



**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 20, 2014
Torrington High School
Major Besse Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Fiona Cappabianca, Jeremy Hinman, Ellen Hoehne (arrived at 6:58 p.m.), John Kissko, Bill Knight, Jim Lamoin, Andrew Nargi, Jessica Richardson, Daniel Thibault, Kenneth P. Traub

Administration: Evette Aird, David Bascetta, Joseph Campolieta, Cheryl F. Kloczko, Susan Lubomski, Hugh Potter

Absent: Mayor Carbone

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Mr. Traub outlined the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session.

There were no speakers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hinman made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. The vote passed with two (2) opposed, Ms. Cappabianca and Ms. Richardson. Ms. Hoehne was absent for the vote.

Ms. Cappabianca wanted more information on item 4.H., IT Outsourcing, and asked it be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Thibault stated he requested the presentation.

Mr. Kissko added that not having information in advance is a problem.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Student's Report

Ms. Emreen Bharaha was not available to present.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. Technology Grant

Ms. Kloczko informed the Board of the allotment of the funds to the district, including a new technology project.

Ms. Cappabianca asked how much the project would cost.

Mr. Thibault asked if this project would be listed as an individual line item so it can be tracked.

Mr. Lamoin asked about \$20,000 that had been cut, and if the administration would be asking for this amount at a future time.

2. Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Program: Andrew Marchand, Perkins Administrator, THS

Ms. Kloczko introduced Mr. Marchand.

The Board heard an update on the funds and a review that had been completed by the grant administrators.

3. Elks Club Drug Awareness Program Poster Contest Winners

Ms. Kloczko informed the Board of the contest.

4. Victor Leger – CT Outstanding Secondary Art Educator Award

Ms. Kloczko recognized Mr. Leger as the recipient of the Secondary Art Educator Award.

5. THS Family Night – Lynda Reitman

Ms. Kloczko introduced Ms. Reitman. Ms. Reitman presented to the Board the activities of THS Family Night.

Mr. Kissko spoke about his time at Family Night.

6. 2015 HALO Awards: Torrington Nominations

Ms. Kloczko informed the Board of the nominations.

C. Distinguished Alumni Award

Mr. Kissko informed the Board of the recipient of the award, and her achievements.

D. State Board of Education to consideration to adopt Next Generation Science Standards – Presentation and information gathering by Eloise Farmer, CSSA Board of Directors and State Coordinator, NSTA Building a Presence for Science

Ms. Kloczko introduced Ms. Farmer. Ms. Farmer presented the Next Generation Science Standards to the Board.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about financial assistance from the State regarding these standards.

Mr. Nargi asked about new teachers already knowing these standards.

The Board provided feedback for a survey regarding these standards.

E. Outsource groundwork contract

Mr. Bascetta informed the Board and answered questions.

Mr. Traub asked about the number of hours saved.

Mr. Nargi asked about hiring.

Mr. Kissko asked if they would be seeing reductions in custodial staff. He asked about complaints regarding groundwork from the custodial staff.

Mr. Thibault asked about the number of custodians.

Clarification of elimination of a position was given.

Ms. Cappabianca asked what exactly they are voting on.

Mr. Nargi asked about efficiency of staff vs. outsourcing.

Mr. Knight asked about effectiveness of staff with the outsourcing.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about eliminations and work load.

Mr. Hinman asked about a time frame to vote on this.

Mr. Traub spoke about the budget.

Mr. Lamoin asked about reorganization.

Ms. Richardson asked about the length of the contract.

Mr. Thibault spoke about the contract and organization of custodians.

Mr. Kissko asked about when this issue was brought before the Board.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about contract terms.

Mr. Potter asked about a staffing model.

F. Nurse Coordinator position

Mr. Campolieta informed the Board of the Nurse Coordinator position.

G. VERIP – Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program

Mr. Campolieta informed the Board of the incentive program.

Mr. Kissko asked about eligibility and when the program was enacted. He asked if this program is retroactive.

Ms. Cappabianca asked if it was the same plan.

Mr. Traub asked if there would be any disadvantage to not taking action at this meeting.

Mr. Nargi asked for data regarding actual medical costs of retirees.

The practice of early retirement incentives were discussed.

Ms. Hoehne asked if there were enough teachers retiring.

Mr. Traub took a straw poll on receiving information about the number of retirees.

Ms. Richardson asked about time frame of seeing results in the budget.

H. IT Outsourcing Presentation

The Board heard a presentation on IT outsourcing.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about the number of hours and costs. She voiced her concerns about the way this issue was brought up before the Board.

