

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – July 14, 2020
Via Audio/Video Conferencing
Amended

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
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. Recognitions- Dr. Budd

2020 School-Based Teachers of the Year

Trumbull Public Schools is very pleased to recognize the following outstanding teachers of the year selected from every Trumbull school: TECEC-Rachel Orr, Booth Hill -Kimberly Greco, Daniels Farm-Michael McGrath, Frenchtown-Remi Grunow, Jane Ryan-Samantha Stebbins, Middlebrook-Kelly Ginand, Tashua-Shannon Lynch, Hillcrest-Dawn Formanek, Madison-Elizabeth Doherty, THS-Sara Scrofani.

2020 School-Based Paraeducators of the Year

Trumbull Public Schools is also very pleased to recognize the following outstanding paraeducators selected from every Trumbull school: TECEC-Margery Danis, Booth Hill-Lelian Hanna, Daniels Farm-Caroline Bonazzo, Frenchtown-Alison Carpenter, Jane Ryan-Gail Dorsch, Middlebrook-Mary Ann Dailey, Tashua-Kim Piccolo, Hillcrest-Lori O'Brien, Madison-Lorna Weinstein, THS-Blanca Maces.

District winners in both categories will be announced on August 20, 2020. The Board congratulated and commended all.

C. Correspondence – Mrs. Norcel read the following correspondence:

Jennifer Crawford, Elena Veltri, Allison Vallance, Patricia Kelly, Clara La Porte, and Michelle Hyland had concerns and suggestions regarding the reopening committee and the parent survey. All would appreciate more information and specifics. Parents that are opposed to wearing masks in school are Felicia Czumble, Joanne Mekawis, Jamie Molgard and Kristen Sabad. Ava Gallo, Rachel Tropp and Ginnila Perez sent a copy of their report entitled Anti-Bias and Equity Alumni Thoughts. Matt Bracksieck presented a statement endorsed by the TEA and PTSA to create an anti-racist learning community. John Mastrianni sent us an invitation to reach out if we have questions or comments about the TEA climate survey. Jennifer Chirles sent a thank

you to THS students, staff and the community for the five wonderful years she had as house principal.

D. Public Comment

Ava Gallo, Rachel Tropp, Ashley Gaudiano, Listy Thomas, Tara Figueroa, Joy Colon, Amanda Wagner, Ellie Grosso and Chelsea Morton all spoke in favor of developing a task force to help create a respectful school environment to include anti-racist training, a review of policies and an update of the K-12 curriculum to be more inclusive. All feel Trumbull schools must stress the importance of diversity in our classrooms. Matt Bracksieck and David Weitzman spoke of the importance of developing a comprehensive plan of action to support social justice and equality and stated that racism has no place in Trumbull schools.

E. Superintendent Report- Mr. Iassogna

1. The Board should be pleased with the financial turnaround of the 2019-2020 budget and the 2020-2021 budget request. We were able to overcome a \$1–\$2 million-dollar deficit and ended the 2019-2020 year with a positive balance. We also have balanced our budget for the 2020-2021 school year, although there have been several layoffs/reductions and numerous transfers.
2. Our School Reopening Committee has been formed and has met via Google Meets. The Committee consists of over 30 individuals grouped into 13 subcommittees. A first draft report will be submitted on Wednesday, July 15. The final report is due to the State on July 24.

Mr. Iassogna must qualify this picture by pointing out district plans are subject to change with evolving guidelines from the Governor and Connecticut State Department of Education.

3. All Trumbull School offices resumed their regular schedule on Monday, July 6.
4. Important Personnel Postings: Business Manager Posting Closed – July 10; A House Principal Trumbull High Posting Closed – July 10; Music Director (Band) Posting Closes – July 17; Agriscience Director Posting Closes – August 20; Director of PPS – to be determined.

F. Board Chairman Report- Mrs. Timpanelli

The Board of Education has completed the Superintendent interview process and is now finalizing the State of Connecticut requirements for all Professional Employees in Public Education. Our consultant, Dr. Betty Osga, is facilitating all necessary documentation and upon successful completion, we will announce our appointment within the next week or two.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 6/9/20, Special Meetings 6/16/20, 6/29/20

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

B. Personnel – Mr. Iassogna

Mr. Iassogna presented the following one retirement, two resignations and one leave of absence:

Chirles, Jennifer; House Principal at Trumbull High School since August 2015, resigning July 17, 2020.

Horton, Peter; Instrumental Music Teacher at Trumbull High School since September 1988, retiring effective June 30, 2020.

Proscino, Geraldine; elementary math specialist (.5) at Daniels Farm Elementary School since August 2009, resigning effective June 30, 2020.

Request for Leave of Absence

Lemarie, Collette; teacher of French at Trumbull High School since August 2019 is requesting a personal leave of absence without pay for the 2020-2021 school year. This request complies with the Trumbull Board of Education Leave of Absence Policy, 4150.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Kerr) to accept the above retirement, two resignations and one leave of absence as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

C. Digital Learning -Christina Hefele

Christina Hefele, Director of Digital Learning, presented an overview of our distance learning that was implemented in the 2019-2020 school year. We are looking to improve our digital learning for the 2020-2021 school year by implementing more efficient practices to better support our students.

D. Later School Start Time Committee Plan-Dr. Budd

At its June 9, 2020, meeting, the Board approved the membership of a new Later School Start Time Committee and requested a presentation on a detailed plan for the Committee. At this evening's meeting, Dr. Budd proposed a plan to be discussed and endorsed by the Board that included: what implementation will entail, the Committee's timeline and steps to achieve transparency and two-way feedback. Subcommittees will explore all aspects of what later start times will look like and associated costs if implemented in Trumbull.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Kerr) to approve the Later School Start Time Committee Plan as presented by Dr. Budd. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. 2020-2021 Planning Updates: Student Enrollment & Reopening Survey-Dr. Budd

Dr. Budd presented current data on two planning aspects for the 2020-2021 school year: Dr. Budd reviewed current student enrollment numbers for every school that are being monitored daily to ensure class size guidelines are being met in relation to the reopening plan and shared the results of the recent parent/guardian survey related to the reopening of school.

F. Approval Lease Purchase- Bank of America-Mr. Cameron

Mr. Cameron presented the following for Board approval:

Resolution empowering Acting Superintendent Iassogna and Interim Business Manager Cameron to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the Board.

Memorandum of Understanding defining the roles and responsibilities of the Town and Board in this transaction.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Kerr) to approve the above Resolution and Memorandum of Understanding as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Financial Committee Report–Financial Reports as of June 30, 2020

Mr. Cameron presented the June financials and reported we have an available fund balance.

Mr. Iassogna pointed out that we can return the monies or partial monies to the Town or seek total reimbursement back to the Board of Education for use in our operating budget most likely for legacy accounts or COVID-19 materials and supplies.

It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Petitti) to accept the above financial reports as of June 30, 2020 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

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