

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
June 17, 2009**

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel Matters

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Mr. Cavagnero at 7: 05 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, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Haynes

Absent: Mayor Bingham

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Mr. Cavagnero apologized for his comments during the public participation portion of the last meeting. He also explained the "illegal meeting" held last Monday. The meeting was considered illegal because it was not posted on the website.

Dr. Campbell added that her office failed to post that meeting appropriately.

Gretchen Cook, 125 Farmstead Lane, spoke in support of leaving the building administrators intact at the schools.

Tracey Bonvicini, 139 Eno Avenue, spoke in support of continuity in administrators at the schools.

Debbie Calabrese, 43 Santamaria Drive, spoke in support of keeping the building administrators in place.

Donna Perlotto, 62 Eno Avenue, spoke in support of retaining the secretaries in the schools.

Fiona Cappabianca, 3 Stoneridge Drive, spoke to voice her concerns regarding some of the cuts that have already been discussed. She spoke against staff cuts.

Cathy Peterson, 445 Lorraine Lane, spoke in support of the administrators at TMS.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to amend tonight's agenda to add action item No. 9, moving the present action No. 9 to No. 10. The item would be labeled approval of contract for non-bargaining staff. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rubino moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to approve the regular Board meeting minutes of April 22, 2009. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

CELEBRATIONS

Recognition of External Diploma Program Graduates

Mrs. Conroy gave an explanation of the Foothills Adult and Continuing Education National External Diploma Program and recognized the External Diploma Program graduates. Graduates were: Doreen B. Bibro, Charles N. Cannato, Carolyn J. Clarke, Leah L. Gunn, Glenda Guzman, Jessica M. Kelley, Samantha J. Kent and Tasha Louise Smith.

Recognition of Anthony Parks, Retiring Senior Cameraman

Mr. Rubino recognized Anthony Parks for his achievements and service to THS.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Campbell informed the Board of recent TMS and THS Code of Conduct revisions.

She also recognized Brook Johnson and Ashley DiLorenzo for the scholarships they received. Ms. Johnson received a \$2000 scholarship from the CT Reading Association, and Ms. DiLorenzo received a \$5000 scholarship from Ronald McDonald.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Certified Staff Resignations/Hires
Christine McGrath, Speech-Language Pathologist-DW (vo), 0.4 FTE, resigned eff 6/30/09
Diane E. Haggis, Long Term Substitute, Grade2-VO, hired eff 5/29/09
2. Contract Addenda - effective 2009-2010
Wayne Splettstoesz, Band Director-HS

Daniel Hodgkins, Band Director-MS

Matthew Bell, Music Director (1/2 position), Spring Musical
drama production -HS

Maria Cravanzola, Drama Producer (1/2 position), Fall, Winter and
Spring Musical drama productions- HS

Cynthia Jerram, Drama Producer (1/2 position), Fall, Winter and
Spring Musical drama productions-HS

Victor Leger, Backstage Supervisor, Fall, Winter and Spring
Musical drama productions-HS

Mary McVerry, Drama Director, Fall, Winter and Spring Musical
drama productions-HS

Lynn Morin, Drama Music Director (1/2 position), Spring Musical
drama production-HS

Bonnie Owen, Costumer, Fall, Winter and Spring Musical drama
productions-HS

Coordinating Teacher Appointments - effective 2009-2010

Daniel Hodgkins, Arts,-MS

Kathy-Ann Campbell, Arts-Elementary

Lunchroom Monitor Appointments - effective 2009-2010

Gerald Carbone-HS

Christine Del Bene-HS

Johanna DeZurik-HS

Tara D'lorio-HS

Elaine Good-HS

Richard Harvey-HS

Mark Moulton-HS

Bernard Niehaus-HS

Arthur Riochardson-HS

Patrick Richardson-HS

Louis Seiser-HS

Ladislao Zarazu-HS

Justin Ehrenberg, Substitute Cafeteria Monitor-HS

Robert Maggi, Substitute Cafeteria Monitor-HS

Mary McVerry, Substitute Cafeteria Monitor-HS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Update on Special Education RFP

Ms. Haynes gave an update on the special education RFP. She stated that everything is going well and they are on target for having the contract in place and for services to begin on July 1st.

