

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – September 1, 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
J. Donofrio, Board Member
S. LaFrance, Board Member
J. Peddle, Board Member

Members absent:

R. Seaman, Secretary
M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Agenda Item II – Preliminary Business

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

The Board welcomed Annika Redgate and Steven Stanton as the Student Board of Education Representatives for the 2015-2016 school year. The Board also acknowledged Board Member, Mike Ward's absence and said he is on the mend and will be back to meetings soon.

B. Correspondence –There was no correspondence this evening.

C. Comments –There were no public comments this evening.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

A. Personnel – Superintendent Dr. Cialfi reported that there are six appointments effective as of August 27, 2015. The Board agreed to accept the following appointments effective August 27, 2015: Lisa Bevacqua, MA/4 College/Career Transition Guidance Counselor at Trumbull High School; Vanessa Brittain, MA/17 math intervention specialist at Trumbull High School; Nicole Medeiros, MA/6 special education teacher at Madison Middle School; Jennifer Penna, 6/7 social worker at Trumbull High School; Rachel Pugliese, MA/16 special education TRAC 21/Elite Program teacher at Trumbull High School; and Jennifer Zultowski, MA/5 special education teacher at Tashua Elementary School. Unanimously received and filed.

B. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting – 8/18/2015. It was moved (Donofrio) seconded (Peddle) to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Chory) and seconded (LaFrance) to take Agenda Items IV-C and D out of order to this portion of the meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Approval/Head Start Food Service Agreement

Mr. O’Keefe and Mrs. Sinko gave a summary of the renewal agreement for Head Start Food Service. This is an annual agreement between Trumbull/Monroe Head Start program and the Trumbull Board of Education Food Services Department, who furnishes the meals for the joint program. Board approval is needed for compliance with Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The program serves five area towns—Bridgeport, Easton, Monroe, Stratford and Trumbull. It was moved (Chory) seconded (Donofrio) to approve the Head Start Food Service Agreement as outlined. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Post High School Plans

THS Principal Marc Guarino and THS Guidance Department Chair Cathy Hilser commented on the post high school reports which include historical data from 2003 to present. Ms. Hilser reviewed these reports which include the following: four year college summary, thirteen year post-secondary educational plan comparison, and Class of 2015 college applications. Discussion ensued regarding college applications, reasons/criteria for college acceptances, lower rate of acceptance for the most competitive colleges, two/four year programs, and available scholarship monies. It was noted that information on college acceptances is obtained from students, not the colleges to which they applied. Ms. Hilser also gave a brief overview of the THS guidance program and commented that the department also runs programs for parents.

Agenda Item IV—Reports/Action Items

A. Policies – First Reading

1. Special Education Policy, Code 6171 – Dr. Budd and Mrs. Smith gave an overview of this policy. After a discussion to change policy language to conform to state statutes, it was noted that this policy will be returned for reading and approval at a future meeting. .
2. Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program, Policy Code 6159 – Mrs. Smith and Dr. Budd discussed the efficacy of the program and how it can be enhanced to best meet the needs of special education students. It was determined that this policy will be returned for reading and approval at a future meeting.
3. Pre-School Special Education, Policy Code 3160 - This policy comes before the Board to codify the District’s obligations to pre-school special education to be consistent with federal and state statutes. This policy will be returned for reading and approval at a future meeting.
4. Bullying & Teen Dating Violence Prevention & Intervention, Policy Code 5131.911 – Dr. Budd and the Board discussed the importance of this policy that will incorporate necessary revisions to formulate a safe school climate plan. This policy will be returned for reading and approval at a future meeting.
5. Budget Transfer, Policy Code 3160 – Mr. O’Keefe discussed the need for this policy to clarify the District’s obligation in reporting to the Town when an emergency transfer has occurred. This policy will be returned for reading and approval at a future meeting.

B. Policies – Second Reading

1. Affirmative Action, Policy Code 4000.1
2. Non-Discrimination in Employment, Policy Code 4111.1

Dr. Budd presented these two policies with revisions. It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Peddle) to accept these policies as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. 2015-2016 Enrollment Update

Dr. Cialfi presented the enrollment for the first day of the 2015-2016 school year and ensured that adequate staff is in place. September 1 marked opening day for Trumbull Public Schools and the Board is looking forward to a most productive and exciting year.

F. Presentation of Professional Development Experiences

Dr. Budd presented a slideshow depicting teachers' professional development exercises given before the first student day that promoted a comprehensive approach to student well-being. These programs took place behind the scenes to ensure that support systems are in place to help with not only academics that chart curricular instruction and assessment, but social/emotional issues that students meet with every day.

Agenda Item V—Other

There was no business under this agenda item.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:57 p.m.