

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT  
Regular Meeting – February 22, 2022

The Trumbull Board of Education met for a Regular Meeting at the Long Hill Administration Building.

Members present:

L. Timpanelli – Chairman  
J. Norcel – Vice Chair  
J. McNamee - Secretary  
C. Bandecchi  
T. Gallo  
L. Nuland  
M. Petitti-online  
A. Squicciarro

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – Ms. McNamee read the following correspondence: D. Scot Kerr thanked the board for eliminating fees for strings instruction in its budget request. Liz Parenzan wrote about a sign in a classroom. Gloria Manna would like the school system to explore restorative practices and asked about BOE policies. Nicole Magee, Liz Buonicore Terifay, and Laurel Walsh asked that kindergarten classroom sizes not be increased. Laurel Walsh also asked for details regarding funding a school program and the number of students identified as dyslexic. The following requested lifting the mask mandate: Felicia Czumble, Amanda Dombrowski, Denise Orrico, Joelle Hallajian, Diane Winchester, Florencia Boates, Kristin Reilly, Ashley Smith, Liz Parenzan, Paul Ouimette, Agnieszka Duba-Magtangob, Brian Ehret, Steve France, Nicole Magee, John Walters, Cindy Penkoff, Michael Rizzo, Kellie Ryan, Alicia Giacobbe, Stephanie Thomas, Tina Mezza, Becky Hudzik, Clorinda Liquigli, Danielle DeLibro, Liz Buonicore Terifay, Laurel Walsh, Jaimie and Justin Walsh, and Maria Buchta. Devin Ruggiero is concerned about the mask mandate being lifted. Stacy Wilson stated the need to continue parent notifications and other mitigation efforts with regard to health issues.
- C. Public Comment  
The following people spoke in favor of lifting the mask mandate in our schools: Elizabeth Terifay, Patricia Kelly, Jaimie Molgard, Jaime Polatsek, Lisa Hughes, Sofia Gulino, Paul Ouimette, Amanda Dombrowski and Laurie Chute. Several parents spoke of the need for a recovery plan. Daniel Durden spoke about a video and an open house at THS.
- D. Superintendent Report-Dr. Semmel
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents are invited to THS on February 23, 2022 to attend an open house.
  - Our elementary schools celebrated 2/22/22 with fun activities and a program of events to engage our youngest learners.
  - All our schools will now have security kiosks in our lobbies as an added layer of safety where visitors can gain access after a security check.
  - Beginning on Monday, February 28, wearing a mask will no longer be a requirement for students, staff, or visitors while in any of the Trumbull Public Schools. Although masks will not be required, every individual will have the option to wear a mask while in school at this time. Our teachers and staff will reinforce that mask choice is a personal one and that mean-spirited behavior around those

choices is not acceptable in our schools. At this time, masks are still required on all public conveyance per the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Therefore, masks will still be required on school buses. Please note that the legislation passed by the Connecticut General Assembly allows the Commissioners of the Department of Public Health and/or the State Department of Education to reinstate the Statewide mask mandate through June 30, 2022 if COVID-19 data in Connecticut becomes concerning. We will continue to update our website daily with COVID cases and our principals will continue to send a daily email regarding cases at their school. We appreciate the support that families and staff have provided throughout the pandemic.

- E. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli thanked all who attended the THS versus St. Joseph's girls' and boys' basketball games recently. All players did an outstanding job! We are looking forward to the March opening of the Elite bookshop, *The Next Chapter*, located in Trumbull Center at 2 Daniels Farm Road.
- F. Teacher Board Representative Report  
Teacher Board Rep Nick Banks thanked the Superintendent and the Board for the 2022-2023 budget proposal that will be a comprehensive approach to best support our students.

#### Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/Minutes of BOE Regular Meeting, February 8, 2022

It was moved (Bandedcchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting of February 8, 2022 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- B. Personnel - Dr. Semmel reported no changes since the last meeting.

- C. Infinite Campus Parent Portal Update

Director of Digital Learning Mrs. Hefele presented the updates to the student database Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Mrs. Hefele did a demonstration on how Kindergarten through grade 8 families can access the portal on Infinite Campus that can identify key assessments, teacher communications and provide details on their students' academic progress. The update for grades 9-12 is currently in the works and will be announced in the near future.

- D. Curriculum Committee Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented the following New Course Text Proposals for Kindergarten Social Studies:

- *Me on the Map* – teaches playful geography and map skills
- *Follow that Map*- expands geography learning to a broad range

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above new course text proposals as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- E. Policy Committee Report

Policy - Second Reading

Dr. Iwanicki presented the following policy for second reading:

- CPS3293.1 – Authorization of Signature

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Bandedcchi) to approve the above policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

#### Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:08 p.m.