

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Torrington Board of Education.



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN B. FERGUSSON
INTERIM ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

TPS Secondary Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Thursday, October 18, 2018, 5:30 PM THS Library Media Center DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order: 5:30PM
2. Roll Call: Ed Arum, Dave Bascetta, Darlene Battle, Fiona Cappabianca, Joanne Creedon, Mary DeMarchi, Gary Eucalitto, Susan Fergusson, Veronica Gelormino, Ellen Hoehne, Diane Holland, John Kissko, Donna Labbe, Jason Lafreniere, Robin Ledversis, Mario Longobucco, Susan Lubomski, Sandy Mangan, Armand Manicca, Charlie McSpirtt, Peter Michelson, Bryan Olkowski, Wendy Patak, Kathi Peterson, Kimberly Petzel, Jeff Putnam, Jess Richardson, Jeff Shannon, Kim Schulte, Trina Schultz-Milanese, Jasmine Skarupa, Andrew Skarzynski, Wayne Spletstoeszer, Joann Stefurak, Hilary Sterling, John Sullivan, Teresa Sullivan, Allie Therrien.
3. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Putnam. All in favor. Mr. Lafreniere abstain.
4. Break Out Session:
Secondary Models –

Group A: Looked through all DRG High Schools for 7-12 schools in DRG F, G, and H.

We only found two 7-12 schools:

DRG G 1-Winchester-The Gilbert School 7-12: 560 students private/public international partnership

DRG H 2-Derby DHS at DMS 6-12 schools as located across the street from each other.

All regional schools:

Locally in DRG C (much higher economic grouping than Torrington): Lewis Mills High School in Burlington and Harwinton and Region 7 High School in New Hartford - Region 7 has an Ag program

DRG E Wamogo Regional HS in 7-12 (539 students)

*There are 7-12 schools in Magnet Schools at Charters in other districts, but these are schools of choice not in our DRG.

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Group B: We researched different schools that have College Career Pathways at their school (CCP) to visit. 5 schools were chosen to try and visit.

1. Waterbury Career Academy – open house Thursday November 15 @ 6pm
2. East Hartford High School
3. Killingly High School
4. Stratford High School
5. Bethel High School

We found and asked to share the Guidelines for College Career Pathways: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/CTE/ct_ccp_guidelines.pdf?la=en

We discovered that many schools offer a CCP, but it appears they have taken their current class offerings and grouped them into clusters

Many schools have clusters with different pathways within each cluster

Where is the research in support of 7-12?

- School districts that moved away from 7-12 model did so because population grew.
- As populations dwindle, districts may consider rendering back to 7-12 model.
- As the numbers of transitions go up the numbers of dropouts increase.
- These dropouts if transition over in higher grades.

Questions to Ponder

Perhaps we should consider offering multiple 7-12 schools/academies?

Perhaps partner with another organization?

Facilities - Drone Program was shared

Picture of addition was created, next week will research all classrooms -research on how city \$40 million bond is being funded (5years).- City Treasurer will be coming next week

Potential Timeline for Bond Request

June 2020 State Form In - Dec 2020 State Legislature gets it - June of 2021 Pass

Course Work Review

High school requirements are changing 2023 from 23 to 25 credits

College Career pathways – TPS needs to increase its electives

The group will look at course offerings around career pathways

Communication/Marketing

A survey is being created for Students, Parents and Teachers – goal is Nov 16th for Parent Conferences. The group will work on ways to connect with Alumni.

Communicating Celebration Methods:

Events/Celebrations/Concerts/Award Ceremonies - regular bright spot on web site - school could send in each week.

Social Media: FB/Twitter/Instagram. A Magazine highlighting positive information about each school will be coming out in November and again in the Spring.

5. Adjournment: Mr. Lafreniere made the motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Olkowski. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:33PM.