAC Ad-Hoc Committee – January 13, 2020
  4. Personnel Committee – January 15, 2020
- L. Consent Agenda: Appointments, Retirements & Resignations: Ms. Spino made a motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
11. Comments for the Good of the Order: The board and Chair thanked central office for their hard work on the Budget proposal.
12. Items for Upcoming Agenda
  - A. Monthly Financials
  - B. Budget

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13. Future Meetings:

***Wednesday, March 4, 2020 (at THS)***

6:00 p.m. – Facilities & Technology/IT

7:00 p.m. – Budget Committee

***Monday, March 9, 2020 (at Vogel Wetmore)***

6:30 p.m. – Special Budget Meeting Public Hearing, (Elementary, Special Education, Curriculum)

***Wednesday, March 11, 2020 (at TMS)***

6:00 p.m. – School Improvement Committee

7:00 p.m. – Budget Meeting (Tentative)

***Monday, March 16, 2020 (at THS)***

6:30 p.m. – Special Budget Public Hearing,  
(Secondary, Facilities, Technology, Districtwide)

***Thursday, March 19, 2020 (at THS)***

5:30 p.m. – TPS Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee

***Wednesday, March 25, 2020 (at THS)***

6:00 p.m. – BOE Regular Meeting

14. Adjournment: Mr. Kissko made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Spino. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.