

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – January 5, 2016
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Long Hill Administration Building for a Budget Meeting.

Members present:

- L. Chory, Chairman
- S. Testani, Vice Chairman
- L. Timpanelli, Secretary
- J. Donofrio, Board Member
- P. Lavoie, Board Member
- M. Petitti, Board Member - participated via speakerphone
- M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Mrs. Chory stated that an executive session to review a health insurance option as it relates to collective bargaining, as per the January 5, 2016 agenda, was not needed and therefore did not occur.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – Mrs. Timpanelli reported that there were several emails from Trumbull parents. Alison Jasgur requested the implementation of a world language program at the elementary level. Kathy Champion would like the Board to address low test scores. Traci Galla supports the Superintendent’s budget proposal including the implementation of Integration Specialists. Scot Kerr, President of THSGEMB parent organization, wrote in support of fully funding Marching Band, Winter Percussion, Winter World Guard and Winter A Guard programs.
- C. Public Comments –There were several public comments this evening. David Rutigliano asked the Board to create a panel to evaluate the start time of the high school. Mr. Rutigliano supplied literature to the Board from the CDC that recommends a later start time with a quote: “Everyone learns better when they are awake.” TPAUD representative Vicki Tesoro urged the Board to hire a 1.0 health instructor at THS to help give students self-advocacy and decision-making skills. Lara Walden spoke in support of the following programs so that Trumbull schools can provide the best education possible: AP classes, enrichment and foreign language programs at elementary and middle schools and curriculum to strengthen SBAC and SAT scores. Kathleen Fearon encouraged the Board to consider later start times for middle and high school students to enhance student achievement. Susan LaFrance expressed her concerns over the District’s low test scores and that the Board decisions should be for the betterment of the school system.
- D. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Chory informed all present of the use of speaker technology that allows absent Board members to participate in the meeting as per the guidelines of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act. To ensure that the business of the Board is handled fairly and in a timely manner, the Board will do its best to follow CABA’s Board Meeting Guide and adhere to CABA guidelines to maintain good order.

- E. Superintendent Report - Dr. Cialfi announced the Superintendent's College and Career Readiness for Success Forum being held at THS on January 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The Forum participants include Dr. Gibson from Fairfield University, Attorney Tom Tesoro, Mr. Neumann of the ACE Foundation and THS current and former students.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/THSGEMB World Color Guard Competition Trip – Mr. Horton presented the April 2016 World Guard Competition trip to Dayton, Ohio. The trip will require students to miss three school days. Per Board policy, all trips in which students miss two or more school days require Board of Education approval. It was moved (Testani) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the proposed trip to Dayton, Ohio, to participate in the World Color Guard Competition as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- B. Approval/Minutes – Budget Sessions 12/8/2015 & 12/10/2015
It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Testani) to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
It was also moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2015 Board of Education meeting as presented. In favor: Chory, Testani, Timpanelli, Donofrio, Ward. Abstain: Lavoie, Petitti. Motion passes.
- C. Personnel – Dr. Cialfi reported that there is one certified resignation that needs acceptance. Anya Farber, special education teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2012 is resigning effective January 6, 2016. Vote: All in favor.
- D. Board of Education Committee Appointments – Mrs. Chory reported that in addition to serving on the Board of Education, members also serve on other affiliated subcommittees. The following members are serving on the subsequent subcommittees:

Policy Advisory Committee

Suzanne Testani (Chair), Marie Petitti, Lucinda Timpanelli
Alternates - Paul Lavoie, Mike Ward

Curriculum Committee

Marie Petitti (Chair), Lucinda Timpanelli, Mike Ward
Alternates - Paul Lavoie, Suzanne Testani

Trumbull Education Channel Cable TV

Loretta Chory

Service Contracts Review Committee

Jeffrey M. Donofrio, Paul Lavoie

Liaison to CES, Six-to-Six Magnet

Michael Ward

BEI Committee

Paul Lavoie

Finance Sub Committee

Paul Lavoie (Chair), Suzanne Testani

Alternates - Lucinda Timpanelli, Jeffrey M. Donofrio

TEA/TAA Negotiations

Jeffrey M. Donofrio, Mike Ward

Facilities Committee

Jeffrey M. Donofrio (Chair), Paul Lavoie, Mike Ward

Alternates - Suzanne Testani, Lucinda Timpanelli

Bylaw Review Committee

Loretta Chory, Jeffrey M. Donofrio, Lucinda Timpanelli

Superintendent's Goals & Evaluation Committee

Loretta Chory, Paul Lavoie, Mike Ward

CES Liaison – Mike Ward

TPSLD (Trumbull Parents of Students with Learning Disabilities) – Marie Petitti

TPAUD – Lucinda Timpanelli

Head Start – Suzanne Testani

E. 2016-2017 Budget Discussion and Approval – Dr. Cialfi

It was moved (Ward) seconded (Donofrio) to approve the 2016-2017 Budget Request as presented by the Superintendent. The Superintendent's proposed budget totals \$100,310,295 which represents a 3.18% increase over our current budget year. Dr. Cialfi gave a recap of the key points reflected in the budget proposal that positions students for continuous and sustained improvement. Discussion ensued regarding potential budget reductions.

