

**TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT**

Special Meeting – June 20, 2012
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room
6:00 P.M.

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- Regular Meeting-June 5, 2012 & Special Meeting-June 6, 2012

- IV. REPORTS**
 - A. Utilization of 2011-12 Unspent Monies – Mr. Iassogna

- V. NEW BUSINESS**

- VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- VII. RECEIVE AND FILE**

- VIII. OTHER**

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

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Report to the Board of Education
Special Meeting, June 20, 2012

Mr. Iassogna

Agenda Item II-A

Personnel

A. Resignations - Certified

Cucchiarelli, Douglas: science teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since September 2003, resigning effect June 30, 2012.

Recommendation:

Accept.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Report to the Board of Education
Special Meeting – June 20, 2012

Mr. Iassogna

Agenda Item – III-A

Approval/Minutes

Regular Meeting – 6/05/12

Special Meeting – 6/06/12

Administrative Recommendation:

Approve the minutes of the above
noted meetings.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – June 5, 2012
Trumbull High School
Auditorium

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Auditorium of Trumbull High School for a Regular Meeting.

Members present:

Members absent:

S. Wright, Chairperson
D. Herbst, Vice Chairperson
T. Kelly, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member
R. Seaman, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:05 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.

B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.

C. Recognitions –

1. Tenure Teachers – The following staff members were recognized and commended for attaining tenure status with the Trumbull Board of Education: Lisa Acerbo, Joseph Amaturro, Eric August, Danielle Avery, Kathleen Boland, Kristopher Boyle, Kory Buswell, Nedijka Carrano, Jennifer Conti, Taryn Cutler, Nicole Decker, Ashley DelGreco, Nicole Destadio, Robert Devine, Heather Domurad, Bernadette Dunn, Raquel Espejo, Elaine Farr, Yulia Fedorov, Michael Ferraro, Courtney Forde, Paul Gabriel, Meghan Gleason, Jacqueline Goldfarb, Kimberly Greco, Laura Hatstat, Jacqueline Hennessey, Philip Kennan, Madelyn Kennedy, Kristen Kravecs, Amy LaMaine, James McCaffrey, Michelle Molloy, Katherine Musto, Kristen O’Connell-Rubin, Mary O’Neil, Jennifer Pacelli, Danielle Pastir, Dean Pelligra, Kelly Procaccini, Melissa Pytlak, Joanna Rosen, Genevieve Ruane, Kristin Ruggiero, Laura Santelli, Ashley Thoesen, Jeffrey Vance and Rachel Wolfe.
2. TPSLD Awards – Trumbull Parents of Students with Learning Differences (TPSLD) are a group dedicated to increasing awareness of learning differences between children. Annually, TPSLD presents awards to recognize outstanding achievements by people who improve the lives of Trumbull students with disabilities. The following people received certificates for their work with students: Cynthia Wettenstein, David Turechek, Stacy Weinstein, Allison Osterberg, Laura Heyder, Courtney Forde, Susan Mitola, Jessica Thom, Jennifer Brennan, Marie Nuzzi, Jessica Mangini, Christine Farrell, Pamela Flynn, Mary Pierce, Ashley Thoesen, Janel Volpicelli, Pam Korchinski, Jennifer Marsilius, Clarissa, Biasuz, Paula Murphy and Mary Ann Dailey. The TPSLD “Above and Beyond” Awards were presented to Sharon Lomnitzer, Adult; Susan Watson, Paraprofessional; Jamie Appelberg, Youth; and Jack Martin, Honorable Mention Adult.

At this time, Superintendent Iassogna briefly reviewed the visit with representatives from South Korea who spent time with the district in an educational exchange. They toured schools and met with administrators and several Board members. The Korean educators presented the Board with a gift of

framed masks, representing Korean culture. Also at this time, it was noted that Trumbull High School's 2011 yearbook, under the advisorship of Jordan Miller and Matthew Bracksieck, was recognized for its many prestigious awards, including Best in New England. Mr. Miller noted the 2012 yearbook's theme is "Hastog" and commended the student editors for all their efforts and hard work. He presented copies to the Board.

