



## Torrington Board of Education

SUSAN LUBOMSKI  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

CHERYL F. KLOCZKO  
SUPERINTENDENT

### School Improvement and Community Relations Committee

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

355 Migeon Avenue

#### MINUTES

Members Present: John Kissko, Committee Chair; Bill Knight; Jessica Richardson  
Also Present: Board of Education: Fiona Cappabianca, Ellen Hoehne, Jim Lamoin  
Administration: Eric Baim, Cheryl F. Kloczko, Susan Lubomski

1. Mr. Kissko called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m.
2. Roll Call was taken.
3. Approval of the Minutes: Motion to approve minutes with the amendment of the members present, being Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight and Ms. Richardson, was made by Mr. Kissko and seconded by Ms. Richardson. Motion carried all in favor.
4. NEASC: Mr. Baim presented an update on the NEASC process and timeline. The staff is continuing preparations for the 2017 visit. Mr. Baim sent an extension request to NEASC for a later date in 2017.
5. Distinguished Alumni Award: Several candidates were discussed. Jennifer MacDonald was chosen. The motion was made by Ms. Richardson and seconded by Mr. Kissko. The motion carried all in favor. Ms. Richardson said the process for the nominations was unstructured. She would like to look into this process in the future. Ms. Hoehne stated the honoree should receive a plaque. Ms. Kloczko said she would take care of that.
6. Marketing: Ms. Richardson was concerned about having a timeline for marketing. Mr. Kissko said the process has been disjointed with very many people involved in the process on their own committees: Economic Development, the Chamber, SGC at THS, etc. Mr. Kissko noted that schools need to be a part of the marketing strategies as well. Ms. Cappabianca suggested that students help in the marketing, possibly through the YEA (Young Entrepreneurs Association). Students could use their community service hours working toward this effort. Ms. Richardson wanted more press releases and communication out into the community about events and successes.
7. PE Credit for Other Physical Activity: Mr. Kissko expressed an interest in continuing to explore alternatives to earning PE credit. Ms. Cappabianca stated that PE credit alternatives were already occurring but that there needed to be a consistent process districtwide.
8. Comments for the Good of the Order: Mr. Knight commented on enjoying the Torrington School band concert, even though the bleachers were hard. Ms. Richardson expressed a concern about the numbers of students leaving TPS at the secondary level. She suggested doing an Exit Survey. Mr. Kissko wanted to hear why the students don't go or don't want to go to THS. Mr. Lamoin shared

355 MIGEON AVENUE  
TORRINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06790  
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that this year, TMS 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students visited THS on Family Night. He suggested a “Shadow Day” event.

9. Topics for Future Meetings: Ms. Richardson wanted to establish criteria for marketing. Ms. Cappabianca wanted to discuss the restructuring of secondary education. Mr. Kissko requested a change in the meeting date for the June meeting. Policy and Budget will meet on June 3, and School Improvement and Personnel will meet on June 10. Motion to move the School Improvement and Community Relations Committee Meeting to June 10 was made by Mr. Kissko and seconded by Ms. Richardson. The motion carried all in favor.
10. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kissko and seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
11. Meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.