

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Mr. Cavagnero at 7: 10 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Miss Laus, Mr. Lyons,
Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Raymond,
Prof. Royals, Mr. Rubino, Mr. Arum, Dr. Campbell,
Mr. Emmett, Mr. Ji, Mr. Canciani

Absent: Mayor Bingham

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Lyons moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve tonight's agenda as amended. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Cavagnero added Discussion Item 9.2, Discussion and Possible Action on Board Leadership Officers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliver moved and Mr. Lyons supported a motion to approve the regular BOE meeting minutes of August 19, 2009. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Mr. Cavagnero and Mr. Mattiello who abstained.

CELEBRATIONS

**Presentation of the Teacher-of-the-Year - Barbara J. Hengstenberg
Probus Recognition**

Barbara Hengstenberg was recognized and honored as Teacher-of-the-Year.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Student BOE Representative Reports

Mr. Emmett reported that Spirit Week has been moved to the week before Thanksgiving. The counselors finished their meetings with the freshman and the senior seminars are next. September 24th is College Planning Night which is 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre at THS. October 8th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. there is a Career Fair at Cornucopia and October 8th is also the College Fair from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at THS.

Superintendent's Report

Future's Inc - Progress Report

Future's Education has finished all of their footwork and now will focus on the feasibility of establishing alternative education programs as a platform to both bringing back and keeping in the district students. Administration plans to meet with the Board of Finance for consideration of ways reimbursement can be changed. Mr. Arum will provide the Board of Ed with a written communication regarding this.

School Choice

There was a meeting on Monday with 63 people attending, probably 25 being parents with the rest being teachers and administrators. Prior to the meeting, Mr. Arum sent Forbes and Vogel-Wetmore parents close to 20 questions. All those questions were reviewed at the meeting. How the government did the calculations for AYP was also explained.

Enrollment Projections

This hasn't been done in a number of years. Mr. Arum would like to hire the person who used to do it to look at an analysis of enrollment for the past 10 years and what may happen in the next 8 years. If any construction projects need to be done, the State requires projections. He would also like an analysis of demographics.

Drop-out Prevention Workshop

Mr. Arum reported he was invited by the Governor to a Drop-out Prevention Workshop. He can bring Board members and administrators. It is on October 19th. He will send out a written invitation to everyone.

Three Ad Hoc Committees

The first one is set. It is the Ad Hoc Board of Ed and Board of Finance Health Benefits Fund. The members are Mr. Arum, Mr. Broverman, Mrs. Traub, and Ms. Pesce. The date is September 30th at 5 p.m. at Migeon Avenue. This meeting will be posted. The other committees will be Capital Fund and the Excess Cost Grant.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Lyons supported a motion to approve tonight's consent agenda. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

1. Resignations/Appointments/Non-renewals

Jacqueline Maddy, Supervisor of Nurses-DW, resigned eff 9/11/09
Laura Ramond, Grade1-FB, recall eff 8/25/09
Susan D. Kraut, Science-MS, recall eff 8/25/09
Jessica Papp, Kindergarten-FB, recall eff 8/25/09
Michelle N. Steck, Speech Pathologist-DW, hired eff 8/21/09
Taylor-Beth L. Simon, Grade 4-EA, hired eff 8/21/09
Eric S. Carlson, Grade 3-TF, hired eff 8/21/09
Alethea W. Therrien, Home/School Liaison Teacher-MS, hired eff 8/26/09
Michelle N. Steck, Speech/Language Pathologist (.08 FTE)-DW, hire date
changed to 9/10/09
Barbara A. Oles, Long-Term Substitute, ELL-FB, hired eff 8/25/09
Nancy Amrich, Interim Supervisor of Nursing Services-DW, hired eff 9/10/09
Suzanne C. McKitis-Perillo, Long-Term Substitute, Grade 4-FB,
hired eff 9/3/09
Tina Tanguay, Accountant-MI, (.8 FTE) hired eff 8/17/09

2. Contract Addenda

Victor Leger, Lunchroom Monitor-HS hired eff 2009-2010
Michael Schieb, Lunchroom Monitor Substitute-HS, hired eff 2009-2010
Brian Nass, Lunchroom Monitor-HS, hired eff 2009-2010
Samantha Root, Lunchroom Monitor and/or Lunchroom Substitute,
hired eff 2009-2010
Jill Tedesco, Coordinating Teacher, Special Education-TF, eff 2009-2010
Pavinee Shea, Coordinating Teacher, Special Education-SW, eff 2009-2010
Linda Podos, Coordinating Teacher, Social Education-FB, eff 2009-2010
Cheryl Pecha, Coordinating Teacher, Special Education-HS, eff 2009-2010
Lisa Hodgkins, Coordinating Teacher, Special Education-MS, eff 2009-2010
Henry Marchand, Coordinating Teacher, Special Education-MS, eff 2009-
2010
Veronica Gelormino, Drama Director I, Spring Drama Production-MS, hired
eff 2009-2010

3. Coaching Appointments - 2009-2010 Sports Season

Donald Whitley, Asst. Athletics Director-MS, eff 2009-2010

4. Notices for Homeschooling JONANG10; MULALY10; ROMA10;
MALKEN10; BURDAN10; WHIJEN10

ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Appointment of Director of Business Services - Danielle Batchelder

Prof. Royals moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to approve the appointment of the Director of Business Services - Danielle Batchelder. The motion carried. All were in favor.

