

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – May 28, 2019
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

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- arrived at 7:35 p.m.

M. Petitti

M. Ward

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The Board asked for a moment of silence to remember Sebastian Gangemi, Trumbull boys' soccer coach for 14 years and a lifelong resident of Trumbull, who passed away on May 15, 2019.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

A. Pledge of Allegiance - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.

B. Recognition – Teacher Education and Mentoring (TEAM) Mentors

Dr. McGrath and TEAM District Facilitator Patricia Colello recognized ten mentor teachers. These teachers provide support for our new teachers through the TEAM mentor program using their knowledge of teaching and learning to help support the new teacher to complete the TEAM program which is required for certification.

The following teachers were recognized:

Lisa Cerulli

Valentina IaconoCenatiempo

Donna Larkin

Eileen Maffei

Stephanie Miklos

Tracey Paine

Margaret Pereira

Lisa Ryan

Amanda Schaefer

Millie Velazquez

The Board commended the TEAM mentors and all involved on their accomplishments.

C. Recognition – Trumbull Public Schools Security Personnel

Dr. Cialfi and the Director of School Safety and Security, Scott Sikora presented the security staff for their important work in keeping our students and staff safe. The team has expanded in the last few years as their duties have broadened. We would like to express our gratitude for the important work they do not only to secure our facilities but to help build positive climate and culture in our school community.

The entire Board congratulated and commended the Trumbull Public Schools Security Personnel for the hard work and dedication to the Trumbull students and staff.

D. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.

E. Public Comments – There were no public comments this evening.

F. Board Chairman Report – Mrs. Chory reported:

- May 16 THS National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
- May 21 BEI Recognition Breakfast
- May 21 PTSA Council Annual Dinner
- May 22 Madison NJHS Induction/Hillcrest NJHS Induction
- May 23 TPS Student Art Exhibition Reception at SHU
- May 23 THS Choir Concert

G. Superintendent Report – Dr. Cialfi reported on the following:

- Dr. Cialfi attended the BEI Breakfast that was held on May 21; the topic of discussion was “Connect Career Opportunities to Education.”
- The THS production of *Chicago* is nominated for 5 Sondheim Awards.
- Original art works in a variety of mediums are being displayed by THS students at Sacred Heart University, the exhibit is currently running until June 3, 2019.
- An ELL Parent Night will be held on June 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Trumbull Public Library on Quality Street.
- On June 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at THS, the THS Athletic Department will present the 2018-2019 Varsity Awards.

H. Student Board Representatives reported on events at THS: Agriscience awards night; the senior class trip and the prom including the post prom at Hillcrest, thanks to the PTA; the scholarship and athletic awards nights ceremonies; final exams begin June 11 and graduation on June 18.

It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Timpanelli) to move Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items C. Report on Sandy Hook Promise Partnership to this portion of the meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Report on Sandy Hook Promise Partnership

Ms. Marykay Wishneski presented the Sandy Hook Promise which is an organization that provides programs and training to schools and communities designed to improve emotional learning by delivering mental health and wellness programs. The program has several components which can be implemented from K-12. As a result of a federal grant, we are able to partner with Sandy Hook Promise at no cost. Ms. Wishneski presented important programs that include *Start with Hello* and

Say Something; designed to help recognize warning signs and help deter violence. Details of several programs and services that will be rolled out in the coming months were discussed.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Best Buddies National Conference Trip to Indiana University

Advisor, Ms. Jennifer Penna presented the trip to attend the Best Buddies Conference at Indiana University from July 19, to July 22, 2019 in Bloomington, Indiana. In 2016, Trumbull High School became a member of Best Buddies Connecticut. As a chapter of Best Buddies, schools are required to send their Chapter President(s) to attend this annual leadership conference at the University of Indiana. The conference is designed to inspire thousands of leaders to be Best Buddies advocates and to bring about social change in their communities. There is no cost to the Board of Education. The Leadership Conference is fully funded by the THS Best Buddies Club through fundraising efforts and donations.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the Best Buddies National Conference Trip to Indiana University and waive the 90 day notification policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor

B. Approval/THS Ethics Club Trip to DePauw University, Indiana

Advisor Ms. Intemann requests approval for THS students to participate in the Ethics Bowl Summer Invitational at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, from June 25 to June 28, 2019. The THS Ethics Club was formed through a cooperative effort with the UConn Department of Philosophy and meets weekly to debate ethical issues. Funding for this trip is supported through the ACE Foundation, the Prindle Summer Institute Invitational Ethics Bowl, and fundraising.

