

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT  
Budget Meeting – Monday, December 12, 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  
M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.
- B. Recognition – Mrs. Donna Cassidy, Charter Cable Advisory Member  
Mrs. Chory and the entire Board of Education congratulated and commended Mrs. Donna Cassidy, who was not able to attend, for her many years of service as a member of the Cable Advisory Council for Charter Communications.
- C. Correspondence –There was no correspondence this evening.
- D. Public Comments –THSGEMB President, Scot Kerr of 12 Lynnbrook Road and Trumbull residents Christina Fernandes of 32 Captains Walk; Abigail Frazier of 29 Owl Hill Trail; Michael Collins of 56 Red Fox Lane; Priscilla Moderno of 6 Fuller Road; Suzanne Smaniotto of 145 Old Dike Road; Kelly Targowski of 24 October Lane and Jennifer Mottolese of 36 Valley View Road all addressed the Board and cited the significant achievements of the THSGEMB, the hard work and dedication of Band members and asked the Board to fund the instructional costs necessary to continue its success.
- E. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Chory indicated that several board members attended the Regional Youth Adult Social Action Partnership breakfast at Tashua Knolls in Trumbull and that she attended the Southern Fairfield County Superintendents' Association legislative breakfast held at CES in Trumbull. Mrs. Chory informed board members of the municipal budget expenditure cap of 2.5% passed by the CT Legislature and read portions of Senate Bill No. 501, Public Act No. 16-2 (an Act that adjusts the state budget for the biennium ending June 30, 2017) into the record:
  - (h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection (d) or (f) of this section shall be reduced if such municipality increases its general budget expenditures for such fiscal year above a cap equal to the amount of general budget expenditures authorized for the previous fiscal year by 2.5 per cent or more or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater. Such reduction shall be in an amount equal to fifty cents for every dollar expended over the cap set forth in this subsection. For the purposes of this section, "municipal spending" does not include expenditures for debt service, special education, implementation of court orders or arbitration awards, expenditures associated with a major disaster or emergency Senate Bill No. 501 May Sp. Sess., Public Act No. 16-2 89 of 104 declaration by the President of the United States or a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517 or any disbursement made to a district pursuant to subsection (c) or (g) of this section. Each municipality shall annually certify to the secretary, on a form prescribed by said secretary, whether such municipality has exceeded the cap set forth in this subsection and if so the amount by which the cap was exceeded.
- F. Superintendent Report-

- Congratulations to Mrs. Boland, the entire We the People team and all of the community volunteers who have helped the team win this year's State Championship. The team will be representing Connecticut at the National Competition in Washington D.C. next April.
- Trumbull Public Schools has been invited to present at the Connecticut State Department of Education Conference in March 2017 that will highlight Best Practices in Professional Development and Growth.
- THS senior, Isha Dalal has been selected as a 2017 delegate for the United States Senate Youth Program.

### Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/Appointment of Paul Verbitsky to Cable Advisory Council for Charter Communications. Mrs. Chory recommended Mr. Paul Verbitsky to serve as the Board's appointment to the Cable Advisory Council for Charter Communications. It was moved (Testani) and seconded (Lavoie) to approve the appointment of Paul Verbitsky to the Cable Advisory Council as the Trumbull BOE representative for a term starting January 1, 2017 and running through December 31, 2019 or until a successor is appointed. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- B. Curriculum Committee Report

Mrs. Petitti stated that the Curriculum Committee met for a Special Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2016.

Approval/New Course Proposals – Dr. Budd spoke to the Board of the importance of offering rich and diverse course offerings to better prepare our students at the college level.

1. Advanced Placement Human Geography
2. Advanced Placement Italian Language & Culture
3. Honors Italian II
4. Advanced Placement Latin
5. Honors Latin II

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the above new courses as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Approval/Textbook – Dr. Budd

6. *Practice Coach Plus* (Core: Pre-Algebra)

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

- C. Approval – Booth Hill and Jane Ryan Window Replacement Projects

Mr. Deming presented the window replacement projects for Booth Hill and Jane Ryan Elementary Schools. As a result of this work there will be improved security, and decreased heating and cooling demand on existing equipment. It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Ward) to approve the Booth Hill and Jane Ryan Window Replacement Projects as per the Department of School Construction of the Connecticut State Department of Education. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- D. Continuation of 2017-2018 Budget Presentation and Discussion

Part VII – Middle Schools

Mr. O'Keefe presented the proposed budget for Madison and Hillcrest Middle Schools. The proposed decrease of \$31,380 from last year's budget represents a 7.06% decrease. The primary drivers include classroom supplies and equipment that will help fund Project Lead the Way and the One to One project. Madison and Hillcrest Principals, Mr. Peter Sullivan and Mr. Stafford Thomas were on hand to explain the plans to maximize the effectiveness of faculty and students at the middle school level.

A motion was made (Ward) and seconded (Timpanelli) at 7:55 p.m. to take a ten minute recess. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Part VIII – Trumbull High School and Athletics

Mr. O'Keefe presented the proposed budget for Trumbull High School. The \$40,007 increase includes a proposed increase in music equipment and instructional costs, professional development, and textbooks. There is an additional staffing request for a 0.50 FTE THS SAT Prep Teacher. Mr. Guarino and Mr. Manuel were on hand to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. O’Keefe and Mr. Mike King presented the proposed budget for Trumbull High School Athletics. The \$115,244 increase includes a proposed 10.58% increase in purchased services (allocation from district wide support reflecting final year of Pay to Play), transportation contractual increases, supplies and coaches (contractual).

Part IX – Pupil Personnel Services

Mr. O’Keefe and Mrs. Pauline Smith proposed the budget for PPS. The primary driver of the \$82 decrease includes outplaced tuition (2016-2017 transfer of \$140,000).

Part X – Facilities Department

Mr. O’Keefe presented the Facilities budget. The \$66,150 increase includes building improvement projects and an equipment purchase that will be offset by cost of labor. Mr. Deming was on hand to discuss building improvement upgrades, energy efficiencies and building maintenance.

Part XI – Transportation Department (excluding Athletics/Music)

Mr. O’Keefe and Mrs. Dawn Perkins presented the Transportation budget. The primary driver of the \$58,710 decrease of 1.17% includes the special education bus transfer in 2016-2017 to offset expenses and five additional special education bus monitors.

Agenda Item IV– Other-Enrollment Projection

Dr. Cialfi explained the details of the methodology used to determine enrollment expectations in our District and presented enrollment data to the Board that indicates that we are seeing a much smaller decline in enrollment than previously anticipated. The District continues to monitor enrollment numbers to adhere to Connecticut state guidelines.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:10 p.m.