

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee  
of the  
Trumbull Board of Education

Special Meeting

Trumbull High School Main Office Conference Room  
Thursday, November 16, 2017 – 8:15 a.m.

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order/Introduction – The meeting was called to order by Ms. Petitti at 8:15 a.m.

Members present

M. Petitti, chair  
L. Timpanelli  
M. Ward  
J. Budd, Ph.D., ex officio

Other

K. Durand, art teacher, Trumbull High School  
C. Rusate, Business Education, Family & Consumer Sciences, & Technology Education  
Department Chair, Trumbull High School  
J. Amataro, technology education teacher, Trumbull High School  
T. Manuel, C-House Principal, Trumbull High School  
J. Spillane, English Department Chair, Trumbull High School  
E. Cooper, English teacher, Trumbull High School  
B. Brienza, social studies teacher, Trumbull High School  
M. Guarino, Principal, Trumbull High School

- II. Public Comment – There was no Public Comment.
- III. Approval/Minutes – Special Meeting 10/19/2017 – Ms. Timpanelli moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- IV. New Business
- a. New Course Proposal: Advanced Placement Art History  
Dr. Budd introduced Ms. Durand, who would be trained to teach this engaging Advanced Placement course should the Curriculum Committee and the Board of Education approve its inclusion in the *THS Program of Studies*. Ms. Durand explained how the course design focuses on a narrowed list of important artworks

from throughout time and place. Ms. Petitti noted the importance of rigorous course options for students, and Ms. Timpanelli praised the interdisciplinary potential of the course. Mr. Ward noted the importance of professional development and curriculum writing to continue the success of new courses at THS. Ms. Petitti moved to bring the new course proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, and Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

b. New Course Proposal: Applications of Marketing

Ms. Rusate explained the need for an advanced, project-based marketing course. Ms. Timpanelli supported the relevance of advertising design, which Ms. Rusate noted would be naturally included. Mr. Manuel underscored the importance of a pathway for students interested in marketing at the advanced level. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

c. New Course Proposal: Robotics

Mr. Amato was introduced by Dr. Budd as a major force behind the conception and design of this proposed new course. Mr. Amato noted how previous Weller Grant awards have supported pilot purchase of robotics kits, and that Perkins Grant funds would support the equipment for this course, which would also involve students competing in robotics against students from other schools. Ms. Petitti supported technology education courses, like this one, likely to attract both males and females, and Mr. Ward praised the spring training at Carnegie Mellon that Mr. Amato will attend. Mr. Ward moved to bring the new course proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, and Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

d. New Course Proposal: Principles of Design

e. New Course Proposal: Digital Design & Printing

Dr. Budd explained that the previous Graphic Design course was proposed to be reconceptualized into an introductory course – Principles of Design – to be assigned to the art department, and an advanced course – Digital Design & Printing – to be assigned to the technology education department. Ms. Durand framed the introductory course in terms of the principles and foundations of design elements, and Mr. Amato explained relevant software and existing equipment to be included in the advanced course. Ms. Timpanelli noted the importance of strong outreach by counselors for students to take both courses. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course proposals to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

f. New Course Text Proposal: *The Glass Castle* (Supplemental: English 11)

g. New Course Text Proposal: *Angela's Ashes* (Supplemental: English 11)

- h. New Course Text Proposal: *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (Supplemental: English 11)  
Ms. Spillane explained that all three new supplemental text proposals would support the memoir unit in English 11, which currently is limited to *The Color of Water*. These texts would become options for teacher and student choice. Ms. Cooper noted the necessity of including more female voices in the curriculum, as well as the connection between strong memoir texts and strong college essay writing by students. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course text proposals to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, and Mr. Ward seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- i. Advanced Placement Human Geography Curriculum Guide  
Ms. Brienza outlined the major units of this curriculum guide and explained her passion and vision for student success in this new course. She noted important interdisciplinary connections already being seen by her students, and the value of varied assessments they are undertaking. Ms. Timpanelli praised the rigor and interest of the course, and Mr. Ward noted the power of the curriculum writing done since the course was first approved last year. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the curriculum guide to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, and Mr. Ward seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- j. Approval of 2018 Curriculum Committee Meeting Dates  
Dr. Budd presented the 2018 Curriculum Committee Meeting Dates included in the Committee packet. Mr. Ward moved to accept those 2018 Curriculum Committee Meeting Dates, and Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- k. Report, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessments  
Dr. Budd noted that all his comments had been integrated into the earlier topics of discussion at today's meeting.

Mr. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m.; Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.