

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Mr. Lyons at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Cavagnero arrived at 7:08 p.m. and took his chair after the School Community Session was completed.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero (arrived at 7:08 p.m.), Miss Laus, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mattiello (arrived at 7:20 p.m.), Mr. Nargi, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals, Mr. Rubino, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Haynes, Miss Cavagnero (left at 8:35 p.m.), Mr. Wright (left at 7:50 p.m.), Mr. Robinson (left at 7:50 p.m.)

Absent: Mr. Oliver, Mayor Bingham

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Gabrielle Palladino spoke in support of the media assistant positions in the schools which are being considered for elimination.

Anthony Parks spoke in support of the library media programs in the school district.

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. Lyons moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to add 2 action items to the agenda. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Lyons asked that the agenda be amended by adding 2 action items.

The first would be an action item to approve CAFE to be the provider for the superintendent search services, and the second would be to authorize the administration to negotiate with CAFE contract for the superintendent search services and authorize the Board chair to execute the agreement. The dollar amount for this will be \$3000 for this budget year and \$11,000 for next year for a total of \$14,000.

CELEBRATIONS

Recognition of Col. Robert Gabor, USAF Retired, and Master Sergeant Robert P. Sullivan, USAF Retired - Presentation of Air Force JROTC Instructor of the Year Awards for Academic Year 2008-2009

Dr. Campbell recognized Col. Robert Gabor and Master Sergeant Robert P. Sullivan as the recipients of the Air Force JROTC Instructor of the Year Awards for Academic Year 2008-2009.

Recognition of Amanda Cavagnero and Patrick Wright - CABE Student Leadership Award Recipients

Dr. Campbell recognized Amanda Cavagnero and Patrick Wright as the 2 students who will be receiving the CABE Student Leadership Awards at tomorrow's awards night at the high school.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Student BOE Representative Reports

Mr. Wright reported that TMS will be having their orchestra concert on Thursday, night at 7 p.m. The 8th grade class night will be on June 5th, the 6th grade trip will be happening next week, and TMS exams will begin on June 8th through June 11th.

Mr. Robinson and Miss Cavagnero reported on THS events. Next week will be the Raider Pride Fest week from Tuesday until Friday, May 26th to May 29th. The Farewell Concert will be on Tuesday, May 26th, for concert band, choir, jazz band, and orchestra, at 7 p.m. at the Warner Theatre for an \$8 admission. The Miss Raider contest will be held on Wednesday, May 27th, along with a field day for class competitions, and Diversity Day assembly will also be held on Wednesday, May 27th, in the gym.

Miss Cavagnero reported that senior prom is next Friday, May 29th, from 7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at the Villa Rosa. The senior outing is Wednesday, June 3rd, and graduation will be on June 21st at 6 p.m. at the Warner Theatre. The annual awards night will be held tomorrow, May 21st, at 7 p.m. in the gym.

Mr. Cavagnero shared an email which commended students who participated in History Day in Connecticut, which was a state contest held on May 9th, 2009, put on by the Connecticut Historical Society and the Greater Hartford Classical Magnet School. Mr. Broverman also commended the teachers involved.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Campbell commended student winners in regards to a recent contest in Connecticut in connection with the program "Tar Wars" which teaches young people to stay away from tobacco products. She also reported that Judith Thebe, the principal of Southwest School, was named Administrator of the Year by the

Connecticut Association of School Librarians. She shared a letter which commended the TPS food service program, and commended the Torrington Educational Collaborative Plan for being held up as an example for other communities in the State because of its comprehensiveness. On May 29th at 10 a.m., Chris Murphy will be meeting at the Chamber of Commerce with Donna Labbe and her team to begin looking at what communities can do about preschool programming and parent education.