Mr. Lyons stated the school improvement committee is scheduled to meet with the respondents on June 24th at 7 p.m. at Migeon Avenue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel Matters

Miss Laus moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to move into Executive Session to review Personnel Matters. Dr. Campbell and Mr. Joslyn were invited in. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Miss Laus moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to come out of Executive Session to review Personnel Matters. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Receive the Recommendation of the Superintendent for the Appointment of the THS Principal

Miss Laus moved and Mr. Lyons supported a motion to receive the recommendation of the Superintendent for the Appointment of the THS Principal which was to reopen the search for a THS Principal after a sitting Superintendent was in place. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Campbell stated she made this recommendation because of the importance of the relationship between the THS principal and the Superintendent.

The Board intends to have a special meeting to further discuss issues related to this action.

9.2 Approve Budget Transfers

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer No. 2009-30. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer No. 2009-31. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer No. 2009-32. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.3 Receive Monthly Financial Report - May 2009

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to receive the monthly financial report for May of 2009. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.4 Receive *Field Trips*, Policy No. 6008 (new)

Mr. Broverman moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to receive Field Trips, Policy No. 6008 (new). The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Broverman informed the Board that this policy will replace Policy No. 6089.

9.5 Receive Proposed Changes to *Bullying/Hate Crimes* Policy No. 6010

Mr. Broverman moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to receive the proposed changes to Bullying/Hate Crime Policy No. 6010. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.6 Receive Proposed Policy on Attorney, Policy No. 2008 (new)

Prof. Royals moved and Mr. Broverman supported a motion to receive the proposed policy on Attorney, Policy No. 2008 (new). The motion carried. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Mr. Mattiello who abstained and Mr. Nargi who was opposed.

Mr. Broverman noted a few changes in the wording of the policy. The first is changing "Board of Education" to "Board leadership" in the last paragraph of the policy. The second is to add "except for expulsion or transportation hearings."

9.7 Receive *Retention of Electronic Records and Information*, Policy No. 2032

Mr. Broverman moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to receive Retention of Electronic Records and Information, Policy No. 2032. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.8 Receive *Holds on the Destruction of Electronic Information and Paper Records*, Policy No. 2033

Mr. Broverman moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to receive Holds on the Destruction of Electronic Information and Paper Records, Policy No. 2033. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.9 Approval of Contracts for Non-Bargaining Unit Staff

Mr. Broverman moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to approve the renewal of the contracts for the employment for 2009-2010 of non-bargaining unit staff.

Mr. Broverman stated there will be no salary adjustment for 2009-2010. Salary will continue at the same rate as 2008-2009. However, for 1 year only there will be an additional personal or vacation day granted to each of the people who serve in these positions. The positions include Network Manager, 3 Technical Specialists, Accountant, Supervisor of Nursing Services, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Director of Human Resources, Director of Facilities, and JROTC Instructional Assistant.

Mr. Mattiello moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to table this item until later in the meeting after the budget discussion. The motion carried. Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royal, Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Broverman, and Mr. Mattiello were in favor. Miss Laus, Mr. Rubino, Mr. Lyons, and Mr. Nargi were opposed.

9.10 Board of Education Budget, 2009-2010

Mr. Mattiello moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to approve the Board of Education Budget, 2009-2010.

Ms. Haynes explained the budget changes as expressed on the memorandum spreadsheet, how the health insurance company projects costs, and how the current health insurance cost was adjusted for a savings of \$45,103.

Board members and administration discussed the risks of accepting the health insurance adjustment.

Mr. Mattiello outlined the changes in comparison to the original proposal as essentially keeping the 2 paras and 6 teachers, changing the health insurance to 105% of 100, and keeping the intramurals, but dropping the literacy program.

Board members and administration discussed the changes and other options in regards to what they could drop or retain.

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Nargi supported a motion to extend the Board meeting past 11 p.m. The motion carried. Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Rubino, and Mrs. Raymond were in favor. Miss Laus and Prof. Royals were opposed.

Miss Laus moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to fund the health insurance account at 105%, \$451,144. The motion carried. Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Rubino, Mrs. Raymond, Miss Laus were in favor. Mr. Lyons and Prof. Royals were opposed.

Prof. Royals moved and Mr. Nargi supported a motion to eliminate middle school intramural sports for a savings of \$5600. The motion did not carry. Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Broverman, and Mr. Nargi were in favor.

Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Rubino, Mr. Cavagnero, and Mr. Mattiello were opposed.

Mr. Nargi moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to cut 4 teachers for a savings of \$184,000. The motion carried. Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Lyons, Prof. Royals, and Mr. Rubino were in favor. Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Cavagnero, and Mr. Mattiello were opposed.

