

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Long Hill Administration Building
Regular Meeting – August 12, 2025
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
L. Nuland - Secretary
C. Bandecchi (virtual)
J. McNamee (virtual)
M. Petitti
A. Squicciarro
S. Wich

Members absent:

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 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. Introduction of THS A House Principal
Mr. Everett Hutchins was introduced as the new THS A House Principal and was welcomed by the Board of Education and administration.
- C. Correspondence – Mrs. Nuland reported the following correspondence:
Diane Norlander, Lena Palmer, Emily Hoyt and Barbara Vogt wrote in support of smaller class sizes. Ellen Sejkora, Thais Rodriguez, Jonathan Rodriguez, Jennifer Feda, Heidi Sullivan, Billy Aloupis, Rebecca Tringali, Erin Arduini, Laura Arena, Mayra Labrecque, Andrea Zdralea, Erica Meier, Sarah Murray, Caitlin Moore, Briana Ashiotes, Ashley O’Connor, Al Tierney, Manuel Arias, Carolina Rivera support an additional section for kindergarten at Tashua. Electra Ferriello supports adding a 5th section of 2nd grade to DFS, is concerned about notification of testing results to monitor student progress. Bree Ann Prezioso would like to see a lunch bunch added to the high school. Joanne Mekawi Gabriel supports typical peer lunch groups at the high school level. Sara Westerberg expressed concern regarding kindergarten class size at DFS.
- D. Public Comment
There were four individuals signed up for Public Comment.
Alyssa Himmel, James Geisler, and Kelly Huppenthal spoke in support of smaller Kindergarten class sizes at Tashua. Sean Farrow spoke in support of smaller Kindergarten class sizes at Daniels Farm.

E. Superintendent Report

Dr. Semmel reported that TPS has been hiring in preparation for the upcoming school year and is looking forward to the first student school day on Tuesday, August 26th. He gave an update on the following Capital Projects: Phase 2 at THS athletic fields is almost complete, Middlebrook HVAC will be ready for the start of school, and Phase 1 of the Daniels Farm parking lot and drainage reconfiguration will be complete in time for the first day. He commented that the Transportation Department has been working hard on bus routes which will also be available to parents through Infinite Campus portal. Building principals and teachers have been preparing for the new school year.

F. Board Chairman Report

Mrs. Timpanelli reported that Trumbull holds the #6 spot in the State Accountability Index, our elementary schools are all Schools of Distinction for the past two years with Booth Hill still holding the National Blue Ribbon status, the ELITE program has expanded the Next Chapter Bookstore and program; the approval of the Master Plan created a priority list for all the needs schools in the district and led to a favorable resolution for a new Hillcrest Middle School and was approved by the citizens of Trumbull, We The People team winning the State of Connecticut Championship and moved on to Washington, D.C., as well as the sports programs that have excelled. She welcomed new A House Principal Mr. Everett Hutchins. She highlighted the teamwork, vision, expertise, experience and dedication of staff to a stellar system and presented an excerpt from a recent article from Realtor.com that featured Trumbull as #7 of the Hottest Zip Codes of 2025 in the country.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Field Trip, THS Regional FFA Chapter to the National FFA Convention and Expo, Indianapolis

Advisor Mr. Thomas Acri presented the THS Regional FFA Chapter trip to the National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis which is scheduled for October 28, 2025 to November 1, 2025. Funding for this trip is provided through Annual Trumbull Agriscience fundraisers.

It was moved (Nuland) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the THS Regional FFA Chapter trip to the National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Approval/Donation of PTO funds for TECEC playground

Dr. Wheeler presented that the TECEC PTO raised funds and is donating \$12,000 to complete phase two of the TECEC playground renovation. Phase two includes stepping pods, chinning bar, and ball hoop.

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Norcel) to accept the donation of \$12,000 from PTO funds for phase two of the TECEC playground renovation as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. The minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of July 8, 2025 were presented for Board approval.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of July 8, 2025 as presented. Vote: Squicciarro, Petitti, Norcel, Timpanelli, Nuland, McNamee, Bandecchi in favor. Abstained: Wich. Motion passes.

