

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT  
Regular Meeting – November 11, 2009  
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:

Members absent:

S. Wright, Chairman  
M. Ward, Vice Chairman  
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 6:41 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.

Mr. Wright commented that the Veterans' Day program at Madison Middle School was well received.

B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.

C. Comments and Questions – Cindy Katske, Co-Chairperson of the Academic Excellence Committee with Katie Donahue, relayed concern and promotion of success for all children, particularly in relation to progress reports at the high school, was alleviated during the first quarter reporting. Mrs. Katske publicly thanked the teachers for taking the time to complete progress reports for all high school students and to Dr. Tremaglio for helping to make this change happen. Roger Smith and Tammy Baillargeon, TEA Co-Chairpersons, conveyed that they understand and agree with the spirit of Mrs. Katske's comments, but do not agree that a progress report needs to be sent for students who are doing well. Kathy Rubano, Trumbull resident and Trumbull High School teacher, conveyed her thanks to the Board for their support of the high school and the Dr. Cialfi for a very informative and valuable professional development day. She also conveyed her thanks to Principal Tremaglio for his leadership and open door policy.

Agenda Item II - Personnel

A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (King) to accept the resignation of Kathleen Maloney, speech pathologist at Middlebrook School since August 2005, resigning effective December 31, 2009. Vote: unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Chory) seconded (Herbst) to take Agenda Item V-B, Approval/Secretarial Contract, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V - New Business (out of order)

B. Approval/Secretarial Contract – Attorney Dugas presented a tentative agreement between the Board and the Educational Secretaries of Trumbull (proposed to be the Trumbull Administrative Support Services). Key changes include a two year rather than three year contract (7/1/09 – 6/30/11), wage increases (2% in the first year and 2.25% in the second); an increase in health insurance contributions (12.5% beginning 1/1/10 and 13% beginning 7/1/10); replacing the existing Health Net Plan with the Health Net Charter Point of Service Plan (a co-pay increase from \$15 to \$25); an increase in pension contribution (4.0% to

4.5%); and an increase sick leave payout from 45 to 75 days. Following discussion, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (King) to approve this contract as presented. Vote: 5 in favor (Chory, Herbst, King, Tyborowski, Ward), 1 against (Wright), 1 abstention (Labella). Motion passes.

#### Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

A. Approval/Minutes – Executive/Regular Meeting – 10/13/09. By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

It was moved (Herbst) seconded (King) to take Agenda Item IV-A, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Report, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

#### Agenda Item IV – Reports (out of order)

A. Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Report – SADD is a national organization which provides students with the best prevention and intervention tools to deal with issues of underage drinking, drug use, impaired driving and other destructive decisions. Under the advisorship of Trumbull High School teachers Mary Anne Davis and Emma Balter, four student members of the high school chapter of SADD, Lily Etermad, Tina Lapsia, Jessica Rubin and Kaylin Marques attended a Mother’s Against Drunk Driving Power Camp this past summer. This evening, Jessica, Tina, Lily, shared their experiences and plans to apply them to the high school and town. A discussion ensued regarding the high schools annual Underage Drinking Forum, which took place last evening, and a special thanks to Vicki Tesoro, who organizes that program.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Herbst) to take Agenda Item V – New Business, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

#### Agenda Item V – New Business

A. Approval/New PAC Member – Upon recommendation of the Policy Advisory Committee, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (King) to approve Linda Bartolucci, who has followed the procedure for membership, to serve as a member of that committee. Vote: unanimous in favor. In response to a question from Mrs. Chory, Dr. Vespe noted there are guidelines as to the size and composition of the PAC. He also noted that Dr. Linda Paslov, Trumbull High School B House Principal, will be joining this year.

C. Approval/Curriculum Guides – Five high school curriculum guides were presented for Board approval: Math (Mrs. Basbagill), English (Mrs. Spillane), and three World Languages (Mrs. Perusi). Following discussion, it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Ward) to approve Adolescent Experience for use as described. Vote: unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to approve Advanced College Prep Topics in Math for use as described. Vote: unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to approve French IV, Spanish IV and Spanish V Honors for use as described. Vote: unanimous in favor. Mrs. Tyborowski noted that through the years she has and is still advocating for a Bible Literature English class.

