



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

School Improvement Committee Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 6:00 P. M. Migeon Avenue

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:01 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Kissko, Ms. Richardson, Ms. DePretis (Remote), Ms. Todor, Ms. Gelormino (Teacher Rep.)
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Corey (Remote), Mr. Maniccia (Remote), Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Ms. Klimaszewski, Ms. Schulte, Mr. Marchand, Ms. Maguire, Ms. Ledversis, Ms. Mazzatto, Mr. Deacon, Ms. Sterling, McSpirtt, Ms. Herold, Mr. Barton, Ms. Valenzisi, Mrs. Galullo, Mr. Michelson, Ms. Austin, Ms. Paye
3. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Ms. DePretis. All in favor.
4. Approval of Minutes: Ms. DePretis made a motion to amend the minutes correcting the spelling of Mr. Deacon's name and removing Ms. Richardson from the attendance list, second by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.
5. Public Participation: None
6. Discussion and Next Steps:
 - a. School Improvement Plans: Tarringford and Vogel Wetmore Schools: Student demographics and school performance data was shared with the committee.
There are 3 priority goals:
Priority Goal 1: Engaging Instruction – guarantee instruction that is student-centered rigorous, meaningful, and responsive to all student's needs and fosters the development of critical thinking, argumentation, collaboration, and transference through a blended learning approach.
Priority Goal 2: Continuum of Support – Ensure equitable and inclusive access to learning for all students by refining and sustaining a comprehensive Multi-Tiered System of Supports with the appropriate supports, accommodations, and modifications.
Priority Goal 3: Family Engagement – Cultivate and sustain active, respectful, and effective partnership that foster school improvement, link to educational

objectives, and support children's learning and social/emotional development through community building and working restoratively.

An indepth look at the two primary schools was presented to the committee.

Questions regarding student attendance (in-person vs remote) during the pandemic were raised and addressed by Mr. Michelson and Mrs. Galullo. Both principals noted that it has been very challenging for teachers to navigate the day to day changes in platform.

Systemwide Focus Areas:

(Attendance, Student Engagement, Targeting Student Needs)

- b. 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.
 - c. Distinguished Alumnus Recipient, Selection, Details of Presentation: Packets of nominees were received. There will be a SIC special meeting on April 28th at 5:15 P.M. to decide on 3 finalists at which time the committee will select one person to present to the full BOE.
 - d. Civic Virtue in the Curriculum: Next month
 - e. Transition Details for Homeschooled Returnees: We have many more students participating in a homeschool experience this year than any other year. There is guidance from the State about the process to re-enroll.
 - f. Website, Altice, Social Media Updates: Ms. Herold shared some social media engagement data. Kindergarten Fair information reached 1031 people.
 - g. TAG Update: Ms. Klimaszewski stated that we have gotten a few requests about the process of the evaluation for TAG.
 - h. PreK Update: Ms. Valenzisi pleased announced the formation of a new morning and afternoon program for integrated 4-year-old preschoolers at no cost to Torrington residents. Transportation will be provided. There will be 24 slots offered. The application process will open after Spring break. It will be a lottery.
 - i. Alliance Update: Ms. Lubomski reported that she met with our Alliance Liaison who was happy with our behavioral support and commended us for our SEL. They were very pleased to hear that our Diversity and Equity committee is going well. She is concerned about our attendance and provided us with suggestion and strategies.
 - j. Barriers to Student Success: Move to next month
 - k. CABA: Move to next month
7. Topics for Future Meetings:
- a. Social Promotion
 - b. Homogeneous vs. Heterogeneous Grouping
 - c. Civic Virtue in the Curriculum

- d. Barriers to student Success
 - e. CAFE
8. Comments for the Good of the Order: (Paraphrased)
- Andrew - "It is an absolute pleasure to work to with everyone and thank you for all of your work."
- Sue L - "Thank you everyone for all of your hard work, I am very proud of everyone's hard work."
- Armand - "Thank you everyone, keep up the hard work, it will pay off."
- Kim - "Great meeting and great presentation."
- Robin - "Thank you for all the hard work; it's great to hear about the positivity."
- Veronica - "It's nice to see what the elementary kids are doing; I get to see it at the middle school."
- Sue D. - "Thank you for the presentation tonight, it was a great meeting."
- Lisa - "Thank you everyone and I appreciate your time for letting me share my news."
- Kelly - "I want to thank you again for the opportunity to present."
- Andrew - "If you walk in our buildings, you hear giggles, you hear laughing, you hear happy children. Thank you for the chance to hear my presentation."
- Cathy - "Great presentation, I am very excited about the preschool."
- Ellen - "Thank you everyone, it is great to hear."
- Fiona - "Thank you to all the presenters."
- Jessica - "Thank you everyone for all the info and I look forward to discussing all the stuff we didn't get to discuss."
- John - "Thank you everyone who came to present and thank you for those who came who didn't get to present who will present next month."
9. Adjournment: Ms. Richardson made a motion to adjourn, second by Ms. DePretis. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 5, Migeon Avenue and Zoom