

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Long Hill Administration Building
Regular Meeting – February 10, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

The Trumbull Board of Education met for a Regular Meeting at the Long Hill Administration Building.

Members present:

L. Timpanelli – Chairman
M. Petitti – Vice Chair
L. Nuland - Secretary
C. Bandecchi-online
T. McGee
J. McNamee
A. Squiccimarro

Members absent:

S. Hepburn-James

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 a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – Mrs. Nuland read the following correspondence: Leyla Fayyaz, Sarah Broas, Electra Ferriello, Susan Anderson Horan, Jenny Zambrano, Cara Rearick, Lena Palmer, Kathy Babin, Erica Siegel, Diane Norlander, Mariaqna Belleno, Nicole Zuraw, Kathryn Psarofagis Daphne Teittnen-Schreck, Maura Crossin wrote in to advocate for fully funding the BOE budget. Melissa Lewin is advocating for smaller class sizes for next year's budget. Conor English is advocating for fewer half days. Debra Kroszner is advocating for improvements to our transportation system.
- C. Public Comment - Leyla Fayyaz spoke of the importance of funding the Superintendent’s budget and the responsible allocation of the funds with our students as our top priority.
- D. Superintendent Report - Dr. Semmel
 - Dr. Semmel provided an update regarding the transportation issue that occurred on Monday, February 9, that required us to close school. He is actively working with our bus company, Durham, to enhance and reinforce their extreme cold weather protocols. We are grateful to the staff at Hillcrest, Madison and THS for their coordinated efforts in ensuring our students returned home safely.
 - Dr. Semmel is looking forward to the Board of Education’s adoption of his proposed budget allocation. At this evening’s meeting, he will outline the potential impact on our students should the budget not be fully funded.
- E. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Timpanelli

As members of the Board of Education, our responsibility is to advocate for all of the students who attend Trumbull Public Schools. The Superintendent has proposed a budget that reflects the resources necessary to sustain our current commitment to educational excellence and to further advance our innovative programs. We respectfully request full support of the proposed budget to ensure the continued success of our school district.
- F. Student Board Representatives Report - Danielle Lyon and Naomi Mickens reported: TECEC- K for Kindness project; Middlebrook- OLSAT testing, grade 2 friendship show and grade 5 urban air field trip; Frenchtown- 2 students were recognized at the Connecticut Association of Schools Celebration of the Arts, K students tap dancing experience and 100 days of school events; DFS- student council hosted a

Super Bowl food drive, National Math Challenge Tournament; Jane Ryan- 100 school days events, math in action challenge, Caldecott Medal winning books, volunteer opportunities and community food drives, Green Book Fair; Booth Hill- Kids Heart Challenge, math in action activities; Tashua- Black History Month, valentines for vets, PTA winter enrichment programs, grade 4 artwork, Kindness week, lunar year celebration, family fun night; Hillcrest- national Assessment of Educational Progress; Madison-SAVE Club activity, preparation for spring production, robotics team competition, winter athletics, advisory activities focused on social emotional learning, panthers love to play day; THS- grade 8-9 transition nights, winter athletics, We the People team named Connecticut State Champions, advisory day activity, college and career center postsecondary planning.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Field Trips

1. THS DECA Trip to the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, GA
Advisor Ms. Christina Rusate presented the THS DECA trip to the ICDC in Atlanta, GA which is scheduled for April 24, 2026 to April 29, 2026. Funding for this trip is provided through BEI and ACE grants, as well as extensive fundraising on behalf of the club. Fundraising efforts include the school store, caramel sales, and dine-in nights. The balance (typically \$600-800) is paid for by families.

It was moved (Nuland) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the THS DECA Trip to the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, GA as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

2. THS/We The People National Finals, Rockville, MD
Advisors Ms. Katie Boland and Ms. Laura Macfarlane presented the THS “We the People” trip to the national finals which is scheduled for April 16, 2026 to April 20, 2026. Funding for this trip is provided through parents, fundraising, grants, and a competition budget.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the THS We The People National Finals trip to Rockville, MD as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Approval/Minutes:

- BOE Budget Meeting of January 6, 2026

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the January 6, 2026 BOE Budget Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- BOE Budget Meeting of January 8, 2026

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the January 8, 2026 BOE Budget Meeting Minutes as presented. Abstain- Bandecchi. In favor-Timpanelli, Petitti, McNamee, Nuland, McGee, Squicciarro. Vote: motion passes.

C. Personnel

Dr. Semmel reported two certified resignation/retirements:

- Anderson, Lindsey; special education teacher at Jane Ryan Elementary School since August 2022, resigning effective February 5, 2026
- Farr, Elaine; grade 1 teacher at Tashua Elementary School since August 2008, retiring effective June 30, 2026

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Squicciarro) to accept the two certified resignation/retirements as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Dr. Semmel reported one non-certified resignation/retirement:

- Bostley, Cathy; Curriculum Support Specialist at the Long Hill Administration Building since August 2016, retiring effective January 16, 2026.

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Nuland) to accept the non-certified resignation/retirement as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Approval/Middlebrook HVAC Project 144-001 HVACN – Mr. Dion

Mr. Dion presented the approved Middlebrook HVAC final invoices from the Middlebrook Building Committee January 29, 2026 meeting. All material and labor invoices to the contractors have been approved for payment. He presented the Certificate of Substantial Completion which was signed by the architect and the building committee.

It was moved (Nuland) and seconded (Bandecci) to approve the Middlebrook HVAC Project 144-001 HVACN as being complete and accepts the building for public school purposes. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. Approval/2026-2027 Budget- Dr. Semmel

The 2026-2027 budget was presented and discussed at the January 6 and January 8, 2026, Board of Education Budget Meetings. At this evening's meeting, Dr. Semmel is requesting Board approval for the proposed budget to support Trumbull's 6,800+ students and to ensure that each student is provided with an equal opportunity to succeed. Dr. Semmel outlined the primary drivers of the proposed budget along with the potential impact if the budget is not fully funded, including the reductions that could result. A shortfall in funding would significantly impact our schools. We encourage members of the public to share their perspectives with the First Selectman and to contact our state elected officials to advocate for full funding of the Excess Cost Reimbursement Grant and the Education Cost Sharing Grant and to advocate against further unfunded mandates.

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Bandecci) to approve the 2026-2027 budget in the amount of \$137,773,114. as presented by the Superintendent. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Curriculum Committee Report

Mrs. Petitti reported that the Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education met on January 8, 2026 and reviewed the following curriculum guide and text which Dr. Iwanicki presented:

- "Comparative Government – Stories of the World"

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve the text "Comparative Government – Stories of the World" as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- Curriculum Guide Revision-grades 10-11 Social Studies- AP Comparative Government & Politics

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the curriculum guide update Social Studies: AP Comparative Government & Politics as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Finance Committee Report

Ms. McNamee reported that the Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on February 10, 2026. Mrs. Pierce presented:

1. Approval/Financials as of November 30, 2025 and December 31, 2025

2. Approval/Budget Transfers BOE/Town Due to/Due from and a transfer from the non-lapsing account

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (McGee) to approve the financial reports as of November 30, 2025 and December 1, 2025 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (McGee) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the budget transfers as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:22 p.m.