

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT  
Regular Meeting – July 28, 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

M. Petitti

M. Ward

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. with all members present or on the phone. Also invited to be present were Attorney Floyd Dugas and Acting Superintendent Ralph Iassogna to provide information regarding discussion topics.

The Board received information and discussed the contract and compensation proposal for the Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Jonathan Budd.

The Board received information and discussed the requested compensation increases for the Executive Assistant and Secretary to the Superintendent.

The Board adjourned from Executive Session at 6:50 pm.

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

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

Agenda Item II—Preliminary Business

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

B. Correspondence- Mrs. Norcel

We received emails concerning the reopening of Trumbull schools: Sarah Di Pinto shared suggestions for reopening THS. Lara Walden would like feedback after the Board tours the school buildings and sits in student desks with masks on. She also reminded the Board of the air quality issues at Hillcrest as well as the other schools. Michelle Brunone found our reopening plan lacking and suggested the district set up zoom meetings with the distance learning committee to provide updates. Erin Morelli is concerned about anticipated class size grade 3 at Jane Ryan and is worried there will be last minute registrations from the new housing complex on Reservoir Avenue. Dana Misner and Kerry Richeda wrote about distance learning and the impact on students.

C. Public Comment

Jess Cintron Henry would like more comprehensive communications from the re-opening committee. Lisa Nuland would like a detailed distance learning plan to include synchronous learning to include best practices to help parents make tough decisions. Patricia Kelly is asking

the Board for more transparency in communicating our distance learning plan for 2020-2021. THS teacher Nick Banks read a statement from the TEA to advocate for our teachers stating safety needs to be a priority and stressing the immediate need for safety requirements and protocols. Amy Lehaney would like the budget to be revisited and is concerned about Middlebrook grade 3 class size and Kathy Champion spoke in favor of synchronous learning so that students can appreciate some level of normalcy and interact with classmates and teachers.

D. Superintendent Report - Mr. Iassogna

- Our district forwarded our initial reopening plan to the State of Connecticut. Mr. Iassogna believes new guidelines or protocols will be issued that will necessitate future plan changes.
- On July 27, 2020, Mr. Iassogna met with Fairfield County Superintendents and Governor Lamont at New Canaan High School to discuss the reopening of Connecticut schools.
- Our first Zoom Informational Forum to address the reopening of Trumbull schools will be held on Friday, July 31, at 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. We hope you can join us and look forward to hearing from you.
- Administrative Openings:
  - Business Administrator — posting closed with four interviews next week
  - Agriscience — six applicants and we will begin interviews next week
  - Elementary Principal — posted but awaiting resignation

E. Board Chairman Report - Mrs. Timpanelli

Mrs. Timpanelli would like to thank Dr. Betty Osga of NESDEC for her counsel and expertise in our Superintendent search. The Board is pleased to announce the selection of our new Superintendent at this evening's meeting.

It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Petitti) to add to the agenda the appointment of the new Superintendent. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the appointment of the new Trumbull Superintendent, Dr. Martin Semmel, effective September 14, 2020. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Dr. Semmel addressed the Board to say thank you for the great honor of becoming Trumbull's Superintendent and is looking forward to working in our district.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 7/14/20

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the 7/14/20 minutes as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Personnel – Mr. Iassogna

Mr. Iassogna presented one administrative appointment:

Siano, Christopher, A House Principal at Trumbull High School; effective July 27, 2020.

This was received and filed by the Board.

C. Approval/Non-Affiliate Salaries- Mr. Iassogna, Attorney Dugas

At this time of the year, the Board of Education reviews and approves the non-affiliated salary increases and/or adjustments for those employees not in a bargaining unit. The non-affiliated

positions are listed with an alignment to corresponding bargaining unit positions. The designations and recommended percentage increases for those non-bargaining unit employees are predicated on numerous factors as outlined:

Non-Central Office

- a. Trumbull Public Schools Signing Aide (paras) Grant this position an increase of 1.75% from \$22.04 to \$22.43
- b. OT/PT (Therapists) (teachers) Grant five of these seven positions an increase of .68% from \$70.93 to \$71.41; one position an increase .68% from \$72.12 to \$72.61; and one position increase of .68% from \$57.80 to \$58.19
- c. Behavior Analyst (teachers) Grant these positions an increase of .68% from \$68.31 to \$68.77 per hour and one position .68% from \$66.05 to \$66.50 per hour and another position increase .68% from \$68.00 to \$68.46
- d. Cafeteria Aides (paras) Grant these positions an increase of 1.75% from \$13.81 to \$14.05
- e. Trumbull Public Schools Webmaster (teachers) Grant this position an increase of .68% from \$8,160.81 to \$8,216.30

Central Office/Non-Affiliates

- a. Grant the Payroll & Insurance Manager an increase of 2.5% from \$86,996.68 to \$89,171.60
- b. Grant the Secretary to the Superintendent an increase (separate motion below)
- c. Grant the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent an increase (separate motion below)
- d. Business Administrator – Open, to be determined when the position is filled.
- e. Assistant Superintendent – Grant the Assistant Superintendent an increase (separate motion below)

It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Petitti) to approve the above non-affiliated Non-Central Office and Central Office salary increases as presented by Attorney Dugas. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Norcel) to grant the Secretary to the Superintendent and the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent a 2.5% salary increase as presented by Attorney Dugas. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the contract and salary for the Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Budd, at \$199,000 as presented by Attorney Dugas. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Approval/Revision to 2020-2021 School Calendar – Dr. Budd

Based on the need for additional staff development on topics related to the reopening of school, and in compliance with the State Board of Education's temporary waiver of Connecticut General Statutes § 10-15 in relation to the typical 180-day requirement for student school year, the Board is asked to approve a revised 2020-2021 District Calendar that substitutes three student days in early September for three days of professional development, and delays the start of the year for all students until Tuesday, September 8, 2020. The proposed revised 2020-2021 District Calendar begins the year on Friday, September 4, 2020, for students in grades PreK, K, 6, & 9, to allow those students an orientation to their school buildings prior to the return of students in other grades. Finally, adoption of this revised 2020-2021 District Calendar would

necessitate the Board’s waiver of the relevant aspects of Policy 6112, “Length of School Year and School Day,” for the 2020-21 school year.

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Kerr) to approve the Revised 2020-2021 District Calendar as presented by Dr. Budd. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

E. 2020-2021 Planning Updates: Student Enrollment – Dr. Budd

Dr. Budd gave an update on enrollment numbers for grades K-12 and the potential need for additional sections if student enrollment numbers increase. Dr. Budd will continue to monitor enrollment data and will report to the Board at our next meeting on August 11, 2020.

F. Curriculum Committee Report – Mr. Ward

Approval/New Course Text Proposals – Dr. Budd

1. *Linear Algebra and Its Applications*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (Core: Multivariable Calculus)
2. *The Secret Life of the American Musical: How Broadway Shows Are Built* (Core: Theatre Explorations: The American Musical)

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

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:26 p.m.