



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

School Improvement Committee Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 6:00 P. M. Migeon Avenue School

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Kissko, Ms. DePretis, Ms. Todor, Ms. Gelormino (Teacher Rep.)
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Ms. Eucalitto, Mr. Corey (Remote), Ms. Fappiano (Remote), Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Klimaszewski, Ms. Schulte, Mr. Marchand, Ms. Maguire, Ms. Ledversis, Ms. Mazzatto, Mr. Deacon, Ms. Sterling, McSpiritt, Ms. Herold, Mr. Barton
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Todor made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Ms. DePretis. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes Ms. Todor made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Ms. DePretis. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion and Next Steps
 - a. School Improvement Plan: High School – The high school administrative team presented the school improvement plan which was a collaboration between OTL, Central Office and the high school administrators. The school's mission statement is to ensure we are a community of motivated, responsible, respectful, and hardworking individuals who value hard work, resiliency, and integrity.
Priority Goal 1: Cultivate a professional learning environment for teachers that assists them in purposeful and intentional planning that will improve student outcomes. Objective - increase the percentage of students performing at the proficient level in reading and math as measured by the Star universal screener.
Priority Goal 2: Strengthen multi-tiered student support systems to ensure that academic and behavioral decisions and actions are data-driven and responsive to individual student needs. Objective 1 – Reduce the percentage of students receiving special education services from 18% at the beginning of 2020-2021 school year to 17% by the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Objective 2- increase the graduation rate from 87.5% in June 2019 to 88.9% by June 2021.

Priority Goal 3: Ensure a culture of caring that supports the improvements of student attendance. Objective – monitor and address chronic absenteeism and lack of student engagement resulting from the pandemic.

Priority Goal 4: Engage in curriculum development and revision to enhance the district's core educational program that ensures equitable access for all learners. Objective – produce revised curriculum documents for courses in the English Language Arts and Social Studies departments.

Ms. Ledversis and her team elaborated in detail to the board how they plan on achieving these goals. This is a living document that will be brought to SIC every year.

- b. Systemwide Focus Areas: These will be addressed through site improvement plans by each school.
(Attendance, Student Engagement, Targeting Student Needs)
 - c. Delegated SIC Board Goals:
 - 1.(shared with full Board) Monitor the implementation of the district strategic plan and its integration into the city strategic plan once that plan is developed.
 - 2.Monitor and support the Middle School/High School Building Committee and allocate resources to the development and implementation of the “Pathways” approach to the secondary curriculum.
 - 3.Oversee and support whatever is necessary to deal with the educational impact of the effects of prolonged distance learning.
 - d. Review of Student Assessment Data: Ms. Fergusson, Mr. Deacon and Ms. Mazzatto tried to capture how our students were doing pre Covid-19 and where the kids are right now according to the STAR assessment. The board reviewed graphs that represented this data.
 - e. Report: February 16th Professional Development: Reconvene the Grading Committee to review the survey data. It was evident from the data that the shutdown has had an impact. The only subgroup that did not lose ground is students with disabilities. This is the only group for whom services were not disrupted. Mr. Eucalitto asked that the Grading Committee look at the importance of homework, testing and grading and the outcomes. We are trying to be aware of the barriers our students face right now during Covid-19, and how we can support them so they can reach those high expectations. Ms. Cappabianca stated that there needs to be consistent standards across the board.
 - f. Civic Virtue in the Curriculum: Will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - g. Distinguished Alumnus Update: Nomination Process, Medium for Presentation: We have received only one nomination to date. Mrs. Fergusson will send out another press release.
 - h. Website, Altice, Social Media Updates: Throughout the last 28 days: 384 people viewed our Facebook page, 11 new people LIKED our Facebook page, 1556 Posts reached people, 123 types of engagement with our posts. The highlight of the month was the THS National Honor Society Video reached 429 people.
 - i. Alliance News: Update next month.
7. Topics for Future Meetings:

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

- a. Social Promotion
 - b. Civic Virtue
 - c. Homeschool
 - d. Barriers to Learning
 - e. District Alumnus
 - f. Covid Slide
8. Comments for the Good of the Order: (Paraphrased)
Hilary – “Thank you for having me here tonight, I am happy to be in this room with you.”
Robin – “I enjoyed the meeting tonight, thank you.”
Andrew – “Thank you for a great meeting, such a great collaborative conversation to address student needs during this time. Thank you all for all of the support.”
Sue F. – “Thank you to Andrew, Maureen and Ali, you’re an amazing group to work with.”
Sue L. – “Thank you to OTL, Ali and THS for putting all of this together.”
Nikki – “I hear a lot of ways to move the ship and you’re doing that while keeping it afloat. I am happy to hear about all of these initiatives that are happening.”
Laura – “Thank you to the high school, I think you did a great job.”
Kim – “I echo what everyone else said – kudos to the high school, and Ali.”
Veronica – “I really appreciate everyone’s hard work and thoughtfulness.”
Andrew – “Thank you to the high school, I think we did a great job.”
Ali – “I am honored and excited to be working with OTL on data, I love data and the kids come first.”
Ed – “Thank you for all the great presentations.”
Sue D. – “This was a great meeting and one of the best I’ve been able to participate in.”
Gary – “Thank you to teachers and administrators. Also, Quinnipiac University is doing in-person graduation.”
Ellen – “I love the collaboration; it is a lot of great information. I am glad the kids come first.”
Cathy – “Great meeting – it was wonderful to hear the reports.”
John – “I think we could never appreciate the amount of work that went into the reports and the quality of the reports.”
9. Adjournment: Ms. Todor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. DePretis. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.
Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 7th, Migeon Avenue