Miss Laus moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to eliminate 1 bus for a savings of \$45,967. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Broverman supported a motion to eliminate the SPED audit for \$10,000. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Lyons moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to eliminate the non-union, certified salary adjustment for \$12,080. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Broverman moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to eliminate \$10,000 for professional development. The motion carried. Miss Laus, Mr. Rubino, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Nargi, and Mr. Mattiello were in favor. Mr. Cavagnero was opposed.

Miss Laus moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to eliminate \$2,211 from the tutor account. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Raymond moved and Mr. Broverman supported to eliminate the non-union, non-certified salary adjustment for \$15,673. The motion carried. Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Rubino, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Broverman, and Mr. Nargi were in favor. Mr. Mattiello and Mr. Cavagnero were opposed.

Miss Laus moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to eliminate a custodial staff position for a savings of \$49,587. The motion carried. Miss Laus, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Nargi, and Mrs. Raymond were in favor. Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Cavagnero, and Mr. Rubino were opposed.

Mr. Nargi moved and Mr. Lyons supported a motion to eliminate secretary staff positions for a savings of \$80,529. The motion carried. Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Lyons, Prof. Royals, Mrs. Raymond, and Miss Laus were in favor. Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Mattiello, and Mr. Rubino were opposed.

Mr. Nargi moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to eliminate 2 para staff positions for a savings of \$37,908. The motion carried. Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Lyons, Prof. Royals, and Miss Laus were in favor. Mr. Mattiello, Miss Laus, Mr. Rubino, and Mr. Cavagnero were opposed.

Mr. Nargi moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to eliminate Migeon repointing for a savings of \$60,000. The motion carried. Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Lyons, Prof. Royals, Mr. Rubino, Mrs. Raymond, and Miss Laus were in favor. Mr. Cavagnero was opposed.

Mr. Broverman moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to eliminate SPED software expansion for a savings of \$36,300. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mr. Mattiello supported a motion to cut \$217,660 for the LA K-2 adoption and then backfilling by replacing 2 teachers at \$92,000, 2 secretaries at \$80,000, and 2 paras at \$37,908 which comes out to \$209,908. The motion did not carry. Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Rubino, and Mr. Mattiello were in favor. Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Broverman, and Mr. Nargi were opposed.

Miss Laus moved and Mr. Broverman supported a motion to eliminate \$5600 from the dues and fees and the travel account. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Prof. Royals who was opposed.

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Broverman supported a motion to accept the budget of \$62,864,721 as modified tonight. The motion carried. Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Broverman, and Mr. Nargi were in favor. Mr. Mattiello and Mr. Rubino were opposed.

Mr. Broverman moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to renew the contracts for 2009-2010 for the following positions with no salary adjustments for 2009-2010. Salary will continue at the same rate as 2008-2009. However, for 1 year only there will be an additional personal or vacation day granted. The positions include Network Manager, Pre-Technical Specialists, Accountant, Supervisor of Nursing Services, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Director of Human Resources, Director of Facilities, and JOTC Instructional Assistant. The motion carried. Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Rubino, Prof. Royals, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Nargi, and Mr. Mattiello were in favor. Mr. Cavagnero was opposed.

Mr. Mattiello moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to direct the incoming Acting Superintendent to monitor the health claims experience and report regularly to the Board with any recommendations for budget modifications as deemed appropriate, and to immediately upon taking office establish relationship with the City for ongoing communications regarding the design and status of and future plans for the City's health insurance fund. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Fiona Cappabianca expressed frustration with some of the decisions that have been made tonight as they will negatively impact students.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Broverman thanked Dr. Campbell for her work as the Acting Superintendent and Ms. Haynes for her work as the Director of Business Services.

Mr. Cavagnero and Mr. Rubino also thanked Dr. Campbell and Ms. Haynes for their exceptional work.

Prof. Royals and Mr. Rubino congratulated the THS Class of 2009 on their upcoming graduation.

Mr. Cavagnero shared a letter with the Board which complemented TMS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Miss Laus stated the grievance committee may have to call a meeting either at the end of the July or the beginning of August.

Mr. Rubino stated the budget committee will be meeting next month.

Mr. Lyons stated the school improvement committee will have a meeting on Wednesday, June 24th at 7 p.m.

Mr. Broverman stated the policy committee has 4 policies to look at the next meeting in July.

Mr. Mattiello stated that Board members will meet with Eliza Holcomb on Monday.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

Dr. Campbell is planning a transition meeting with the new superintendent. The Board will be approving the policies received tonight. Her recommendation to the new superintendent will be to bring the ARA proposals to the Board. Other items are likely to change. The agenda already has some resignations, appointments, and contract on the consent agenda, and depending on Mr. Mattiello's superintendent search, there may be some discussion items. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. All were in favor.