

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – February 26, 2019
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

Amended and approved at 3/12/2019 Board of Education Meeting

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

Members present:

L. Chory, Chairman
L. Timpanelli, Vice Chair
J. Norcel, Secretary
J. Donofrio
K. Fearon
M. Petitti
M. Ward

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

It was moved (Donofrio) seconded (Fearon) to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation with just the board members present for the start of the executive session and Dr. Cialfi to join them during the later portion of the executive session. Vote: Unanimous in favor. At 6:43 p.m. the Board invited Dr. Cialfi to be part of the discussion.

By unanimous consent of Board members present, it was moved to come out of Executive Session at 6:58 p.m.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Pledge of Allegiance - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.
- B. Recognition – Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Connecticut State Winner of the Outstanding Teacher of American History, Ms. Katie Boland
Ms. Katie Boland, Trumbull High School's Advisor to the "We the People Team" and the "Model Congress Team" has been selected to receive the 2018 – 2019 DAR Connecticut State Winner of the Outstanding Teacher of American History Award. As the Connecticut State Winner she has qualified as a candidate to be considered for the 2019 National Award. Ms. Boland will be honored at the State DAR Conference on April 12, 2019.
The entire Board congratulated and commended Katie Boland on this outstanding achievement.
- C. Recognition - Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Connecticut Good Citizen Award Winner, Student Kyle Beck
Trumbull High School senior Kyle Beck has been selected as the 2018-2019 recipient of the Sarah Riggs Humphreys-Mary Silliman Chapter's DAR Good Citizens Scholarship Award. Kyle read to the Board his award winning essay titled: "What new challenges will America face as we move forward into the future?" As the Chapter winner, Kyle advanced to the Connecticut State DAR competition. He is now the winner at the State level and will advance to the Northeast Division Championship. Jeaneen Buchanan and Pat King from the

local chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution presented him with a certificate, pin, and monetary award.

The entire Board congratulated and commended Kyle Beck on this outstanding achievement.

- D. Correspondence – The Board received correspondence from **six** Trumbull parents in favor of later school start time citing documented evidence from the AMA, CDC and the American Psychological Association. Dr. Baker, a Trumbull pediatrician wrote to the Board about the adverse effects of chronic sleep deficits in teenagers and endorsed the policy statements of the American Academy of Pediatrics in favor of later school start times; **the Board also received a letter endorsing 8:30 a.m. start times for middle and high schools signed by 24 Trumbull pediatricians and a letter from Rabbi Colin Brodie in favor of later start times.** The Middlebrook PTA invited the Board to attend the Digital Families Community Event on March 19, 2019.
- E. Public Comments – Christine Chase addressed the Board in support of a 8:30 a.m. start time for our middle and high school stating the research is clear and we should support our students in order to help them achieve the best possible outcomes; Catherine Martini spoke to the Board endorsing an 8:30 a.m. start time; Irene McGeachy asked the Board to get the word out concerning the three legislative bills that would affect Districts regarding regionalization.
- F. Board Chairman Report – Recent events attended by Mrs. Chory and several Board members:
- Feb 7- CREC sponsored CAPSS/CABE workshop on developing partnerships for Board Chairs and Superintendents.
 - Feb 8- State Rep Laura Devlin gave an update on education concerns prior to the Governor’s budget release.
 - Feb 20- Governor’s budget was released with the following concerns:
 - Reductions in ECS funding
 - Portion of teacher pensions previously covered 100% by state of Connecticut
 - Regionalization-the Education Committee of state legislature is scheduled to hold a hearing on 3 proposed regionalization bills
- G. Superintendent Report – Dr. Cialfi reported on the following:
- The State Department’s Accountability Report ranks Trumbull 8th in Southern Fairfield County’s DRG A and DRB B school districts (behind 5 DRG A and ahead of 2 DRG A)
 - Approximately 100 THS seniors were awarded the Seal of Biliteracy for proficiency in a language by qualifying for the State Department of Education award.
 - The Girls Indoor Track team placed 11th in the State LL meet and all of these athletes qualified to participate in the State Open championships last weekend.
 - The Boys Basketball team clinched the regular season title and are the number one seed in the FCIAC playoffs.
 - In early April we will receive our ten year enrollment projection in which future student populations are matched to the physical capacity of each school.
 - Our Pilot Breakfast Program is averaging 100 student breakfasts per day at Middlebrook and Frenchtown schools.
- H. Teacher Board Representative Report- Mrs. Kathy Rubano reported on events at TPS: Madison Middle School students competed in the National Geographic Geography Bee and the winner was Tyler Kunkel, grade 7. And at THS: the Ethics Club competed in the Regional High School Ethics

