

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – December 14, 2021
Long Hill Administration Building

The Trumbull Board of Education met for a Regular Meeting at the Long Hill Administration Building.

Members present:

C. Bandecchi
T. Gallo
J. McNamee
J. Norcel
L. Nuland
M. Petitti
A. Squicciarro
L. Timpanelli

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. Election of Board of Education Officers

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve Lucinda Timpanelli as Board Chairman of the BOE. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Bandecchi) to approve Jackie Norcel as Vice Chairman of the BOE. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to approve Julia McNamee as BOE Secretary. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

There was a motion (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to add an agenda item/recognition to this portion of the meeting. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Mrs. Timpanelli read a tribute to Ted Lovely: a former THS Principal, Director of Curriculum and Assistant Superintendent, just to name a few of Ted's many achievements. Ted recently passed away and will be remembered for his numerous contributions to Trumbull Public Schools.

C. Recognition – THS Students to Participate in United State Senate Youth Program

The United States Senate Youth Program, established in 1962 by U.S. Senate Resolution, is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. Trumbull High School is very happy to announce that seniors Neya Kidambi and Eman Seyal will represent Connecticut at the 2022 US Senate Youth Program this

year. Both students are members of Trumbull High's Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society as well as several other honor societies.

The entire Board commended and congratulated Neya Kidambi and Eman Seyal on this outstanding achievement.

D. Correspondence – There was no reported correspondence at tonight's meeting.

E. Public Comment

The following people spoke: Jenn Record encourages the Board to vote on a budget that supports our children and gives them the opportunity to succeed; Daniel Durden spoke of concerns in schools; Lisa Hughes discussed the mask policy at TPS.

F. Superintendent Report- Dr. Semmel reported:

- Last week there was a rise in Covid cases in TPS as follows: 41 cases with 127 students isolating or quarantining; 73 screen and stay; and 7 staff in isolation. 80.62% of 12–17-year-old children are fully vaccinated; 85% with one shot and 13% of 5–11-year-old children are fully vaccinated; 35% with one shot. We have implemented screen and stay protocols to allow close contact students to remain in class. Continue to check the TPS Covid dashboard for updates.
- The news broadcast, NPR visited Madison Middle School to attend an advisory session and met with the founding members of the *14 days of action campaign*. Please visit the NPR Ct. News website to view *Trumbull students spread kindness on a day to remember Sandy Hook victims*.
- We are extremely proud of our TPS musicians, band and choir members who are performing at live concerts at our schools. Please check your school's website for performance dates.
- Thanks to all of you who have contributed to the Elite bookshop at 2 Daniels Farm Road in Trumbull. There will be a press release announcing the grand opening of *Next Chapter Books* in the near future.
- Dr. Semmel addressed a concern over a video presented by a Madison student online last year. While a student was presenting a video on a google meet, the student's teacher realized the content was not on topic and the video was immediately stopped.

G. Teacher Board Representative Report-Nick Banks

Teachers are adhering to all of the established protocols to keep students safe and commend the equity teams for their work to create an inclusive school environment. Teacher PD sessions were held based on SEL goals and strategies. We welcome the new Board members and express our condolences to Ted Lovely's family. Ted was an exemplary educator, principal and BOE Chair.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval/Minutes of BOE Regular Meeting of November 16, 2021

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve the Regular Board of Education minutes of the November 16, 2021 meeting as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Personnel

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified appointments:

Ashley, Patricia; 6/13 (\$83,038) special education* teacher at Trumbull High School effective November 8, 2021.

Doyle, Meghan; 6/5 (\$65,244) school social worker at Middlebrook Elementary School, effective December 9, 2021.

Emanuelson, Clifford; MA/9 (\$68,952) science* teacher at Hillcrest and Madison Middle School, effective October 14, 2021.

The above appointments were received and filed by the Board.

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified resignations:

Chicos, Elizabeth; special education teacher at Trumbull High School since September 2006, resigning effective January 12, 2022.

