



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Facilities & Technology Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 6:00 PM 355 Migeon Ave.

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Eucalitto, Mr. Maniccia, Mr. Corey (Remote) Ms. Mangan (Teacher Rep.)
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Todor (Remote), Ms. Richardson (Remote), Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Schulte, Mr. Arum, Mr. Barlow, Ms. Herold
3. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Maniccia made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Mr. Maniccia made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion/Next Steps:
 - a. Building Automation Systems – Mr. Arum and Mr. Barlow started of their presentation by thanking the Board for approving the building automation systems. There are 3 different automation systems that run our schools. These systems will add energy savings. Mr. Barlow explained, “We have identified many problems: Hot rooms/cold rooms.” Ms. Mangan asked, “What are the protocols when it is uncomfortable in the rooms?” We are working with contractors to make those repairs to provide consistent heating and cooling. Improved building ventilation has been improved with the building automation systems. Only qualified staff have permission to access the building automation system. All the systems are monitored remotely by the companies. In case of an emergency, all the lead custodians have the appropriate contact information. Mr. Maniccia asked if there is a reason why we use 3 different companies? Mr. Arum stated that when the buildings were built, there was no consistency. Mr. Barlow stated that when we build the new high school, we will make sure we use one of

the companies we already have so we are not adding a 4th company. All of our buildings have the night set back and holiday schedules. Mr. Barlow stated that this was one of his big goals when he was hired – upgrading energy efficiency. While doing calibrations, he found out that some of the sensors at Torrington schools are expiring. There is a lot of work to do, but we are getting there. Mr. Barlow was asked what the ideal classroom temperature is. He answered 70 degrees. At Torrington, they can change the temperature 2 degrees above or below the set temperature and it will not offset another room. Mr. Kissko asked, “Is there any outside temperature where this system does not work well?” Mr. Barlow answered, “Yes, on a day like today. During the swing months, the system doesn’t know what to do. We will make tweaks to balance the system out in the fall and spring. “Once we are in the heating season it will be much better.” There is a temperature sensor right on each sight.

- b. Security Options – Security Grant – The security grant passed and the district is waiting for funding. “Are all the schools being covered with this grant?” Mr. Barlow stated all the schools are able to receive grant funding, but there must be a submission of the designated work that needs to be done. The new high school would not be included in that list. Mr. Barlow listed the security upgrades he wants to complete with this grant. This will be discussed further at next month’s meeting.
- c. Capital Plan – Discussion – Mr. Arum presented the Capital Plan. Ms. Cappabianca asked if an inventory of all building needs had been completed. Mr. Arum stated that many items were removed from this plan, because the new high school project was approved. A lot of adjustments were also being made regarding Forbes school. Mr. Eucalitto, “As we discussed we don’t want to be in this position again where we can’t maintain the schools, whatever we think we will have to replace based on typical maintenance program of 5 years should be included.” Mr. Arum stated that we need more cameras in the buildings, and we need lock systems. Ms. Cappabianca stated that we should move security discussions to Executive Session at the next meeting. Mr. Barlow stated that the best way to do this would be a 10-year plan – maybe for next year. Ms. Herold gave the board information on security cameras and what she recommends. Mr. Eucalitto stated that 10-year plan is critical when it comes to buildings. Ms. Hoehne said that doing an inventory would be helpful. Mr. Barlow stated that they have been doing an inventory since he began in the position. He will continue with this process.
- d. Technology Plan – Discussion: The committee received a 5-year capital technology budget document.

2020-2021	Quantity	Cost	Total
Chromebooks to Replace out of Compliance	300	\$300.00	\$90,000.00
Chromebook Licenses	300	\$30.00	\$9,000.00
Interactive Displays to Replace Old Smartboards	50	\$4,500.00	\$225,000.00
Laptop Replacements	200	\$400.00	\$80,000.00
			\$404,000.00

Ms. Herold presented the Technology Plan. We are now a 1:1 district with staff and our students. Every Chromebook we buy has an expiration date of 5 years. We have laptops that are connecting to our smartboards. Mr. Maniccia asked if we can put some money in the Capital Reserve towards technology. We never want to be in the position where we are not 1:1 district. The City would have to approve of a Capital Reserve for Technology.

7. Comments for the Good of the Order: (Paraphrased.)

Armand – “These were good discussions, and we will be keeping the district moving forward.”

Sue D. – “John, I am very impressed by the new Building Automation Systems and I am interested to follow the potential savings as a result.”

8. Topics for future meetings:

- a. Executive session – School Security
- b. Update on Security Grant
- c. 10-Year Capital
- d. 10-Year Technology
- e. Progress on the City and Board meeting to discuss long-term Capital Projects

9. Adjournment: Mr. Maniccia made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Corey. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 P.M.