Mr. Traub addressed the concerns of adding this item to the agenda at the last minute.

Mr. Nargi asked about changes to the contract.
Costs and funding were discussed.

Ms. Richardson asked about Power School and the elimination of a position.

Mr. Hinman asked about the cost of techs.

Mr. Lamoin asked about response time for tickets.

Mr. Kissko asked about Power School after the tech is reduced.

Mr. Thibault asked about the secretary that will receive the IT Power School work.

Budgeted amounts and excess were discussed.

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to extend the meeting by 45 minutes. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote passed with four (4) opposed, Mr. Hinman, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Thibault.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Non-bargaining Unit Contract

Mr. Knight made a motion to go into executive session, inviting in the Superintendent at 8:58 p.m. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

At 9:22 p.m. Mr. Traub declared the meeting back in open session.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Non-bargaining Unit contract

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the non-bargaining contract. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

B. Approval of Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the voluntary early retirement incentive program. Mr. Hinman seconded the motion. The vote passed with two (2) opposed, Mr. Kissko and Mr. Nargi.

C. Approval to accept the Education Specifications for the THS ADA compliance exterior project TMP-143-LKVC

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the education specifications for the THS ADA compliance exterior project TMP-143-LKVC. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

D. Grant Approvals

1. Approval of Primary Mental Health Program
2. Adult Education Program Improvement Projects – Family Literacy

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve both of these grants. Mr. Hinman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Hoehne asked about names in the Primary Mental Health Program grant.

Ms. Cappabianca asked for a cover sheet to be provided in the future.

E. Approval of 2015-2016 District Calendar

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve the 2015-2016 district calendar. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

F. Approval of Outsource Groundwork Contract

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve outsourcing groundwork contract. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote passed with four (4) opposed, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight, Mr. Nargi and Ms. Richardson.

G. Approval of Nurse Coordinator

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve a nurse coordinator. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

H. Approval of 2015-2016 out-of-district field trips

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve the following field trips. Spring 2015 Met Museum, NYC (THS Art Dept.); Spring 2015 Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty, NYC (7th grade); June 2, 2015 American Museum of Personal Finance and Times Square (THS FBLS, Personal Finance, and Accounting students); June 4, 2015 date change for trip to Broadway musical *Aladdin*, NYC (7th and 8th grade chorus). Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed, Mr. Kissko.

Ms. Hoehne asked for clarifications on the dates of the trips.

The process of submitting field trips was discussed.
Specific field trips to be voted on were discussed.

Mr. Nargi made a motion to extend the meeting fifteen (15) minutes. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote passed with four (4) opposed, Mr. Hinman, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Thibault.

I. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of April 22, 2015 Regular Board of Education meeting minutes
2. Approval of Subcommittee minutes
 - a. Personnel Committee Meeting – February 11, 2015
 - b. Policy Committee Meeting – March 4, 2015
 - c. School Improvement Committee – March 4, 2015
 - d. Budget Committee Meeting – March 11, 2015
 - e. Budget Committee Special Meeting – March 19, 2015
 - f. Budget Committee Special Meeting – March 23, 2015
3. Approval of April 20, 2015 Special Board of Education Meeting, Student A minutes
4. Appointments & Resignations

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Richardson asked about specific line items.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Hinman commented on procedures within the meetings. He also requested the information brought before the Board be correct.

Ms. Cappabianca spoke about wanting the meeting minutes more detailed.

Ms. Hoehne spoke about East School and encouraged the other Board members to reach out to the schools.

Ms. Richardson spoke about her positive experiences in Vogel-Wetmore and shifting resources.

Mr. Knight announced the spring concert of the middle school band.

Mr. Nargi talked about the city charter and unbudgeted allocations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Budget Committee – Ms. Cappabianca reported.
- B. Grievance Committee – Mr. Lamoin reported.
- C. Personnel Committee – Mr. Thibault reported.
- D. Policy Committee – Ms. Hoehne reported.
- E. School Improvement Committee – Mr. Kissko reported.

- F. THS Oversight Panel – Mr. Kissko reported.
- G. Education Connection – Mr. Kissko reported.
- H. Turf Field Committee – No report.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

- A. Financial Statement
- B. Committee Reports
- C. Field Trips

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Policy Committee, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2015 (Migeon)
- B. Budget Committee, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2015 (Migeon)
- C. Personnel Committee, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2015 (Migeon)
- D. School Improvement and Community Relations Committee, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2015 (Migeon)
- E. Regular Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 17, 2015 (THS)

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:50 p.m. Ms. Hoehne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.