Dr. Campbell also shared that as of July 1st, the Board has elected an interim superintendent, although some background checking still needs to be done, after which the recommendation goes to the Commissioner's office and then to the Board who can act on the recommendation.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Certified Staff Resignations
Patrice H. Cook. ESL Teacher-SW, Deceased, May 1, 2009
2. Notice for Home Schooling: BOAMAR09
3. Coaching Appointment
Daniel Dunaj, Weight Training Coach-HS, ef Winter 2009-2010

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Approve Agreement between Education Connection and Torrington Public Schools for Food Service Program 2010

Mrs. Raymond moved and Mr. Mattiello supported a motion to approve the agreement between Education Connection and Torrington Public Schools for the Food Service Program 2010. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.2 Approve Healthy Foods Certification

Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to approve the Healthy Foods Certification. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.3 Approve Budget Transfers

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer 2009-024. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer 2009-025. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer 2009-026. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer 2009-027. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer 2009-028. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rubino moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to approve budget transfer 2009-029. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.4 Receive Monthly Financial Report - April, 2009

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

Ms. Haynes stated that it does appear that there will be a deficit at the end of the year, mostly due to out-of-district expenses. They have been able to identify about \$93,000 to offset that deficit, and they are going to need all of the additional money that they should be getting from the State Excess Cost grant, but the actual amount of that is not yet known.

Mrs. Traub spoke as the BOF liaison in regards to the deficit and gave recommendations about what she thought the Board could do about it

Board members asked questions about the deficit and had discussion about possible solutions to the problem.

9.5 Request Additional Funds From City for 2008-2009 Budget

Miss Laus moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to authorize the Interim Superintendent to request of additional funds from the City for the 2008-2009 budget once firm figures are received from the State. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Haynes stated that administration will wait to write the letter until they know the Excess Cost revenue number from the State which is expected next week. They will also by then have an update on their year-end projections. With those 2 numbers, Dr. Campbell can then write the letter to the Mayor. This motion will authorize the writing of that letter on behalf of the Board of Education.

9.6 Approval of CABE to Provide Superintendent Search Services

Prof. Royals moved and Mr. Lyons supported a motion to approve CABE to provide superintendent search services. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

9.7 Authorize Administration to Negotiate with CABE Contract for Superintendent Search Services and Authorize the Board Chair to Execute the Agreement

Mr. Broverman moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to authorize administration to negotiate a contract with CABE for Superintendent Search Services and authorize the Board chair to execute the agreement. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Mr. Nargi who was opposed.

Mr. Nargi stated he was voting against it as he would like to see the entire expenditure in the next upcoming fiscal year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Miss Laus reported that next week's grievance committee meeting has been cancelled because they have another meeting they need to attend and there are also no grievances.

Mr. Rubino reported that the budget committee will meet again next month.

Mr. Lyons reported that the recipient of Distinguished Alumni award will go to Chief Robert Milano. The awards ceremony will be in the high school gymnasium at 7 p.m. tomorrow night and all Board members are invited.

Mr. Broverman reported that the policy committee meeting on Monday night was cancelled, but is rescheduled with the same agenda for Tuesday, May 26th, at 7 p.m. at Migeon.

Mr. Mattiello reported that the personnel committee will be meeting with Eliza Holcomb as soon as possible to launch the process by a planning meeting with the full board. This will be scheduled very soon.

The Board of Finance will meet on May 28th at Sullivan Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

Dr. Campbell stated that on May 28th, the Board will find out whether its budget will be accepted in its totality by the City or whether it will sustain a cut. In response, there will be 2 agendas for June 3rd.

The first agenda will be a regular Board meeting starting at 7 p.m. with a regular business agenda.

The second agenda will be if the Board needs to adjust its budget starting at 6 p.m. and would eliminate everything except some key pieces including call to order, approval of agenda, approval of minutes, recognition of retirees, consent agenda,. There will be no community session initially, but there will a community session at the end of the meeting. The only discussion item will be a discussion of the cuts necessary to be made. SPED sheets will be set up, and there will be 2 action items. The first will be for the adoption of the amended budget and the second will be for the appointment of the interim superintendent of schools.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel Matters

Prof. Royals moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to move into Executive Session inviting in Dr. Campbell, Mr. Joslyn, and Ms. Haynes. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. All were in favor.