

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – December 10, 2015
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:

L. Chory, Chairman
S. Testani, Vice Chairman
L. Timpanelli, Secretary
J. Donofrio, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member

Members absent:

P. Lavoie, Board Member
M. Petitti, Board Member

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence –There were several emails from Trumbull parents. Kathy Champion is requesting a minimum of 30 minutes be allotted to public comment. Aimee Domenici and RJ and Ruth Fontilla support the request for three full time Technology Integration Specialists at the elementary level. Suzanne Smaniotto wrote of the positive impact that the THSGEMB has had on her son at THS.
- C. Public Comments –There were several public comments this evening. THS parent, Cindy Penkoff, asked the Board to create a comprehensive social media and internet policy and also a substitute teacher policy that will ensure the safety of all Trumbull students. Traci Galla, Middlebrook parent, supports the Superintendent’s budget request for 3 full time Integration Specialists so that there will be dedicated staff at the elementary level. Jen Kehley, PTSA President, supports increased extracurricular activities in middle school, full time Integration Specialists and expansion of curriculum. Trumbull parent, Lainie McHugh, commented that in order to provide a comprehensive approach necessary for student achievement, the true cost of education needs to be reflected in the budget. Heather Greene read a letter from Booth Hill parent, Amelia Audette, who is concerned about overcrowding and the inadequate media center at Booth Hill School, where her son is a student. Trumbull parent, Susan LaFrance, commented on the need to no longer accept the status quo concerning SBAC and SAT test scores and asked the Board to revisit the pay to play policy.
- D. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Chory attended the New Board Leadership Training in Rocky Hill and had the opportunity to hear from Dianne Wentzell, Commissioner of the CT Department of Education, and Jahana Hayes, this year’s Connecticut Teacher of the Year.
- E. Superintendent Report- Dr. Cialfi commended freshman students at THS for their participation and enthusiasm in their elections for student government. The THS winter concert is scheduled for this Thursday evening, December 17, at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A motion by Testani and seconded Timpanelli was made to discuss the budget for the Office of Assistant Superintendent which had been tabled at the previous meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor

Mr. O’Keefe discussed the proposed budget for the office of Assistant Superintendent that represents a \$4,500 increase of the current 2015-2016 budget, which includes an increase in tuition. Staffing requests and magnet school enrollment were also discussed.

2016-2017 Budget Presentation and Discussion — Dr. Cialfi reiterated the essential need to hire Technology Integration Specialists to meet the District goal. Mr. O’Keefe presented the budget for the elementary schools that represents a \$13,636 proposed increase which includes classroom supplies and text/work books. The elementary school principals were on hand to answer questions from the Board. Daniels Farm Principal Mr. Kunschaft presented a PowerPoint that explained the elementary school need for the Tech Specialists and delineated the role they would play in enhancing student achievement. A video was played for the Board to view how Daniels Farm teacher Cara Logan integrates technology into her kindergarten classroom and its positive outcome on the students.

Part VII – Mr. O’Keefe and Dr. Wheeler presented the budget for the Preschool (TECEC) that represents a \$1500 increase which includes classroom supplies, testing materials and professional development.

Part VIII – Middle school principals, Mrs. Forshaw and Mr. Thomas, with Mr. O’Keefe presented the middle school budget that represents a \$13,165 increase which includes classroom furniture, supplies and classroom instructional equipment. Extracurricular activities, capital improvements, test scores, and expected increases to enrollment numbers were discussed.

Part IX – Mr. O’Keefe presented a summary on the budgets for each division.

PPS – PPS Director Mrs. Smith and Mr. O’Keefe highlighted the proposed budget for the PPS Department that represents a \$60,500 decrease which includes outplaced tuition, testing materials and consultants. Mrs. Smith gave an overview of the services provided by the PPS Department.

Transportation – Mr. O’Keefe and Transportation Coordinator Mrs. Perkins presented the proposed budget for the Transportation Department that represents a \$189,480 increase which includes leasing and monitors. Mrs. Perkins commented on bus safety and ridership to ensure students are safe at all times.

The Board Chair called for a ten minute recess at 7:55 p.m. and the meeting resumed at 8:05 p.m.

A. Finance Committee Report - A motion was made by (Ward) and seconded (Donofrio) to approve the financial reports ending September 30, 2015. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Curriculum Committee Report

1. Approval/Textbooks – Dr. Budd presented two textbooks for Board approval.
 - a. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the textbook, *Keystone D* (ELL: English Language Learners – Intermediate Level) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
 - b. It was moved (Timpanelli) seconded (Testani) to approve the textbook, *Principles of Marketing* (Honors CCP Marketing) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
2. Approval/Curriculum Guides – Dr. Budd presented the following curriculum guides for Board approval.
 - a. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the curriculum guide for Sports and Entertainment Marketing Draft for Pilot Curriculum Guide as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
 - b. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Testani) to approve the curriculum guide for ACP Algebra II Curriculum Guide as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
 - c. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Testani) to approve the curriculum guides for Strings Music: Elementary Strings Year One, Elementary Strings Year Two, Elementary Strings Year Three, Beginning Strings Grade 6, and Intermediate Strings Grades 6, 7, 8 and Orchestra/Strings High School as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
3. Approval/New Course Proposals – Dr. Budd presented the following new course proposals for Board approval. Mr. Guarino was on hand to discuss requirements and training for teachers sponsored by the College Board.
 - a. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the following new course proposals as presented: Advanced Placement Studio Art, Advanced Placement Music Theory, Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics and Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

The Board agreed that another budget session was not needed and that absent Board members could view the December 10, 2015 taped session and contact Dr. Cialfi with any additional questions.

Agenda Item V—Other

There was no business under this agenda item.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:50 p.m.