

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – January 14, 2020
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. Timpanelli, Board Chairman
T. Gallo, Vice Chairman
J. Norcel, Board Secretary
K. Fearon
S. Kerr
M. Petitti
M. Ward

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Timpanelli welcomed back our former Superintendent, Mr. Ralph Iassogna, who is serving as our Acting Superintendent until July, 2020.

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.

B. Recognition: THS Girls Volleyball Team, State Champions

The Trumbull Girls Volleyball Team swept three games from No. 3 Westhill to capture the Connecticut Class LL Championship title! Game scores were 25-21, 25-21 and 25-20. The Trumbull High School team was the Number 8 seed and had never won a state championship before. The Board congratulated the THS Girls Volleyball Team for this exciting and outstanding achievement.

C. Recognition: Mr. Todd Manuel, 2020 Connecticut Assistant High School Principal of the Year
Congratulations to Todd Manuel for the honor of representing Connecticut as the 2020 Assistant High School Principal of the Year! This program, sponsored annually by the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), recognizes outstanding assistant principals who have succeeded in providing high quality learning opportunities for students. The Board and Mr. Iassogna congratulated Mr. Todd Manuel on this achievement of excellence.

D. Recognition: Madison Middle School Students in Coding Competition

Mr. Sullivan presented Madison Middle School students that have participated in the Cyber Robotics Coding competition. The Mad Coders Club came in 1st place out of 192 schools in New England. The Cyber Robotics Coding Competition is an online robotics competition that engages students in coding and uses simulation of virtual 3D robots that perform complex tasks and missions. The Board commended the Madison Middle School Coding Team and their advisors for this exceptional achievement.

- E. Correspondence – The BOE received the following correspondence: Amy Lehaney, Sarah White, Katherine Price and Lauren O’Keefe all wrote in support of adding an additional class section at Middlebrook; April Lang would like class size and library books to be considered a priority when evaluating the budget; Christina Smith, Cat Lamy, Catherine Martini, Sharon Martini all wrote in support of later school start times, and Matthew Bracksieck wrote a detailed report on the THS auditorium that is being addressed by Administration.

- F. Public Comments – April Lang-Middlebrook parent, spoke of the Be Kind mural, the Nextrex recycling project and the current 3rd grade class sections are all at 27 students and next year’s class size needs to be addressed; Amy Lehaney would like to keep an open dialogue for the upcoming school year regarding increasing enrollment for Middlebrook third grade, Traci and Cole Galla thanked teachers for all their hard work and are concerned with the reduction of Tech Specialists. Madison students spoke of the importance of STEM subjects being supported; Teacher Kathy Rubano is glad to have Ralph Iassogna back as our Acting Superintendent; Lidia Pontonio, Joy and Avery Colon, Christine Koval, Lilly Cooke, Marija Elkins, Barbara Olerking all spoke of how crowded and hot the third grade classrooms are at Middlebrook, student enrollment is at maximum capacity and that we need to add another section next year so that students needs are properly met; Frank Squicmarro and Ruth Fontilla welcomed Ralph Iassogna back to our district and spoke of the importance of our budget negotiations and that we make certain that students’ academic and social needs are not compromised and Mark Pizzi, a Middlebrook parent and teacher in Bridgeport, said the Board should always keep in mind that the impact a teacher makes is in direct relation to student success.

- G. Board Chairman Report - Mrs. Timpanelli is sending an eblast with an update on the Superintendent Search. On January 23, 2020, focus groups for the community, parents, teachers, staff, students and administrators will be held throughout the day. Dr. Betty Osga of NESDEC will facilitate the groups.

- H. Superintendent Report – Mr. Iassogna thanked the Board, the Trumbull community and the TPS staff for their support for his appointment for Acting Superintendent. Mr. Iassogna is committed to continue the 2019-2020 school year with the district’s focus in providing a quality educational program addressing all needs of our approximately 6,900 TPS students.

- I. Student Board Representatives Report – Student representatives reported on recent events at THS: prep for the upcoming midterms; Post HS planning night for juniors; the Band and Orchestra concert; our We the People team placed third at the state competition; and the success of our sports teams.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/Field Trips
 - 1. Approval/THS Model Congress Field Trip to Philadelphia, PA: March 26-29, 2020 – Ms. Boland, Ms. Supriya Ganti
The Trumbull High School Model Congress Team has requested permission to participate in the University of Pennsylvania Model Congress Competition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Students would leave Trumbull on Thursday, March 26, 2020 and return to Trumbull on the evening of Sunday, March 29, 2020.

