



## Torrington Board of Education

JOSEPH L. CAMPOLIETA  
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

CHERYL F. KLOCZKO  
SUPERINTENDENT

### **Policy Committee Meeting Wednesday, May 6, 2015, 7:00 p.m. 355 Migeon Avenue**

#### *MINUTES*

Members Present: Ellen Hoehne, Committee Chair; John Kissko; Jim Lamoin  
Also Present: Board of Education: Fiona Cappabianca, Bill Knight,  
Administration: Cheryl F. Kloczko, Susan Lubomski, Hugh Potter  
Others: Jane Slaiby, Linda Arnold, Kathy Lefevre, Kara Cintrella, Paula Kasanetz

1. Ms. Hoehne called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. Roll call was taken.
3. Motion was made by Mr. Lamoin and seconded by Mr. Kissko to amend the agenda to add item 7: discussion of technology. Motion carried, all in favor.
4. Motion was made by Mr. Lamoin and seconded by Mr. Kissko to move Discussion of nurse responsibilities for field trips from item 5 to item 4. Motion carried, all in favor.
5. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2015 meeting was made by Ms. Hoehne, seconded by Mr. Kissko. Motion carried, all in favor.
6. Discussion of nurse responsibilities for field trips: Ms. Hoehne stated that the nurses had been met with recently to discuss their concerns. In addition, the field trip form had been changed so that the nurse was not signing off on the trips rather their signature designated only that the nurse had been notified about the upcoming field trip. Ms. Slaiby shared the nurses concern about the new mandates regarding Glucagon. Ms. Slaiby raised another concern that nurses were now working weekends and evenings for school events and trips. The nurses stated that at TMS there were 80 plus field trips, at VW there were 25-30. In addition, the nurses were concerned because they are notified of some field trips with only a few days to make preparations.

The concern was shared that the district has been unable to fill the posted Nurse Supervisor position. Mr. Campolieta shared a proposal to create a Nurse Coordinator position. The position would be filled by Linda Johnson, currently the nurse at East School. The district would post and hire a nurse for East School who would be placed at the first step nurse's salary. The reorganization would net a savings of \$20,000. It was agreed that the proposal would be moved to Personnel and Budget Committees for discussion.

7. Bylaws Revision: Motion was made by Mr. Lamoin to table the Bylaws Revision and seconded by Mr. Kissko. All in favor, motion carried.

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8. Discussion of Policy 6194: Students with Outstanding Food Service Account Balances: Board members expressed concerns that the policy has been abused by cafeteria staff by speaking directly to students about their lunch balances. Ms. Cappabianca stated that the policy does not say anyone speaks to a child rather all communication is to be to the parent/guardian. Mr. Campolieta stated that there have been discussions and email to Education Connection regarding the matter and that changes needed to be made to ensure cafeteria staff are sensitive to the needs of students. Ms. Hoehne asked why the cafeterias offered snacks. Mr. Lamoin answered that for some students who bring lunch from home also purchase a snack. He also stated that the snacks are “healthy snacks.” Mr. Potter added that when the cafeterias were audited by the State that part of the audit was to determine if there were any incidences of students being treated unfairly. Mr. Kissko stated that people need to take responsibility if money is owed on their lunch accounts and any forms that need to be completed for free/reduced lunch.
9. Discussion of Technology: Mr. Lamoin stated that at THS School Governance Council a discussion was held about the use of technology and individual electronic devices at THS. Mr. Lamoin stated that the consensus of the School Governance Council was to bring the discussion forward to Policy Committee to determine if changes should be made to the current Policy 6041: Cell Phone/Electronic Devices. Mr. Lamoin stated the policy is already out of date because technology changes so rapidly. Mr. Lamoin gave the example of the Iwatch. Further Mr. Lamoin stated that during the School Governance Council discussions the example of the TI-193 graphing calculator was given. That is, the calculator costs \$193.00; however, there is an app for Iphone that does the same thing that costs \$10.00. Students can get the same functionality at a greatly reduced cost with the Iphone app. Ms. Hoehne stated that Policy has fully vetted and discussed this very same topic before. There was a committee assigned to research the topic and hours of presentations and discussions were held. Mr. Hinman expressed that the devices only serve as a distraction and a liability and that he disagrees a change to Policy 6041 is needed. Ms. Cappabianca asked what if there are 20 students in a class and 10 of the students do not have an electronic device or smartphone to use. The possibility of holding a special Policy Committee meeting as a public forum for discussion of electronic device use was discussed. Mr. Battle was invited to make comment.
10. Comments for the Good of the Order: None
11. Topics for Future Meetings: Bylaws, Cell phone/Electronic Device Use Policy, Liaison Assignments, Field Trips, Graduation Policy
12. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lamoin and seconded by Mr. Kissko. Motion carried, all in favor.
13. Meeting adjourned: 10:04 p.m.