

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 9, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Miss Laus, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Rubino, Mr. Nocera (representing Mayor Bingham), Mr. Good, Ms. Palladino, Ms. Kruse, Dr. O'Brien, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Haynes

Absent: Mayor Bingham

**Motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Mattiello**

*Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Broverman supported approving the appointment of Mr. Mattiello to the Torrington BOE. The motion carried.*

**Oath of Allegiance** – Mr. Mattiello was sworn in as a new Board member.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion to approve tonight's agenda**

*Heidi Laus moved and Judy Raymond supported approving tonight's agenda as modified. An action item was added to receive the policy committee recommendation for revisions to by-laws. The motion carried.*

**INFORMATION SHARING SESSION**

**Student Representative Reports**

Mr. Good, Ms. Palladino, and Ms. Kruse gave reports regarding THS, Torrington School, and Vogel-Wetmore School respectively.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. O'Brien reported that the Board is invited to attend a breakfast meeting regarding the 2008 legislative priorities for the Area 1 legislative team on Tues, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Ed Connection. THS will be the site for the Secondary School Reform public hearing on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> for any interested parties. The Board has also been provided with handouts regarding the Administrator's Litany and a SPED Cost Analysis which reflects the growth in SPED costs.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### Certified Staff Resignations/Hires

Jean Borrup, ESL Teacher (.8 FTE)-MS, resigned eff 12/21/07

### Coaching Appointments

Eric Mahar, Asst. Boys' Basketball-HS, eff 2007-08 Winter Sports  
Jhonny Camacho, Asst. Indoor Track-HS, eff 2007-08 Winter Sports  
Katie Block, Asst. Boys' Swimming-HS, eff 2007-08 Winter Sports  
Gerry Carbone, Head Baseball-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Erika Fritch, Head Softball-MS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Brian Kiernan, Asst. Girls' Track-MS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Alan Kittle, Asst. Boys' Track-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
David Lopardo, Head Girls' Track-MS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Eric Mahar, Head Baseball-MS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Andrew Marchand, Head Boys' Track-MS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Henry Marchand, Asst. Boys' Track-MS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Joseph Minutillo, Head Golf Coach-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Maryann Musselman, Head Softball-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
John Nickles, Head Girls' Tennis-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Tammy Ostroski, Asst. Softball Coach-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Newell Porch, Head Boys' Tennis-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Arthur Richardson, Asst. Baseball-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Todd Thompson, Asst. Baseball-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports  
Mike Tyler, Head Girls' Track-HS, eff 2007-08 Spring Sports

*Heidi Laus moved and Judy Raymond supported the approval of the consent agenda. The motion carried.*

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

State Senator Andrew Roraack, 30<sup>th</sup> District, and State Representative Anne I. Ruwet, 65<sup>th</sup> District, and State Representative Roberta B. Willis, 64<sup>th</sup> District, gave legislative updates for the Board. Board members and administration expressed concerns regarding NCLB mandates, Special Ed costs, educating students at a competitive level, providing new teachers with differentiated teaching instruction at the college level, bullying, the need for parental involvement, and issues regarding tenure, teacher retention, budget funding, world language requirements, supporting new teachers, and out-of-school suspensions for chronic offenders. No specific actions are to be taken.

### **7.2 FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN PRESENTATION**

Dr. O'Brien gave a detailed presentation regarding a full-day kindergarten program. The Board directed the administration to conduct a community survey. Dr. O'Brien stated that this could be done prior to July 1, 2008, along with a public forum where people can come out and speak about this.

### **7.3 TAG NEEDS ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS**

Cheryl Kloczko shared the results and recommendations of the surveys that were conducted among their clients. The Board directed administration to provide a 3, 4, or 5 year plan for the TAG program. Administration agreed to provide this after budget time.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **8.1 APPROVE ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT 2008-2011**

*Mr. Lyons moved and Heidi Laus supported to approve the administrator contract for 2008-2011. The motion carried*

#### **8.2 RECEIVE RECOMMENDATION FROM POLICY COMMITTEE**

*Mr. Broverman moved and Prof. Royals supported to receive the recommendation from the policy committee for a revision of the Board's by-laws. The motion carried.*

### **SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION**

Heather Kazmoski, the parent of a kindergartener, spoke to the Board in support of a full-day kindergarten. She is also in support of starting world languages at a young age.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Rubino gave a report regarding the recent budget committee meeting.

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

Dr. O'Brien reported that on Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, there will be a non-meeting prior to the Board's regular meeting to discuss the status of the classified contract that is being negotiated. The regular meeting will include action items of receiving the non-certified union contract, receiving the monthly financial statements, approving budget transfers, approving student workers camera technician's fee, approving the proposed revisions to the by-laws. For discussion, Mrs. Babcock will give a program update on the special education special programs at THS. The LINKS program will be evaluated with recommendations for improvement, the CORE-plus program will be evaluated with recommendations for improvement, and the PAVE program will be discussed. Mr. Cavagnero requested that a brief history of these programs be included in the Board packets especially for new Board members and Dr. O'Brien agreed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Cavagnero adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.