

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – July 9, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

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- online
L. Nuland – Secretary- online
C. Bandecchi
T. Gallo
J. McNamee
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.

Mrs. Timpanelli paid tribute to two well-respected Trumbull School employees who recently passed away. Isabella DeStefanis was a devoted 35-year world language teacher at Hillcrest and THS. Dominick Murolo worked for many years as head custodian at both Middlebrook and Frenchtown Schools.

B. Correspondence – Mrs. Nuland read the following correspondence: Kayleigh Zaworski wrote with concerns regarding a bus monitor; Bree Ann Presioso has concerns with her son’s PPT; Jennifer Ann Frederick needs clarification on kindergarten enrollment and D. Scot Kerr wrote to request safety measures at THS.

C. Public Comment- there were no speakers signed up for this evening’s meeting.

D. Superintendent Report- Dr. Semmel

- Dr. Semmel reported on the Hillcrest Master Plan. The State approved a 44 percent reimbursement rate. The cost to the Town is now projected to be \$81.7 million, a reduction of about \$27.8 million from the original \$109.5 million projection. The Board of Finance will be meeting in August. We anticipate the project to go to a referendum in November.
- We are busy working on filling the 10 certified open positions to be ready for the opening of school.

E. Board Chairman Report- Mrs. Timpanelli

- Mrs. Timpanelli contacted the Chief Manufacturing Officer of the State of Connecticut to review curriculum offerings in technology education.
- On June 28, Mrs. Timpanelli gave a tour of THS to members of the class of 1984.
- Mrs. Timpanelli eulogized Isabella DeStefanis and Dominick Murolo, two highly respected TPS employees who recently passed away.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/THS Trillium Trip to attend Varsity Yearbook Camp at University of Scranton
Mr. Jordan Miller and Ms. Andrea Lorenz presented the Varsity Yearbook Camp trip which is planned for August 8, 2024 to August 11, 2024. The camp will offer instruction to prepare and assist staff and advisors in completing the 2025 yearbook. Funding for the trip is provided by Trillium.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Bandecci) to approve the THS Trillium Trip to attend Varsity Yearbook Camp at the University of Scranton as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- B. Approval/Minutes

The minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of June 4, 2024 were presented for Board approval.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve the minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of June 4, 2024 as presented with one change to Members Present: change J. Nuland to L. Nuland. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- C. Personnel Report

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified resignations:

Cunningham, Janet; technology education teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since October 2008, resigning effective June 30, 2024.

Robidoux, Katharine; math teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2020, resigning effective July 2, 2024.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Bandecci) to approve the resignations as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- D. Approval/TECEC PTO Donation for Playground Renovation

Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Hendrickson presented the proposed donation through the TECEC PTO. The PTO has been raising funds to replace the existing playground. The new playground was designed by a multi-disciplinary committee, including therapists, special education teachers, parents, and a professional playground designer. On June 5, 2024, the PTO unanimously voted to contribute \$30,000 to the Board of Education as the second installment for the commencement of phase one.

It was moved (Bandecci) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the TECEC PTO donation of \$30,000 for the Playground Renovation phase one as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. 1:1 Insurance Fees

Mrs. Christina Hefele and Mr. Hendrickson presented the proposed 1:1 insurance fee for the 2024-2025 school year as follows which is the same fee as charged last year:

Grades 5-8 1:1 Program - \$25

THS Device Loaner Program - \$45

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the 1:1 Insurance Fees as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Expansion of ELITE Program Space

Director of PPS Mr. Dean Catalano and Ms. Barbara Beaman presented the proposed expansion of the ELITE program's vocational hub Next Chapter Books by leasing an adjoining space.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the ELITE expansion lease proposal of the adjoining space next to Next Chapter Books as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Enrollment

Dr. Semmel presented updated data related to student enrollment in planning for the 2024-2025 school year. He will continue to monitor enrollment during the summer months and update the BOE.

H. District Improvement Plan (DIP) 2024-2025 - Dr. Semmel

Dr. Semmel presented the District Improvement Plan for 2024-2025. The plan was developed through the District's Professional Learning Community comprised of school and district administrators, Program Coordinators, Team Leaders and Department Chairs. Each school improvement team also had a chance to provide feedback during development. At the mid-year and end-of-year, the Superintendent provides a report detailing the outcomes on the approved goals which are ultimately shared with all families and staff as well as placed on the district website.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the 2024-2025 District Improvement Plan (DIP) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

I. Curriculum Committee Report

Mrs. Petitti reported that the Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education met on May 16, 2024 and reviewed new curriculum course and guide revisions.

- New Course Proposal: Grade 11 & 12 Self-Contained Core Concepts of Geometry – Algebra 2
- Revised Curriculum Guide – Grade 12 ACP Statistics Curriculum

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the new course proposal Grade 11 & 12 Self-Contained Core Concepts of Geometry – Algebra 2 and revised curriculum guide Grade 12 ACP Statistics Curriculum as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

J. Financial Committee Report

Mrs. Norcel reported that the Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on June 27, 2024. Mr. Hendrickson presented the May 31, 2024 financial reports including the transfer of \$84,155 from the Lunch Account (210) to the General Fund (001).

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the May 31, 2024 financial reports including the transfer of \$84,155 from the Lunch Account (210) to the General Fund (001) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:35 p.m.