Bowl and came in second place winning Honorable Mention; Sara Scrofani and Kathy Rubano have been nominated for the Follett Creativity Award to the CT Association of School Librarians; kudos to coach Steve Tobitsch for organizing the Lady Eagles basketball game against Westhill High; Michael Murray from Bard College met with social studies teachers to share writing strategies; Mock Trial has advanced one of its teams to the next competition round and THS hosted the Academic Decathlon State Competition and Trumbull came in second earning 28,000 points.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/Trumbull Day 2019 Special Request – Mr. Preston Merritt, Committee Chairman; Mr. Joseph Ruospo, Committee Vice-Chairman; Lt. Kenneth Jones, TPD; Mr. Marc Lepore, Committee Member presented the proposal for the Trumbull Day Commission to use Hillcrest Middle School and Trumbull High School on Friday, June 28, Saturday, June 29, and (rain date) Sunday, June 30, 2019. The Trumbull Day Commission is requesting that the Board of Education waive its Policy 1330, Use of Public School Buildings and Sites for three (3) days to allow for an alcohol concession on the grounds of Hillcrest and Trumbull High Schools:

“As with recent Trumbull Day events, we plan to serve beer and wine to patrons. The procurement of a temporary liquor permit from the State of CT and coordination with the Trumbull Police Department, who will be providing security for the event, is currently underway. Alcohol service will be handled by trained staff to assure that patrons are of legal drinking age and that no one is over-served at the event. All alcohol must be purchased through the vendor. Bags and coolers will be checked at entry points and patrons will not be permitted to bring alcohol onto the property.”

It was moved (Fearon) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve a waiver for the Town of Trumbull to allow an alcohol concession booth on the grounds of Hillcrest and Trumbull High School in conjunction with Trumbull Day on Friday, June 28, Saturday, June 29, and Sunday, June 30, 2019. Vote: In favor: Chory, Timpanelli, Norcel, Donofrio, Fearon, Petitti. Opposed: Ward. Motion passes.

- B. Approval/THS Model Congress Trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Advisor Ms. Katie Boland is requesting approval for the Trumbull High School Model Congress Team to participate in the 2019 UPenn Model Congress Competition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Students participating in this trip will leave on Thursday, March 28 and return on Sunday, March 31, 2019. The cost is supported by the ACE Foundation and expenses are paid for by students/parents.

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the THS Model Congress trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- C. Approval/THS We the People Trip to Washington, D.C.
Advisor Ms. Katie Boland presented the Trumbull High School *We the People* team trip to Washington, D.C. The team will compete in the 2019 National Finals to be held at National Conference Center in Washington D.C. from Friday, April 26 to Tuesday, April 30, 2019.

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the THS We the People trip to Washington, D.C. as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- D. Approval/THS World Guard Trip to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Mr. Peter Horton presented the proposed trip for the THS World Color Guard trip to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania which is scheduled from Saturday, March 16 to Sunday, March 17, 2019. This

competition would enable students to participate in the WGI World Regional Competition, as well as to observe other Color Guard programs from across the United States.

