



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN B. FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Board of Education Special Meeting Wednesday, March 31, 2021, 5:00 P.M. Migeon Ave/Zoom

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 5:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Corey (Remote), Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Maniccia, Mr. Eucalitto, Ms. Fappiano, Ms. Richardson
Excused: Ms. Todor, Ms. DePretis
Also Present: Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Fergusson, Mr. Arum, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Herold, Ms. Klimaszewski
3. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Mr. Eucalitto. All in favor.
4. School/Community Service/Public Participation:
Janice Harrington from Forbes emailed a statement regarding reinstating a full time P.E. elementary teacher position this year. Her message: exercise is a natural way to help students learn to relieve life stresses.
5. Possible Executive Session Regarding Non-Union Contract: Mr. Kissko made a motion to go into executive session inviting in Jessica Richardson when she arrives, second by Ms. Fappiano. All in favor.
The board entered in executive session at 5:06 P.M.
The board returned to open session at 5:28 P.M.
6. Possible Action Regarding Non-Union Contract:
Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the contract in terms as discussed, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
7. Discussion on 2021-2022 Budget:
The board looked at the budget detail. Mr. Arum went over the stipends that are in the budget. Ms. Richardson wanted more clarification on reading the budget detail– how does the board know what stipend is paying for what when it just says “stipend?” What programs are we anticipating running? Mr. Maniccia stated that it is his understanding

that all the programs go into the budget and if they do not run, they do not run. The board decided that they should look at these details a couple times throughout the year in the Budget Sub-Committee meetings. If the administration cuts a program, they are responsible to inform the board. Ms. Lubomski presented enrollment and projected enrollment for each school. The projected enrollment is about the same as 2019 at each school. We had a good turnout for the virtual Kindergarten turnout. The board discussed their CAFE membership and if they will renew it or not. The board discussed the EL positions and the ESL needs. The board will need to budget \$1,035,230.000 in the 2023-2024 budget after the 2-year grant ends to fund staffing positions. If the board agrees to these additions in the budget, they want this to be a special presentation to the Board of Finance. Mr. Maniccia stated that he is very comfortable presenting the BOE budget with the 2.62% increase because we are investing money that will enable us to save money in the long run. Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the additions as a bundle, second by Mr. Eucalitto. Ms. Fappiano opposed. Everyone else in favor. The motion passes.

The additions that were approved:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1										
2										
3				Torrington Budget Analysis 2021-2022					3/29/2021	A
4										
5										
6			2020-2021		2021-2022		Difference		Percent	
7										
8	Total		76,532,898		77,614,684		1,081,786		1.41%	
9										
10	Additions:									
11										
12	Coordinator-Outreach			80,000						
13	HR Generalist			75,000						
14	Social Worker-THS/TMS			150,000	305,000		305,000			
15										
16	Sub-total				77,919,684		1,386,786		1.81%	
17										
18	EL Teachers-6X58,697			352,182						
19	Para's-6X22,000			132,000						
20	Tutors-3X37,000			111,000						
21	Tford-full time Bilingual			23,478	618,660		618,660			
22										
23	Total				78,538,344		2,005,446		2.62%	
24										
25	ESSER 11 Budget Items:		2 year grant-ends FY 2023							
26	Spanish, Grades 6-8		90,390							
27	Music, Grades 4-5		60,000							
28	BCBA, Grades 6-12		184,000							
29	Instruct. Tech grs. K-12		100,000							
30	Media Specialist Gr.4-5		176,840							
31	IT Techs-4		424,000							
32	Total		1,035,230 *							
33	*BOE will need to budget these items in the 2023-2024 Budget									

8. Possible Action on 2021-2022 Budget: Mr. Kissko made a motion to authorize the administration to finalize and submit our budget at the 2.62% increase with any adjustment from the insurance meeting on Monday between Mr. Arum, the comptroller and the Mayor, second by Mr. Eucalitto. Ms. Fappiano opposed. All in favor.
9. Comments for the Good of the Order: (Paraphrased.)
Jessica – “Thank you Sue and Ed for answering my questions.”

Ellen – “Thank you for all that you do.”

Gary – “I think it’s important for people who don’t agree to speak up.”

Ed C. – “Thank you to everyone who put a lot of work in this budget - it’s a good budget.”

Ali – “Thank you everyone.”

Armand – “Thank you everyone, keep up the good work.”

Sue L.– “Thank you to everyone, especially Ed - this was not an easy year.”

Sue F. – “Thank you everyone. This was a good budget process and it gives me hope.”

Chair – “Thank everyone this is such a long process and we appreciate everything. I am happy we are moving a budget forward that addresses our students’ needs. We know we won’t get everything we want, and we may not be happy with all of the items, but we have to keep trying to move the district forward. I appreciate all of you, your time and the Central Office. We are better off now than we were a few years ago.”

10. Adjournment: Mr. Kissko made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Maniccia second. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 P.M.