

Communications and Outreach Committee
March 1, 2021
TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

Committee Attendees: Co-Chair; Christina Plourd, Co-Chair; Sophia Shaikh, Tony Holt
Administrative Attendees: Dr. Walter Willett, Superintendent

Meeting called to order by Christina Plourd at 3:02 pm

A discussion took place on how to communicate with the Town Council moving forward after the Feb. 22, 2021 joint meeting on the budget.

Christina Plourd asked the question:” How as a board do, we move forward with communicating to the TC that we would like our budget approved?

The committee discussed how as a board to disseminate information to the council with regards to their questions, but still finding the balance of our different roles in the community. They have a right to ask questions, but they do not have a say in how we spend our budget. How do we get their questions, so it seems like less of an adversarial process?

Dr. Willett spoke to the timeline and process. The town manager will make a recommendation to the council. March 16 is this discussion with the council on the BOE budget. A communication went to the council with the Q&A form that the council can submit questions. Dr. Willett suggested a TC liaison for the future for the budget process and an online submission form for questions earlier in the process. Communication to the council has been chair to chair, with Mike Rosen and Dr. Willett copied.

The committee would like to follow up on the council’s questions to bridge the gap and offer an olive branch. It was asked if FFC could help.

Christine Griffin, chair of FFC, was in attendance and was given the floor. She asked if it possible for FFC to have a special meeting to provide a document that will bring some information to light for the council.

It was decided that she would work on one page summary that highlights the numbers and certain areas of the budget that she could bring to FFC and then to the board for approval for the council.

Meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Plourd