

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Finance Committee of the
Trumbull Board of Education

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026

Location: Long Hill – Ellie’s Room

Attendees:

- **Committee Members:** Julia McNamee (Chair), Tammy McGee, Chris Bandecchi (virtual)
- **Staff:** Alison Pierce (virtual)
- **Other(s):** Christina Hefele

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June 2, 2026 meeting were approved 3-0 (Motion: Mr. Bandecchi; Second: Ms. McNamee).

Review of FY26 Financial Statements as of May 31, 2026

As of Period 11 (91.67%) of FY26, the General Fund budget of \$129,177,640 is essentially fully committed, with \$158,390.40 remaining available, representing 99.9% of the budget committed. This reflects a positive improvement of \$317,882.45 from the previous month. The improvement is primarily attributable to additional reimbursement received through the Special Education Excess Cost Grant, which exceeded projections by more than \$224,047.

As the district enters the final month of the fiscal year, its financial position remains stable. The Business Office will continue to maximize all available funding sources to reduce pressure on the General Fund by conducting a comprehensive review of all eligible grants and other funding opportunities, ensuring expenditures are charged to the appropriate funding source whenever allowable.

A discussion was held regarding various accounts within the General Fund budget.

Ms. McNamee asked why utility costs appeared lower than they were at the same point in the prior fiscal year. Ms. Pierce explained that the financial reports reflect actual expenditures recorded as of the reporting date. Utility payments are occasionally delayed as invoices undergo research, reconciliation, and the required approval process before being authorized for payment. Once approved, supporting documentation is forwarded to the Business Office for inclusion in the weekly Accounts Payable check run. Ms. Pierce also noted that the Public Benefits Charge implemented last year significantly increased utility costs. Under the Governor's current budget, financial relief has been included to help offset increased kilowatt-hour costs for customers.

Ms. McNamee inquired about the number of retirements and resignations anticipated for August 2026

compared with August 2025. Ms. Pierce indicated that she would obtain the information from Mr. Chella and provide it to the committee in a future meeting.

Ms. McNamee asked when the Transportation Department would be sending summer transportation information to families. Ms. Pierce reported that Transportation Manager Ms. Burgos has successfully launched the Extended School Year (ESY) transportation program and is currently developing student routes using the district's new transportation software system. Summer transportation communications to families will be distributed shortly.

Ms. McNamee requested information regarding the costs associated with out-of-district placements. Ms. Pierce explained that Mr. Catalano and the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Department maintain detailed records for each student, including tuition, transportation, and all related support costs. These records are used to calculate the district's anticipated reimbursement through the Special Education Excess Cost Grant.

A detailed discussion was also held regarding all other district funds, including beginning-of-year budgets, year-to-date expenditures, encumbrances, revenues, and available balances.

Ms. McNamee requested additional information regarding Fund 205, specifically the Athletics Account and the Summer Explorations Account. Ms. Pierce explained that the Athletic account generates revenue through Pay-to-Participate fees, athletic event ticket sales, hosting tournaments, and facility rentals. Similarly, families pay fees for their children to participate in Summer Explorations. These revenues are used to support district operations and reduce the financial burden on the General Fund. For FY27, the district anticipates utilizing more than \$400,000 in Fund 205 revenues to offset General Fund expenditures.

Motion to approve the financial reports as of May 31, 2026 and forward to the Board of Education: Ms. McGee; Second: Mr. Bandecchi. Motion passed 3-0.

The Committee welcomed Director of Digital Learning, Ms. Christina Hefe, to discuss and review the 1:1 Chromebook Insurance Fees. Materials provided by Ms. Hefe were reviewed. Ms. McNamee noted the success of the program with increased enrollment this year compared to last year, and the financial benefits for Trumbull families by participating in this insurance program. Ms. Hefe recommended no increase to the current fees.

Motion to approve the 1:1 Chromebook Insurance Fees and forward to the Board of Education: Mr. Bandecchi, Second: Ms. McGee. Motion passed 3-0.

Adjournment: Mr. Bandecchi; Second: Ms. McGee. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Pierce