

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Finance Committee of the
Trumbull Board of Education

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Location: Long Hill – Ellie’s Room

Attendees:

- **Committee Members:** Julia McNamee (Chair), Tammy McGee
- **Staff:** Alison Pierce
- **Other(s):** Rebecca Lopez (virtual) joined at 4:30, First Selectwoman Tesoro joined at 4:32pm, Mary Isaac (virtual) joined at 4:33pm

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 17, 2026 meeting were approved 2-0 (Motion: Ms. McGee; Second: Ms. McNamee).

Review of FY26 Financial Statements for the month ending February 28, 2026

As of Period 8 (66.67%) of FY26, the General Fund budget of \$127,177,640 is fully committed, with expenditures and encumbrances accounting for nearly the entire appropriation and leaving a remaining balance of \$48,648.81. The increase in available balance compared to the prior month is largely due to a transfer of funds from the Non-Lapsing Account into the General Fund.

The district continues to operate under the current spending freeze and is actively reviewing outstanding purchase orders with administrators to ensure that only essential obligations remain in place for the remainder of the fiscal year. As purchase orders are closed, any remaining balances will be returned to the budget and reflected as available funds.

Discussion was held regarding various accounts within the General Fund budget.

Ms. McNamee asked Ms. Pierce to provide additional information on account 01011200-53230 (Consultants – PPS) to help identify the root cause of the significant budget overage.

Ms. McNamee asked Ms. Pierce to provide additional information on accounts 01396110-55600 (Out-of-District SpEd Tuition) and 01882701-55105 (SpEd Out-of-District Transportation), including an explanation of the significant budget overages and the key drivers behind the differences between this year and last year.

Ms. McNamee asked Ms. Pierce to provide additional information on account 01052130-53305

(Service Contracts – PPS). Discussion indicated that the budget overage is primarily due to the inability to fill vacancies with direct hire staff, resulting in the need to secure personnel through professional service providers.

Ms. McNamee questioned why account 01712400-53301 (Police Services) is over budget. Ms. Pierce explained that the BOE is charged the extra duty police rate, which includes a four-hour minimum. In order to have both AM and PM covered, both shifts are required. The district historically spends \$120,000 annually in this account; however, additional costs are incurred for police services at Madison Middle School, Hillcrest Middle School, THS special events such as graduation, prom, homecoming, etc, and numerous athletic events.

Ms. McNamee inquired about the phone accounts (01422520-55904 and 01422520-55907). Ms. Pierce explained that the landlines supporting fire and security alarm systems rely on copper wiring, and the associated rates increase quarterly. To mitigate these rising costs, the Technology Department is piloting a program to transition the security and fire alarm systems to VOIP internet-based phone lines. This change is expected to reduce costs by approximately \$75 per month per line, following an initial setup cost of \$100 per line. The pilot is currently being implemented at Long Hill to ensure there are no unforeseen issues. If successful, the district plans to expand the conversion districtwide to achieve ongoing savings in phone service costs. This transition will result in a modest increase in the internet services account.

Ms. McNamee inquired about account 01011200-56111 (Classroom Supplies) and the reason it is over budget by 126%. Ms. Pierce explained that certain expenditures charged to this account are eligible for reimbursement through the SEED (Special Education and Expansion Development) Grant. SEED funding is intended to enhance and expand special education programming within the district.

Ms. McNamee inquired about meetings with the bus company regarding performance concerns. Ms. Pierce informed the committee that another meeting with Durham School Services, LP is scheduled for Friday, April 10th. Ms. Pierce also noted that the meeting may include discussion of potential fines imposed on the bus company for service violations.

Ms. McNamee requested that Ms. Pierce provide additional information on the Cafeteria/Food Services Fund reports, specifically requesting an explanation of the Profit & Loss statement.

A detailed discussion was held on all other funds, including the beginning-of-year budget, year-to-date expenditures, encumbrances, and available balances for each fund.

The Committee requested the Director of Food Services, Mr. Chris Molynoux, attend the May Finance Committee meeting.

Motion to approve the financial reports as of February 28, 2026 and forward to the Board of Education: Ms. McGee; Second: Ms. McNamee. Motion passed 2-0.

Adjournment: *Ms. McGee; Second: Ms. McNamee. Motion passed 2-0.*

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Pierce