



Torrington Board of Education

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

LYNDA T. REITMAN
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

School Improvement and Community Relations Committee Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 7, 2015 355 Migeon Avenue

MINUTES

Members Present: John Kissko, Committee Chair; Bill Knight; Jessica Richardson

Also Present: Board of Education: Daniel Thibault

Administration: Susan M. Lubomski, Assistant Superintendent; Lynda T. Reitman, Interim Superintendent; Robin Ledversis, Supervisor of Enhanced Programs and Initiatives

1. Mr. Kissko called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.
2. Roll Call was taken.
3. Mr. Knight moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
4. Ms. Richardson moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 2, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Knight. The motion carried 2-0 with one abstention (Knight).
5. Mr. Kissko shared that preparation for NEASC was moving along well according to Director of Secondary Education Eric Baim. Ms. Reitman answered questions regarding the location, personnel and process of past NEASC accreditation visits.
6. Mr. Kissko relayed that while the mayor was speaking with a representative of the Foothills Trader newspaper on another matter, the subject came up of listings for TPS information and news. Mr. Kissko pointed out that the larger newspapers in the region do not wish to publish school information such as schedules and that this may be a good opportunity to do something useful for both schools and parents and that content should be dictated by what readers would want as information. Ms. Richardson pointed out that most all of the important school information is already available on the internet, but it was considered that an alternative could have its advantages. Members and administration brainstormed various content ideas such as athletic schedules, band concerts, lunch menus, and special club events along with submissions from the Journalism Club. It was agreed that creation of content would be a good project for students, and various ways students could be involved, at all grade levels, was discussed. Mr. Kissko agreed to call the paper's representative and refer him to Ms. Reitman, who would in turn have discussions with school leaders.

7. Ms. Reitman relayed to the committee that the woman who will organize the Forbes Flyers to perform at the Torrington 275th Anniversary kick-off had seen the area outside of Vogel-Wetmore and found it too small. It was suggested that a location closer to City Hall would be a solution. It was agreed that since the Forbes Flyers would be the sole act representing TPS, perhaps other plans that would have been set up inside Vogel-Wetmore be canceled. Mr. Kissko pointed out that the 275th Anniversary celebration is a year-long event, and perhaps some of the other plans could be resurrected at some point later.
8. Ms. Richardson shared her draft application for use in nominating individuals for the Outstanding Alumnus Award. The members reviewed the document and compared it with a previous nomination form. Members favored Ms. Richardson's form and suggested a few revisions. Ms. Richardson will make the revisions and bring the document back to the next meeting.
9. There was no New Business.
10. Comments for the Good of the Order: None
11. Topics for Future Meetings: A visit from a representative of CauseWay Agency, the firm hired by the city for marketing purposes; Distinguished Alumnus nomination form second look
12. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for November 4, 2015.
13. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
14. Meeting adjourned 8:07 p.m.