

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – October 13, 2020
Via Audio/Video Conferencing

The Trumbull Board of Education met via video/audio conferencing for a Regular Meeting.

Members present:

L. Timpanelli, Board Chairman
T. Gallo, Vice Chairman
J. Norcel, Board Secretary
S. Kerr
A. Palo
M. Petitti
M. Ward

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

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

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag.
- B. Recognition – 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program Students & Semi-Finalist
Dr. Budd presented the following students in recognition of their outstanding performance on the 2019 PSAT – at approximately the 96th percentile – and have recently been named Commended Students by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation: Jack Allen, Calyn Carbone, Garrett Cheng, Alexander Coley, Alexandra Feretti, Joseph Gregory, Vanshika Gupta, Rachel Levinson, Madeline Marsh, Kunal Mehta, Amaya Mikolic-Berrios, Adithya Prabakaran, and Matthew Reilly. Additionally, THS senior Grace Xiong has been named a National Merit Semifinalist for being in the very top percentile of students taking the 2019 PSAT.
- The Board commended and congratulated these students for their outstanding achievements.
- C. Correspondence – Mrs. Norcel read the following correspondence: Jennifer Lindade, Luigi Veltri, Elena Veltri, Sarah Clemens, Kathleen DeLeon, January Williamson, Kristen Hyland, Mary Murdoch, and Julia Hepfer sent emails concerning remote and in person learning, student’s emotional needs and a request to add reopening concerns to all BOE meeting agendas. Lily Lu and Grace Young want administration to reconsider supporting the Ethics Club. Gloria Manna sent a link for 1,776 units and suggested that a parent page be added so parents can have an influence on titles their children read. Cat Lamy said be vigilant of allotment of time for our public speakers. Lisa Nuland questioned our cleaning protocols. Thank you from Susan Levesque for the smooth running of school and the hybrid model that is working well for her son.
- D. Public Comment- There were no speakers at this evening’s meeting.
- E. Superintendent Report - Dr. Semmel congratulated our National Merit, ELL and AP students and, as he visits our schools; is very impressed by our teachers' hard work and dedication to our students. TPS continues to adhere to the recommendations of the State Department of

Education and the Department of Health, with priority to keep our buildings clean and safe for our students and staff. Daily cleaning protocols are in place for high touch surfaces. Currently, there are a total of 6 cases in our schools with no evidence of spreading. Dr. Semmel would like to thank our Trumbull families for their cooperation in keeping students home with symptoms, reminding students to wash their hands, keep social distancing and always wear a mask in school.

- F. Board Chairman Report - Mrs. Timpanelli thanked Dr. Semmel for the BOE Retreat training he presented on September 28, 2020. She also provided a list of contact personnel to expedite parent questions and concerns. The list will be available on the BOE website.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/Trumbull School Lunch Employees Bargaining Unit Agreement
Attorney Floyd Dugas presented the tentative agreement between Trumbull Public Schools and the Trumbull School Lunch Employees Union / United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2024.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the School Lunch Employees Bargaining Unit Agreement as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- B. Minutes:
Special Meeting/Executive Session 09/21/2020
Regular Meeting 09/22/2020
Special Meeting/Executive Session 10/1/2020

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

- C. Personnel – Dr. Semmel
Dr. Semmel presented the following appointment:
Hartman, Tammy, Dr.; (\$174,967) Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services effective October 16, 2020.

Tammy Hartman thanked TPS for the opportunity to work in our District and is looking forward to her new position as PPS Director.

- D. Approval/2021 Board of Education Meeting Dates – Dr. Semmel
In accordance with Section 10-218 of the Connecticut General Statutes and the By-laws of the Trumbull Board of Education, the Board shall adopt a meeting schedule for the upcoming year. Dr. Semmel presented the draft dates for 2021.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Kerr) to approve the proposed Board of Education meeting dates for 2021 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- E. 2020-2021 Student Enrollment – Dr. Budd
Dr. Budd presented the official 2020-2021 student enrollment numbers as of October 1, 2020 and presented data indicating percentages of students who are studying remotely and those students who are in classrooms in order to ensure all Trumbull students' needs are being met.

F. 2019-2020 Standardized Assessment Results – Dr. Budd & Mr. Guarino
Dr. Budd and Trumbull High School Principal Marc Guarino presented the standardized assessment results from 2019-2020 which include LAS Links Assessment and the Advanced Placement Examinations for participating students. Dr. Budd spoke of the value of the LAS Links Assessment for our ELL learners. We are extremely proud of the THS students who chose to participate in AP testing online. Mr. Guarino shared the specifics that showed impressive growth in student enrollment and our students' success in test scores for the 2019-2020 AP exams.

G. TPS Teacher & Administrator Evaluation Plans – Dr. Budd
Dr. Budd presented key elements of TPS Teacher and Administrator Supervision, Evaluation and Professional Learning Plans which include modifications for 2020-2021 based on flexibilities permitted by CSDE.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the changes to the above TPS Learning Plans as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

H. Trumbull School Reopening Plan Update – Dr. Semmel stated that our responsibility is to provide the best education possible with safety as a priority. Many parents, especially at the elementary level, are anxious to have their students return to a 5-day schedule. After careful consideration of CDC health data and protocols, Trumbull Public Schools will reopen grades K-2 on a 4-day in classroom schedule: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday with Wednesday remote learning, beginning on October 19, 2020. Full remote learning will also still be an option for students. Please refer to the reopening resource page on the TPS website where you can access information related to the reopening of our schools. Dr. Semmel will continue to communicate updates to the community to ensure our practices and procedures are being implemented with fidelity to keep our students and staff safe.

I. 2020-2021 District Goals – Dr. Semmel presented the District Goals to help provide insight to the focus of the district's energy for the 2020-2021 school year. The goals include keeping our schools clean as a priority; increasing the safety of students, staff and community members; implementing curriculum, instruction and assessments that demonstrates best practices for all students; analyzing the budget to ensure accuracy and transparency; developing a cohesive communication plan and a TPS Coalition for Social Justice Committee. Details of the District Goals can be found on our website.

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the District Goals as presented by Dr. Semmel. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:55 p.m.