

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – July 12, 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
A. Squicciarro

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. At this time, it was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Norcel) to discuss the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Business Administrator contracts and all other non-affiliated positions. The Superintendent, Attorney Dugas and Human Resources Director were invited to join in. Vote: Unanimous in favor. By unanimous consent of Board members present, it was moved to come out of Executive Session at 6:51 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: Marc and Kristin Mascola, Siobhan Lidington, Rhiannon Gupta, Tara Figueroa, Gloria Manna, and Danielle DeLibro all wrote emails regarding an event involving a Pride flag that occurred at Madison Middle School before schools closed for the summer. Audrey Felsen asked if Trumbull has a Safe School Climate Plan. Jen and Dan Record wrote that they were grateful for the teachers and administrators at Hillcrest Middle School. Mrs. Figueroa and Amanda Pinto Regan asked that the district’s goals next year make more prominent issues of diversity, equity and inclusion. Mrs. Manna listed specific strategies for improving student outcomes. Ashley Gaudiano thanked Frenchtown school staff for their hard work.
- C. Public Comment
The following people spoke: Michael Ganino thanked the BOE and the Superintendent for a job well done and cited a recent article that touted Trumbull Public Schools; Shannon Diaz asked for resource officers to be restored at the middle schools and spoke about the need for learning opportunities for the LBGTQ community; Hosam Afifi, Loay Aljammal, Christine El Eris and Eman Seyal all spoke about the need for TPS to acknowledge the Muslim holidays on the

school calendar; Gloria Manna talked about bullying and the negative culture at TPS; Daniel Durden spoke about BOE policy and EdAdvance; Amanda Dombrowski spoke about parental involvement regarding students' concerns.

D. Superintendent Report

Dr. Semmel is excited to see Trumbull students graduate and move on to their new grade levels and sends thanks to all Trumbull Public School staff for making a challenging 2021-2022 school year successful. We have more good news to report- that we were able to finish the current school year in the black, which puts us in a strong financial position for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. During the summer, we are hard at work carefully planning for a safe and productive 2022-2023 school year.

E. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Stepping Forth ceremonies in our district. A special thanks to Noah Lafond and his father for taking part in the THS graduation ceremony. Our Best Wishes to the THS class of 2022 in all future endeavors. Wellness Center meetings have begun. Multiple fundraising opportunities are being explored. This project will support all our students including athletes and will help our teams remain competitive.

A Master Plan Meeting to assess the condition of our buildings took place on July 6th. The Committee selected the architectural firm, *Tecton*, who will provide a comprehensive overview of our schools and help us plan for the future our buildings.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Business Administrator and Non-Affiliates' Increases- Attorney Dugas

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the proposed 2% increases for Cafeteria Aides, Payroll and Insurance Manager, Secretary to the Superintendent and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the proposed 1.69% increases for OT/PT Therapists, Behavior Analyst and TPS Webmaster as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the proposed increases as presented for the Superintendent, Business Administrator, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Operations. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Approval/Minutes:

Minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting – June 7, 2022

Minutes of the BOE Special Meeting/Executive Session – June 9, 2022

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandecci) to approve the minutes of the above noted meetings as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported the following appointments:

Doyle, Keif; Associate to the Dean at Trumbull High School 6/21 (\$116,413), effective August 25, 2022.

Laird, Kathleen; Assistant Principal, Category V, Step 1 (\$150,773) at Hillcrest Middle School, effective July 1, 2022.

Molloy, Michele; Assistant Elementary Principal, Category VII, Step 1 (\$138,877) at Frenchtown and Middlebrook Elementary School, effective July 1, 2022.

Wolyniec, Jennifer; Supervisor of High School Special Education, Category VI, Step 1 (\$148,888), effective July 7, 2022.

Dr. Semmel reported certified resignations/retirements:

Balter, Emma; language arts teacher/instructional specialist since August 2007, resigning effective June 30, 2022.

D'Angelo, Debra; school psychologist (0.6) school psychologist at Frenchtown Elementary School since January 24, 2022, resigning effective June 21, 2022.

McEnaney, Jamie; school counselor at Trumbull High School since August 2007, resigning effective June 30, 2022.

Seperack, Mary Ann, special education teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2011, retiring effective June 30, 2022.

Scott, Natalie; grade 5 teacher at Frenchtown Elementary since August 2016, resigning effective June 30, 2022.

Weitzman, David; social worker at Frenchtown Elementary School since August 2005, retiring effective June 30, 2022.

Williams, Regina; Director of Human Resources at the Long Hill Administration Building since September 2021, resigning effective August 4, 2022.

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

D. Tashua PTA Donation of Funds for Outdoor Learning Wall- Ms. Neumeyer

The Tashua Elementary School PTA wishes to donate \$25,000 to Tashua Elementary to fund an outdoor learning wall at the school.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to accept the donation of \$25,000 from the Tashua PTA to fund the outdoor learning wall. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to transfer any remaining funds leftover from the \$25,000 to be transferred to the Tashua Student Activities account. Vote: Unanimous in favor

E. Equity Position Statement

Dr. Semmel presented a final draft of the Trumbull Public Schools Equity Position Statement. The TPS Equity Position Statement was developed by the District Equity Leadership Team (DELT) as part of the District goals for 2021-2022.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to adopt the TPS Equity Position Statement as developed by the District Equity Leadership Team (DELT) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Enrollment- Dr. Semmel

In preparation for the start of the 2022-2023 school year, Dr. Semmel presented the current enrollment numbers as of July 8, 2022. He will continue to monitor actual and projected enrollment at all of our schools and keep the Board informed during the summer months.

G. 2022-2023 District Goals

Dr. Semmel and Dr. Iwanicki presented the 2022-2023 District Goals of Trumbull Public Schools with the Board of Education.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the Trumbull Public School 2022-2023 District Goals as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

H. Policy Committee Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented two policies for a First Reading:

- 6146/Trumbull High School Graduation Requirements
- 6141.5/Advanced Courses or Programs- Eligibility Criteria for Enrollment

I. Financial Committee Report

Mr. Hendrickson reported that the Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on June 23, 2022 and reviewed the financials as of May 31, 2022 as well as two transfers and the proposed 1:1 Device Insurance Fee for 2022-2023.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the financial reports as of May 31, 2022 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the proposed 1:1 Device Insurance fee for 2022-2023 school year as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the transfer of up to \$150,000 from the 2021-2022 General Fund available balance to the Special Revenue Fund-Elementary Strings/Band as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the transfer of up to \$200,000 from the 2021-2022 General Fund available balance to the Special Revenue Fund-Summer Explorations as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

In conclusion to this evening's meeting, Mrs. Timpanelli thanked all Board Members for their participation and support on all committees for our school community.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:57 p.m.