



## Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI  
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

### School Improvement Committee Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 6:00 P.M. 355 Migeon Ave

#### Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:01 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Kissko, Ms. Todor, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Fappiano, Ms. Gelermino (Teacher Rep.)  
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Herold
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Ms. Fappiano. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms. Fappiano. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion and Next Steps:
  - a. Community Partner Operations in Viral Times: Ms. Ferguson informed the committee that community partners are still helping, and we are still doing everything virtually. We have adapted and have not lost any partners. The committee decided that we do not need to bring the community partners in for the meetings right now. We will just maintain the relationships that we have.
  - b. Update About These Under Current in Viral Times:
    - i. **2019-2020 Board Goals:** No new updates. Ms. Lubomski stated that the board can decide if they would like to continue the sister schools. These goals are outdated anyways, we have not approved new goals. We will introduce the idea of updating the board goals at the next board meeting.
    - ii. **Systemwide Focus Areas:** Ms. Lubomski passed out an updated focus area 2020-2021: 1.) Attendance – reduction of chronically disconnected/absentee students: 11%, 9%, 8%, 7%, 6 over the next 5 years. We will monitor and track attendance weekly, identify chronically disconnected students. We will continue site attendance team facilitated by Social Worker; data gathered by Attendance Secretary. We will meet

with parents virtually (and students grades 6-12) once a month regarding chronic absenteeism. 2.) Engaging, Differentiated Instruction: Build Tier 1 Instructional Strategies: Differentiation, UDL, Multiple strategies. Curriculum development, including assessment measures that guide instruction; collaborating on and consistency of course content and assessments. Consistent, proficient use of district use of district approved materials. Development of technology skills, blended learning. 3.) Target Student Needs: Sped, Interventions, Tier 1. Behavioral Initiatives: Multi-tier responses, BIPs, FBAs, RBTs, Reflection Rooms, and Continue to develop SEL support strategies, integration into class lessons.

- iii. **Alliance Progress:** Ms. Lubomski stated that our first Alliance tracker is in the middle of November – right now we do not have an update. Everything is status quo with funding and support. We received Alliance Building Grant \$4,777 and we will share our allocation and proposal for that next week.

- c. State Testing Requirements and Teacher Evaluation in the 2020-2021 School Year: Right now, we are being told that the students will be taking the SBAC. Teacher evaluations are flexible and there is framework for that. Teachers will develop a minimum of one student learning goal with a minimum of two indicators or measures of accomplishment focused on:

- Social and emotional learning for students,
- Student engagement, and or/
- Family engagement.
- An academic goal may be considered, with mutual agreement.

Indicators or measures of accomplishment could be demonstrated by implementation of school-wide or individual strategies mutually agreed upon between the teacher and evaluator during the goal-setting process. During COVID, teacher's evaluation cannot be tied to student academics. However, a teacher and an evaluator can mutually choose a metric goal if they wish to do so.

- d. Pathways Program: Ms. Ferguson passed out a document with the detail description of each pathway. The pathways are:

- Public Safety/Criminal Justice
- Business/Entrepreneur
- Education
- Health & Wellness
- STEM/ Hi-Tech Manufacturing
- Applied Arts

The document had details about the goals of the pathways, required coursework, additional electives, partnerships that THS is involved with, and a sampling of professions requiring a degree. This is important so the students can have the exposure to the career pathway that they are interested in. The pathways exist and they are in their infancy right now. We are still trying to build a program of studies and increase our course offerings. Ms. Hoehne stated that there is also courses that intersect different pathways therefore, you can still be successful if you chose to go with a different pathway. These would be elective experiences. We will keep growing the pathways, with or without the new THS building. We

want to start the career pathways in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Ms. Lubomski stated that she will be interviewed and speak more on the college and career pathways. Ms. Fappiano asked about the financial impact on the career pathways? Ms. Lubomski stated that we have been fiscally responsible especially with staffing. The difficulty will be the facility itself and making sure we have a facility to support these classes. We have great partnerships with our community, and they always been willing to donate stuff.

- e. SIC in Viral Times: Mr. Kissko stated that this was a good meeting and got some much-needed updates. The committee decided to play it by ear when the next meeting is. Right now, we will do a November meeting but probably not a December meeting.

7. Topics for Future Meetings:

- a. Social Promotion
- b. SBAC
- c. New Courses
- d. Approved Teacher Evaluation

8. Comments for the Good of the Order:

Ms. Cappabianca said that the pathways are very exciting.

9. Adjournment: Ms. Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Fappiano. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 P.M.  
Next Meeting: November 4<sup>th</sup>, Migeon Ave.