The following motions were made by the Board to the Superintendent's budget proposal:

It was moved (Donofrio) seconded (Testani) to approve an increase of \$278,000 for Curriculum-District Wide Support over the 2015-2016 budget which represents a reduction of \$100,000 of the Superintendent's requested budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Testani) and seconded (Petitti) to approve an increase of \$124,836 for Curriculum over the 2015-2016 budget which represents a reduction of \$20,000 in the Superintendent's requested budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Lavoie) seconded (Donofrio) to keep the same level of 150.70 (FTE) as the 2015-2016 budget for Paraprofessionals and Aides.

The Board Chair called for a ten minute recess at 8:30 p.m. and the meeting resumed at 8:40 p.m.

It was moved (Lavoie) seconded (Donofrio) to withdraw the earlier motion to keep the same level of 150.70 (FTE) as the 2015-2016 budget for Paraprofessionals and Aides.
No action required.

It was moved (Donofrio) seconded (Testani) to approve four additional Assistant Varsity Coaches in the Athletic Department over the 2015-2016 budget which represents a reduction of \$21,000 in the Superintendent's requested budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued.
Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward.
Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Testani) seconded (Lavoie) to approve an increase of \$2.25 per student in Elementary Classroom Supplies for a total of \$247,140 over the 2015-2016 budget which represents a reduction of \$13,730 in the Superintendent's requested budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Donofrio) seconded (Petitti) to approve an increase in the Technology budget of \$34,624 over the 2015-2016 budget which represents a reduction of \$20,000 in the Superintendent's requested budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Testani) seconded (Lavoie) in the area of Technology Integration Specialists at the elementary level, to approve one additional Integration Specialist. This represents a \$150,000 reduction in the Superintendent's budget proposal. Discussion ensued. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Lavoie) seconded (Donofrio) to keep the Substitute Teacher budget at the same level as 2015-2016 at \$795,000 which represents a reduction of \$52,387 in the Superintendent's requested budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2.

It was moved (Lavoie) seconded (Donofrio) to approve the amended 2016-2017 budget for \$99,933,178, which represents approximately 2.83% increase over the 2015-2016 allocation. Vote: 5 in favor: Chory, Testani, Donofrio, Lavoie, Petitti. 2 opposed: Timpanelli, Ward. Motion passes 5 to 2. Note: The actual increase was calculated incorrectly at the meeting; it should have been reported as 2.79% over the 2015-2016 allocation.

- F. Finance Committee Report – Mr. Lavoie reported on the December 22, 2015 meeting that reviewed the financial reports, UI's Retro Commissioning recommendation and the calendar for 2016.

Financial Reports as of October 31, 2015 - Mr. O'Keefe

Business Administrator Sean O'Keefe reported that the Finance Committee met on December 22, 2015. The Committee reviewed the financial reports for the period ending October 31, 2015. Mr. O'Keefe explained the financial benefits of Retro Commissioning to the Board. There were no budget transfers in the month of October 2015. It was moved (Donofrio) seconded (Lavoie) to approve the financial reports as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Policy Committee Report – Mrs. Testani reported there was no December meeting and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

Policies, Second Reading – Dr. Budd

1. Non-Discrimination in Instruction/Classroom, Policy Code 6121.4

Dr. Budd presented this revised policy. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Donofrio) to accept this policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

2. Health Assessments and Immunizations, Policy Code 5141.3

Dr. Budd presented this revised policy. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Testani) to accept this policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

H. Curriculum Committee Report – Mrs. Petitti commented on the December meeting.

Approval/Curriculum Guides – Dr. Budd presented the following curriculum guides for Board approval.

1. Applications of Mathematics / Algebra III Curriculum Guide

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the curriculum guide for Applications of Mathematics/Algebra III as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

2. Modern Drama Draft for Pilot Curriculum Guide

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Testani) to approve the curriculum guide for Modern Drama Draft for Pilot Curriculum as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Approval/New Course Proposal – Dr. Budd

3. Modern Drama

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Testani) to approve the new course proposal for Modern Drama as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Approval/Textbooks – Dr. Budd

4. *Fires in the Mirror* (Modern Drama)

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the textbook *Fires in the Mirror* as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

5. *The Heidi Chronicles* (Modern Drama)

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the textbook *The Heidi Chronicles* as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

6. *Clybourne Park* (Modern Drama)

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the textbook *Clybourne Park* as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V—Other

There was no business under this agenda item.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:38 p.m.