

**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 19, 2014
Torrington High School
Major Besse Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Cappabianca, Mayor Carbone, Mrs. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Knight, Mr. Thibault, Mr. Traub (arrived at 6:27), Ms. Aird, Mr. Bascetta, Mr. Campolieta, Mrs. Kloczko, Mr. Potter, Emreen Bharara

Absent: Mr. Hinman, Ms. Lubomski

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Mrs. Cappabianca outlined the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session.

There was one (1) speaker, Mr. Ocasio.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Thibault made a motion to amend the agenda by adding a discussion and action item of the nurse's contract. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to pass over item four (4), Introduction of appointment of new Board member, until later in the meeting. Mrs. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote passed with one abstention, Mr. Kissko.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Student Report

Ms. Emreen Bharara reported.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. Information on Graduating Class of 2014 and 2015

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Mr. Nargi spoke about quality of education and drops in test scores.

Mr. Thibault asked for the number of students transferred in 2013-2014.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked about acceptances.

2. Regional Calendar: mandate and recommended

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Mr. Thibault asked about Oliver Wolcott's calendar.

Specific dates were discussed.

3. Immigrant Grant

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Mr. Nargi asked about cost for tutors.

4. Young Entrepreneurs Academy participants

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

5. Community Family Learning Center

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Mr. Knight asked about costs.

6. Demographic Diversification of Elementary Schools

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Mr. Knight asked about compliance with IDEA.

Mr. Kissko asked about redistricting.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked about moving programs within the district.

C. Snow Removal Contract

Mr. Bascetta reported.

Mr. Nargi asked about truck replacement costs and life expectancy of the trucks. He asked why these costs were not discussed during budget.

Mr. Traub asked about loader work.

A garage to house the trucks was discussed.

Mr. Thibault spoke about fluctuation of vehicle costs.

Mayor Carbone asked about the number or hours worked by custodial staff.

The length of the contract was discussed.

D. New Policy: 5063- Tutoring of Students

Mrs. Hoehne reported.

E. E-Rate funds: possible investments

Mr. Potter reported.

Mr. Thibault clarified what e-rate funds are.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked how much money is “normally” put in the budget for items related to e-rate funds.

F. October Staffing Report

Mr. Thibault reported.

Mr. Nargi asked if the administration had any solutions to the problem of absences.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked about approved vacation days.

G. Discussion item: Board Clerk

Mr. Traub reported.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked about salary.

INTRODUCTION AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Traub introduced Mrs. Jessica Richardson to the Board.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked if Mrs. Richardson's husband worked for Torrington School District.

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve Mrs. Jessica Richardson as a new Board member. Mr. Nargi seconded the motion. The vote passed with two (2) abstentions, Mrs. Cappabianca and Mrs. Hoehne.

Mayor Carbone swore in Mrs. Richardson.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:00 Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to go into executive session to discuss TEA negotiations. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

At 8:43 the meeting was declared back in open session.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Financial Statement

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve the Financial Statement. Mr. Thibaut seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Mrs. Richardson.

B. Approval of Snow Removal Contract

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve the Snow Removal Contract. Mr. Kissko seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed, Mr. Nargi and one (1) abstention, Mrs. Richardson.

Mr. Nargi said more long term implications need to be discussed.

C. Approval of TEA Contract

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the TEA Contract. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Mrs. Richardson.

D. Policy 3050 – School Activity Funds – Approval of October 29, 2014 Policy Committee Revision

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve the revision of Policy 3050 – Student Activity Fund. Mr. Kissko seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Mrs. Richardson.

Mrs. Hoehne outlined the revision.

E. Approval of Policy 5063 – Tutoring of Students

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy 5063 – Tutoring of Students. Mr. Kissko seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Mrs. Richardson.

F. Consent Agenda

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

1. Approval of October 8, 2014 Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of October 15, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of October 22, 2014 Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of Sub Committee Minutes
 - a. Budget Committee Meeting – October 8, 2014
 - b. Personnel Committee Meeting – October 8, 2014
 - c. Policy Committee Meeting – September 3, 2014
 - d. Policy Committee Meeting – October 29, 2014
5. Appointments and Resignations
 - a. Mr. Paul Raider, resigned Board membership effective 10/22/14
 - b. Mr. Michael Kavanaugh, appointed Board Clerk
6. Notices for Homeschooling
 - a. S.M., grade K, Eff. 2014-2015

Mr. Thibault made a motion to approve the nurse's contract. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (3) abstentions, Mrs. Cappabianca, Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Knight.

Mr. Thibault spoke about the contract.

Mrs. Cappabianca asked to see the contract.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Kissko spoke about the Veterans Ceremony at Vogel-Wetmore.

Mrs. Cappabianca spoke about a winter bus for walkers.

Mr. Knight spoke about the PTO.

Mr. Nargi spoke about police presence at the high school and lack of communication with the administration.

Mr. Traub welcomed Mrs. Richardson to the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Budget Committee – Mr. Traub reported.
- B. Grievance Committee – Mrs. Cappabianca reported.
- C. Personnel Committee – Mr. Thibault reported.
- D. Policy Committee – Mrs. Hoehne reported.
- E. School Improvement Committee – No report.
- F. THS Oversight Panel – Mr. Kissko reported.
- G. Turf Field Committee – Mr. Nargi reported.

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to extend the meeting. Mr. Nargi seconded the motion. The vote passed with three (3) opposed, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight and Mr. Thibault.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

- A. Financial Statement
- B. Committee Reports
- C. Out of District Tuition and Transportation
- D. Sub-Committee Assignments

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Policy Committee – Wednesday, December 3, 2014, 6:00p.m. Migeon
- B. Personnel Committee – Wednesday, December 10, 2014, 6:00p.m. Migeon
- C. Budget Committee – Wednesday, December 10, 2014, 7:00p.m. Migeon
- D. Regular Board Meeting – Wednesday December 17, 2014, 6:00p.m. THS

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:05 p.m. Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.