

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – August 16, 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- online
T. Gallo
L. Nuland- online
A. Squicciarro

Members absent:

C. Bandecchi
M. Petitti

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

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

Mrs. Timpanelli asked for a moment of silence in memoriam to honor the life and work of esteemed Band Director, Mr. Peter Horton.

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: Gloria Manna wrote about the school holiday calendar and the bullying policy; Shannon Diaz stated the need for social media curriculum for middle school; Cat Lamy and Jennifer Williamson stated the need for healthy school start times; Traci Galla asked about the status of the PTSA transportation study; Tara Figueroa invited all to an Odyssey of the Mind info meeting on August 29 at the Trumbull Library. Many Trumbull residents wrote to request the band room at THS be named for Peter Horton.
- C. Public Comment
The following people spoke: Patricia Kelly spoke about an email and the bullying policy; Gloria Manna also spoke about the bullying policy and asked for clarification; Greg Dunn is delighted to report the success of his children who attended TPS: Matthew Dunn, a former student spoke against censorship; Joy Colon advocates for equity and diversity training; April Lang praised TPS for the recent award in a recycling challenge; Amanda Harmon encourages prioritization of diversity training so that all students can feel safe at school; Daniel Durden fondly remembers Peter Horton; Susan Schaaf says to include “soft skills” instruction in our schools that will teach children how to better communicate with each other; Tara Figueroa emphasizes the need for a plan for diversity training for all staff.
- D. Superintendent Report- Dr. Semmel
- Dr. Semmel is excited to report that the first day of school is two weeks away on August 30, 2022 and at this time there are 6,882 students enrolled in the Trumbull School System and

reported that we are in good shape and have resolved our staffing requirements for the new school year.

- Due to design changes for the Tashua Outdoor project, the Superintendent informed the Board there was an additional \$1,718 donation accepted that is necessary to complete the project.
- We just learned there is an additional grant allocation of \$892,851.98 to the Smart Food Program so there will be free student meals at the start of the 2022-2023 school year until these dollars are spent. Dr. Semmel will inform parents of the exact day when the program will conclude and how the funds are being allocated.
- School districts will have local control in maintaining CDC Covid guidelines. We will continue with good health protocols in our schools; masks are optional for students and staff. Dr. Semmel will continue to update the public in his monthly newsletters and on the TPS website regarding Covid and other important events taking place at our schools.

E. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli

- Mrs. Timpanelli thanked all those who sent tributes in recognition of the remarkable Peter Horton. The Board is exploring, via policy, the many requests to have the band room at THS named in his honor.
- The architectural firm, *Tecton* began visiting Trumbull Public Schools to assess the condition of our buildings and will provide a comprehensive cost-effective overview to help plan for the future of our buildings.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Minutes:

Minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting with Executive Session – July 12, 2022

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

B. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported the following appointments:

Anderson, Lindsey; MA/9 (\$69,028) special education teacher at Jane Ryan Elementary School.

Angus, Megan; 6/21 (\$116,413) special education teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School.

Bennett, Laura; 6+15/15 (\$90,927) special education elementary teacher/department chairperson.

Browne, Elizabeth; MA/5 (\$60,572) special education teacher at Middlebrook Elementary School.

Champagne, Amy; MA/15 (\$83,051) special education teacher at Trumbull High School.

Cintron Henry; Jessica; MA/10 (\$71,189) school counselor at Trumbull High School.

Derby, Jennifer; 6/5 (\$65,244) social worker at Frenchtown Elementary School.

Dotoratos, Edward; BA/5 (\$55,369) math* teacher at Hillcrest and Madison Middle School.

Farrow, Melissa; 6/20 (\$104,290) special education teacher at Frenchtown and Middlebrook Elementary School.

Garcia, Amixady; MA/6 (\$31,234) (.5) bilingual teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School.

Gerrity, Julie; 6/9 (\$73,919) speech/language pathologist* at Middlebrook Elementary School.

Hart, Ryan; MA/5 (\$60,572) social studies teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Hills, RayQuiner; MA/4 (\$58,734) special education* teacher at Madison Middle School.

Iassogna, Lianne; BA/4 (\$53,657) physical education/health teacher at Madison Middle School.

Jeffries, Laura; 6/21 (\$116,413) school psychologist at Hillcrest Middle School.

Lombardi, Annalisa; MA/4 (\$58,734) world language teacher at Trumbull High School.

Marx, Matthew; MA/4 (\$58,734) physical education/health teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

McNamara, Sheridan; MA/8 (\$66,440) English teacher at Trumbull High School.

Montimurro, Nicholas; MA/5 (\$60,572) science* teacher at Trumbull High School

Moriello, Gina; MA/5 (\$60,572) science* teacher at Trumbull High School.

Murzak, Michele; MA/21 (\$107,279) special education* teacher at Trumbull High School.

Na, Elissa; MA/4 (\$58,734) art teacher at Madison Middle School.

Nappi, Jordyn; 6/5 (\$65,244) school counselor at Madison Middle School.

Nissim, Rebecca; BA/4 (\$53,657) family consumer science teacher at Madison Middle School.

Pannese, Jenna; BA/4 (\$53,657) math teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Parente, Zachary; MA/4 (\$35,240) (.6) reading teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Sroka, Kristin; 6+15/9 (\$76,444) math teacher/department chair at Trumbull High School.

Valendra, Melissa; 6/16 (\$90,783) Spanish teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified resignations/retirements:

Benoit, Katherine; school counselor at Madison Middle School since August 2012, resigning effective August 2, 2022.

Johnson III, John; grade 5 teacher at Daniels Farm Elementary School since August 2003, resigning effective July 15, 2022.

Kehlenbach, Laura; district wide special education teacher since August 2017, resigning effective July 28, 2022.

Kennan, Philip; Spanish teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2008, resigning effective July 21, 2022.

Manner, Melissa; science teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2016, resigning effective July 29, 2022.

Svogun, Annmarie; social studies teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2017, resigning effective August 15, 2022.

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

C. Approval/2021-2022 Annual Report to the First Selectman

Dr. Semmel presented the 2021-2022 consolidated Annual Report for Trumbull Board of Education. It is considered a draft until the Board approves the review, after which the document will be forwarded to the First Selectman.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve the 2021-2022 Annual Report to the First Selectman as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Enrollment- Dr. Semmel

In preparation for the start of the 2022-2023 school year, Dr. Semmel presented the detailed current enrollment numbers. He will continue to monitor enrollment and inform the Board in anticipation of the start of school.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve a 0.2 FTE K-5 music teacher at the elementary level. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. Policy Committee Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented the following policies for a First Reading:

- 4141.52 – Challenging Curriculum
- 5131.2 – High School Parking
- 5131.911 – Bullying, Prevention and Intervention
- 5131.912 – Bullying, Safe School Climate Plan

Dr. Iwanicki presented the following policies for second reading and approval:

- 6146 – Trumbull High School Graduation Requirements

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above policy 6146 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- 6141.5 – Advanced Courses or Programs-Eligibility Criteria for Enrollment

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve the above policy 6141.5 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

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

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

F. Financials/Proposed Transfers

The Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on August 5, 2022 to consider transfers totaling \$95,000 from the Board of Education operating fund to four Special Revenue funds as follows:

Continuing Education:	\$15,000
ELITE:	\$10,000
Medicaid:	\$50,000
Summer Explorations:	\$20,000

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the above transfers as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:41 p.m.