



## **Torrington Public Schools**

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI  
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

### **Budget Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 14, 2020, 6:00 PM 355 Migeon Ave.**

#### **Minutes**

1. Call to Order: 6:48 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Maniccia, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Fappiano, Mr. Lafreniere (Teacher Rep.)  
Also Present: Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Richardson, Mr. Arum, Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Lubomski, Mr. Barlow, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Klimaszewski
3. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Fappiano made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
4. Public Participation: None
5. Discussion/Next Steps:
  - a. Monthly Financials: Mr. Arum shared that we are in a good position financially. Ms. Klimaszewski shared significant success in SPED: Our CT SDE annual performance report prevalence rate dropped from 21% to 15.23%. The State average is 16%. Our outplacement rate dropped to 13.74% with a 4.68% reduction and the state average is 13.5%. This is a great achievement and success. Mr. Arum stated that special education shows a savings right now. This month, the district was able to save about \$6,000 on transportation. We also received All Star transportation savings from credits from last year (\$264,827) and reduction due to the 4-days service (\$71,839). We are in a surplus of 1.2 million because of special education. Monthly financials will be moved to the full board.
  - b. COVID-19 Expenses: The change from last month is the cost for sanitizers on Wednesday, because school is now in session on that day. The State still hasn't sent the money. So far, we have paid or encumbered \$1,152,036. The district projects costs of \$1,557,976. Move to full board.
  - c. Windows Project Update: Mr. Arum presented a new design that the Kaestle Boos drafted which is a commercial window design with an awning window. It would probably consist steel clad or aluminum clad. This is a common design that they

put in 99.9% of school buildings. Ms. Lafreniere questioned how does this work with our ventilation system. Mr. Barlow said that this window has a much smaller opening, and it does not have any impact on our ventilation system; it still meets the standards. Ms. Fappiano and Mr. Lafreniere had questions about their past discussion on how windows affected the heating and cooling system throughout the building. Mr. Barlow stated that he will balance the HVAC system after the windows are installed. Ms. Hoehne asked could a 4<sup>th</sup> grader fall out of this window? No. She also asked why the bottom is open and not the top? In case of the emergency, the bottom can be opened completely. Ms. Fappiano asked what the next steps are in this process. Mr. Arum said this should go to the Mayor and the State. Mr. Barlow added that the district should see a reduction in heating and cooling cost with the installation of this new window. Ms. Cappabianca asked if this windows price aligns with the amount bonded for this project. Mr. Arum stated it was. They will come back with more details once they talk to the State. Move to full board.

- d. Alliance District School Building Grant Program: This is money must be spent on a capital project by August 2021. The focus is on projects that we can do immediately and get them done. The 3 projects at TMS:

1. Completing the Ceiling Work = \$150,654.00
2. Replacing all the Lights = \$405,935 with an incentive \$262,227 with a net cost of \$143,708. There will be an annual energy savings of \$52,000.
3. Secure Vestibule = \$183,00 – \$200,000

Move to the full board. Discuss last year's Capital Plan and this year's at the next meeting.

6. Comments for the Good of the Order: (The following comments are paraphrased)  
John – “Thank you Laura. This success shows that when you invest in good people you get great returns.”  
Jason and Kim – “Great job SPED!”
7. Adjournment: Ms. Fappiano made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.