D. Approval/Textbooks - Approval/Textbooks – Before any new textbook is approved for inclusion in the Trumbull Public Schools program of studies, the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Board of Education consisting of Board members Deborah Herbst and Michael Ward, under the coordination of Gary Kunschaft, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reviews its content and appropriateness. Trumbull High School teachers Kathy Rubano and Laura Guadagnoli requested Board approval of *Hip Hop America; The History of Terrorism – From Antiquity to Al Qaeda; Blood and Soil: The History of Genocide and Extermination from Sparta to Darfur; and Brave New World Revisited*, for use at Trumbull High School for the 2009-10 school year. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to approve the textbooks for use as described. Vote: unanimous in favor.

- E. Policy -First Reading/Proposed Modification – Board of Education Bylaws, Policy BBA/9312 – Mrs. Chory and Mrs. Herbst are proposing that the following wording be added to Section 2, Article III of the Bylaws of the Trumbull Board of Education: *Any changes to, or cancellation of, the meeting dates filed with the Secretary of the State must be approved in general session by a majority vote of a quorum of the members. The chairman shall have the authority to cancel a meeting in the event of a federal, state or local emergency or inclement weather that compromises the safety of Board members and meeting attendees.* Concerns were raised by Mrs. Tyborowski as to whether the proposed change is too restrictive. Mrs. Labella cited State Statutes with regard to scheduling a meeting. A discussion ensued. An alternate suggestion conveyed was that if a meeting is to be changed or cancelled, the Board should be surveyed. Mr. Iassogna clarified that the Superintendent has no authority to call or cancel a meeting. This policy will be forward to PAC.

It was moved (Labella) seconded (King) to take Agenda Item VI-A– Policy – Second Reading, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI - Old Business (out of order)

- A. Policies – Second Reading/Approval Staff Network/Internet Policy – This policy came before the Board for a first reading and their suggestion, highlighted in yellow, was incorporated. Upon recommendation from the Board’s attorney, PAC also incorporated a legal citation on page 4 and an overriding statement on pages 4 and 5. Following discussion, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to approve this policy as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- B. Approval/Financial Reports – Mr. Sirico presented the Financial Reports for the three months ended 9/30/09. Mr. Sirico noted that the budget is currently on target. A discussion ensued regarding monies spent on paraprofessionals and substitutes. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (King) to accept the Expense Report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. Following discussion, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to accept the Grant Expense Report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (King) to accept the Consolidated Financial Statement and Board of Education Programs Detail Report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.
- C. Approval/Finance Committee of the Board of Education Transfers – Mrs. Labella reported that the Committee convened on October 15. Three transfers, 844x, 856x and 858x, needed full Board approval. Following discussion, it was moved (Labella) seconded (King) to approve these transfers as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports

- B. Strategic School Profiles– Strategic School Profiles – Each year the Strategic School Profiles are required to be reported to local Boards of Education. Mr. Kunschafft presented this report to the Board. It was noted that several changes to this report have been incorporated, including a DRG explanation, and DRG comparisons from 2001 to the present. Mr. Iassogna reported that when compared to other districts in our DRG, Trumbull’s per pupil expenditure is approximately \$1,000 below the DRG and State. It was also noted that TAG was reported incorrectly and would be rectified. A discussion ensued that included physical education and math scores.

Agenda Item V – New Business

F. Preliminary Budget Discussion – 2010 – 2011 – Mr. Iassogna noted that staff has been meeting to review the needs of the district for the upcoming year. Requests have already been reduced and no new initiatives will be requested. The Superintendent also noted that any thoughts or suggestions from the Board are welcomed.

Agenda Item-VI – Old Business

B. Proposed Board of Education Meeting Dates – Originally, adopted Board budget meetings dates were December 1, 3 and 8 (if needed). Mrs. Chory and Mrs. Herbst are requesting that the Board’s budget meeting dates be changed from December 1 and 3 to 8 and 10 as they would like the newly elected Board members to be actively involved in the budget process. Board member elect Ted Lovely noted that he and Tom Kelly, also a Board member elect, will be attending a seminar on December 10. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Labella) to cancel the December 1 budget meeting and continue with the meetings of December 3 and 8. Vote: 6 in favor (Chory, Herbst, King, Labella, Ward, Wright) 1 abstention (Tyborowski). Motion passes.

Mr. Wright conveyed kudos and thanks to Board members Joann Tyborowski and Lori King, who are leaving the Board, for leaving a legacy of proud and faithful service. Mrs. Tyborowski conveyed her thanks and thoughts regarding her tenure as a Board of Education member and for future boards.

Agenda Item VII – Receive and File

These items were received and filed.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:00 p.m.