

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on May 3, 2021.



## **Torrington Public Schools**

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

### **Facilities & Technology Committee Meeting Wednesday, March 3, 2021, 6:00 PM 355 Migeon Ave.**

#### **Minutes**

1. Call to Order: 6:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Eucalitto, Mr. Maniccia, Ms. Fappiano, Mr. Corey (Remote) Ms. Mangan (Teacher Rep.)  
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Todor (Remote), Ms. DePretis (Remote), Ms. Richardson (Remote), Ms. Schulte, Mr. Arum, Mr. Barlow, Ms. Herold
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Fappiano made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes Ms. Fappiano made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion/Next Steps:
  - a. Building Automation Systems – Middle School: Mr. Barlow stated that TMS has aging equipment. He has updated the control panels and nodes. All of these changes and updates allow us to streamline to a virtual server. In the future, he wants to simplify the systems.
  - b. Security Grant Update – The new Legislative Session will discuss funding on the security grant funding. Once that happens, the Committee will then have an Executive Session, discuss and apply for the grant.
  - c. Capital Plan – Discussion: Mr. Arum presented a revision of the plan. He listed the items that were added. Mr. Eucalitto and Ms. Mangan commented that concrete curbing at TF is something that needs to be looked at. The committee discussed some materials options, such as granite vs concrete. Mr. Barlow will get a contractor estimate for the use of granite for our curbing. Ms. Fappiano asked, “Once we submit our Capital Plan to the City can we continue to add to

it?” They do not typically allow us to change our plan, but we can add it for next year. The Committee wants to review the Capital Plan quarterly. Ms. Herold will investigate the prices for MacBook for grades 7-12 and present this information to the Board at the next meeting.

- d. Technology Plan – Discussion: Ms. Herold presented the 5-year Capital Technology Budget plan. Each Chromebook has a lifespan of 5 years. In 2025-2026 there will be a significant expense of \$1,031,000.00. The Chromebooks will have to be replaced, because they will be obsolete. They will not function. In the proposed plan, the high school will stop using Chromebooks. Mac laptops will cost twice as much as a Chromebook. However, laptops have security updates. The MacBooks last for at least 8 years and can be repaired. Ms. Herold recommended touchscreen Chromebooks for the younger students. The committee discussed the possibility of switching to Apple products, specifically MacBook. The Capital Plan includes MacBook purchases starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - e. Facilities Update and Alliance Construction Grant Update: Mr. Arum reported that the TMS roof, funded by bonds, is completed. We had one change order. The total project cost was \$608,024, and \$700,000 was originally budgeted. Regarding the Alliance Construction Grant, the lighting update on TMS has started. Everything should be finished by mid-January. We went out to bid for the ceiling renovations and we saved a lot of money on the bids. The lowest bidder is N. T. We submitted the first part of the grant to the state for the TMS windows.
7. Comments for the Good of the Order: (Paraphrased.)  
Fiona – “Nice to see everything getting done.”  
John – “Good meeting – useful information and well paced.”  
Armand – “A lot of good information tonight.”
8. Topics for Future Meetings
- a. Security Grant Updates
  - b. Facilities Update
  - c. Update on the on-going Projects
9. Adjournment: Ms. Fappiano made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:01 P.M.