



**TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
355 Migeon Avenue**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Fiona Cappabianca; Ellen G. Hoehne; John Kissko; Bill Knight; Jim Lamoin; Andrew Nargi; Jessica Richardson; Daniel Thibault; Kenneth P. Traub, Chair

Administration: David Bascetta, Director of Facilities; Joseph L. Campolietta, Director of Human Services; Paula LaChance, Interim Director of Student Services; Susan M. Lubomski, Assistant Superintendent; Lynda T. Reitman, Interim Superintendent

Absent: Jeremy Hinman, Mayor Carbone

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

The Chair outlined the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session.

There was one (1) speaker regarding the needs of special education students.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding item 4.H., discussion regarding reinstating live broadcasts of Board of Education regular meetings; item 5.E., approval to revise the Authorized Signers of the ED-099 Agreement for child nutrition programs as noted in the CSDE Authorized Signatures Change Form dated October 21, 2015 – effectively replacing Cheryl F. Kloczko with Lynda T. Reitman; and item 5.F., Approval of reinstatement of live television broadcasts of Board of Education regular meetings. Mr. Kissko seconded the motion. All in favor.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Special events report

Ms. Reitman invited East School Principal Susan Fergusson to report to the Board regarding a farm to table garden project the students are working on.

Ms. Reitman spoke about the Job Shadow program.

2. Standardized testing update

Ms. Lubomski informed the Board of types of tests and when results and received. She also said she will be having informational meetings for parents.

3. TEVAL update (teacher evaluation)

Ms. Reitman updated the Board regarding TEVAL. Minor changes were made and an extension was given.

B. Staffing Reports

1. September 2015 Staffing Report

Mr. Thibault reported to the Board. He spoke about costs and trends.

Ms. Cappabianca asked if they had information for each building rather than the district.

Mr. Nargi asked what the approach is for chronic absences of staff members.

2. Year-to-date Staffing Report 2014-15 and 2015-16 comparison

Mr. Campolieta reported.

C. Subcommittee participation

The Chair asked the Board for thoughts regarding having a representative from bargaining contracts on a sub-committee.

Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Lamoin, Mr. Knight and Mr. Kissko agreed with this idea.

Mr. Thibault agreed with the idea but expressed caution regarding the number of people that would be present at each meeting so each group would be represented.

Mr. Nargi asked about having one (1) employee appointed to handle communication.

D. Board Clerk

The Chair spoke about the job description and filling the position of Board Clerk.

Mr. Thibault expressed caution in combining the position with another.

Mr. Kissko suggested an advise and consent option.

Ms. Cappabianca asked how much time and what tasks are spent on this position. Current Board Clerk Michael Kavanaugh answered that time spent varies depending on Board business, and he gave examples.

E. Special Education Report

Ms. LaChance reported to the Board. She spoke about the procedures manual, professional development, and utilizing resources. She explained the financial reports provided in the Board meeting packet.

The Chair asked about out-of-district tuition. He spoke about the Board of Finance and budgeting projections.

Transportation was discussed.

Mr. Nargi asked about long term cost reductions.

Special education facilities were discussed.

Special education budget was discussed.

Monthly reports of incoming and outgoing special education students and costs was requested.

Mr. Nargi asked what the Chairman's expectations from the Board of Finance are.

F. 2014-15 year-end financials

The Chair commended the administration for getting the year-end financials to the Board.

Ms. Reitman reviewed and explained the financial reports.

Mr. Nargi asked about "lag" from the Medicaid account and billing.

G. 2015-16 budget adjustments

Ms. Lubomski and Ms. Reitman explained the budget adjustments.

Ms. Cappabianca spoke about the process of transparency and the way this report was organized.

Ms. Richardson asked about the salary schedule.

Mr. Lamoin also asked about the salary schedule.

Mr. Nargi asked about a city audit.

The city audit report of the Board of Education finances was discussed.

H. Discussion: Reinstate live television broadcasts of Board of Education regular meetings

Mr. Knight spoke about having the Board meetings televised.

The Chair stated that all the Board meetings are videotaped and made available on the district website.

Costs of live broadcasts and equipment was discussed.

Mr. Kissko stated the importance of community access.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of out-of-state/overnight field trips

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve out-of-state field trips provided that the following additional information is provided to the Board for the next regular meeting: 1) field trip submitted by Rondeau, cost of paras; field trip submitted by ROTC, cost of nurse. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about costs and staff.

The time frame for Board approval was discussed.

The field trip submission form was discussed.

B. Approve 2014-15 year-end financials

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve the 2014-15 year-end financials.
Mr. Kissko seconded the motion. All in favor.

C. Approve 2015-16 budget financials

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the 2015-16 budget adjustments.
Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. All in favor.

D. Consent Agenda

Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Thibault seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Ms. Richardson.

1. Approval of September 14, 2015 Special Board of Education Meeting, Student A minutes
2. Approval of September 16, 2015 Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes
3. Approval of October 7, 2015 Special Board of Education Meeting, Student B minutes
4. Approval of Sub Committee Minutes
 - a. Personnel Committee Meeting – May 13, 2015
 - b. Personnel Committee Meeting – June 10, 2015
 - c. Policy Committee Meeting – September 2, 2015
 - d. School Improvement Committee Meeting – September 2, 2015
 - e. Personnel Committee Meeting – September 23, 2015

- f. Budget Committee Meeting – September 23, 2015
- 5. Appointments and Resignations
- 6. Notices for Homeschooling
 - a. G.G., grade 11, Eff. 2015-16
 - b. E.P., grade 9, Eff. 2015-16
 - c. M.P., grade 8, Eff. 2015-16
 - d. J.F., grade 8, Eff. 2015-16

E. Approval to revise the Authorized Signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs as noted in the CSDE Authorized Signatures Change Form dated October 21, 2015 – effectively replacing Cheryl F. Kloczko with Lynda T. Reitman

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve to revise the Authorized Signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs as noted in the CSDE Authorized Signatures Change Form dated October 21, 2015 – effectively replacing Cheryl F. Kloczko with Lynda T. Reitman. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. All in favor.

F. Approval of reinstatement of live television broadcasts of Board of Education regular meetings

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the reinstatement of live television broadcasts of Board of Education meetings and to appoint John Kissko as liaison to Cablevision advisory. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Mr. Kissko.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Kissko spoke about the Forbes Flyers.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about having a non-Board member on the THS oversight panel.

Ms. Hoehne said she would like to see the school liaisons reporting to the Board.

Mr. Knight spoke about the PTO.

Mr. Nargi spoke about night games for athletic teams and the expense of lighting the field.

The Chair spoke about the Torrington High School band.

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 – Mr. Nargi reported.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

- A. Financial Statement
- B. Committee Reports
- C. Superintendent search

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Tuesday, October 27, 2015, 6:30 p.m. (Migeon), Special BOE meeting regarding a confidential student matter
- B. Wednesday, November 4, 2015 (Migeon)
 - 1. 6:00 p.m. – School Improvement and Community Relations Committee
 - 2. 7:00 p.m. – Policy Committee
 - 3. 8:00 p.m. THS oversight Committee
- C. Wednesday, November 11, 2015 (Migeon) – Date to be changed due to Veterans Day
 - 1. 6:00 p.m. – Personnel Committee
 - 2. 6:30 p.m. – Budget Committee
- D. Wednesday, November 18, 2015 (THS)
 - 1. 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Education meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:55 p.m. Mr. Thibault made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. All in favor.