

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – July 14, 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:

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 6:12 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – Secretary Tyborowski stated several thank you notes had been received from retirees.
- C. Comments – There were no public comments this evening.

Agenda Item II -- Personnel

- A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (King) to accept the resignation of Rachel Alpert, social worker at Trumbull High School since August 2007, resigning effective July 31, 2009; Jennifer Jones, special education teacher at Madison Middle School since August 2006, resigning effective July 18, 2009; Damon Lewis, guidance counselor at Trumbull High School since August 2004, resigning effective August 13, 2009; and Cynthia Twiss, Coordinator of Special Education since September 1, 1981, resigning effective June 30, 2009. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (King) to approve a request for a leave of absence for the 2009-10 school year for Michelle Cretella, grade 3 teacher at Frenchtown Elementary School (currently on maternity/child rearing leave) since August 2003. This request complies with the *Trumbull Board of Education Leave of Absence Policy, GCBC*. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting –6/15/09. By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (King) to take Agenda Item IV-A, Facility Projects Update, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports

- A. Facility Projects Update - Mr. Barbarotta provided the Board with a status report on the district's facility projects including parking, electrical, and furniture for the Frenchtown portables; and the Jane Ryan roof replacement, which has been awarded and is expected to take approximately 90 days. Mr. Barbarotta distributed copies of the bid package detail and architectural floor plan for the Trumbull High School renovation, noting that 11 seats have been removed from the auditorium so that all the seating now will

meet reimbursement guidelines. Discussion also ensued regarding parking during the high school renovation.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Items V-A and VI -A, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- B. TLC/Kindergarten Transportation Policy – At a previous meeting, Trumbull parent Crista Forstrom requested that the Board revisit the Superintendent’s and Hearing Officer’s decision not to provide part-time TLC students with transportation services. This evening, Mrs. Labella, speaking on behalf of the Board, reported that they reviewed the policy, spoke with the Director of Transportation, TLC, and the Superintendent and concluded that it is consistent with state law and support the original decision.
- A. Follow-up to CRAC Recommendations – Chairman Wright noted that the Board looked favorably upon CRAC’s recommendations and would work with them regarding: verification of assets; the creating of a financial ethics policy, which should be consistent with the Town’s and be pursued through the Policy Advisory Committee; providing it is not too time consuming, a check registry, with the exception of items such as salaries, could be posted on the district’s website. With regard to the suggested attrition policy, the Board’s feeling was that a great amount of time already has been spent on hiring practices and improvement of such and that we have a good procedure; however, if still interested, CRAC would need to pursue a policy through the Policy Advisory Committee. A discussion ensued.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Items V-A and VI -A out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- A. Policies – First Reading – 1. Fire Exit Drill, Policy Code EBCB – This policy was updated to ensure compliance with current practices. A discussion ensued as to whether or not phone numbers, which are subject to change, should be included in the policy. This policy will return to the Board for a second reading/approval. 2. Interscholastic Sports Physicals, Policy Code JHCB – Following input from the Athletic Director, PAC made changes to this policy to reflect current practice, particularly regarding clarification of physical examinations for athletes. This policy will return to the Board for a second reading/approval.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Policies – Second Reading – 1. High School Attendance, Policy Code 5113/JEDB – This policy has been under discussion and revision by PAC and the Board throughout the year. The version presented this evening has gone through many changes, particularly in clarifying termination and includes language to reflect more parent ownership in monitoring their child’s absences. A discussion ensued. It was suggested that on the Policy Page, paragraph 5, second sentence, read as follows: “Excessive unexcused absences from school or classes *may lead to* loss of credit.” On page 1, paragraph 3 of the Regulations, last sentence, change the wording of *loss of credit* to *excessive absences*; on page 2, paragraph 2, last sentence, change the wording of *result in partial or no credit* to *affect one’s grade*; and include a copy of the third paragraph on page 3 under **Truancy** also on page 1 of the Regulations, **Student Attendance**, as the fifth paragraph. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Tyborowski) to approve this policy as modified above. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- B. Discussion/Financial Reports – Mr. Sirico presented preliminary financial reports for the 12 months ended 6/30/09. Following discussion, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to accept the preliminary reports as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. Although the Grant Expense Report was

not received this evening (a copy will be forwarded), Mr. Sirico noted that there has been no change since the previous report. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Herbst) to approve the preliminary Grant Expense Report. Vote: unanimous in favor. By unanimous consent, the preliminary Consolidated Financial Statement was approved as presented. A discussion ensued regarding the accounts in deficit shown in the Programs Detail Report. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Herbst) to approve the preliminary report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Tyborowski) to approve the preliminary Student Activity Detail Report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

- C. Approval/Finance Committee of the Board of Education Transfers – During the month of June, 9 transfers were made that require full Board approval. Following discussion it was moved (Labella) seconded (Tyborowski) to approve transfers 778x, 785x, 818x, 819x, 822x, 824x, 826x, 827x and 828x as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. A discussion ensued regarding transfers for the Frenchtown portables and associated costs such as installation and furnishing of the rooms.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- B. Approval/Non-Affiliate Salaries – Mr. Wright noted that the salary increases are not necessarily reflective of what people deserve, but of the economic climate. He also noted that although the Superintendent's review is not scheduled until later this year, Mr. Iassogna had already made the decision not to accept a raise for the 2009-10 school year. Following discussion, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to approve the increases in salaries for the positions identified in this agenda items as follows: cafeteria aides – 2.5% from \$10.90 to \$11.17 hourly; health aides/special education - \$13.12 to \$13.45 hourly; TPS Webmaster – 2.5% from \$6,513 to \$6,676 per year; TPS signing aide – 2.5% from \$18.03 to \$18.48 hourly; OT/PT – six of the seven positions an increase of 2.5% from \$58.31 to \$59.77 hourly and the one remaining position a 2.5% increase from \$60.41 to \$61.92 hourly. Vote: unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Labella) seconded (Herbst) to grant the following positions a 2% increase: the Personnel Support Specialist an increase from \$49,381 to \$50,369; the Secretary to the Superintendent an increase from \$50,692 to \$51,706; the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent an increase from \$56,987 to \$58,127; and the Human Resource Specialist an increase from \$62,875 to \$64,133. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Following discussion, it was moved (Labella) seconded (Chory) to grant the Assistant Superintendent a 3% increase from \$147,266 to \$151,684; and the Business Administrator a 3% increase from \$105,933 to \$109,111. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Mr. Wright noted that the TYA will be performing *Seussical the Musical*; dates and ticket information are available on the Town's website.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:32 p.m.