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

2. Approval/THS Music Department Field Trip to CMEA All-State Music Festival, Hartford, CT: April 2-4, 2020 – Ms. Tornillo
The Trumbull High School Music Department has requested permission for selected students to participate in the CT Music Educators (CMEA) All-State Music Festival in Hartford. These selected grade 9-12 students, with 3 teacher chaperones, would leave Trumbull on the morning of Thursday, April 2, 2020 and return on the evening of Saturday, April 4, 2020.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the THS Music Department trip to Hartford, Connecticut as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

3. Approval/THS Model United Nations Club Field Trip to Arlington, VA: April 2-5, 2020 – Mr. LaBarca, Ms. Annesha Das, Mr. Noah Lansing
The Trumbull High School Model United Nations Club has requested permission to participate in the Washington Area Model United Nations Conference in Arlington, Virginia. Students would leave Trumbull on Thursday, April 2, 2020 and return to Trumbull on the evening of Sunday, April 5, 2020.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Fearon) to approve the THS United Nations Club trip to Arlington, Virginia as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- B. Approval/Child Nutrition Program Authorized Signature Change Form – Mrs. Sinko
The Child Nutrition Program Authorized Signature Change Form must be executed whenever one of the two authorized signers change. Authorized signers on file with the CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education) may only submit claims for reimbursement. To avoid reimbursement delay, the (Local Education Agency) must arrange for *board action* to sign and submit Authorized Signatures Change Form.

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the Child Nutrition Program Authorized Signature Change Form as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- C. 2019 Next-Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment Results – Dr. Budd
Dr. Budd gave a presentation on the spring 2019 NGSS Assessment results for students in grades 5, 8, & 11. Students must exercise in depth analysis and critical thinking applications for the NGSS Assessment. Dr. Budd provided data showing that Trumbull's performance was superior compared to the State of Connecticut as a whole. Dr. Budd commended Trumbull's teachers and students for their hard work on this assessment, and in particular noted the science program leadership of STEM K-8 Coordinator Dr. Floria Mallozzi, and THS Science Department Chairperson Mr. Thomas Edwards.

- D. Budget Discussion – Mr. Iassogna

1. 2019-2020 Budget Discussion- Mr. Iassogna initiated a discussion with the Board regarding the challenges of our current 2019-2020 budget. The final deficit figure will be presented at the January 28 BOE meeting at which time budget reductions will be discussed. Potential budget reductions will be implemented so as not to impact students. We will need to make a concentrated effort to reduce the 2019-2020 deficit before we prepare for next year's budget. Mr. O'Keefe was on hand to present our existing 2019-2020 significant exposures that include special education, health and energy costs.

2. 2020-2021 Budget Discussion

The 2020-2021 budget was presented at the December 10 and 12, 2019 Board of Education meetings. The review and discussion will continue at the January 28, 2020 Board of Ed meeting.

- E. Approval/Minutes – Budget Sessions 12/10/2019, 12/12/2019 & Special Meeting 1/6/2020
It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the 12/10/2019 and the 12/12/2019 BOE Meeting minutes as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
It was moved (Fearon) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on January 6, 2020 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

F. Personnel – Mr. Iassogna

Mr. Iassogna presented the following Request for Leave of Absence for the Board’s approval. This request complies with the Trumbull Board of Education Leave of Absence Policy, 4150. Michele Sansone, math specialist (.5) at Frenchtown Elementary School since August 2005 is requesting a one year personal leave of absence without pay from February 1, 2020 through January 29, 2021.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the leave of absence as presented.
Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Mr. Iassogna presented the following certified resignation:

Pauline Smith, Director of Pupil Services since August 1, 2013, resigning effective 1/31/20.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the resignation as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Policy Committee Report

Policies, Second Readings – Dr. Budd

1. Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace, Policy Code 4118.112
2. Security and Safety, Policy Code 3516
3. Domestic Violence, Policy Code 4118.16
4. Homeless Students, Policy Code 5118.1
5. Eligibility to Attend Trumbull Public Schools, Policy Code 5111
6. School Resource Officers, Policy Code 5142.4
7. Gifts to the School District, Policy Code 3210
8. Trumbull High School Concession Stand, Policy Code 1331
9. Special Accounts, Policy Code 3453
10. Suicide Prevention/Intervention, Policy Code 5141.5
11. Legal Services, Policy Code 9125

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the above presented policies for second readings as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

H. Approval/Revised Calendars – Dr. Budd

1. Revised 2020-2021 District Calendar
2. Revised 2021-2022 District Calendar

Based on the need to assure staff training in various required human resources topics (e.g., sexual harassment, bullying, suicide prevention/intervention, etc.), the Board is asked to approve revised 2020-2021 & 2021-2022 District Calendars that add a second day of new staff orientation: August 25 & 26, 2020

August 24 & 25, 2021

It was moved (Fearon) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above changes to the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 District Calendars as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Mr. Ward made a motion to adjourn. All Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:50 p.m.