It was moved (Fearon) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve the THS Ethics Club trip to DePauw University in Indiana with the trip dates of June 25-28, 2019 and waive the 90 notification policy. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Pupil Services Professional Development Conference

Dr. McGrath, Mrs. Pauline Smith and Mrs. Maureen Makres-Steinberg attended the LRP National Institute Conference to learn about legal and programmatic “best practices” from experts in the fields of pupil services. The workshops were rich in content and provided valuable opportunities for administrator, teacher, and paraprofessional training much of which can be provided by the attendees without causing additional expenses. Additionally, some workshops have identified a need and framework for new policies and policy revisions that will need to be considered by the Board in the future. Mrs. Smith presented special education enrollment numbers and the District’s programs available to meet the specific needs of our enrolled students.

E. Approval/Food Services Price Increase

Mr. O’Keefe and Mrs. Betty Sinko presented a proposal for a Food Services price increase for 2019-2020. The Trumbull Public Schools’ Food Services program is one that is self-sustaining and its financials are separate from the Board of Education’s operating budget. There have been only five price increases for the Trumbull Food Services program in the last 26 years and the last one was in school year 2013-2014. Compared to other DRG B districts, Trumbull is far below the average. In order to keep the program self-sustaining and to bring Trumbull’s price

structure in line with the DRG B average, the BOE Finance Committee is recommending the following price increases for meals and comparable increases for a la carte items. With this increase, effective for school year 2019-2020, Trumbull prices will still be at or a few cents below the DRG B average.

| | <u>ES Lunch</u> | <u>MS Lunch</u> | <u>MS Deli/ Salad</u> | <u>HS Lunch</u> | <u>MS Deli/ Salad</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Current | \$2.75 | \$2.85 | \$3.05 | \$3.00 | \$3.75 |
| Increase | \$0.15 | \$0.25 | \$0.45 | \$0.25 | \$0.50 |
| Proposed | \$2.90 | \$3.10 | \$3.50 | \$3.25 | \$4.25 |
| DRG B Avg | \$2.89 | \$3.15 | \$3.52 | \$3.27 | \$4.35 |
| Vs DRG B Avg | \$0.01 | (\$0.05) | (\$0.02) | (\$0.02) | (\$0.10) |

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Fearon) to approve the Food Services Price Increase as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Approval/Food Services Breakfast Expansion

Mr. O’Keefe and Mrs. Sinko discussed the Food Services Breakfast Program. In January 2019, the Trumbull Food Services Department implemented a Pilot Breakfast Program at Frenchtown and Middlebrook Elementary Schools. The program has been well-received by students and parents and has contributed positively to the overall financial health of the Food Services Program. Given the positive results of the Frenchtown and Middlebrook pilot programs, the BOE Finance Committee is recommending to expand the Breakfast Program to Booth Hill, Daniels Farm, Jane Ryan and Tashua Elementary Schools and to Hillcrest and Madison Middle Schools with a start date of Tuesday, September 3, 2019. The Food Services Program will communicate with students, parents and staff before the end of the 2018-19 school year and again during the first two days of school prior to Labor Day.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Donofrio) to approve the Food Services Breakfast Expansion as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. 2019-2020 Budget Discussion

Dr. Cialfi and Mr. O’Keefe discussed the status of the 2019-2020 Board of Education budget which was approved by the Town Council on May 9, 2019 with a year to year increase of 2.00%. This represents a \$2.38M reduction from the Board of Education approved 4.30%. An update of the key areas that are being considered for cost savings include retirements and resignations; transportation; facilities, professional development, insurance and organization dues.

H. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 5/14/2019

It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2019 Board of Education meeting as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

I. Personnel Report

Dr. Cialfi reported two certified retirements/resignations:

Joanna Lapham, Spanish/ELL teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2015, resigning effective June 30, 2019

Dawn Matos, special education teacher at the Trumbull Early Childhood Education Center since December 1993, retiring effective June 30, 2019

It was moved (Timpanelli) and seconded (Norcel) to accept these retirements/resignations as presented. Vote: all in favor.

Dr. Cialfi reported one non-certified retirement/resignation:

Stephen Kennedy, Plant Engineer Administrator at the Long Hill Administration Building since July 2, 1984, retiring effecting June 30, 2019

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

J. Curriculum Committee Report – Mrs. Petitti

Mrs. Petitti reported that the Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education met for a regular meeting on Thursday, May 23, 2019 and discussed several curriculum guides and a new course text proposal.

Dr. Budd presented the following for full Board approval:

Approval/Curriculum Guides – Dr. Budd

1. Senior Writing Workshop Curriculum Guide
2. Business Finance Curriculum Guide
3. Honors Applications of Marketing Curriculum Guide
4. Digital Design & Printing Curriculum Guide
5. Transportation Engineering Technology Curriculum Guide
6. Honors Latin II Curriculum Guide

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Timpanelli) to approve these 6 Curriculum Guides as presented. Vote: all in favor

Approval/New Course Text Proposal – Dr. Budd

7. *Readings for Diversity and Social Justice* (Core: Inquiry into Contemporary Texts and Issues)

It was moved (Donofrio) and seconded (Norcel) to table the approval of the above new course text proposal as presented until the next BOE meeting. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:25 p.m.