

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting –August 2, 2011
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:

T. Lovely, Chairperson
D. Herbst, Vice Chairperson
T. Kelly, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member
S. Wright, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:05 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.

B. Correspondence—There was no correspondence this evening.

C. Comments: There was no public comment this evening. At this time, Superintendent Iassogna welcomed new Student Board Representative Emma Connolly and noted she is currently THS Student Council President, member of National Honor and Spanish Honor Societies, an active leader in Link Crew, a member of the Lacrosse team and received an award for Outstanding Service to the School. At this time it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Item IV, A-B-C, out of order. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV—Reports (out of order)

A. THS Renovate As New Project Update—Mr. Iassogna noted that he has had communications with the contractor and Building Committee to review the progress and express concerns with summer construction work, especially the importance of having the school ready for the teacher opening day on August 25, 2011. Mr. Barbarotta also noted his concern that the scheduled summer work would not be completed for the opening of school and conveyed such to the contractors. He noted that it will take approximately another 1 ½ years for the project to be completed. Also noted was the Building Committee meets every week and tours the building to review the progress. Second shifts have been added to expedite the project so that school will be safe and ready to open on time. Work progress on the following areas were reviewed and should be ready for school opening: main office now open, punch list items in M-wing, A House classrooms, Commons, old auditorium converted to classrooms, kitchen, gymnasium including one side of bleachers, locker rooms and some showers. Mr. Barbarotta also noted that all critical areas (those needed for students and staff) will be finished and ready for the opening of school. He noted that the contractors continually work with the Town's Fire Marshall, Health Director and Building officials to ensure that school will be safe and ready to receive students and staff. Also noted was the new PA system and security cameras should be in place when school opens. Also noted several areas that will not be ready for school opening but should be completed during the school year include bleachers in the gymnasium, bleachers in the football stadium, concession stand, team shower area. Also noted paving would be completed next summer. Mrs.

Herbst thanked the Superintendent for his efforts in communicating to contractors the importance of completing scheduled work in time for the opening of school.

- B. Trumbull High School Post High School Plans—Mrs. O’Connell reviewed the summary comparing data for the Classes of 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011, noting that 94% of the Class of 2011 is attending higher education. She noted that most colleges/universities are using the on-line common application. Also noted was college acceptance rates for this year were approximately 11% to 12%, down from 20% to 25% in previous years and felt it may be do to the on-line common application, which allows students to apply to many colleges more easily. Also noted that while academics are the most important in acceptances, colleges also look at community service and participation in school activities. Mrs. O’Connell noted that post high school planning begins in Grade 9 with advising students of the importance of doing well academically and becoming involved in extracurricular activities. Also noted the Guidance Department continually works with students who struggle academically with programs such as Gear Up which is held at Housatonic Community College. Also noted was that for economic reasons, more students are choosing to attend the State two-year community colleges which have pathway programs to the State 4 year universities. Discussion ensued and also included class rank, which is being revised by using histograms, which is rank by range as opposed to percentile, which was more detrimental to students, and most Fairfield County districts are using histograms.
- C. Enrollment Update/Staffing—Mr. Iassogna reviewed the breakdown of enrollment as of July 29, 2011, noting that at this point, the district is 29 students below projections, with 46 less at the elementary level, 4 less at the middle level and the high school with an increase of 21 students. He noted that the following classes currently are slightly below projection—Middlebrook grade 2, whose projection was 94 students and presently has 84 and Booth Hill grade 2, whose projection was 98 students and presently has 86. Mr. Iassogna also noted that class sizes tend to increase during the summer as new students move into the district and would closely monitor the situation at those two schools. Discussion ensued regarding TECEC enrollment (Mr. Wright requested a breakdown of TECEC enrollment) and decisions to be made regarding class size staffing before the opening of school. Mr. Iassogna will give an enrollment update the Board at their August 16, 2011 meeting.

Agenda Item II -- Personnel

- A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Labella) to accept the resignation of Kelly McGovern, grade 3 teacher at Booth Hill Elementary School since August 2008, resigning effective July 29, 2011. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting –7/19/11 Following discussion, it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Ward) to amend the minutes of this meeting under Agenda Item V-B, Approval New Course after “Further discussion ensued regarding piloting the program for its impact on students and scheduling” to add the following wording: **and continuation of program would be based on data received after one year of implementation.** Vote: Unanimous in favor. By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting (Ms. Labella abstained as she was not present), the minutes were approved as amended. Special Meeting –7/05/11 By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- A. Used Furniture/Equipment Sales—Mr. Iassogna noted that the district had furniture and equipment that were no longer used and creating a storage problem. Plant Administrator Steve Kennedy investigated programs whereby districts/municipalities could sell these used items through an internet surplus

auction service and had spoken with several area districts that have used the service Public Surplus. While it is anticipated that revenues would be small, selling these unused items could alleviate storage problems and costs associated with the disposal of old, outdated items. Also noted was the Board would work with the Town on the utilization of revenues since monies realized from sales should go back to the Town. If the Town were agreeable, monies could be used for student activities. Mrs. Labella asked that the Board's attorney review the contract with the company for expressed and implied warrantee waivers so the Board would not be held responsible for any injuries/defects with items sold. It was moved (Labella) seconded (Chory) to approve piloting participation in an internet auction service as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Supplemental Appropriation—Mr. Iassogna noted at last night's Town Council meeting, the full Council voted to approve the supplemental appropriation of \$477,056, which finalizes the Board's budget process and those monies will be added to the 2011-12 allocation. He briefly outlined the restoration of staff and programs that the Board previously recommended in their request for these monies (3.0 teaching positions, 2.0 secretarial positions, 1.0 custodial position, Freshmen sports, Sophomore football, and Girls' club ice hockey) and noted he would like to move forward with these restorations as earmarked by the Board and it was the consensus of the Board that those monies should be used as intended. Briefly discussed was the possibility of a reduction in staff due to enrollment and where those monies could be used and the Superintendent noted that he will present the Board will several options should this occur.

At this time, it was moved (Labella) seconded (Wright) to move to Executive Session to begin discussion on the Superintendent's evaluation and salary and invite the Superintendent to be part of the discussion. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Executive Session began at 8:17 p.m. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to come out of executive session. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:39 p.m.