

## Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT DENISE L. CLEMONS SUPERINTENDENT

# School Improvement Committee Meeting Wednesday, April 4, 2018 6:00PM Torringford School

Board Members: Mr. Kissko (chair), Ms. Spino, Mr. Maniccia, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Hoehne,

Ms. Cappabianca

Administrators: Ms. Lubomski

- 1. Call to Order-6:00PM
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Approval of Agenda-Motion by Mr. Maniccia; Ms. Spino second. All in Favor.
- 4. Approval of Minutes- Motion by Mr. Maniccia; Ms. Spino second. All in Favor.
- 5. Public Participation-none
- 6. Informational Sharing:
  - a. Ms. Spino reported on the highlights of her Torringford visit. Torringford, which houses the VOICES Autism programs, celebrated Autism week. On June 2, there is an Autism walk in Waterbury.

The school has been working on mindfulness strategies. They were offering a Mindfulness Family Night as well.

The students have been developing schoolwide rhymes for behavioral expectations for every area in the school. A student senate has been established for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The Leadership Team has been creating a school vision and core beliefs. The staff plans on bringing one shared vision to the PTO.

For the April  $16^{th}$  and  $17^{th}$  days, the staff plans to focus on Earth Day awareness and learning activities.

The Book Fair, Field day and Dare graduation are all coming up in the next few months. Mr. Kissko thanked Ms. Gallulo for her willingness to share her school.

- b. Communications Update-no updates
- c. SGC Updates-no updates
- d. AP/Honors and CP Leveling Discussion-no updates
- e. Distinguished Alumnus Selection-John Janco
- f. Board Goals: The goals should be an accountability measure for the board to evaluate themselves each year and should be in alignment with the strategic plan. All goals

should be the basis for the sub-committees as well.

Board Goals: (SMART: simple, measurable, achievable, reasonable, time bound)

- 1. Maintain and improve relationships with state legislators and monitor and attempt to impact state legislation decisions regarding education and the district.
- 2. Create a systemic process for the board to enhance communication and relationships within the district and community.
- 3. Oversee/monitor the compliance and implementation of the district strategic plan.
- 4. Support and monitor the implementation of the "sister school" model: K-3, grades 4-5.
- 5. Explore the feasibility of the renovation for THS and expanded programs: career pathways, alternative program, college readiness programs and courses, etc.

### Possible implementation strategies:

#### 1. Legislative relationships.

- ✓ Make connections with the local representatives and get updates on the legislative sessions; share how legislators voted;
- ✓ Have voluntary board members form relationships with legislators from the opposite political party;
- ✓ Access and Utilize CABE legislative updates;
- ✓ Explore student involvement: THS Clubs: Young Republicans and Democrats can share ideas and new information with the board about new legislation.

#### 2. District and Community Communication:

- ✓ Expand the use of social media accounts;
- ✓ Expand the use of the new website; part time communications person?:
- ✓ Provide positive, correct information
- ✓ Create school brochures and district newsletters/brochures-Utilize Tech Ed students and classes
- ✓ Create placements for display at local restaurants to post highlights of our schools
- ✓ Use Title I funding for family involvement and enhanced communication
- ✓ Ask the Community Foundation to help us with social media and promotion of the district

#### 3. Monitor District Strategic Plan:

- ✓ Summarize progress of the Strategic Plan implementation steps and progress toward the goals.
- ✓ Monitor progress at sites through the SIC school visits

#### 4. Sister Schools:

- ✓ Summarize progress of the Sister School Plan implementation steps and progress toward the goals.
- ✓ Monitor progress and support needed through the SIC school visits.

### 5. Feasibility of the renovation for THS.

✓ Establish a plan to go to referendum.

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on May 23, 2018.

No goals to vote on at this time-no action.

- 7. Comments for the Good of the Order: Good work at today's meeting
- 8. Topics for Future Meetings:
  - a. May meeting location: SW
  - b. Communications Update-SGC
  - c. AP Discussion as necessary
- 9. Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Maniccia; Ms. Spino second. All in Favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:22PM
- 10. Next Meeting: May 2, 2018, 6:00PM, location SW-Mr. Kissko will schedule a visit.