

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

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 – arrived 7:05
T. McGee
J. McNamee
A. Squicciarro – online until arriving at 7:23

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 reported no correspondence this evening.
- C. Public Comment – There were no public comment sign-ups for this meeting.
- D. Superintendent Report
Dr. Semmel wished everyone a good summer break and a happy 250th birthday America. He reported progress on the following capital projects: the THS drainage project in front of the school is on track, the Daniels Farm parking lot reconfiguration to reduce traffic/drop off congestion is underway, and a slight delay at Hillcrest due to filing of a state report but will not impact construction which begins on August 7th. Much curriculum writing is taking place in the district, extended school year and summer enrichment are underway. Our new Transportation Manager is thriving and Human Resources is working on fulfilling 15 certified positions ahead of the start of school.
- E. Board Chairman Report
Mrs. Timpanelli congratulated the Graduates of the Class of 2026 and all the stepping forth students and wished everyone a wonderful summer! Happy 250th Birthday America!

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/Field Trips
 - 1. THS/French Department, Quebec City, Canada – Mr. Shaun Liebskind

World Language Department Chair Mrs. Susanna Lavorgna-Lye presented the THS French Department trip to Quebec City, Canada from October 8 - 12, 2026 on behalf of Mr. Liebskind. Funding for this trip is provided through parents and student fund raising.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve the THS/French Department trip to Quebec City, Canada from October 8-12, 2026 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

2. THS/Choirs, Nashville Heritage Festival, Nashville, TN – Mr. Christopher Wasko
Mr. Wasko presented the THS Choirs trip to the Nashville Heritage Festival in Nashville, Tennessee from April 8-11, 2027. Funding for this trip is provided through parents and student fund raising.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the THS/Choirs, Nashville Heritage Festival, Nashville, TN trip from April 8-11, 2027 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Approval/Frenchtown PTA Donation of Bookworm Vending Machine

Dr. Randi Petersen presented the Frenchtown Elementary School PTA donation of \$6,865 to purchase an Inchy's Book Vending Machine.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the Frenchtown PTA donation of \$6,865 for a Bookworm Vending Machine as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Minutes

Dr. Semmel presented BOE minutes for approval:

- BOE Regular Meeting/Executive Session of June 2, 2026
- BOE Special Meeting of June 29, 2026

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the BOE Regular Meeting/Executive Session of June 2, 2026 as presented. Vote: Timpanelli, Petitti, Nuland, McNamee, McGee, Squicciarro in favor. Abstain: Bandecchi. Motion passes.

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (McGee) to approve the BOE Special Meeting of June 29, 2026 as presented. Vote: Timpanelli, Petitti, Nuland, McNamee, McGee, Bandecchi in favor. Abstain: Squicciarro. Motion passes.

D. Personnel

Dr. Semmel reported the following certified resignations/retirements:

Beck, Alexandria; science teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2012, resigning effective June 30, 2026.

Capobianco, Kaitlin; special education teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2024, resigning effective June 30, 2026.

Cotter, Alison; grade 4 teacher at Booth Hill Elementary School since January 2007, retiring effective June 30, 2026.

Meli, Lauren; social worker at Booth Hill Elementary School since August 2019, resigning effective July 23, 2026.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (Nuland) to accept the certified resignations/retirements as presented. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Dr. Semmel reported the following non-certified retirement:

Nakano, Debra; Payroll & Insurance Manager. Trumbull Public Schools Employee since September 7, 1999, retiring effective July 31, 2026.

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

Dr. Semmel presented the following request for Leave of Absence:

Palamara, Joseph; world language teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2021, is requesting a personal leave of absence without pay for the 2026-2027 school year. This request complies with the Trumbull Board of Education Leave of Absence Policy, 4150.

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the Leave of Absence for Joseph Palamara as presented and in line with Policy 4150. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. Enrollment

Dr. Semmel presented updated data related to student enrollment in planning for the 2026-2027 school year. He will continue to monitor enrollment during the summer months and update the BOE.

F. 1:1 Insurance Fees – Mrs. Hefe

Mrs. Hefe presented the 1:1 insurance fees for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

Grades 5-8 1:1 Program - \$25

THS Device Loaner Program - \$45

These are the same fees charged last year.

It was moved (McGee) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the 1:1 insurance fees as presented at Grades 5-8 1:1 Program - \$25 and THS Device Loaner Program - \$45. Vote Unanimous in favor.

G. 2025-2026 School Climate Survey Update – Mr. Catalano

Mr. Catalano presented the data from the 2025-2026 school climate district survey. He discussed comparisons year over year, restorative practices and how the results will form next steps with school climate initiatives.

H. Curriculum Committee Update – Mrs. Petitti

Mrs. Petitti reported that the Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education met on June 18, 2026 and reviewed curriculum text and guides.

Curriculum Texts and Guides – Dr. Iwanicki

- *Self Defense and Personal Safety*
- *Competitive Team Games*
- *Physical Education, Mindful Fitness and Dance*
- *Intermediate Ceramics*

- *Piano 2*
- *UConn ECE Pop Music Curriculum*
- *Honors Wind Ensemble*

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the following Curriculum Guides and Text:

1. *Self Defense and Personal Safety*
2. *Competitive Team Games*
3. *Physical Education, Mindful Fitness and Dance*

as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the following Curriculum Guides and Text:

4. *Intermediate Ceramics*
5. *Piano 2*

as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Nuland) to approve the following Curriculum Guides and Text:

6. *UConn ECE Pop Music Curriculum*
7. *Honors Wind Ensemble*

as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

I. Finance Committee Update – Ms. McNamee

Ms. McNamee reported that the Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on July 7, 2026 which included the review of the May 31, 2026 financial reports. Mrs. Pierce reviewed the financials in detail.

It was moved (Bandecchi) and seconded (McNamee) to approve the financial reports as of May 31, 2026 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:11 p.m.