

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – May 15, 2012
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
D. Herbst, Vice Chairperson
T. Kelly, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member
R. Seaman, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member

Members absent:

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:10 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.
- C. Comments – Lainie McHugh, 132 Fresh Meadow Drive, PTA Council President, spoke on behalf of all PTA presidents and requested the Board to direct the Policy Advisory Committee to seek additional parental input and feedback on the Homework policy before presenting it to the Board for a second reading.

Agenda Item II -- Personnel

- A. Personnel – Superintendent Iassogna noted that two resignations were received that needed Board action. He acknowledged these individuals' superb contributions to the district, especially Mrs. D'Aquila's dedication to the Alternate school students in helping them to succeed. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to accept the resignation of Rose Marie D'Aquila, math teacher at Trumbull Alternate Program since December 1996, retiring effective June 30, 2012; and Bonnie Rumilly, social worker at Trumbull High School since August 2009, resigning effective June 30, 2012. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting – 5/1/12 By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented. Special Meeting – 5/8/12 By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.
- B. Approval/Financial Reports as of 4/30/12 –Mr. Sirico reviewed the purpose and details of the monthly financial reports and stated the reports are an adequate representation of the district's allocated funding. Discussion ensued regarding balances in the following accounts: Salaries, Other; Teacher Salaries; Health Benefits; Supplies; Textbooks and Tuition. Also discussed was the projected year-end balance and it was noted that an approximate \$1,000,000 surplus was anticipated. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to accept the Board of Education Expense Report for the 10 months ended 4/30/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous

in favor. It was noted that grant monies received are not included in the Board's operating budget. It was moved (Chory) seconded (Ward) to accept the Grant Expense Report for the 10 months ended 4/30/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Discussion ensued regarding the school lunch program, its capital project needs and potential lunch price increase, and also student activity accounts. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to accept the Consolidated Financial Statement as of and for the 10 months ended 4/30/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Discussion ensued regarding balances in Salaries, Open Choice and Magnet School Transportation accounts and it was noted that excess monies could be used to possibly reduce Pay to Participate fees or supplement other accounts/programs. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to accept the Board of Education Programs Detail Report as of 4/30/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to accept the Expendable Trust Detail Report as of 4/30/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Seaman) to accept the Student Activity Detail Report as of 4/30/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- C. Approval/ Finance Committee of the Board of Education Transfers —The committee met on April 11 and May 9, 2012 to review financials including transfers for February, March and April. There were 5 transfers for February, 11 transfers for March, and 8 transfers for April that required full Board approval. Discussion ensued regarding the purchase of iPads and their use, and Mr. Iassogna conveyed that most of the iPads are for student use. Chairman Wright suggested that iPads could be made available for Board use in an effort to eliminate the need for hard copy (paper) for Board packets and other communications. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (Labella) to approve February transfers 1460x, 1467x, 1468x, 1471x, and 1472x as recommended. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Labella) to approve March transfers 1492x, 1494x, 1495x, 1496x, 1505x, 1507x, 1508x, 1509x, 1510x, 1514x and 1515x as recommended. Mrs. Chory stated that the transfers were a result of surplus monies in the teacher salary account. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Labella) to approve April transfers 1516x, 1519x, 1523x, 1524x, 1525x, 1526x, 1527x, and 1532x, as recommended. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV—Reports

A. Oral Reports

1. Teacher Representative Karen Rodrigues conveyed that the high school staff and students continue to live with the impact of the ongoing construction. She noted that Sensitivity Day at Jane Ryan Elementary School was well received. She also shared her very positive experience traveling with the choir on their recent performance trip to France and considered it a blessing to be traveling with the students. Also noted was the Trumbull High choral program will be presenting their annual Spring concert on Wednesday, May 23rd at 7:30 p.m.
2. Student Board Representative Patrick Curtin conveyed that Trumbull High's yearbook again received accolades including Best Book in New England; Robotics team placed well in their recent competition; CSI Team placed third in their competition; Model UN Club hosted a successful conference last weekend. He also shared that he and Student Board Rep Emma Connolly, along with other students formed a Student Leadership Council, which addressed issues such as bullying, and created a Board of Education Advisory Group. They also worked on setting up a conference taking place in the Fall 2012 for Fairfield County area student Board of Education representatives to get together to share ideas. Patrick also

reported that there were 14 applicants for the two Student Board Representative positions and 4 students were picked, two regular and two alternates. He introduced Jason Nagel and Madeline Krahn, as the Student Board Reps, and Erin Puglia and Justin Puzio as the alternates.

