

# TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

## Finance Committee of the Trumbull Board of Education

### Special Meeting Minutes

**Date of meeting:**

Thursday, May 7, 2020

**Attendees:** Kathleen Fearon, Scot Kerr, Jackie Norcel and Allan Cameron

**Additional Attendees:** Unknown; it was a virtual meeting and a number of others dialed in.

**Location:** Google meets; it was a virtual meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 5:46P.M.

The minutes from the meeting of February 25, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Jackie Norcel moved to accept the minutes, Scot Kerr seconded; they were approved unanimously.

Mr. Cameron then reviewed the financial reports as of April 30, 2020. He reviewed the Expense vs. Budget Summary (with Forecast). He noted that the forecast was made before the governor announced the close of school for the year. He reviewed the projected surpluses and shortfalls in each of the budget families and the reasons for them. At the end, for the Board's general fund, he reported that as of April 30 a budget overage of \$1,939,848 is expected. That amount will be reduced, or "mitigated" when the \$1,061,000 Special Ed Excess Cost grant is received (due in May) and by the \$307,000 adjustment to last year's Excess Cost Grant, received by the Town on April 30 as part of the Education Cost sharing Grant. That will leave a potential shortfall of \$571,848. Mr. Cameron then identified other "Potential Mitigating Factors". Savings as a result of not having a spring sports season, \$211,000, potential savings in the substitute Para. Account \$100,000 and potential transfers from the BOE budget to the grants, \$200,000. After applying these savings, there is a potential over budget situation of \$60,609.

Mr. Cameron then reported that as a result of schools being closed through June 30, there will NOT be a budget shortfall. Additional expected savings in supplies, tuition and transportation that will insure the Board ends the year within its operating budget.

Mr. Cameron reported on School Lunch, the "009" account (a new addition to the BOE packet), the Grants, Special Revenue, Student Activities, and Expendable Trust Funds. There was discussion around the Federal Grants, especially Title I as an indicator for the possible amount of potential reimbursement under the CARES Act.

Scot Kerr moved that the committee accept the financial reports as of April 30, 2020 and forward them to the full Board. Jackie Norcel seconded. The motion was approved by all.

Next, Mr. Cameron reported Board Policy 3453/Special Accounts. A discussion took place around how to accommodate a request by Fred Tamarkin, president of the THS Class of 2015. Because of the COVID-19 situation, Mr. Tamarkin reported the class will not be able to hold a reunion this year. He requested that the Board hold the class reunion funds in the Board's

account for an additional year. A discussion of how to accommodate Mr. Tamarkin's request ensued.

Mr. Kerr moved that the Committee request ~~that the Board vote to request~~ that the Superintendent, under the extraordinary powers granted to him by the Board during this pandemic, grant an exception to Policy 3453, Regulation Section I, paragraph F to allow the funds for the class of 2015 to remain on deposit in the Board's Student Activity account for ~~one more year~~ a sixth year, until 6/30/2021. Mrs. Norcel seconded. The motion was approved by all.

The committee discussed the possibility of approaching the Policy Committee to revise the policy to grant future Boards the flexibility to respond to similar requests. There was also discussion around changing the process for disbursing the funds

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Cameron