

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT  
**Board of Education**  
Regular Meeting – September 13, 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.

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 would like definitions in the bullying policy; Kristin Frank is concerned about the lack of space at Jane Ryan; Bree Prezioso asked the Board to consider implementing a middle school social safety class; Jamie Molgard has concerns over school dress code violations.
- C. Public Comment  
The following people spoke: Michael Ganino spoke about the observance of religious holidays and asked to consider a program for senior citizens to read to our students; Challa Fleming spoke in favor of the state challenging curriculum; Christine El Eris is pleased with the donations from ACE Foundation and a donation to the ELITE program, Daniel Durden remembered his friend who passed away on September 11.
- D. Superintendent Report  
Dr. Semmel is happy to report on the successful opening of the 2022-2023 school year. During the summer, staff was hard at work getting our buildings ready for the start of school. It was joyful to see all the students' smiling faces returning to their classrooms. We are grateful to the amazing team of teachers and all staff at Trumbull Public Schools for their contributions in providing a safe and productive learning environment for our children.
- E. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli welcomed the TPS community back to school at this year's convocation ceremony. She welcomed Elizabeth Steeves and Matthew Wich as the new student BOE representatives. Several Board members toured our schools and she spoke of researching options for the revitalization of the Hillcrest planetarium.

- F. Student BOE Representatives Elizabeth Steeves and Matthew Wich reported that students across the district are excited to be back at school. They reported on: Tashua and Jane Ryan picnics; Booth Hill Fathers Club; Daniels Farm boot camp; Back to School night; clubs and sports; THS-club fair on 9/21, picture day, fall sports to include eSports; and will return with more information on the parking policy.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Minutes:

Minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting with Executive Session – August 16, 2022

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the minutes of the above noted meeting as presented. Vote: Abstain: Petitti, Bandecchi; in Favor- Timpanelli, Norcel, Nuland, McNamee, Gallo, Squicciarro. Motion passes.

B. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported the following appointments:

Canaj, Roza; MA 17 (\$88,331) math teacher at Madison Middle School.  
Granata, Anthony; MA/12 (\$75,715) elementary music/strings teacher.  
Dunn, Katherine; MA/5 (\$60,572) Grade 4 teacher at Daniels Farm Elementary School.  
Ferguson, Grace; BA/4 (\$53,657) Grade 3 teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School.  
Matthews, Jessica; MA/6 (\$62,468) reading teacher at Madison Middle School  
Porriello, Olivia; MA/4 (\$58,734) Grade 3 teacher at Middlebrook Elementary School.  
Rullo, Caroline; 6/5 (\$65,244) info processing teacher at Madison Middle School.

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified resignations/retirements:

Garrity, Stacey; district wide assistive technology teacher since August 2018, resigning effective September 28, 2022.  
Holohan, William; math intervention teacher at Madison Middle School since August 2021 resigning effective August 17, 2022.  
Suto, Brian; elementary music/strings (.8) teacher since August 2021, resigning effective August 16, 2022.

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

C. Donation from Uniform Professional Firefighters Association on behalf of CT United Ride to ELITE Program.

Dr. Semmel and Mrs. Tesoro presented a donation of \$2,500 from the Uniform Professional Firefighters Association on behalf of CT United Ride to the ELITE Program.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the \$2,500 donation from the Uniform Professional Firefighters Association on behalf of CT United Ride to the ELITE Program as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Naming Committee for Peter G. Horton Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented the results of the meeting held on August 12, 2022 and in accordance with district policy, 7551 “Naming of Buildings and Sites,” a committee met to discuss the Trumbull community’s desire to name the Band Room at Trumbull High School after long-time Marching Band Director, Peter G. Horton. Several people who knew Peter Horton spoke at the meeting to pay tribute to his remarkable legacy at TPS. Three names for the band room at THS were brought to the Board for consideration.

There was a motion (Gallo) and it was seconded by (Bandedcchi) to vote to select a name for the band room at THS. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

The majority of the Board selected the name- (Play From the Heart! Pride, Attitude, Concentration) for the band room at THS in honor of Peter Horton.

E. Donation for eSports from ACE Foundation

Christina Hefele, Michaela Durand, Chris Eide, and Bryan Rickert presented information regarding the donation from the ACE Foundation of \$17,000 to purchase computers for the eSports program.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Norcel) to accept the \$17,000 donation from the ACE Foundation to fund computers for eSports. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Online Fees

Christina Hefele gave a demonstration of how parents can pay for activities online for students Chromebook insurance, PreK-tuition, and more via the Infinite Campus Portal. This process will allow TPS to accept online payments, reduce the amount of cash and checks that are processed at the school level and make it easier for parents to access their student activities payment account.

G. Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Cote and Mr. Hendrickson presented a proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan and listed priorities that included: Jane Ryan paving; Booth Hill roof replacement; several schools HVAC installations; Frenchtown entry sidewalk and Middlebrooks masonry wall repair. Mr. Cote discussed necessary future repairs and answered the Board’s questions concerning cost and timing. The firm, Tecton, has begun the evaluation of our school buildings and will keep the Board informed of their progress and provide a plan for the future.

H. Enrollment

Dr. Semmel updated the Board with the current enrollment as of September 13, 2022 and will continue to monitor and inform the Board.

I. Approval/Head Start Food Service Agreement

Mrs. Sinko presented the annual agreement between the Trumbull /Monroe Head Start program and the Trumbull Board of Education Food Service Department, which will furnish meals to that joint program. Board approval is needed for compliance with the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandedcchi) to approve Trumbull / Monroe Head Start program and the Trumbull Board of Education Food Service Department in compliance with the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Vote: Unanimous in favor.

J. Curriculum Committee -Dr. Iwanicki presented the following:

Elementary Curriculum Guides:

- Kindergarten Mathematics
- Grade 1 Mathematics

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above two curriculum guides.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Middle School Curriculum Guide Updates:

- Grade 6 ELA
- Grade 6 Reading
- Grade 7 ELA
- Grade 7 Reading

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the above four curriculum guides.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

High School Curriculum Guide Updates:

- Honors SCSU Sociology
- Honors SCSU Psychology

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the above two curriculum guides.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

K. Policy Committee

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

- 4141.52 – Challenging Curriculum

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

- 5131.2 – High School Parking

There was a motion (Gallo) seconded (McNamee) to vote to have a high school parking policy instituted. Gallo moved to table the motion to the next meeting, then amended the motion as follows: it was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Bandecchi) to amend the motion to table the vote for policy 5131.2 High School Parking to the first meeting in October 2022. Vote: In favor- Timpanelli, Norcel, Petitti, Gallo, Bandecchi, McNamee; Against: Nuland, Squiccimarro. Motion passes.

- 5131.911 – Bullying, Prevention and Intervention
- 5131.912 – Bullying, Safe School Climate Plan

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above two policies as presented.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:54 p.m.