Mr. Nargi expressed a concern that he would have liked to have considered a combined position between the Business Manager/Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager/Human Resource Person, Business Manager/Superintendent.

8.2 Approval of Field Trip Proposals:

- a. **THS Band (90 Students) - September 24, 2009**
BIG-E Connecticut Day Parade, West Springfield, MA

Mr. Broverman moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve the THS Band Field Trip to the BIG-E Connecticut Day Parade in West Springfield, MA. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

- b. **THS Band - October 4, 2009**
North Adams Fall Foliage Parade, North Adams, MA

Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Lyons supported a motion to approve the THS Band Field Trip to the North Adams Fall Foliage Parade in North Adams, MA. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

- c. **8th Grade TAG/APL (50 Students) - May 11, 2010 to May 1, 2010**
15th Annual Cape Cod Field Expedition to Outer Cape Cod, MA

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve the 8th Grade TAG/APL Student Field Trip to the 15th Annual Cape Cod Field Expedition to Outer Cape Cod, MA. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

- 8.3 Formal Acceptance of High School Building Project as Complete:**
Project #143-0061RR - High School Roof Replacement - A & B Buildings

- 8.4 Formal Acceptance of High School Building Project as Complete:**
Project #143-0062RR - High School Roof Replacement - Technology Wing and Music Wing

- 8.5 Formal Acceptance of High School Building Project as Complete:**
Project #1243-0064RR - High School Roof Replacement - Gymnasium

- 8.6 Formal Acceptance of High School Building Project as Complete:**
Project #143-0065RR - Southwest School Partial Roof Replacement

- 8.7 Formal Acceptance of High School Building Project as Complete:**
Project #143-0066CV - High School Code Violation
Asbestos Abatement, 3rd Floor A-Building

**8.8 Formal Acceptance of Forbes School Building Project as Complete:
Project #143-0067CV - Removal and Installation of New Oil Tank**

**8.9 Formal Acceptance of Forbes School Building Project as Complete:
Project #143-0068CV - Forbes - Removal of Portables and Access Ramp
And Building of New Access Ramp**

Mr. Rubino moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to approve Action Items 8.3 through 8.9. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

8.10 Receipt of the 2008-2009 Unaudited Financial Statements

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to receive the 2008-2009 Unaudited Financial Statements. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

**8.11 Budget Committee Recommends an Enrollment Projection and
Demographic Analysis Not to Exceed \$2,400.00**

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve the Budget Committee Recommendation for an Enrollment Projection and Demographic Analysis Not to Exceed \$2,400.00. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 District Goal Setting - 2009-2010

Mr. Arum stated that he is revising the goals and will have a written copy available and sent out this weekend. Therefore, this will be discussed in detail and approved at the next Board meeting. The four overarching goals include advancing academic achievement; attract, develop, and retain highly qualified employees who reflect the diversity of the community; provide safe, productive, and welcoming school environments and enhance community connections; and utilize all resources effectively and efficiently.

9.2 Discussion and Possible Action on Board Leadership Officers

Mr. Cavagnero resigned as the Chairman of the Torrington Board of Education. According to the bylaws, Mr. Lyons now becomes the Board Chair which leaves a vacancy as Vice Chair. The Board indicated they would be willing to leave the Vice Chair position vacant at this time.

Mr. Nargi moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to add Comments For the Good of the Order to tonight's agenda. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Broverman stated that the policy committee will meet September 30th at 7:30 p.m. They have 8 items to be looked at. Some reflect changes in the law; some reflect things which came out of the meeting last week.

Mr. Mattiello gave an update on the superintendent search. The goal is to have an offer made to an individual by Thanksgiving.

Miss Laus stated there will be a grievance committee meeting on October 1st at 6 p.m. There will be 2 hearings that night.

Mr. Rubino stated that budget is pretty quiet at this time.

Mr. Arum invited all the Board of Ed candidates to meet with him on September 23rd at 7:30 p.m.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

Mr. Arum stated that the next agenda will have the Future's report and the District goals. Also, the budget trends and expenditures.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Nargi commented that one of the high school restrooms is still boarded up. Mr. Arum will check into this.

Mr. Nargi commented that he heard that at the beginning of the year in the high school, juniors and seniors who were not failing could not attend study hall but had to go to the cafeteria for that period. He believes this was rectified, but would like verification regarding this. Mr. Arum will check into this also.

Mr. Nargi commented that he was disappointed that the President's speech was not broadcast live throughout the school district. He would like that rebroadcast. Mr. Arum stated they don't have the technologies needed. They don't get CSPAN.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. All were in favor.