

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

BUDGET MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2008

Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

6:30 PM*

***PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIME**

AGENDA

I. *PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- A. Salute to the Flag
- B. Correspondence
- C. Comments and Questions

II. PERSONNEL

- A. Personnel – Mr. Iassogna

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval/Minutes-Executive /Regular Sessions – 11/6/08

IV. REPORTS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval/Board of Education Meeting Dates – Mr. Iassogna
- B. Budget Presentation & Discussion - Mr. Iassogna, Mr. Sirico, Staff

Part I – Introduction

- » Overview
- » Financial Summary

Part II – Budget by Object

- » Salaries
- » Benefits
- » Services – Professional & Technical
- » Services – Property
- » Services – Purchased – Other
- » Supplies
- » Property
- » Other Objects

(This Agenda item will be reviewed and discussed in sequence. **Budget by Object** areas not addressed this evening will carry over to the December 4, 2008 meeting.)

VI. OTHER

NOTE: *If needed, the Board may choose to hold an Executive Session upon a two thirds vote of members present and voting.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Trumbull, Connecticut

Report to the Board of Education
Budget Meeting, December 2, 2008

Mr. Iassogna

Agenda Item II-A

Personnel

A. Appointments - Certified.

Alford, Laura, BA-4 social studies teacher at Hillcrest Middle School, effective November 24, 2008.

Campbell, Caroline; MA-9 reading teacher at Tashua School effective 11/10/08 at (.50) and full-time (1.0) effective December, 2008.

Campbell, Caryn; 6th Yr-21 school psychologists/department chairperson for the district effective January 5, 2009.

Recommendation:

Receive and file

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Report to the Board of Education
Budget Meeting – December 2, 2008

Mr. Iassogna

Agenda Item – III-A

Approval/Minutes

Regular Meeting - 11/06/08

Administrative Recommendation:

Approve the minutes of the above
noted meeting.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – November 6, 2008
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Long Hill Administration Building for a Regular Meeting.

Members present:

S. Wright, Chairperson
M. Ward, Vice Chairperson
J. Tyborowski, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
D. Herbst, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member

Members Absent:

L. King, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:07 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.
- C. Comments and Questions—Crista Forstrom, 94 Tashua Road, asked the Board to again review the issue of bus transportation for part-time TLC kindergarten students on the days when the students do not attend TLC, as she was extremely disappointed with the ruling by the impartial hearing officer on her transportation appeal as it was denied. She further asked the Board to listen to the tape of the hearing so that they could form their own judgment on the issue.
- D. Teacher of the Year—Mr. Iassogna introduced Madison Middle School social studies teacher Jennifer Bourque and recognized her as the district's Teacher of the Year. He noted her many accomplishments that led to her being selected as one of the four finalists for Connecticut Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Bourque thanked the staff of Madison Middle school, her students, the Superintendent and Board members for meeting with the selection committee. She stated that teaching in Trumbull has been amazing because of the support of administrators, fellow teachers, and parents she has received and that she is honored to be a part of the Trumbull school community.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Item IV B, THS Renovation Update, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV—Reports (out of order)

- B. THS Renovation Update—Mr. Nugent, THS Building Committee Chair, gave a brief update of the progress of the project and noted the architects presented the Building Committee with conceptual designs for the auditorium and natatorium. The Building Committee is recommending the auditorium be located in the courtyard area in front of the present building. Mr. Nugent further noted that this option has the least amount of impact on the students/staff while school is in session; would eliminate the need for portable classrooms during construction; allow the present auditorium to be used as swing space; and is projected to be the least costly. Mr. Nugent then introduced Mr. Greg Smolley and Mr. Stephen Burgess, architects with JCJ/Wiles. Mr. Smolley presented the different conceptual designs for the

renovation. He reviewed 4 design options for the auditorium and 3 options for the natatorium, pointing out the pros and cons of each option. The architects are recommending design option 4 for the auditorium for the same reasons previously mentioned. Also recommended was option 3 for the natatorium, a separate building which would be located at the south end of the football field and could be used as a community center. This option would be least disruptive when school is in session. Mr. Barbarotta noted this evening they were presenting the conceptual designs for the THS Renovation to the Board and the Town Council to get a consensus so that the project can move forward. He reminded the Board that there are specific State guidelines that must be followed in order to qualify for State funding for a “like new renovation” and the final design for the renovation must be approved by the Board so it can be brought to the State for funding. It was noted that the target completion date for the project is September 2012. Questions were asked concerning clarification of the Board’s role in the renovation, a timeline for completion of the project and the process involved. Mr. Barbarotta briefly reviewed the steps involved and noted the THS Building Committee will present periodic updates on the project to the Board so that they are continually kept apprised of the project. It was further noted that a brief description of the process, the Board’s role, and a more detailed timeline would be forthcoming.

It was moved (Chory) seconded (Herbst) to take Agenda Item VI A, Second Reading Policy: Drug Free Workplace 4118.231 out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI—Old Business (out of order)

A. Second Reading: Drug Free Workplace 4118.231— This policy was presented to the Board at their October 7, 2008 meeting. Discussion took place regarding the limitations of the policy to reporting incidents that happen only during work time in the work place, wording of “rule” versus “law” and the Board’s role in suspending/terminating employees. It was suggested that the policy be expanded to include reporting staff arrests and/or convictions to the Supervisor that take place outside of the workplace. Also noted was that this policy reflects the federal Drug Free Workplace Act and that arrests/convictions outside the workplace may be addressed in another Board policy. Dr. Vespe noted that he will investigate the wording in question, addressing alcohol and/or drug arrests/convictions that occur outside the workplace, and the policies where these issues should be addressed. PAC will revise the policy(s) as suggested and bring back to the Board for approval.