- E. Approval/THSGEMB Winter Percussion Competition Trip to Toms River, New Jersey
Mr. Peter Horton presented the THS Golden Eagle Marching Band (THSGEMB) Winter Percussion trip to Toms River, New Jersey which is scheduled for Saturday, March 16 to Sunday, March 17, 2019. This competition would enable students to participate in the WGI Percussion Regional Competition as well as observe other bands.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the above two field trips: THS World Guard Trip to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and the THSGEMB Winter Percussion Competition Trip to Toms River, New Jersey as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Fearon) and seconded (Norcel) to waive the 90 day field trip notice as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- F. Later School Start Time Update
Dr. Cialfi gave an update on the preliminary research by the TPS exploratory committee formed to consider later start times. Mr. Jonathan Costa, the Assistant Executive Director at RESC's EdAdvance, spoke of the process of considering all relevant options and making a comprehensive recommendation to the BOE. Key points introduced included the medical science behind high school later start times, as well as other considerations such as disruption of community structures and practices (including potential inconveniences to parents and staff); disruptions to Middle School and Elementary start and dismissal times; cost of transitions and transportation; and conflicts with existing programs such as athletics, Agriscience, Aquaculture, RCA, Six-to-Six, Fairchild Wheeler, Discovery Magnet School, and Co-Curricular Connections to school.

- G. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 1/22/2019
It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2019 Board of Education meeting as presented.

It was moved (Fearon) and seconded (Norcel) to amend the January 22, 2019 minutes with the following change in vote:

E. 2019-2020 Budget Approval

Mr. Ward asked to call the question, requiring an immediate vote on the budget. It was determined that a 2/3 vote could override this action. Vote to call the question: Yes-Ward, Norcel. No-Chory, Timpanelli, Fearon, and Petitti.

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the amended minutes of the January 22, 2019 Board of Education meeting as presented. Abstain: Donofrio. Vote: all in favor.

- H. Personnel Report
Dr. Cialfi reported one non-certified retirement.
Samir Jaser, Technician II at the Long Hill Administration Building since September 2006, retiring effecting March 8, 2019.

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Norcel) to accept the retirement as presented. Vote: All in favor.

I. Policy Committee Report –

Dr. Budd reported that the Policy Committee met on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 and reviewed the following:

Policies, First Readings – Dr. Budd

1. English Language Learners, Policy Code 6141.311
2. High School Attendance / Loss of Credit, Policy Code 5113
3. Attendance Grades K-8, Policy Code 5113.1

It was unanimously agreed to by the Board that these policies will be returned to the Board for a second reading and approval at a future meeting.

Policy, Combined First/Second Reading – Dr. Budd

4. Suicide Prevention/Intervention, Policy Code 5141.5

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Donofrio) to waive the 30-day minimum between First and Second Readings and approve the above policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

J. Finance Committee Report

Mr. O’Keefe reported that the Finance Committee of the Board of Education met on January 24, 2019 to review the financials through December 31, 2018. In addition to the financials, the Committee also discussed Food Services prices and based on an analysis of Trumbull’s pricing compared to other DRG B districts, a formal recommendation to increase prices will be made to the Board at a future meeting.

It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the financial reports as of December 31, 2018 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

K. Curriculum Committee Report

Approval/Curriculum Guides – Dr. Budd

1. Health 10 Curriculum Guide

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the above curriculum guide as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Approval/New Course Text Proposals – Dr. Budd

2. *Less* (Core: Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition)

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

3. *American Government: Stories of a Nation: For the AP Course* (Core: Advanced Placement United States Government & Politics)

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Donofrio) to approve the above new course text proposal as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Norcel) to add to the agenda by 2/3 vote two new course proposals as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Addition to Agenda: Dr. Budd presented:
Approval/New Course Proposal (Revision of Existing Course)

Revision of *Freshman Foundations* (Grade level 9)
Revision of *Physical Education* (Grade level 9)

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Donofrio) to approve the above two new course proposals as presented: Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Petitti) to add to the agenda by 2/3 vote a brief discussion with the Superintendent regarding the First Selectman's request for information pertaining to the 2019-2020 budget. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Dr. Cialfi distributed the questions and his responses to the board.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:35 p.m.