

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Rubino, Dr. O'Brien, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Haynes

Absent: Miss Laus, Mayor Bingham

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

There was no public comment

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Oliver with a second by Prof. Royals, the Board approved the agenda. The vote was unanimous.

Motion to approve minutes

On a motion by Mr. Rubino, with a second by Mr. Broverman, the Board moved to approve the regular Board meeting minutes of June 18, 2008. The vote was unanimously in favor with the exception of Mr. Nargi who was opposed and Mr. Oliver who abstained.

On a motion by Mr. Lyons, with a second by Prof. Royals, the Board moved to approve Board expulsion hearing meeting minutes of June 24, 2008. All were in favor except for Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Raymond and Mr. Cavagnero who abstained.

On a motion by Mrs. Raymond, with a second by Mr. Broverman, the Board moved to approve the Board meeting minutes of June 25, 2008. All were in favor except for Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mattiello and Mr. Oliver who abstained.

On a motion by Mr. Broverman, with a second by Mrs. Raymond, the Board moved to approve the special Board meeting minutes of June 30, 2008. All were in favor except for Mr. Oliver, Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi and Mr. Rubino who abstained.

On a motion by Mr. Oliver, with a second by Mr. Rubino, the Board moved to approve the special Board meeting minutes of July 2, 2008. All were in favor except for Mr. Nargi who abstained.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Superintendent's Report

Dr. O'Brien provided clarification regarding the dropout rate on her evaluation document. In that dropout rate quoted she had indicated that the dropout rate went down from 21% to 12%. Dr. O'Brien indicated she had reported after the SSP of last year was audited and approved by the State for Board review and distribution. The SSP is an official document compiled with district data by the State of Connecticut and is something of a district report card on the various criteria and it is also a school report card on different criteria. The data she had shared with the Board are from the most current approved Strategic School Profile that is available and noted that the dropout rate is figure noted is 12.4%. We will get another Strategic School Profile just prior to November, 2008, which will be distributed and shared with the Board at that time.

Dr. O'Brien thanked Board members for their lengthy and painstaking efforts over the past few weeks on her evaluation and contract review. She expressed her appreciation for the Board's duty and thanked the Board for their hard work.

CONSENT AGENDA

Certified Staff Resignations/Appointments

Amy Perez, Math-HS, resigned eff 6/30/08

Contract Addenda

SUMMER SCHOOL, eff Summer, 2008

Dawn Cottone, Teacher, Regular Ed Elementary (1/2 shared position)

Brandy Grant, Teacher, Regular Ed Elementary (1/2 shared position)

Jeanne Browne, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Susan Canciani, Teacher Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Nicole Criss, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Diane Dove, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Bernard Niehaus, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Geraldine Samela, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Trina Schultz, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

John Simonds, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Maria Carrillo, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Tara D'lorio, Teacher, Regular Ed Secondary-HS

Andrew Marchand, Instructional Area Leader, Technology-HS,
eff 2008-2009

Matthew Bell, Spring Drama Production Music Director-HS, eff 2008-09

Bonnie Owen, Costumer, Spring Musical Production-HS, eff 2008-09

Veronica Gelormino, Drama Director, Spring Production-MS, eff 2008-09

On a motion by Mr. Lyons, with a second by Mr. Oliver, the Board moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

ACTION ITEMS

Appointment of Susan Fergusson as East School Principal

Mr. Joslyn, Director of Human Resources, stated that Mrs. Fergusson has been an educator in Torrington for over twenty years with teaching experience at several elementary school grade levels. She taught at St. Peter School in Torrington for seven years before her teaching tenure at East School. She served as a classroom teacher, a Reading/Language Specialist and a teacher leader while at East School. Mrs. Fergusson was named to the administration as Instructional Supervisor at the Torrington School in 2007. Mrs. Fergusson brings a high level of knowledge in the area of literacy. She has presented workshops to teachers on several topics including curriculum design, reading, writing and special education. East School, he said, will be well served by Mrs. Fergusson's leadership.

On a motion by Prof. Royals, with a second by Mr. Oliver, the Board moved to appoint Susan Fergusson Principal for East Elementary School, effective July 14, 2008.

Approve Textbook Adoption: Environmental Science, Karen Arms, Holt, Rinehart, Winston Publishers, 2008.