Agenda Item II - Personnel

A. Personnel – There have been no changes since the last Board meeting.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

A. Approval/Minutes-Regular Meeting– 10/21/08 – By unanimous consent of members present and voting at the October 21, 2008 meeting, the minutes were accepted as presented.

Agenda Item IV – Reports

A. Oral Reports

1. Teacher Board Representative Darlene Ference reported that Tuesday’s inservice went very well; the presenters were excellent and time was well spent with colleagues. She also noted that today was the first day of parent conferences; the elementary teachers were preparing to use the new report card format; and congratulated and complimented Jennifer Bourque on her accolades as Trumbull Teacher of the Year. She further noted that she was very impressed with the dedication of the members of the Board.
2. Student Board Representative Chris Romano highlighted various sports teams; the cross country team did well as several boys and all the girls qualified for the State Open and one girl made it to the New England Regionals; field hockey had a winning season;

and the girls' soccer team qualified for the State tournament. Student Board Representative Jaclyn Testani added the high school spirit week was well received, especially Rent-A-Senior day; the Junior/Senior Cotillion (new this year as a combined dance) went very well and everyone had a great time. Ms. Labella then congratulated Ms. Testani for being honored as a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist.

- B. SRBI/RTI Report—Dr. Cialfi, Dr. Vespe and Mr. Kunschraft jointly gave a power point presentation recently given to and well received by TPSLD. It was noted that Response to Intervention (RTI) is the practice of providing high quality instruction/interventions matched to student needs and using learning rate over time and level of performance to make important educational decisions regarding individual students. Further noted was that in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, districts must have appropriate “Scientific Research-Based Interventions (SRBI) that provide opportunities to students as part of the regular education program. The RTI/SRBI framework is designed to provide a structure for meeting the mandates of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and NCLB (No Child Left Behind). It was further noted that the district is in the process of implementing a K-12 SRBI model, with an emphasis on providing a comprehensive Tier I curriculum for all students. Mr. Kunschraft noted that RTI is about all students getting what they need to learn. Mr. Iassogna noted that our pre-school program is strong, especially with providing extra support to students in need, because it is funded with Federal and State monies. However, when students enter kindergarten (a strong academic program) funding ends, the students previously given support no longer have it, and there is a wide gap of disparity in achievement which is becoming a growing concern that needs to be addressed. Discussion ensued.

- C. Parent Handbook for Elementary Assessment—Mr. Kunschraft reviewed the Parent Handbook for Elementary Assessments. This handbook was created to enable parents to understand the purpose, results and use of each assessment and provides a listing of assessments, organized by grade level, and dates the assessment results are available. He noted that various assessments are administered to students throughout the year to fully understand their academic strengths and needs. Mr. Kunschraft further noted that, along with the handbook, the availability of students' assessment results online (from our student information database, Infinite Campus) replace the Individualized Student Assessment Reports which have been previously utilized. It was also noted that while individual assessment results are valuable, they are only one part of a thorough analysis of a student's current academic performance. Discussion ensued.

- D. 2007-08 Strategic School and District Profile— Each year the Connecticut Department of Education's Strategic School Profile Report is required to be reported to local Boards of Education. Mr. Kunschraft reviewed the 2007-08 Strategic School profile, a comprehensive report providing a great deal of quantified information. Mr. Iassogna noted that on page 4, Activities of Graduates, the percentage of students going on to higher education was incorrect and that it should be 95%. Mr. Wright highlighted some information including: Trumbull educates 90% of the student population of the Town and that over 650 students have come into the system in the last 5 years; 17% of high school students work after school; regional ties with 38 students attending as Project Choice and 187 involved in the Agriscience program; good ratio of students per computer on the elementary level; 99% of students graduate from high school. Discussion ensued.

Agenda Item V—New Business

There was no new business this evening.

It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to discuss the number of students in the first grade at Middlebrook Elementary School. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VII—Other

- A. Middlebrook First Grade Enrollment—Mr. Iassogna reported that at this time there were 68 students (3 classes) in the first grade at Middlebrook with the possibility of two more students enrolling in January. Since the demographics of the classes are varied, it was agreed that additional help was needed for the classes. While adding another teacher/class would be the most desirable solution, due to budget constraints, a decision was made to hire an extra paraprofessional to support all three classes at this time. It was also noted that the situation would be revisited if enrollment increases. A brief discussion ensued.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:37 p.m.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Report to the Board of Education
Budget Meeting – December 2, 2008

Mr. Iassogna

Agenda Item – V-A

Approval/Board of Education Meeting 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 ensuing year.

Administrative Recommendation:

Adopt the attached Board of Education Meeting Dates for calendar year 2009.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING DATES**

(All meetings are scheduled on Tuesday evenings unless otherwise noted)

2009

JANUARY 6

JANUARY 20

FEBRUARY 3

MARCH 3

MARCH 17

APRIL 7

APRIL 21

MAY 5

MAY 19

JUNE 2

JUNE 16

SUMMER MEETINGS

JULY 14

AUGUST 4

AUGUST 18

FALL MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 1

SEPTEMBER 15

OCTOBER 6

OCTOBER 20

NOVEMBER 10

BUDGET SESSIONS
(Subject to Change)

DECEMBER 1

DECEMBER 3
(THURSDAY)

DECEMBER 8