

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – May 25, 2021
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
A. Squicciarro
M. Ward

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Squicciarro) to go into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's End-Of-Year Goals. The Superintendent was invited into Executive Session. Vote: All in favor.

It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Ward) to come out of Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. Vote: All in favor.

Agenda Item I—Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 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 read the following correspondence: Emily Richards wrote in regard to remote learning. Jenell Cunningham, Liz Doherty and Mary Santilli sent thanks for the teacher appreciation gift. Barbara Rudini and Scott Lilly wrote regarding masks in school.
- C. Public Comment - Meredith Martin and Daniel Pampillonio spoke about elementary students wearing masks in school.
- D. Superintendent Report
Dr. Semmel reported on the following:
 - Our schools are in the process of planning in-person graduation ceremonies. The THS graduation ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, June 17 at 5:45 p.m.
 - On May 20, The Town Council met to approve this year's BOE budget increase of 3%. Dr. Semmel thanked the Town Council and BOF for their diligent and comprehensive approach to this year's budget request and resolution.
 - Debra Ponte addressed the Board to say thank you for being selected as the new Middlebrook School Principal. Debra stated that she is excited to join the Trumbull team and is looking forward to her new position.

E. Board Chairman Report

Board Chair Lucinda Timpanelli welcomed our new Middlebrook Principal, Debra Ponte and thanked the BOF for supporting the BOE 3% budget request that will give the opportunity to rebuild Trumbull Public Schools.

F. Student Board Representatives Report - Mrs. Timpanelli read the Student Board Reps' report this evening:

- The Board sent thanks to Gabriella Biondi and Jack Allen for their hard work and excellent reporting for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Congratulations to Rachael Weintraub for being selected for best delegate at the recent Model Congress competition.
- Elementary and middle schools are excited to host in-person outdoor graduations.
- The THS prom is scheduled for June 4 and THS graduation is scheduled for June 17. Both will be held outdoors using safety guidelines.
- Gabriella Biondi and Jack Allen sent words of thanks to the Board and Dr. Semmel for the opportunity to serve as student reps for the 2020-2021 school year.

Agenda Item III—Reports/Action Items

A. Approval Minutes – Regular Meeting, May 11, 2021 and Special Meeting/Executive Session, May 18, 2021

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the Board of Education minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Gallo) to approve the Board of Education minutes of the Special Meeting/Executive Session of May 18, 2021 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Personnel – Dr. Semmel

Dr. Semmel presented the following certified appointment:

Debra Ponte, Category II/5 (\$178,449) Principal at Middlebrook Elementary School, effective July 1, 2021.

The Board unanimously accepted the appointment.

Dr. Semmel presented the following Request for Leave of Absence:

Michelle Bal, Grade 2 teacher at Daniels Farm Elementary School since September 2016 is requesting a personal leave of absence without pay for the 2021-2022 school year. This request complies with the Trumbull Board of Education Leave of Absence Policy, 4150.

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

C. Reopening Update – Dr. Semmel

- Currently, our in-person school attendance numbers are as follows:
Elementary schools – 95.6%
Middle schools – 88%
THS – 71%

- Dr. Semmel sent an email to the TPS community announcing the updated quarantine policy in our schools and a letter citing our District Goals update and looking ahead to 2021-2022.
- As of this date, we received an executive order from the Governor's office mandating that students and staff are required to wear masks inside our schools.
- We expect to begin full in-person learning in the fall of 2021. Dr. Semmel will post the details of the reopening plan online by June 23, 2021.

D. Curriculum Committee Report – Mr. Ward

Approval/Curriculum Guides – Dr. Iwanicki presented the following Curriculum Guides:

- Creative Writing
- Algebra 1-B
- Math Workshop II
- Modeling and Reasoning in Mathematics
- Practical Applications in Mathematics

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

E. Finance Report – Mr. Hendrickson

Mr. Hendrickson updated the Board on the financials as of April 30, 2021.

- Financial Reports as of April 30, 2021
It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Kerr) to approve the Financial Reports as of April 30, 2021 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor

Financial Committee Report – Mr. Hendrickson presented the following accounts to the Board for discussion and the following motions were made:

- Non-Lapsing Account
It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the Non-Lapsing Account as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- Fee Schedule (P1330)
It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Ward) to approve the Fee Schedule (P1330) as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- Band/Strings Fee- no vote was taken.
- One-to-One Insurance Fee
It was moved (Kerr) and seconded (Norcel) to approve a \$30 insurance fee for the upcoming school year. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- High School Device Loaner Fee
It was moved (Norcel) and seconded (Squicciarro) to approve a \$50 device loaner fee for the high school. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

- Transfers
 1. \$1,250,000.00 FROM: Reserve for Negotiations TO School Lunch-Intergovernmental
 2. \$430,000.00 FROM: Benefits - Health & Dental TO:
 - THS Musical-Intergovernmental Transfer \$35,000.00
 - Interdistrict-Intergovernmental Transfer \$195,000.00
 - Elementary Strings-Intergovernmental Transfer \$180,422.02
 - THS Auditorium-Intergovernmental Transfer \$19,577.98
 3. \$129,693.00 FROM: Transportation-Regular Routes \$ 126,028 TO: Redemption of Principal and interest \$3,665.

\$129,693.00 FROM: Transportation-Regular Routes TO:
 - Redemption of Principal \$126,028
 - Interest \$3,665

It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Norcel) to approve the three transfers as presented.
Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:45 p.m.