



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Budget Committee Meeting Wednesday, March 3, 2021, 7:00 P.M. 355 Migeon Ave.

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 7:02 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Maniccia, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Fappiano, Mr. Lafreniere (Teacher Representative)
Absent: Mr. Corey
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Klimaszewski, Mr. Arum, Mr. Barlow, Ms. Herold
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Fappiano made a motion to amend the agenda by swapping A and B, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms. Fappiano. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion/Next Steps:
 - a. ESSER II – Cares Act II Funds: Ms. Lubomski presented how the funding will be spent to help the students with the learning gaps. Some examples include: Interventionist Grades K-12, Media specialist Grades 4-5, Behavioral Health supports Grades 4-8, Sanitizers, Career Counselor – Pathways SSPs Lead for Guidance Department, and many more. The total funds we will receive is \$2.9 million. Ms. Lubomski presented the Alliance Proposal for 2021-2022. The budget includes Security Paras, Social Media, Summer/Extended Day/Tutors, and staffing to support intervention and special education. Both budgets are continually being updated. The board discussed that students will continue to need academic and social emotional support.
 - b. 2021-2022 Budget: The board has received the budget at the last BOE regular meeting. Ms. Lubomski reiterated that those new staffing positions are pivotal to having our students meet the high school graduation requirements. Regarding the special education budget, Ms. Klimaszewski stated that her department looks at the individual student's needs and creates the programs accordingly. The board discussed this year's special education savings and how the funding is reinvested. They acknowledged the

savings are due to Ms. Klimaszewski's hard work. Mr. Maniccia stated you have to reinvest the savings to build the special education programs needed in order to have students return from outplacements. Additionally, Mr. Eucalitto felt the district needed to increase the budget for HR in order to focus on recruiting people and hiring people, especially to meet the needs of our students. Ms. Cappabianca asked if the district wanted to put some money towards community outreach? Ms. Fappiano asked since there are a lot of positions funded through ESSER II, how early can we start recruiting and hiring? Can we hire even without receiving the funds? Ms. Schulte stated that she is starting to recruit tomorrow. The job postings state: "Anticipated vacancy for 2021/2022 school year, based upon funding." Ms. Cappabianca asked what are the budget members the board is comfortable presenting to the City? Mr. Maniccia stated that he is comfortable going to them with 2.1%. The question was posed: "Do we want to look at increasing our ELL support or Social Worker support?" Mr. Eucalitto stated that if these positions are needed, they should be included in the budget proposal. The board asked for more information on our ELL supports.

Budget Timeline: March 11 and March 16th for the public hearings.

7. Topics for Future Meetings:

- a. Budget
- b. Monthly Financials
- c. Covid-19 Expenses
- d. TMS Roof Project

8. Comments for the Good of the Order: (Paraphrased)

Jason – "Thanks for a great budget."

Chair – "Thank you to the administration for collaborating on the Vaccination Clinic, and thank you for TAHD for scheduling the clinics outside of school hours."

9. Adjournment: Mr. Eucalitto made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Fappiano. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 P.M.