

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – September 2, 2008
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Long Hill Administration Building for a Regular Meeting.

Members present:

S. Wright, Chairperson
M. Ward, Vice Chairperson
J. Tyborowski, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
D. Herbst, Board Member
L. King, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:11 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.
- C. Comments and Questions – Trumbull High School students Julie Cavicchia and Stephanie Davis spoke in support of restoration of the high school's Stand club, a national organization that works to eliminate genocide in the world (letters available in the Superintendent's Office).

Jane Ryan parent JoAnn Zimmerman, 4672 Madison Avenue, petitioned the Board for restoration of evening and Sunday building use.

Agenda Item II - Personnel

- A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Ward) to accept the resignation of Christopher Brown, Chairperson for School Psychology and Social Work since October 2004, resigning effective September 19, 2008. Vote: unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Herbst) seconded (King) to approve a request for a personal leave of absence for the 2008-09 school year without pay for Kelly Nash, grade 3 teacher at Tashua School since August 2004. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes-Regular Meeting– 8/19/08 – It was noted by Mrs. Herbst that the previous meeting minutes be amended to reflect that with regard to Mr. Sirico's salary, the vote should read as follows: Vote on original motion: 5 in favor (King, Labella, Tyborowski, Ward, Wright) 2 opposed (Herbst, Chory). Motion passes. By unanimous consent, the minutes of the August 19 meeting were accepted as amended.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Herbst) to take agenda item V-A, Policies, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V – New Business (out of order)

- A. Policies – First Reading – Field Trips, Policy Code 6153/IICA – At the Board's request, PAC revised this policy to include trips to foreign countries. A discussion ensued regarding determination of which students would receive trip funding, if requested. It was noted that on the policy itself, paragraph 6 should read as

follows: “The school district *may* make funds available, *on a case by case basis*, from the Student Activity Account for those student who have represented, via their parents or guardians, that they cannot afford to pay for a trip but wish to go. Affordability will be determined in general by the use of federal reduced price lunch guidelines for screening purposes, *as well as other pertinent factors*. Such exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or designee.”

Also, the subsequent sentence “Under no conditions shall sponsors/chaperones accept gratuities.” should be deleted and a sentence indicating that any gratuity or stipend offered to sponsors/chaperones will be fully disclosed be included in the regulations.

On page 1 of 8 of the regulations, under B, Timing of Request, number 2, the wording *and trips to Canada* may be removed. Also, on page 2 of 8, the last sentence of Private Transporting, letters c and b, as well as under Insurance, letter B, change the word “terminates” to *is exhausted*.

Agenda Item IV– Reports

- A. School Opening – Superintendent Iassogna reviewed of the opening day of school, which went well, and distributed an updated enrollment report. He also noted that class sizes have remained the same since last reported at the previous Board meeting.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- A. Approval/Board of Education Goals – A review of proposed Board of Education goals for the upcoming school year, which was formulated at a Board retreat, was discussed. Several wording changes were suggested, including: Goal 1, first bullet should read as follows: Further articulation, dissemination and implementation of district priorities; delete fourth bullet reading Support utilization of instructional specialists; replace the word *Continue* in bullet fifth bullet with the word *Hold*; delete the word *Continue* in sixth bullet and begin with the word *Emphasize*; and replace the words *raising the bar* in bullet eight with the words *improving achievements*. Goal 2, delete the words *Continue to* and begin the goal with the word *Implement*; delete the words *Continue to* in the second bullet; replace the words *Continue efforts and* with the words *Hold regular* in bullet four; and in bullet five, insert the word *energy* following the word *additional*. Goal 3, delete the words *Continue to* and begin the goal with the word *Promote*. Goal 4, delete the words *Continue to* and begin the goal with the word *Be*. It was moved (Labella) seconded (Tyborowski) to adopt the goals as amended. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Employee Benefits Consulting Services – This item was tabled from the August 19 meeting due to technical aspects and to allow time to bring this RFP to closure with Bob Chimini, Town Purchasing Agent. A Board/Town committee examined changing the Insurance Broker of Record, however the Town opted to remain with their current vendor. The Board committee recommended awarding Everett James, Inc. the contract as Trumbull Public Schools’ Employee Benefit Consulting Services, which is expected to save the Board of Education approximately \$200,000 in the 2008-09 school year. It was moved (Ward) seconded (King) to approve this recommendation as presented. Vote: 6 in favor (Chory, Herbst, King, Labella, Tyborowski, Ward) 1 abstention (Wright). Motion passes.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Labella) to move into Executive Session at 8:35 to discuss the Superintendent’s evaluation. Vote: unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Labella) seconded (King) to adjourn this Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. at which time the Public Session resumed.

Adjournment

- Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:57 p.m.