On a motion by Mr. Broverman, with a second by Mr. Rubino, the Board moved to approve the science textbook for the THS Field Studies course for grades 11 and 12 entitled Environmental Science, Karen Arms, Holt, Rinehart, Winston Publishers, 2008. The vote was unanimous except Mr. Oliver abstained.

Approve Budget Transfers

On a motion by Mr. Rubino, with a second by Mrs. Raymond, the Board motioned to approve all budget transfers presented for 2007-2008: Budget Transfer Nos. 051; 052; 053; 054; 055; 056; and 057.

Mr. Cavegnero inquired about the available funds in the Central Curriculum Professional Development account in transfer 2008-051. The Administration replied that funds were available in the local budget because professional development had been paid out of grants.

Mr. Nargi inquired about the amount of grant funds in the 2007-2008 budget. The Administration responded that there was about \$2.5 million in state and federal grants.

Mr. Cavegnero questioned the availability of funds in the teacher literacy support salary line in budget transfer requests 2008-053 and 2008-057. The Administration explained that teachers were switched to grants and attendance area modifications where the funds followed the students made more money available in the Forbes school line than was needed. The Administration assured the Board of Education that literacy services and

supplies were provided to Forbes School and the other schools as well during the school year.

Mr. Oliver asked what kind of travel mileage reimbursement covered, which Administration answered. Mr. Oliver requested a breakdown of the travel account.

Mr. Nargi thanked the Administration for their good work on the 2007-08 budget.

The vote was unanimous except for Prof. Royals who abstained.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel Matters/Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract Modifications

On a motion by Prof. Royals, with a second by Mrs. Raymond, the Board moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters relative to the Superintendent’s evaluation and contract modifications. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Board members moved into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. and returned at 11:30 p.m.

Grievance Hearing Deliberation from Hearings Held on June 18, 2008

Vote on Nurse Grievance Decision

On a motion by Mr. Rubino, with a second by Mrs. Raymond, the Board voted to uphold the Level III grievance presented by Local 1579 on June 18, 2008, on behalf of the Nurses citing Salary Schedule D, Wage Statement, relative to salary adjustment to grievant nurse pursuant to Wage Statement of the Contract. Vote: For- Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Rubino, Mr. Broverman, Mrs. Raymond; Opposed- Mr. Nargi, Mr. Cavagnero; Abstained- Mr. Lyons. The motion carried. Grievance upheld.

Vote on Custodial Grievance Decision

On a motion by Mr. Oliver, with a second by Mrs. Raymond, the Board voted to deny the Level III grievance presented by Local 1579 on June 18, 2008, on behalf of the custodian union citing Article V, Secion 5.2 of the contract relative to overtime pay. Vote: Yes- Mr. Nargi, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Rubino, Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Cavagnero; Opposed-Mr. Mattiello; Abstained-Mr. Lyons and Prof. Royals. The motion carried. Grievance Denied.

Approve Superintendent’s Evaluation for 2007-2008

Motion to Approve Superintendent’s CABA Evaluation Document for 2007-2008

On a motion by Mrs. Raymond, with a second by Mr. Oliver, the Board approved the Superintendent’s CABA Evaluation Document for 2007-2008. All in favor.

Approve Superintendent’s BOE Evaluation Document for 2007-2008

On a motion by Mr. Oliver, with a second by Mrs. Raymond, the Board approved the Superintendent’s BOE Evaluation document for 2007-2008. All in favor.

Approve Superintendent’s Evaluation Summative Report

On a motion by Mr. Oliver, with a second by Mr. Lyons, the Board approved the Superintendent’s Evaluation Summative Report. All in favor.

Approve Superintendent’s Contract Modifications for 2008-2009

On a motion by Mr. Mattiello with a second by Mr. Nargi, the Board referred the the proposed contract modifications to the Personnel Committee for negotiation. All in favor.

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

No comments.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Lyons reported that we are moving forward with discussions with Charlotte Hungerford Hospital regarding ODD students.

ITEMS FOR THE UPCOMING AGENDA

Dr. O’Brien indicated the next meeting is scheduled for August 20 and it was decided by the Board that we would like that to be a workshop setting here at Migeon for the Board to do goals setting for the 2008-2009 school year. The meeting is set as a single-topic meeting to do just goals setting. The meeting is scheduled for 5:00-9:00 p.m. and a light dinner will be served.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Prof. Royals, with a second by Mr. Rubino, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:45 p.m.