

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on September 27, 2017.



Torrington Board of Education

FIONA CAPPABIANCA
BOE CHAIR

DENISE L. CLEMONS
SUPERINTENDENT

Torrington Board of Education Special Meeting Wednesday, July 26, 2017, 6:00 p.m. 355 Migeon Avenue

1. Call to Order – 6:02PM
2. Roll Call – Ms. Cappabianca (chair), Ms. Hoehne, Ms. Pataky, Ms. Richardson, Mr. Vegaro, Mr. Maniccia, Mr. Knight, Dr. Brogis
Absentees: Mr. Traub, Mr. Thibault
Administration: Ms. Clemons, Mr. Bascetta, Mr. Campolieta, Ms. Lubomski
3. Discussion:
 - a. Possible Mitigation for the start of the 2017/2018 School Year – Ms. Cappabianca discussed why the meeting was occurring. The state budget may not be addressed until September. She felt the district owed it to the staff, students and parents to have another plan.

Ms. Clemons presented possible scenarios. Furloughs would save \$190,000.00 per day. She also discussed the concern with June 18th being the last school day. There would be only 5 extra days to get to July 1st. April vacation might have to be used in the event of 5+ snow days. Graduation could be as late as July 1st. Also, she mentioned Oliver Wolcott's transportation and Out-placement student costs that would still occur. Ms. Clemons' preference: delay to Sept 5th or 7th, so the district can still have PD and Convocation. It would help if the City could clarify the amount needed. August 10th at the "Meet and Greet" would be a venue to provide informational updates to families.

Mr. Poole also suggested delayed payment of invoices from 30 to 45 days.

BOF will not convene until the 3rd week of August. Ms. Cappabianca wanted to be proactive.

Clarification: Ms. Cappabianca – Not furloughs in the traditional sense. Everyone will get paid later. The pay is deferred which saves the City money up front.

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Possible Option: 5 furlough days:

August 28 and 29-Convocation and PD. School starts for all staff and students:
September 7th, 5 days: \$950,000 delayed pay.

Possible Option: 3 furlough days:

August 28 and 29-Convocation and PD. School starts for all staff and students:
September 5th, 3 days: \$570,000 delayed pay.

Paycheck: One paycheck is delayed.

Impacts everyone: schools are shut down.

Feedback from Staff:

Ms. Svetz-Juliano (TEA President) – Why would someone miss an entire paycheck?

Ms. Clemons – Everyone’s first paycheck will be on August 31st.

Ms. Svetz-Juliano – Next paycheck won’t be until September 21st. The pay gap has been shifted to later in September.

Ms. Richardson – Then afterward, it will resume every two weeks.

Paras: If they don’t start, then they don’t get paid. Long time to not get paid.

Ms. Clemons – Everyone’s first paycheck will be on August 31st, the paras too.

Ms. Cappabianca – It is possible to have the delay in pay to April or June. The City will also be developing their plan to address this as well. They have more flexibility, because they don’t have students.

Sports: Practices will occur during any delays.

4. Possible Action Item:

- a. Mitigation for the start of the 2017/2018 School Year – Depending on input from the Mayor and the BOF, delay the start of the school for 5 days: Convocation and PD: August 28 and 29, students and staff return Sept 7th, or delay start of school for 3 days and return Sept 5th. BOE leadership will reach out to the unions and the City to discuss preliminary plan and cost estimate.

Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in Favor.

Dr. Brogis commended Ms. Clemons for the plan.

5. Adjournment – Mr. Knight made the motion, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:50PM.