School Improvement Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2018, 6:00 PM
Migeon Ave

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:00 PM
2. Roll Call: Mr. Kissko, Ms. Hoehne, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Todor,
   Also Present: Ms. Cappabiana, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms.
   Schulte, Ms. Ledversis, Ms. Labbe
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the amended agenda adding
   6cv. PO, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms.
   Richardson. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion and Next Steps:
   a. Communications, Recognition of Informal Reports from Teachers, etc. – The
      positivity of the beginning of the school year was felt district wide. THS has seen
      an increase in enrollment. Clubs are thriving as it is a part of the academic plan
      for all students with the largest draw being a community service-based club. The
      creation of a Robotics League is of great interest. Great start to the new year!
   b. Updates and Reports as available:
      i. Community Partners Update (Community Health & Wellness) – Jason
         Kersten/LCSW. We have a 4 year partnership which has grown. As of
         October there will be a LCSW at the high school and another at the middle
         school. Supports are given for Social Skills, Cognitive Behavioral
         Therapy, and Crisis Intervention.
      ii. 2019-2020 Board Goals – September 10th Visioning & Reimagining to be
          held at THS.
      iii. Strategic Plan – table till next meeting.
      iv. Social Media – Proposing a 3-5 year Marketing Plan to include increased
          social media presence.
These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on October 23, 2019.

v. Calendar Change – Move June PD day to February 19th (teachers only) – move to full board.
c. THS Freshman Orientation Course (The Science of Learning) – Mandatory course for all freshman. Focus is on habits of mind that help students to be successful (organization, time management, communication, etc.) Meets criteria for STEM credit. 6 teachers are currently teaching the course. This course has always been on the books, however, it is now updated & current.
d. System-wide Initiatives from Convocation – 1) Attendance: committees in place at all schools to address chronic absenteeism/work with students and families. Secretaries receiving on-going training to ensure consistent procedures district-wide. 2) Engagement: Multi-year Professional Learning Plan in place to incorporate Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, Differentiation, Highly Engaging Instructional Strategies. 3) Building Independence: The PL Plan will also address this. Our SpEd Director and Supervisors are working closely with staff at all sites to differentiate instructional strategies to increase independence for all learners.
e. Alliance Progress – Report sent recently.

7. Comments for the Good of the Order:
   PD taught by SERC trainer to create trainers to teach to Paras in the district. IDEA funded through SERC
   PLC – Teachers will draft proposals for self-directed professional learning.
   Students taking Soldering course will receive 3 college credits (free) from Northwestern CT Community College. In discussion with the college to apply this same benefit to some other courses that may be eligible.
   Overall comments about the start of the school year, the positivity, the energy, enthusiasm, excitement felt by administration, teachers and students alike. Looking forward to a great year!

8. Topics for Future Meetings:
   a. Community Partners
   b. NEASC
   c. Updates to New Legislation
   d. Graduation Dates
   e. Strategic Plan
   f. Branding of TPS
   g. Weighted Grading

9. Adjournment: Ms. Hoehne made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:04PM.

Future Meetings:
October 2nd – Vogel Wetmore
November 4th – Torrington
December 2nd – Southwest
January 8th – Forbes
February 5th – TMS
March 4th – THS
April 1st – Migeon Avenue
May 6th – Migeon Avenue
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June 3rd – Migeon Avenue