

**TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT**  
**Board of Education**  
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2022

The Trumbull Board of Education met for a Regular Meeting at the Trumbull High School Auditorium.

Members present:

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

1. CABA Students

The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABA) Student Leadership Awards program was developed to give local Boards of Education the opportunity to recognize student achievement and potential. The winners are:

- ❖ Eman Seyal – THS
- ❖ Edrina Laude – THS
- ❖ Brynn Wadhams – Hillcrest Middle
- ❖ Liam Stumph – Hillcrest Middle
- ❖ Aleksandra Czajkowski – Madison Middle
- ❖ Derek Macri – Madison Middle

The Board recognized and commended these students for their excellent achievement.

2. Retirements

The Board of Education and administration honored the following retirements:

Booth Hill – Anne Martikainen  
Daniels Farm – Evelyn Feola, Susan Evangelista  
Frenchtown – Domiano Murolo  
Hillcrest Middle – Harold DiStefano, Steve Berecz  
Jane Ryan – Donna Zimmer, Gail Dorsch, Kathleen Blair  
Jane Ryan/TECEC – Linda Bryk  
Long Hill – Mary Santilli, Debra Lasprogato, Marcel Brin (deceased)

Madison Middle – Donald Pellegrino, Donna Larkin, Ethan Ruber, Gene Stec, John Dombroski, Kathleen Anderson, Lorraine Shairer, Margaret McGovern, Maureen Heifetz, Rita Romano  
Tashua – John McMahon  
TECEC – Margery Danis, MaryEllen Bykowski  
Trumbull High School – Cheryl Gould, Martha Turtoro, Nancy Ciborowski, Xiomara Pena

3. FFA Career Development Teams

The following Agriscience student teams are hereby recognized with great pride for three state winning FFA Career Development Events. Our student members of these teams (and their individual ranking, if in the top 10) are as follows:

**Veterinary Science (14 teams competed): FIRST PLACE IN THE STATE**

**(Advisor: Mrs. Jenna Jasensky)**

Isabella Drury (1<sup>st</sup> individual)  
Paula (Thea) Tantral-Johnson (2<sup>nd</sup> individual)  
Paige Andrade (10<sup>th</sup> individual)  
John Morse

**Food Science (7 teams competed): FIRST PLACE IN THE STATE**

**(Advisor: Mrs. Pamela Berlekovic)**

Richard Zou (2<sup>nd</sup> individual)  
Avantika Prabakaran (7<sup>th</sup> individual)  
Veronica Yi (4<sup>th</sup> individual)  
Anusha Ragupathy (10<sup>th</sup> individual)

**Poultry Evaluation (Fall – 7 teams competed): FIRST PLACE IN THE STATE**

**(Advisor: Mrs. Melissa Trojanoski)**

Isabella Drury (1<sup>st</sup> individual)  
Paige Andrade (3<sup>rd</sup> individual)  
John Morse (4<sup>th</sup> individual)  
Kaitlin Griffin

The entire Board congratulated and commended them for their outstanding achievements.

4. Outgoing Student Board Representatives

Trumbull High School seniors Edrina Laude and Eman Seyal are commended for their contributions to the Board of Education and the community as Board of Education student representatives throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Edrina and Eman have provided detailed reports on the many student activities and achievements that are sources of pride for students.

The Board congratulated and wished these two students well in their future endeavors.

- C. Correspondence – Ms. McNamee read the following correspondence: Matt Bracksieck hopes to retain the outstanding reputation of TPS teachers. Dawn Cuminotto, Margaret Luebbert and Tracy Gavern wrote of the importance of SROs in all schools. Debra Kroznsner asked about district-wide implementation of Sandy Hook Promises programs like “Say Hello,” “Say Something,” and “Say Something Anonymous.” Tara Figueroa requested that the District encourage teachers and students to wear orange on June 3rd, as part of National Gun Violence

Awareness Day. Jaimie Molgard is grateful that Trumbull will embark on a traffic study. Christine El Eris supports the creation of a Student Advisory Council link between students and the Board.

D. Public Comment

The following people spoke at tonight's meeting: Amanda Dombroski is initiating a parent group to support a better educational system and Gloria Manna spoke about the climate survey and a student and staff bill of rights.

E. Superintendent Report - Dr. Semmel is grateful to the students, staff, and the Trumbull community who exceeded expectations during a challenging school year. Trumbull parents continue to support our students in and out of the classroom in helping children get the quality education they deserve. We are happy to announce that our THS graduating class has 583 students and we congratulate them on a job well done. With only ten school days left, Dr. Semmel wishes everyone a happy and healthy summer break.

F. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli and the entire Board extend their best wishes to all graduates and wish them well in their future endeavors. 104 THS World Language students took the state AAPPL Biliteracy Exam that measures a high level of mastery in one or more languages. Graduating seniors will receive a seal on their diploma. The Board would like to thank the ACE Foundation for their contribution of medallions to the students who successfully passed the state biliteracy exam.

G. Teacher Board Representative Report - Nick Banks

Teachers want to express their support for the work of TPAUD. They are looking forward to the end of another atypical school year and would like to wish their students well as they move on. We would like to thank Edrina Laude and Eman Seyal for their work as student reps.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Trumbull High School Overnight Field Trips

- Ms. Pam Berlekovic presented the trip to the National FFA Convention which will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana from October 25- October 29, 2022 (four days out of school and a Saturday). Agriscience students will attend the National FFA Career and College Expo, convention sessions, and compete in Poultry Evaluation, Veterinary Science, and Food Science Career Development Events.

It was moved (Bandecci) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the National FFA Convention trip to Indiana as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- Mr. Joshua Murphy presented the THSGEMB trip to Newark, Delaware which is scheduled for October 7th, 2022 through October 9th, 2022 for students to participate in the Bands of America Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the THSGEMB trip to Newark, Delaware as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Approval/Minutes:

Minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting – May 24, 2022

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of May 24, 2022 as presented. Abstain- Gallo. Vote In Favor: Timpanelli, Norcel, McNamee, Bandecchi, Nuland, Petitti and Squicciarro. Motion passes.

C. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported two certified retirements:

Blanc, Richard; social studies teacher at Trumbull High School since September 1984, retiring effective June 30, 2022.

Ruggiero, Kristin; math teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2008, retiring effective June 30, 2022.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandecchi) to accept the above retirements. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Approval/Final 2022-2023 Budget - Dr. Semmel and Mr. Hendrickson

Revisions to the proposed BOE budget are required in order to incorporate adjustments to the original budget to achieve the Board of Finance approved 2022-2023 budget amount of \$115,915,558. To avoid a 10.5% increase in the current state partnership insurance, we are researching other more cost-effective plans that will provide equal or better coverage for our employees. Dr. Semmel reviewed each item with the Board and the rationale behind each cut to achieve \$2,048,413 in total cuts.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the proposed budget cuts for the 2022-2023 budget in the amount of \$2,048,413. as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the revised budget for 2022-2023 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. Policy Committee Report

The Policy Committee of the Board of Education met on May 17, 2022 and reviewed the following policies for first reading.

Policies, First Reading – Dr. Iwanicki

- Policy 5145.5/4118.112/4218.112 – Prohibition Against Sexual Harassment of Students and Personnel

F. Financial Committee Report

The Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on May 26, 2022. Mr. Hendrickson presented the financial reports as of April 30, 2022 for Board approval.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the financial reports as of April 30, 2022 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:30 p.m.