

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 6, 2009**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel Matters re: Interim Superintendent**

*Miss Laus moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to return from Executive Session. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

**CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Mr. Cavagnero at 7: 16 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Miss Laus, Mr. Lyons,  
Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mrs. Raymond, Prof. Royals,  
Mr. Rubino, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Haynes, Mr. Wright

Absent: Mr. Lyons, Mr. Oliver, Mayor Bingham,  
Miss Cavagnero, Mr. Robinson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Mr. Rubino moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to approve tonight's agenda. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Prof. Royals moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to approve the regular Board meeting minutes of April 1, 2009. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

*Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Nargi supported a motion to approve the expulsion hearing minutes of April 20, 2009 regarding Student A. The motion carried. Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, and Mrs. Raymond were in favor. Mr. Rubino, Prof. Royals, Mr. Cavagnero, and Miss Laus abstained.*

*Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Nargi supported a motion to approve the expulsion hearing minutes of April 20, 2009 regarding Student B as amended. The motion carried. Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, and Mr. Broverman were in favor. Miss Laus, Mrs. Raymond, Mr. Rubino, Prof. Royals, and Mr. Cavagnero abstained.*

Dr. Campbell stated in the second paragraph when listing the people who were

there it was Student B, parent of Student B, and aunt of Student B.

### **INFORMATION SHARING SESSION**

Mr. Cavagnero acknowledged the passing of Ms. Patrice H. Cook who was an extraordinary TPS teacher.

### **Student Representative Reports**

Mr. Wright reported on TMS and THS. At TMS, there will be an open house for next year's 6th grade class on Monday, May 11th at 6:30 p.m. Fifteen students were sent to compete in the 26th Annual Invention Convention against 700 students from other Connecticut schools with a total of 11 awards coming home.

At THS, the Torrington Student Theatre will be performing a musical on May 7th and May 14th at 7 p.m., and May 8th, 9th, 15th, and 16th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be \$10 for adults, \$8 for students, and \$5 for children 10 and under. There will also be a THS Senior Art Show on May 22nd to June 1st at Artwell Gallery on Water Street. The opening reception will be on Saturday, May 24th at 6 p.m.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Campbell recapped the informational meeting held prior to the Board meeting on the swine flu and reported that in the Connecticut 6-Year Performance Plan TPS was assigned to the "meets requirements" category for 2007-2008.

Mr. Cavagnero acknowledged and commended Dr. Campbell's work in the past week or so in regards to the swine flu.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

*Notice for Home Schooling: BIESHA09*

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **7.1 Torrington Early Childhood Collaboration Birth-8 Plan - Donna Labbe and Cheryl Kloczko**

Cheryl Kloczko gave a presentation to the Board regarding the Torrington Early Childhood Collaboration Birth-8 Plan. Donna Labbe added that the plan that has been presented in the Board's packet is a draft and public input is needed. The final draft is due on June 30th. She also emphasized that the plan is a living document which will not sit on the shelf but will be used and revised as Torrington's needs change.

Board members had discussion and asked questions about extending the feedback date beyond May 11th, when the plan would come before the Board in regards to funding issues, if indicators were the best choices as they will be difficult to benchmark, setting priorities and narrowing the focus on the moms and the mom's health and importance of

the role of the fathers, specific reasons for the increase in kindergarten readiness, collaboration between the high school and young mothers leaving school and educating young fathers.

Donna Labbe stated that they would move the feedback date up to May 15th for community feedback.

## **7.2 Update on the THS NEASC Accreditation**

Dr. Campbell gave a brief overview in regards to the progress being made in achieving the NEASC recommendations, and Dr. Olson answered Board questions regarding these.

Board members had discussion and asked questions about which recommendations will be completed by the end of this school year and which will be carried over; parent's contentions regarding nonuse of email to contact the teachers; reorganization of the existing staff in special ed and guidance; the frequency of which administration comes before the school improvement committee to report on progress; and the definition of assessment, finalization, adoption, and implementation of a plan for measurement of civic and social expectations.

## **7.3 Revisions to THS/TMS Code of Conduct**

Dr. Olson and Dr. Harnett explained and answered questions in regards to the revisions made to the THS/TMS Code of Conduct.

Board members asked questions and had discussion about if the Board of Education policy manual and State statues were consulted when drafting these revisions; stopping the cycle in regards to the use of electronic devices in the classroom; who the harassment officer of the Board of Education is (Mr. Joslyn); why 2 different codes were used; differences in expulsion codes between the high school and the middle school; code of conduct in regards to special education; possible separate section in regards to electronic devices at the middle school; why the first, second, and third offenses are the same in the smoking policy for the high school; possibilities in regards to reducing the number of bathrooms and/or monitoring the bathrooms; and what teacher ownership of intervention means.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **8.1 Approve Policy on Controversial Issues, Policy 5025**

*Mr. Broverman moved and Prof. Royals supported a motion to approve the Policy on Controversial Issues, Policy 5025, as modified. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

### **8.2 Receive Agreement between Education Connection and Torrington Public Schools for Food Service Program 2010**

*Mr. Mattiello moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to receive the agreement between Education Connection and Torrington Public Schools for Food Service Program 2010. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

### **8.3 Receive Healthy Foods Certification**

*Mr. Mattiello moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to receive a Healthy Foods Certification. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

### **8.4 Approve Technology Plan, 2009-2012**

*Mr. Nargi moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to approve the Technology Plan, 2009-2012. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

### **8.5 Approve Superintendent as Signatory for the EDO 99**

*Mr. Broverman moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to approve the Superintendent as Signatory for the EDO99. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

### **8.6 Interim Superintendent Search**

*Mr. Mattiello moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the superintendent search results. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

*Mr. Nargi moved and Mrs. Raymond supported a motion to amend the order of the agenda to allow the superintendent to present her upcoming agenda items first. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

## **ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA**

Dr. Campbell stated that for the May 20th Board meeting, there are not currently any discussion items, but there is an upcoming agenda setting meeting next week. Action items will include to appoint the THS principal, approve the agreement between Ed Connection and TPS for the food service, approve the Healthy Foods Certification, approve the budget transfers, and receive the monthly financials.

The Board decided to have a meeting next Wednesday night at 7 p.m. at Migeon Avenue to meet with the 3 final candidates for the THS principal.

## **SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION**

Mrs. Traub addressed the Board as a parent of students in Torrington, TMS, and THS. She stated that she has a problem with the Code of Conduct in that once a set of rules is created those need to be enforced with the entire team willing to keep those rules intact and the use of electronic devices codes have been inconsistently enforced. She also

stated she is concerned about the bathrooms not being renovated and the student's needs not being met as far as bathroom use.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Broverman reported that the policy committee will meet on May 18th.

Miss Laus reported that the grievance committee met last weekend and will have the minutes in the next agenda.

*Miss Laus moved and Mr. Rubino supported a motion to go into Executive Session.*

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:08 p.m.

*Mr. Nargi moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to come out of Executive Session. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.*

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.

*Mr. Mattiello moved and Miss Laus supported a motion to offer Ed Arun the position of interim superintendent for the period to commence on July 1, 2009, until such time that a superintendent is named for the Torrington School district pending traditional reference and background checks. The motion carried.*

*Mr. Mattiello, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Broverman, Mr. Cavagnero, Mr. Rubino, Mrs. Raymond, and Miss Laus were in favor. Prof. Royals was opposed.*

Mr. Broverman wanted to disclose that he and Ed have been friends for the last 30 years.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 p.m. All were in favor.