

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – September 26, 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
T. Gallo
L. Nuland
M. Petitti - online
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 the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mrs. Timpanelli asked for a moment of silence to honor the life and work of Dr. William Goldstein, who was greatly admired as a former THS Principal.

B. TAA Contract – Atty. Dugas

Attorney Floyd Dugas presented the Trumbull Administrators Association (TAA) contract for full Board approval.

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the Trumbull Administrators Association (TAA) Contract as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Correspondence – Ms. McNamee read the following correspondence: Alison Corda supports the retention of creative staff at our schools. Kellie Ouimette wrote in support of later school start time.

D. Public Comment - Ann Martorana spoke in support of the literacy and math specialists at Daniels Farm whose interventions have benefited her children's academic and behavioral growth and supports smaller class size.

E. Superintendent Report - Dr. Semmel has begun meeting with the central office team to start the budget process for the 2024-2025 school year. The ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) grant is coming to an end, and we hope to incorporate 5.5 positions that are currently being covered by the grant into next year's budget. We must be mindful of new

legislation that can impact our budget as well. The Superintendent's goal is to have the budget completed by the winter break and ready to present to the Board in January 2024.

F. Board Chairman Report

- THS is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month; students are participating in activities to honor the history, culture and contributions of Hispanic Americans, past and present.
- Mrs. Timpanelli memorialized Dr. William Goldstein, a former THS Principal who was a true intellectual with an effervescent personality and had a passionate vision for academic excellence.

G. Teacher BOE Representative Report

Mr. John Congdon reported on teachers writing curriculum over the summer and attending professional development workshops this fall. The new school year is off to a great start with mentoring new teachers, clubs and sports sign ups and back to school nights. As we look to the future, teachers continue to focus on the Vision of the Graduate. We look forward to the implementation of the Master Plan for our school buildings that need revitalization.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Field Trip THS Model Congress to Washington, DC

Model Congress students presented the Model Congress trip to the Washington, DC-Princeton Model Congress Competition which is scheduled for November 16, 2023 through November 19, 2023. Students spoke of the first-hand legislative process as well as critical thinking and debating skills they will experience. Collaborating and communicating with students from all over the U.S. to pass their proposed legislation into law will be the focus. Funding for this trip is provided by parents and the ACE Grant.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the THS Model Congress trip to Washington, DC as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Approval/Minutes

Minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of September 12,2023 were presented.

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 12 ,2023 Board of Education as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor

C. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported the following certified appointment:

Rathey, Danielle; 6/17 (\$94,423) school psychologist at Frenchtown Elementary School.

This was unanimously received/filed by the Board.

D. Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) Update

Dr. Iwanicki presented a summary of the latest Smarter Balanced Assessment for 2022-2023. Results were shared for TPS grades 3-8 of student percentages that met or exceeded goal (compared to prior years) in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The results show that we are getting closer to our goal of achieving at/above the pre-pandemic percentages with the vast majority of students who continue to meet or exceed the goal in ELA and Math. Smarter

Balanced performance in science was discussed as were the next steps to strengthen instruction to help address learning gaps to provide the best environment possible for our students to learn.

E. Facility Committee Report Update

Facility Committee Chair Mrs. Lisa Nuland and Director of Operations Mr. David Cote updated the Board with the facilities projects. Mr. Cote detailed the projects that were completed over the summer, those that are currently in progress and those that are pending approval in the Capital Plan. Also discussed were unanticipated facilities expenses-(replacements, repairs, paving, etc.) for a total of \$287,739.86.

F. Curriculum Committee Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented the following Curriculum Guides/Texts:

- Curriculum Guide Approval - Astronomy Grades 11/12
- Curriculum Guide Approval - Forensic Science Grades 11/12

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

- Curriculum Guide Approval - ACP & Honors Italian 3
- New Text Approval: Group Seminar - Grade 9 and 10--- Douglas, Julia, Beland, Kathy, and R. Keith Matheny. *School Connect 4.0*. School Connect, 2023.

It was moved (McNamee)) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above curriculum guide and text as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- Curriculum Guide Approval - Unified Physical Education- Grades 9-12

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

G. Financial Committee Report

Mrs. Norcel reported that the Finance Committee met on September 21, 2023. Mr. Hendrickson presented the financial reports through June 30,2023 and intra-fund transfers.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the final June 30,2023 financials as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Bandedecchi) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the intra-fund transfers as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:18 p.m.