

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee
of the
Trumbull Board of Education

Special Meeting

Trumbull High School Athletic Conference Room
Friday, September 21, 2018 – 8:15 a.m.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Introduction – The meeting was called to order by Ms. Petitti at 8:20 a.m.

Members present

M. Petitti, chair

L. Timpanelli

M. Ward

J. Budd, Ph.D., ex officio

Other

T. Edwards, Science Department Chair, Trumbull High School

W. Heher, science teacher, Trumbull High School

A. Marzialo, English Department Chair, Trumbull High School

H. Spalla, English teacher, Trumbull High School

T. Manuel, C-House Principal, Trumbull High School

S. Lavorgna-Lye, World Languages Department Chair, Trumbull High School

P. Sevilla, Spanish teacher, Trumbull High School

M. Colón, Italian teacher, Trumbull High School

E. Balter, English Language Arts Team Leader, Madison Middle School

L. Ryan, English Language Arts Team Leader, Hillcrest Middle School

II. Public Comment – There was no Public Comment.

III. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 8/23/2018 – Mr. Ward moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Timpanelli seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously agreed to with Ms. Petitti abstaining.

IV. New Business

- a. New Course Text Proposal: *American Catch: The Fight for Our Local Seafood* (Core: Advanced Placement Environmental Science)

Dr. Budd noted that Mr. Heher was a new teacher to Trumbull with impressive experience and expertise. Mr. Heher discussed his academic and personal

background, and the importance of *American Catch* in profiling key environmental issues. Mr. Edwards confirmed the value of bringing environmental science to life for students in Advanced Placement Environmental Science. Mr. Ward supported the interesting discussion of policy implications in the text. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course text proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for September 25, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

- b. New Course Text Proposal: *Never Let Me Go* (Supplemental: English 9)
Dr. Budd noted that Ms. Marzialo was the new English Department Chair, hired in a rigorous process and noteworthy because of her teaching and leadership experience. Ms. Marzialo introduced herself, and discussed the narrative perspective of *Never Let Me Go* and its connection to key curricular elements of English 9. By unanimous consent, additional discussion of the text was tabled until a later meeting of the Curriculum Committee.
- c. New Course Text Proposal: *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (Supplemental: English 10)
Ms. Spalla described the value of this proposed supplemental text for English 10, including its contemporary, teen voice. Mr. Ward moved to bring the new course text proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for September 25, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- d. Spanish Conversation & Culture III Curriculum Guide
Dr. Budd introduced Ms. Lavorgna-Lye, who overviewed the development of Spanish C&C III over time. Mr. Sevilla discussed the successive language skills learned by the students, and Ms. Timpanelli praised the rigor of the course. Mr. Ward moved to bring the curriculum guide to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for September 25, 2018, and Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- e. Advanced Placement Italian Language & Culture Curriculum Guide
Ms. Lavorgna-Lye commended Ms. Colón for her interest and enthusiasm in developing Advanced Placement Italian. Ms. Colón then discussed the thematic approach to the course and the inclusion of authentic Italian. Mr. Ward praised the advanced world language offerings at Trumbull High School. Mr. Ward moved to bring the curriculum guide to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for September 25, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- f. Grade 6 Integrated Literacy Curriculum Guide
- g. Grade 7 Integrated Literacy Curriculum Guide
Dr. Budd began by noting the significant investment of time, expertise, and experience by Ms. Balter and Ms. Ryan in leading their departments to significant curricular change over the past three years, including in this and the next

curriculum guide to be presented. Ms. Ryan presented the balanced literacy approach of Grade 6 Integrated Literacy, as well as assured assessments of the course. Ms. Balter presented the Grade 7 integration, including the theme of perspective. Mr. Ward praised the integration of reading and writing in the curriculum. Mr. Ward moved to bring the curriculum guides to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for September 25, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

- h. Report, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessments
Dr. Budd noted the significant effort of teachers and teacher-leaders in developing various curriculum projects.

Mr. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 a.m.; Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.