

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 6, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Cavagnero at 7:15 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Miss Laus, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Rubino, Mr. Good, Ms. Kruse (left at 7:40 p.m.), Dr. O'Brien, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Haynes

Members Absent: Mayor Bingham, Ms. Palladino

**SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION**

Kathy Peterson spoke in support of an alternative program at TMS. Casey Carlson expressed concern regarding increasing violence at TMS.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion to approve tonight's agenda**

*Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Rubino supported the approval of tonight's agenda as amended. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

**Motion to approve minutes**

Miss Laus moved and Mr. Lyons supported the approval of the special meeting minutes of January 23, 2008. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Broverman moved and Mrs. Raymond supported the approval of the regular BOE minutes of January 23, 2008. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous except for Mr. Lyons who abstained. Prof. Royals moved and Mr. Lyons supported the approval of the expulsion meeting minutes of January 30, 2008. The motion carried. Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Rubino, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, and Mr. Broverman were in favor. Mr. Oliver, Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Cavagnero, Miss Laus, and Mrs. Raymond abstained.

**CELEBRATIONS**

**CAPT 2007 Distinguished High School Student – Amanda Cavagnero**

Ms. Cavagnero was honored for high scores on the CAPT.

**INFORMATION SHARING SESSION**

**Student Representative Reports**

Ms. Kruse and Mr. Good gave reports regarding Torrington School, Southwest School, and THS.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. O'Brien reported that she was a celebrity reader at Southwest School which was a great opportunity to interact with the students there. Administration is also beginning the "Food for Your Neighbors" program again this year and she asked for district participation. On Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Commissioner, George Coleman, and Mr. Bas of the State Board of Education will give a presentation on the high school reform package that is being shared around the state. It will be held in the auditorium at THS at 6:30 p.m.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### Certified Staff Resignations/Appointments

Marina V. Putnam, (.8 FTE) ESL-MS, hired eff 2/11/08

Joseph C. Perusse, Special Education Resource-FB, hired eff 2/18/08

*Mr. Oliver moved and Mrs. Raymond supported approval of the consent agenda. All were in favor. The vote was unanimous.*

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **8.1 TMS ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM: GRADES 7 & 8**

Mr. Harnett and guest speakers, John Tamuzzer and Michael Suntag from Breakthrough Education Strategies, gave a presentation regarding a possible TMS alternative education program for at-risk students in grades 7 & 8. Board members asked questions about the school-home liaison position, consultant fees, the application selection process, how the model fits with the target population, teacher empowerment, program location, experiences with program in other settings, professional development, program cost, effect on student safety, program guarantees, future high school implementation, seeing this program in action, ideal class sizes, and impact on the existing contract.

#### **8.2 TAG – TMS – ACADEMIC ACCELERATION GRADES 6, 7, & 8: APL PROGRAM (ACCELERATED PATHWAY TO LEARNING)**

Cheryl Kloczko shared a blueprint for APL, Accelerated Pathway to Learning, the proposed program for the academically gifted students attending TMS. She also presented a separate component designed for a program to provide enrichment for all students. Board members commented that they felt very positively towards the program. Mr. Oliver asked administration for a report regarding the appropriation of the \$17,000 which was given for the TAG program last year. Dr. O'Brien stated she would report back on that, and also provide for the Board a conceptual multiple year plan.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **7.1 APPROVE LOCAL 1579 CONTRACT FOR CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES – 2007-2010**

*Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Lyons supported approving the local 1579 contract for classified employees – 2007-2010. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

## **7.2 RECEIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2009-2010**

*Miss Laus moved and Prof. Royals supported receiving the school calendar for 2009-2010. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Rubino explained the recent actions and discussions of the budget committee. The budget committee minutes of January 17, 2008, were provided in the Board packet. Mr. Lyons reported that he will be in touch about scheduling another meeting for the school/community committee. Mr. Broverman reported that the policy committee needs to meet with administration to do a yearly review of all policies, probably sometime in the spring. Mr. Oliver reported that the personnel committee has had a meeting and are making good progress.

### **ITEMS FOR THE UPCOMING AGENDA**

Dr. O'Brien reported that a review of the monthly financial report from January 2008 will be scheduled, as well as budget transfers for the Board's approval. The Board will also be asked to approve the school calendar for 2009-2010, and receive the superintendent's budget proposal for 2008-2009, including the required components from NCLB.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Cavagnero adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.