

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT  
**Board of Education**  
Regular Meeting – August 15, 2023

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 - online  
L. Nuland  
M. Petitti  
A. Squicciarro

Members absent:

T. Gallo

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – Ms. McNamee read the following correspondence: Bree Ann Prezioso requested additional services for special education students; Kate Vasquez, Molly Moran, Scot Kerr, Dana and Pete Parillo, Alan Amendola and Katherine Deoss all wrote in support of Mr. Turechek and spoke about how the quality of music education enhances students' lives.
- C. Public Comment  
The following people spoke: Amanda Harmon asked the Board to consider adopting the book *A Day with No Words* by Tiffany Hammond which can create a culture of kindness in our elementary schools; Richard White spoke in detail of the District's master plan analysis and the final draft proposal and Amy Lafond spoke in support of Mr. Turechek and his valuable expertise and years of dedication to our music program and the students who have benefited from his tutelage.
- D. Superintendent Report- Dr. Semmel is happy to report that we are two weeks away from the start of the 2023-2024 school year with approximately 7,000 students enrolled in Trumbull Public Schools. We have filled all classroom teacher positions and have a new THS Principal, Todd Manuel; C House Principal, Michael Hoggatt; and Assistant Principal at Frenchtown, Dr. Randi Petersen. After many years of valued service, several Long Hill managers have retired and we have hired new employees in these positions, as well. Our summer enrichment programs were offered at affordable prices and are no longer operating at a deficit. There will be a detailed facility report in September.
- E. Board Chairman Report - Mrs. Timpanelli hopes the Trumbull community will enjoy these last days of summer before the start of the new school year. Professional development will begin

next week for our teachers. The Golf Classic held at Tashua Knolls was a success. Funds were raised to support sports teams and other clubs. Funds will be distributed in the fall.

### Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

#### A. Approval/Minutes

Minutes of the following:

- July 11, 2023 BOE Regular Meeting
- Special Meeting/Executive Session – July 13, 2023
- Special Meeting/Executive Session – July 18, 2023
- BOE Retreat – July 26, 2023

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandedchi) to approve the minutes of July 11, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. Vote- 6 in favor, Abstain- Squicciarro - Motion passes

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the minutes of July 13, 2023 and July 18, 2023 Special Meeting/Executive Sessions as presented. Vote- 5 in favor Abstain- Nuland, Squicciarro Motion passes

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the minutes of July 26, 2023 Board of Education Retreat as presented. Vote- Unanimous in favor

#### B. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported the following certified appointments for the 2023-2024 school year:

Andreson, Nicole; MA/4 (\$58,734) language arts teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Bull, Amanda; MA/4 (\$58,734) math\* teacher at Trumbull High School.

Colombo, Mary; MA/8 (\$67,104) English teacher at Trumbull High School.

Delgado, Michael; BA/6 (\$57,137) special education\* teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School.

Dordevic, Andrijana; 6/18 (\$97,236) family consumer science teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Duda, Sean; BA/4 (\$53,657) social studies\* teacher at Trumbull High School.

Engeldrum, Kathleen\*\*\*; MA/18 (\$92,006) elementary literacy program leader.

Felder, Brittney; 6/4 (\$63,357) school psychologist at Hillcrest Middle School.

Forstrom, Nicole; 6/19 (\$100,629) special education\* teacher at ELITE & Next Chapter Books.

Groll, Andrew; MA/4 (\$58,734) digital innovations teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

Hasak, Brittany\*\*\*; MA/17 (\$89,214) special education\* teacher at Booth Hill Elementary School.

Heath, Anne; 6+15/20 (\$108,235) special education\* reading consultant district wide.

Hoggatt, Michael; Category IV/5 (\$173,756) House Principal at Trumbull High School.

Mann, Madeline; BA/9 (\$57,492.90) (.9) special education\* teacher at Booth Hill Elementary School.

Manuel, Todd\*\*\*; Category I/3 (\$188,513) Principal at Trumbull High School.

Petersen, Randi; Category VII/2 (\$146,022) Assistant Principal at Frenchtown Elementary School.

Venditti, Jean; BA/5 (\$55,369) art teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.

The above certified appointments for the 2023-2024 school year were unanimously received/filed by the Board.

Dr. Semmel reported the following certified resignations:

LcClerc, Kathleen; physical education/health teacher district wide since August 2016, resigning effective August 7, 2023

Luther, Robin; special education teacher at ELITE & Next Chapter Books since August 2012, resigning effective August 7, 2023.

Sweeney, Erin; special education teacher at Booth Hill Elementary School since August 2021, resigning effective August 3, 2023.

Swaller, Colleen; special education teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School since December 2016, resigning effective July 24, 2023.

Swift, Marissa; special education teacher at Trumbull High School since January 2023, resigning effective July 30, 2023.

Wrobel, John; school social worker at ELITE & Next Chapter Books since August 2003, resigning effective August 4, 2023.

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

Dr. Semmel presented one Request for Leave of Absence for approval:

Pia, Jennifer; world language teacher at Madison Middle School since August 2015 is requesting a personal leave of absence without pay from September 5 through December 31, 2023. This request complies with the Trumbull Board of Education Leave of Absence Policy, 4150.

It was moved (Nuland) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above personal leave of absence for Jennifer Pia as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

#### C. Approval/Master Plan – Tecton Presentation

Dr. Semmel, Mr. Cote and Mr. Jeff Wyszynski of Tecton Architects presented the updated Master Plan by Tecton for Trumbull Public Schools. Mr. Wyszynski gave a summary presentation for the TPS Master Plan that included existing conditions, demographics and utilization and the priority of the necessary work at all of our buildings. Total project costs and the cost to Trumbull were detailed. The Board added to the discussion after months of review and community meetings. The final approved Master Plan will be available on our website.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Squiccimarro) to approve the Master Plan by Tecton Architects as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. 2023-2024 Enrollment Update- Dr. Semmel presented projected and actual enrollment numbers for our schools as of August 11, 2023. The Board reviewed all classroom sizes and teacher placements to ensure all requirements have been met to provide the most optimal learning environment for our children.

E. Financial Committee Report

Mrs. Norcel reported the Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on August 10, 2023 which included the review of the preliminary June 30, 2023 financial report. Mr. Hendrickson discussed the need to approve inter-fund transfers to finalize the financial statements as of June 30, 2023.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the inter-fund transfers to finalize the financial reports as of June 30, 2023 as presented. Vote: 6 in favor Timpanelli, Norcel, Nuland, Bandecchi, Petitti, Squiccimarro. One opposed McNamee. Motion passes.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:50 p.m.