

**TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT**  
Long Hill Administration Building  
Regular Meeting – September 9, 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  
J. McNamee  
M. Petitti  
A. Squicciarro  
S. Wich

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. Teacher Tenure Recognition

Administration is proud to announce the following staff members who have attained tenure status with the Trumbull Board of Education and presented them with a certificate.

- Booth Hill Elementary – Brittany Hasak, Erin Magner
- Daniels Farm Elementary – Lauren Cavalli
- Frenchtown Elementary – Mallory Kopec, Dr. Randi Petersen
- Frenchtown & Booth Hill Elementary – Alexandra LaMendola
- Jane Ryan Elementary- Kaeli DeCesare
- Middlebrook Elementary – Jennifer Colucci
- Tashua Elementary – Danielle McGillicuddy, Natalie Riecker
- TECEC – Megan Watts
- Hillcrest Middle School – Amanda Conigliaro, Andrijana Dordevic
- Hillcrest Middle & Trumbull High School – Kayla Plitnick
- Madison Middle School – Ben Anderson, Julia Gatto, Ryan LaSella
- Trumbull High School – Rodney Arganese, Mathew Biegen, Molly Dushay, Nicole Forstrom, Joseph Palamara, Elyse Tsou, Delores Villano
- Central Office – Joseph Chella, Kate Engeldrum, Dr. Anne Heath

- C. Correspondence – Mrs. Nuland reported the following correspondence: BreeAnn Prezioso is requesting FOIA access; Electra Ferriello, Lena Palmer, Nicole Martin, Layla Faye and Caitlyn Robinson are concerned about grade 2 class size at DF; Cara Bender wrote about K class size at BH; Liz Juselis wrote about K class size at Jane Ryan; Kristen Miller would like a club to be included at THS; Julissa Vega-Hok wrote on behalf of SEPTA with transportation issues regarding special education students and on behalf of over 50 parents, Gilda Kumtas-Oral wrote with transportation issues involving bus routes, an app that does not work and lack of communication from the Transportation Department.
- D. Public Comment – Emily Gerdner spoke about kindergarten class size at Booth Hill.
- E. Superintendent Report  
Dr. Semmel extends sincere thanks to all TPS staff for their hard work in preparing for the opening of our schools. We are happy to report the positive Smarter Balance test results that are a reflection of high-quality curriculum, instruction and community support. This year, Dr. Semmel looks forward to spending even more time in our classrooms to observe teaching and learning, ensuring that our students continue to achieve at high levels. Dr. Semmel continues to address transportation concerns and the lack of communication from the Transportation Department. Steps are being taken to improve conditions for students who ride our buses, with safety as the top priority. We are responding to action requests related to transportation, however; parents need to be aware that not all action requests can be accommodated. As the school year progresses, we continue to provide a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system for all students.
- F. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli reported that the Facilities Subcommittee meets at different schools to review needs and address any concerns. Over the past five years, we have consistently received positive audit reports, demonstrating that our budget is being managed judiciously. The Board is encouraged by the success of the Vision of the Graduate initiative, the Curriculum Subcommittee approval of several new courses at THS, and the Smarter Balanced assessment results. Resident transportation requests have been received and are being reviewed, and the Board looks forward to finding effective solutions. In other good news, the planetarium will be included in the Hillcrest building project. We also send our best wishes to all our sports teams as they begin their new seasons.
- G. Student Board Representatives Report  
Danielle Lyons and Naomi Mickens reported: TECEC- start to the new school year, playground near to completion; Middlebrook- birthday celebrations marked by gifting students books. All schools are celebrating back to school nights. DF-welcomed new K teacher, Mrs. Monica Kelly and flower sale; Jane Ryan- back to school night, PTA event; BH- assembly to empower support and individuality; Tasha- meet the teacher night and welcome activities for families, picnic hosted by the Fathers Club, International Peace day; Madison- Madison's Got Talent, Career Night design packet, new cell phone policy; Hillcrest- Save Promise club, annual club fair, school assembly and new cell phone policy; THS- Link Crew, fall sports, electronic hall pass system; the new cell phone policy is having a positive impact on students focus on learning and communicating with peers, senior sunrise on McDougall Field, annual club fair on 9/11-9/12.

### Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. The minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of August 12, 2025 were presented for Board approval.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of August 12, 2025 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- B. Personnel

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

- Bernor, Susan; special education teacher at Madison Middle School.
- Braunagel, Michelle; (.75) health teacher at Trumbull High School.
- Griffiths, Chelsea; transition specialist for Trumbull High School, REACH and post high school students.
- Hart, Sarah; (.6) reading/language arts teacher at Hillcrest Middle School.
- Spillane, Julianne; English teacher at Trumbull High School.

- C. Smarter Balanced Assessment Results for 2025cores

Dr. Iwanicki presented the 2025 Smarter Balanced Assessment results. The vast majority of students continue to meet or exceed the goal in ELA and math. It is a time for celebration while also examining areas for future concentration for Tier 1 instruction. Also discussed was Trumbull's results compared to other districts. Our next steps will further strengthen communication and vertical alignment as we continue to provide the best environments possible for our students to learn and grow.

- D. Approval/Head Start Food Service Agreement

Mr. Molyneux presented the annual agreement between the Trumbull/Monroe Head Start program and the Trumbull BOE Food Service Department, who will furnish meals to the joint program. Board approval is needed for compliance with Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the Head Start Food Service Agreement as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- E. Enrollment

Dr. Semmel presented updated data related to student enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year.

- F. Facilities Update

Mrs. Nuland and Mr. Dion updated the Board on the status of all the facilities projects. Discussed were HVAC improvements at several of our schools, parking lot and drainage work at DF and THS, and at THS- leak repair work and artificial turf and track replacement. The Hillcrest Building Committee is meeting to collaborate and monitor the progress of the Hillcrest building project.

- G. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on August 28, 2025 and reviewed the financials as of June 30, 2025 and four transfers.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the financials as of June 30, 2025 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- Approve the FY25 Due To / Due From Balances

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

- Approve the FY25 Year-End Transfer to Non-Lapsing Fund

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

- Approve the FY26 Quarterly Transfers

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

- Approve the FY26 Annual Transfers

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

#### Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:46 p.m.