

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – August 18, 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:

D. Herbst, Chairperson
L. Chory, Vice Chairperson
R. Seaman, Secretary
J. Donofrio, Board Member
S. LaFrance, Board Member
J. Peddle, Board Member

Members absent:

M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Agenda Item II – Preliminary Business

A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.

The Board Chair asked for a moment of silence to remember the passing of Dr. Anthony Timpanelli, husband of Lucinda Timpanelli, former C House Principal.

B. Correspondence – Mrs. Seaman reported that there were several emails regarding Booth Hill enrollment and class size. She noted responses were sent by Dr. Cialfi.

C. Comments –Parents: Ileana Scerbo of 31 Copper Kettle Road, Jenn Record of 50 Scenic Hill Road, Emily Voss of 45 Red Fox Lane, Erin Horbach of 134 Booth Hill Road, Stacey Brady of 54 Blue Ridge Drive and Leigh Berrian of 510 Shelton Road voiced their concerns that enrollment numbers are high and requested that classroom size be kept at a minimum so that teachers and students can be most productive and the need to have dedicated classrooms for the arts. Booth Hill parent Emily Voss asked for an addendum to the August 4, 2015 minutes to elaborate on her comments: due to high enrollment numbers at Booth Hill, she would like a plan to discuss parity at Booth Hill including classroom sections added when necessary and the need for dedicated art/music rooms.

It was moved (Seaman) and seconded (Donofrio) to take Agenda Item IV-B out of order to this portion of the meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. 2015-2016 Enrollment Update - Dr. Cialfi gave a detailed analysis on the status of enrollment for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. Current enrollment numbers are higher than predicted in several Trumbull schools. Dr. Cialfi recommended hiring an additional four teachers and four paraprofessionals for the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Pierce, Booth Hill Principal, noted that Booth Hill is tight on space and discussed the possibility of creative scheduling for some Kindergarten classes (combining PE and Music) with an emphasis that curriculum expectations be met.

A motion was made by (Seaman) and seconded by (Chory) to support Dr. Cialfi's recommendation to hire four teachers and four paraprofessionals for the 2015-2016 school year. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel – Superintendent Dr. Cialfi reported on three appointments. The Board agreed to accept the following appointments as of August 27, 2015: Jennifer Pia, MA/12 Spanish teacher at Madison Middle School; Laura Kehlenbach, unaffiliated Board Certified Behavior Analyst district-wide; and as of August 17, 2015, Jennifer Chirles, administrative Category IV/1 House Principal at Trumbull High School. Unanimously received and filed.
- B. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting – 8/4/2015. Board Chair Mrs. Herbst called for a motion to accept the minutes with an addendum. The amendment was discussed below under “Other”. It was moved (Chory) seconded (Seaman) to approve the minutes with an addendum. In Favor: Herbst, Seaman, Chory, Donofrio. Abstain: LaFrance, Peddle. Motion passes.

It was moved by Mrs. LaFrance to move Approval/Curriculum Guides C-E out of the Consent Agenda to Report/Action Items.

C. Curriculum Guides

- Physical Education Grades K-5
- Elementary General/Vocal Music Level K-5

Dr. Budd gave an overview of the above curriculum guides. A discussion ensued regarding the above curriculum guides. It was moved (Chory) and seconded (Peddle) to approve the two curriculum guides as presented. Vote: all in favor.

D. New Courses

- A Critical Approach to Popular Literature
- Honors Dramaturgy

Dr. Budd gave highlights on the above new courses to be added and a discussion ensued. It was moved (Peddle) and seconded (Seaman) to approve the two new courses as presented. Vote: all in favor.

E. Textbooks

For the course A Critical Approach to Popular Literature:

- *Contagious: Why Things Catch On*
- *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*
- *The Hunger Games*
- *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Difference*

For the course Honors Dramaturgy:

- *The Art of Active Dramaturgy: Transforming Critical Thought into Dramatic Action*
- *Backwards & Forwards: A Technical Manual for Reading Plays*

Dr. Budd reviewed the above textbooks to be aligned with the curriculum and discussion ensued. It was moved (Seaman) and seconded (Chory) to approve the six new textbooks as presented. Vote: all in favor.

Agenda Item IV—Reports/Action Items

A. Trumbull High School Renovation: Acceptance of Project as Complete

Mr. Deming reported that a meeting to conclude discussion to finalize/receive the final grant payment was conducted. Board member, J. Donofrio reported that in order to call the project complete, there must be no outstanding litigation or unpaid invoices. As both of these criteria have been met, a motion was made (Donofrio) and seconded (Chory) to accept the Trumbull High School Renovate as New Project as complete. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Continuing Education and Summer School– Mr. Robert Decerbo reported on the status of Continuing Education, specifically on courses and activities that are currently offered as well as assigned locations, the number of students enrolled and class/multi-purpose rooms utilized for enrichment. Mr. O’Keefe addressed curriculum areas the Finance Committee reviewed and how enrichment overhead is being allocated. The future of the Continuing Ed program was discussed and how the committee plans to meet the educational/enrichment needs of the Trumbull community going forward.

Agenda Item VI—Other

A. Add to Agenda from amended minutes above:

B. a motion was made (Peddle), seconded (Seaman) to correct salaries approved for two positions included in the Agenda Item IV-E from the August 4, 2015 minutes. It was moved to Approve/Non-Affiliate Salaries under OT/PT (Therapists) one position for an increase of 1% from \$66.04 to \$66.70 per hour; and one position of Behavior Analyst (teachers) an increase of 2.9% from \$85.32 to \$87.79 per hour. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:53 p.m.