Agenda Item V—New Business

A. Policies—First Reading

1. High School Attendance, Policy Code 5113—Dr. Cialfi, along with Trumbull High teachers Nicholas Banks and John Evans reviewed the proposed changes to the high school attendance policy which were previously presented to the Board at their February 7, 2012 meeting. This proposal for modifications to the policy evolved from the THS faculty's ongoing concern that the current policy was not meeting the needs of the high school or its original intent. As a result of the discussion at that meeting, Board input was incorporated into the revisions. Dr. Cialfi conveyed that the Board lawyer reviewed the policy. Mr. Banks shared that the policy was revised to better reflect loss of credit due to excessive absences and most of the other language in the original policy was retained. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding Section 504 and medical care plans, how a medical care plan is defined, what is involved, what medical issues are deemed to need a medical care plan, the process of developing those plans, and whether those absences or other absences due to medical reasons are included in a student's absence bank. It was noted that the Board lawyer could be consulted on this issue. Discussion also included loss of credit letters to student/parent, phone calls in addition to letter when student loses credit, letter signed by an administrator, and the addition of a fifth person to the Appeals Board so as to avoid having a tie when the Appeals Board votes on a student's appeal. Several Board members thanked Mr. Banks, Mr. Evans and the high school committee for their efforts in addressing high school attendance and making the policy less punitive and more positive in encouraging regular school attendance. This policy will be brought back to the Board for a second reading.
2. Naming of Buildings and Sites, Policy Code 7551—As a result of a request to consider naming two Trumbull High sites (auditorium and soccer field), it was the consensus of the Board to ask the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) to review the current policy and incorporate more criteria to assist the Board when such a request is received. PAC obtained input from Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) and reviewed policies from different districts throughout Connecticut and the country. Mrs. Seaman conveyed that while policies from different districts were reviewed, the body of the policy consisted mostly of language from CABE's policy service. Considerable discussion ensued regarding the naming of a building or portion thereof for an individual, and the need for more specificity and developing a rubric for the criteria used when naming such. It was the consensus of the Board that it would be extremely difficult to name a building, portions of buildings or athletic fields for an individual; some members expressed their preference to keep the naming of such to geographical locations, while other members were in favor of naming portions of buildings/sites after an individual. Mr. Iassogna suggested that a school's media center, auditorium, athletic fields or other portion of the building could be named by a committee of that particular school in lieu of Board involvement. More discussion ensued with regard to the PAC Committee developing a rubric for the criteria to be used when considering naming of buildings/sites, etc., for an individual. It was

mentioned that the PAC Committee could review Bridgeport's policy. This policy will be returned to the Board for a second reading.

- B. Approval/Three Year Technology Plan—Dr. Paslov conveyed that the State mandates a technology plan for each school district to be filed every three years and reviewed Trumbull's plan for 2012-15. She noted that input was provided by members of the Technology Planning Committee, composed of staff and community members, and Instructional Technology leaders. The Three Year Technology Plan must be submitted to the Connecticut State Department of Education by June 15, 2012. Dr. Paslov conveyed that curriculum needs were incorporated into the technology plan. Mr. Hackett conveyed that the district is continually trying to catch up with current technology, old computers need replacement, and monies are needed for technology infrastructure such as wiring for wireless internet service. Discussion ensued regarding how technology and additional hardware (i.e. laptops, iPads) will be used, Infinite Campus' parent portal, parent access to RTI Studio program, lack of consistency with teachers having personal websites, and how the technology plan would be funded. Mr. Iassogna conveyed that he would consult the Board attorney as to whether teachers can be forced to have a website available to provide information for parents/students as it may be contractual. Dr. Paslov and Mr. Hackett noted that the committee has spent considerable time with other districts learning about their usage of technology and especially iPads in the classroom. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Kelly) to approve the 2012-2015 Trumbull Public Schools' Technology Plan as presented. There was further discussion on the funding request of the technology plan which includes monies for SmartBoards, replacement computers and laptops, infrastructure, wireless access, and server upgrades. It was noted that the purchase of iPads was not included in the funding request. Mr. Iassogna shared that monies needed to implement the Three Year Technology plan would have to come from the Town in the form of bonding and also noted that monies needed to repair the football field and track would also have to be bonded. Mr. Ward called the question. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI—Old Business

There was nothing under this agenda item.

Agenda Item VII—Receive and File

A. Pending Litigation -- This item was received and filed.

B. Status of Negotiations -- This item was received and filed.

Mr. Iassogna conveyed that the next Board of Education meeting would be held on June 5, 2012 at Trumbull High School in the auditorium, along with a reception for teachers attaining tenure beginning at 6:15 p.m. with the regular meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:50 p.m.