

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – October 10, 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
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 the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.

C. Public Comment- There were no public comment sign-ups at this evening’s meeting.

D. Superintendent Report

Dr. Semmel held a kickoff meeting to begin the budget process with the Central Office team. The Superintendent, Mr. Cote and Transportation Manager, Ms. Robushi have been meeting weekly with Durham to ensure that all transportation issues are being addressed. Dr. Semmel was fortunate to attend the THSGEMB Fall Classic on September 30. Parents did an amazing job of organizing this fundraising event. The marching band, led by Mr. Murphy, did an excellent job of putting on a wonderful show. We wish the band all the best in the upcoming State and National competitions.

E. Board Chairman Report

Mrs. Timpanelli and Mrs. Norcel met with the leadership from the Trumbull Town Council and Board of Finance to discuss the timeline to ensure our application to the State of Connecticut will be completed by June 30, 2024 for our TPS Master Plan. Mrs. Timpanelli was happy to attend the THSGEMB Fall Classic spectacular evening.

F. Student BOE Representatives Report - Grace Schober reported:

TECEC - Fire Safety Day and Apple Cider Day; **Daniels Farm** - in first grade, bridges math helps develop confidence in adding and subtracting single digit numbers; in the music room, second graders are grooving to the ballad of Johnny Applesseed and learning about meters in music. **Booth Hill** - 3rd graders are learning about weather in science; **Tashua** - Spirit Week to

kick off the fall season, Read Aloud Day where community members will visit the school and read to students. **Frenchtown** - students are continuing to learn about TRACKS (Trust, Respect, Accountability, Cooperation, Kindness, and Safety); **Middlebrook** - mentors program where grades 3-5 work with K- 2 students; **Jane Ryan** - in Mrs. Flagg’s art room, students painted Tim Burton inspired portraits; **Hillcrest** - in Señora Valendra’s class students had fun preparing for their quiz by playing Spanish bingo and in Miss Baker’s class the kids are hard at work analyzing “The Outsiders” by S.E. Hinton; **Madison** - in grade 8 Mrs. Cranston introduced the 6 Holland Personality Types to help the students match their strengths to a career; **Trumbull High** - had the first advisory with the new block schedule, nine students were recognized on the Dean's List for exemplifying skills of the Vision of the Graduate, the girls varsity volleyball team has a record of 9 wins after defeating Wilton, the THS Marching Band won a competition on September 30 and PSAT testing is on October 11.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Minutes

Minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of September 26, 2023 were presented.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 26, 2023 Board of Education as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel reported the following certified appointment:

Abbott, Kelley; BA/5 (\$55,369) special education preschool teacher at Trumbull Early Childhood Education Center effective September 2, 2023.

This was unanimously received/filed by the Board.

Dr. Semmel presented one certified resignation:

Chacon, Nancy; Spanish teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2022, resigning effective September 28, 2023.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to accept the above certified resignation. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. High School Report

THS Principal Mr. Todd Manuel and Guidance Chairperson Cathy Hilser presented updates on the opening of the 2023-2024 school year which included student achievement and participation in AP, SAT and NGSS testing. The THS new bell schedule has created the structure to provide not only more challenging coursework opportunities, but also more time for course selection in meeting new graduation requirements. THS Graduation rates were discussed as well as opportunities for students to earn college credits. Post-secondary trends were reviewed.

D. Enrollment

Dr. Semmel presented the current enrollment numbers as of October 1, 2023. The October 1st numbers are officially reported to the State of Connecticut.

E. TPAUD Surveys

At the September 29, 2023 Curriculum Committee Meeting, it was recommended that the TPAUD (Trumbull’s Prevention Partnership) bi-annual survey be approved by the Board of

Education. Mrs. Melissa McGarry responded to questions posed by the Board members and spoke of grant funding.

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the TPAUD surveys as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Curriculum Committee Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented the following Curriculum Guides/Texts:

- Curriculum Guide Update Approvals- English Language Arts & Literacy, Grade K, 1, 2, 3 and their corresponding texts:
 - Gr 2- Sateren, S. S., & Sullivan, M. (2012). *Max and Zoe at the Dentist*. Picture Window Books.
 - Gr 2- Sateren, S.S. (2015). *My Teacher is an Idiom*, Clarion Books.
 - Gr 2- Manushkin, Fran. (2022). *Katie Woo & Pedro Mysteries: The Birthday Party Mystery*: Picture Window Books.
 - Gr 3- Smith, Cynthia Leitich., and Jim Madsen. (2022). *Indian Shoes*. HarperCollins.

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

- Curriculum Guide Update Approvals- Mathematics, Grade 2, 3, 4, 5

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

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:00 p.m.