The minutes of the Special Meeting/Executive Session of August 6, 2025 were presented for Board approval.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Wich) to approve the minutes of the BOE Special Meeting/Executive Session of August 6, 2025 as presented. Vote: Bandecchi, Petitti, Norcel, Timpanelli, Nuland, Wich in favor. Abstained: Squicciarro, McNamee. Motion passes.

D. Personnel

Dr. Semmel presented the following staff that were appointed for the 2025-2026 school year:

Aloupis, Rebecca, special education teacher at Jane Ryan Elementary School

Baker, Stephen, math teacher at Trumbull High School

Beardsley, Nolan; social studies teacher at Trumbull High School

Bedoya, Marianna, Spanish teacher at Madison Middle School

Boughton, Heather, teacher of the deaf district-wide

Boulton, Dawn, science teacher at Trumbull High School

Dallape, Olivia, music teacher at Jane Ryan Elementary School

Diaz, Angel, business teacher at Trumbull High School

Garcia, Lauren, math teacher at Madison Middle School

Hutchings, Everette, House Principal at Trumbull High School

Jones, Lauren, school counselor at Trumbull High School

Kovi, Robert, technology integration specialist at Trumbull High School

Lewis, Saraya, English teacher at Trumbull High School

Mathew, John, social studies teacher at Trumbull High School

Mercado, Desiree, elementary teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School

Pierce, Alison, Business Administrator at the Long Hill Administration Building

Piraneo, Michael, music teacher at Middlebrook Elementary School

Prieto, Jacqueline, English Language Learner teacher district-wide

Sherwill, Marissa, school psychologist at Jane Ryan Elementary School

Towne, Olivia, art teacher at Hillcrest Middle School

Tuttle, Jacqueline, special education teacher at Trumbull Early Childhood Education Center

Wasikowski, Leanna, special education teacher at Jane Ryan Elementary School

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified resignations and retirement:

Goodman, Linda; science teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2012, retiring effective June 30, 2025

Wood, Deanna; (.6) reading teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2024, resigning effective July 9, 2025

Siano, Christopher; house principal at Trumbull High School since July 2020, resigning effective August 12, 2025

McNamara, Sheridan; English teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2022, resigning effective July 23, 2025

A motion was made (Squicciarro) and seconded (Norcel) to accept the resignations/retirement as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. Enrollment

Dr. Semmel presented updated data related to student enrollment in planning for the 2025-2026 school year. He will continue to monitor enrollment during the summer and update the BOE.

A motion was made (Norcel) and seconded (Wich) to add a Kindergarten section to Tashua School. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Approval/Interschool Food Service Agreement

Mr. Molyneux presented the proposed Food Service Agreement with Aspire to provide lunches. This does not increase District FTEs nor add cost to the Food Service Department. The Agreement will result in increased profit for Trumbull Public Schools

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the Aspire agreement as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Approval/Child Nutrition Program ED-099 Agreement Signatory Change Form

Mr. Molyneux presented that the Food Service Department would like to add Ms. Pierce as an authorized signature on the ED-099 Agreement.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandedchi) to approve the addition of Business Administrator Mrs. Alison Pierce as a signatory to the ED-099 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

H. 2025-2026 District Improvement Plan (DIP)

Dr. Semmel presented the 2025-2026 District Improvement Plan. The plan is developed through the District's Professional Learning Community comprised of school and district administrators, Program Coordinators and Department Chairs. At the mid-year and end-of-year, the Superintendent will provide 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 (Squicciarro) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the 2025-2026 District Improvement Plan (DIP) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

I. Approval/Interfund Transfers

The Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on August 7, 2025 and reviewed the interfund transfer. Mrs. Pierce presented the interfund transfer for full Board approval.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Bandedchi) to approve the interfund transfer as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:21 p.m.