Hibson, Robert; technology integration specialist at Trumbull High School since August 2021, resigning effective December 23, 2021.

Tavares, Elizabeth; district English Learner department chairperson/teacher since August 2018, resigning effective January 7, 2022.

Taylor, Dawn; school psychologist at Madison Middle School since August 2021, resigning effective November 17, 2021.

Vance, Jeffrey; language arts/reading teacher at Madison Middle School since August 2008, resigning effective December 23, 2021.

Whitley, Randi; psychologist (.6) at Frenchtown Elementary School since August 2016, resigning effective January 10, 2022.

It was moved (Gallo) and seconded (Norcel) to accept these resignations as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor

C. Approval/2022 Board of Education Dates

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 proposed 2022 Board of Education dates.

It was moved (Bandedcchi) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the 2022 Board of Education meeting dates as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

D. Donations Made to Trumbull Public Schools - Dr. Semmel

In accordance with Board of Education Policy 3210, Gifts to the School District, a donation of \$4,640 from the Dick Seaman Scholarship Fund will be presented to Trumbull Public Schools for the ELITE Bookstore.

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

E. School Climate Survey

Dr. Hartman presented data from a school climate survey that was sent to students, staff and family members to reflect the current climate in our schools. The following areas were assessed: rules and norms; physical safety; socio-emotional security, respect for diversity and school connectedness. Committee members will review district wide data and identify strategies to improve school climate where necessary.

F. Revised BOE Five-Year Capital Plan

Director of Operations Mr. Dave Cote presented the revised Board of Education Five-Year Capital Plan. The revisions to the original plan that was approved at the November 16, 2021 Board of Education Meeting include the addition of Town Engineering projects for paving and sidewalks at several schools and additional funding for the Agriscience building boiler replacement for which bids were received in excess of the approved authorization.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the revised BOE Five-Year Capital Plan as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

G. Middlebrook Elementary Roof Replacement Project

The Middlebrook Elementary Roof Replacement Building Committee met at its December 8, 2021 meeting. Director of Operations Mr. Dave Cote presented the drawings, specifications and cost estimate to the full Board for approval as per the Connecticut State Department of School Construction.

It was moved (Squicciarro) and seconded (Bandecci) to approve the final drawings and specifications for the Middlebrook Elementary Roof Replacement Project as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

(Squicciarro) motioned to amend and seconded (Bandecci) the above motion to read: The Board approves the final drawings, specifications and cost estimate for the Middlebrook Elementary Roof Replacement Project as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

H. Curriculum Committee Report- Dr. Iwanicki

The BOE Curriculum Committee met on November 18, 2021. Dr. Iwanicki presented the following Curriculum Texts and Survey for approval:

- Culinary II Curriculum New Text Approval
- (4) Grade 11 English Curriculum Text Approvals
- (3) Grade 12 Science Fiction Curriculum Text Approvals

It was moved (Petitti) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above three texts as presented. Unanimous in favor.

- Kindergarten Social Studies Curriculum Text Approval
- (2) Grade 2 Social Studies Curriculum Text Approvals
- Grade 3 Social Studies Curriculum Text Approval

It was moved (McNamee) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the above three texts as presented. Unanimous in favor.

- Student Survey Review for Late School Start

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

I. Policy Committee Report

The BOE Policy Committee met on November 9, 2021. Dr. Iwanicki presented the following policies for First Readings:

- Policy CPS3451 Petty Cash
- Policy CPS3450 Monies in Buildings
- Policy CPS3326.3 BOE Credit Card

These policies will be brought to a future BOE meeting as a second reading and possible approval.

J. Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee of the BOE met on November 22, 2021. Mr. Hendrickson presented the Financial Reports as of October 31, 2021 for full Board approval.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the BOE Financials as of October 31, 2021 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

(Gallo) motioned to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. and Board Members were unanimous in favor.