

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Long Hill Administration Building
Regular Meeting – October 28, 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. Recognition: First Selectman’s Golf Classic Presentation
First Selectman Vicki Tesoro presented the proceeds from the First Selectman’s Golf Classic which will benefit the several student organizations listed below.

- Academic Challenge for Excellence (ACE) Foundation
- Trumbull High School Golden Eagle Marching Band
- PowerPlay Club—Hockey
- Laxmen’s Club—Lacrosse
- Touchdown Club—Football
- Diamond Club—Baseball and Softball
- Tipoff Club-Basketball

The Board of Education expressed their gratitude and appreciation for this year’s generous support.

- C. Correspondence – Mrs. Nuland reported the following correspondence: Jenny Zambrano (on behalf of SEPTA) thanked the Board for properly addressing their concerns; Bree Ann Prezioso wrote with concerns; Rebecca McCarthy asked the Board to prioritize class size in our upcoming budget.
- D. Public Comment- There were no sign-ups this evening.

E. Superintendent Report- Dr. Semmel

The Superintendent has begun meeting with school principals to start the budget process, which must be completed by the end of December 2025, before winter break. We would also like to give a special shout-out to our PTA groups for sponsoring Trunk or Treat events at our elementary schools.

F. Board Chairman Report - Mrs. Timpanelli and Mrs. Petitti attended the Hispanic Heritage Week Celebration at THS, sponsored by the World Language Department. Students performed dances, songs, poetry recitations, emphasizing the art and culture of Hispanic nations.

The Board extends a heartfelt thank you to our Vice Chair Jackie Norcel, for her dedication and tireless service to the Board of Education and honor her many contributions to Trumbull Public Schools. Mrs. Timpanelli also expressed her gratitude to all Board members for their time and commitment to our students and district.

G. Student Board Representatives Report - Danielle Lyon and Naomi Mickens reported: **TECEC-BARK** parent workshop, Trunk or Treat, speech department program to support speech and language development; math and music activities; Benedict's hayride. **Elementary Schools:** In our elementary schools, students have celebrated mathematics and reading achievements, as they are now preparing for their DIBELS's testing in grades K-3, measuring foundational literacy skills, as well as iReady testing in grades 2-5, measuring a student's benchmark performance in the areas of literacy and mathematics. TPS elementary students have also completed fire safety drills. **Middle Schools:** Within our middle schools, there has been a strong focus on restorative practice, a connection activity that prioritizes relationships among students and staff, specifically in advisory sessions. Our middle schools have also been carrying out their bell-to-bell no cell policy, fostering stronger connections to learning. Students are preparing for their iReady diagnostic testing. **THS-** The class of 2029 is off to a great start with the support of THS Link Crew leaders; fall sports also are in full swing. The electronic hall pass system is efficiently helping teachers monitor their students' time in and out of the classrooms and the non-use of personal devices during class periods is having a positive impact on students' focus on learning and communicating with peers during class time. Two hundred seventy THS seniors celebrated their senior year at senior sunrise. Hispanic Heritage Month was celebrated with student led performances including music, dance and poetry organized by the World Language Department.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. The following minutes of the BOE are presented for approval:

- Regular meeting of September 30, 2025

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the minutes of the BOE Regular Meeting of September 30, 2025, as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Personnel

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified appointments:

Sapia, James; Assistant Principal at Madison Middle School effective October 27, 2025.

Roxbee, Meagan; Literacy Consultant at Tashua Elementary School effective October 27, 2025.

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified resignations/retirement:

Redgate, Robin; grade 5 teacher at Booth Hill Elementary School since September 1987, retiring effective June 30, 2026

Shevlin, Doreen; math teacher at Trumbull High School since September 2007, retiring effective June 30, 2026

Skelton, Alice; school counselor at Trumbull High School since August 2013, retiring effective June 30, 2026

Cerulli, Deirdre; Kindergarten teacher at Middlebrook Elementary School since August 2002, retiring effective June 30, 2026

It was moved (Bandedecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the certified appointments, resignations/retirements as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Enrollment as of October 1, 2025

Dr. Semmel presented the official enrollment as of October 1, 2025, which is reported to the State of Connecticut.

D. High School Report- THS Principal, Todd G. Manuel and Director of School Counseling 6-12, Alex Kovachi presented the following:

- Updates on the opening of the '25 - '26 school year and the NEASC accreditation process
- Recent student achievement and participation reports on AP, SAT, NGSS
- Graduation rates
- Opportunities for our students to earn college credit
- Post-secondary trends for THS Students

E. Hillcrest Construction Update

Mr. Kevin Dion provided the Board with an update on the current status and design plans for the new Hillcrest Middle School construction project. Mr. Dion responded to the Board's questions regarding the preliminary design of classrooms, the planetarium, gymnasium, and black box theater. The Board will be regularly updated as the project progresses.

F. Approval/Amendment to 5 Year Capital Plan- Mr. Dion presented the amended 5-year Capital Plan for final Board approval.

It was moved (Bandedecchi) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the 5-year Capital Plan as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Approval/2026 Board of Education Meeting Dates

In accordance with Section 10-218 of the Connecticut General Statutes and the By-laws of the Trumbull Board of Education, the Board shall adopt a meeting schedule for the upcoming year. Dr. Semmel presented the proposed 2026 Board of Education Meeting dates for approval.

It was moved (Bandedecchi) and seconded (Squiccimarro) to approve the 2026 Board of Education meeting dates as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

H. Approval/2026-2027 District Calendar and 2027-2028 District Calendar

Based on the Calendar Committee's meeting on September 30, 2025, and the Superintendent's review, Dr. Iwanicki is asking the Board of Education to adopt the proposed drafts as the approved calendars for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years.

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the 2026-2027 and the 2027-2028 District Calendars as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

I. Policy Committee Report

Dr. Iwanicki presented to the Board the following policy for first reading:

- Policy 5138/Pay to Participate

The Board agreed to bring this policy back to a BOE meeting for approval.

J. Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on October 23, 2025, which included the review of the July 31, 2025, August 31, 2025, and September 30, 2025, financial reports

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve the July 31, 2025, August 31, 2025 and September 30, 2025, financial reports as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:42 p.m.