D. Comments – There were no public comments this evening.

Agenda Item II -- Personnel

A. Personnel – Superintendent Iassogna noted that four resignations were received that needed Board action. He conveyed his appreciation for the outstanding efforts of Patricia Colello and Catherine Clark in their many years of service to the district and commended them for a job well done. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Labella) to accept the resignations of the following: Catherine Clark, music teacher at Tashua Elementary School since September 1977, retiring effective June 30, 2012; Patricia Colello, Principal at Middlebrook Elementary School since September 1987, retiring effective June 30, 2012; Jacqueline Hennessey, English teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2010, resigning effective June 30, 2012; and Denise Weed, science teacher at Agriscience and Trumbull High School since October 2006, resigning effective June 30, 2012. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting – 5/15/12 By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

At this time, it was moved (Seaman) seconded (Herbst) to take Agenda Items V-A, V-B, and V-C out of order. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V – New Business (out of order)

A. Approval/Textbook—Dr. Paslov conveyed that the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Board of Education recently reviewed 6 new textbooks and 2 supplemental novels for use in Trumbull High courses for the 2012-13 school year. She and Mrs. Rubano reviewed the following texts: *The Americans* to be used in the College Prep History course; *The American Journey, 6th Edition* to be used in the Honors United States History course; *Government by the People, 24th AP Edition* to be used in the AP/ECE American Government course; *World History* to be used in the College Prep Global Civilization course; *Western Experience* to be used in the AP/ECE European History course; and *The Annotated Mona Lisa: A Crash Course in Art History from Prehistoric to Postmodern* to be used in the Art History of War and Peace course and as an additional resource for all levels of the Global Civilization course. Also reviewed were two novels for use in the AP/ECE European History Course: *All But My Life*, the story of Gerda Weissman Klein's 6-year ordeal as a victim of Nazi cruelty and *All Quiet on the Western Front*, the story of a young German soldier during World War I. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of textbooks, online texts, weight of the books, the need for additional monies for texts, student use of online texts, and using unspent monies if available to pre-purchase textbooks. Several Board members stated that they would like to have costs of books included in the description used when presenting textbooks for approval. It was moved (Ward) and seconded (Labella) to approve the following texts and supplemental novels: *The American*;, *The American Journey, 6th Edition*; *Government by the People, 24th AP Edition*; *World History*; *Western Experience*; *The Annotated Mona Lisa: A Crash Course in Art History from Prehistoric to Postmodern*; *All But My Life*; and *All Quiet on the Western Front*. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

At this time, Chairman Wright recognized and commended the two Student Board Representatives, Patrick Curtin and Emma Connolly, for their efforts and outstanding contributions to the Board. He

presented both with the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Leadership Award, developed by CABE to provide the Board an opportunity to recognize student achievement, academic potential and leadership abilities. Mr. Iassogna presented both students with “I Make a Difference” pins and conveyed that they have done an excellent job in representing the student population and is most appreciative of their efforts and contributions to the Board.

- B. Approval/Curriculum Guide—Dr. Paslov and Mr. Edwards reviewed four curriculum guides to be used for Trumbull High science courses. They include the following full year courses for 11th graders: *Chemistry Honors*; *Chemistry ACP*; and *Chemistry CP*. Also reviewed was *Environmental Science AP/ECE*, an advanced placement course for 12th graders. Discussion ensued regarding the timeframe for the implementation of Common Core State Standards and its effect on the high school science curriculum. It was moved (Herbst) and seconded (Ward) to approve the following curriculum guides: *Chemistry Honors*; *Chemistry ACP*; *Chemistry CP*; and *Environmental Science AP/ECE*. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- C. Approval/New Course—Dr. Paslov and Mr. Horton reviewed a proposal for a new music course to be added to the Music program at Trumbull High School. The course, *Music Fundamentals: Overview of Pop/Rock*, is a half-year class for students in grades 9-12 where students will learn the fundamentals of music and how music is constructed, the role of technology, and basic piano/keyboarding skills. Discussion ensued and it was suggested that the reading of sheet music be included in the course description. It was noted that the class would be offered in the second semester of 2012-13 as a pilot. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to approve the new music course *Music Fundamentals: Overview of Pop/Rock* as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

At this time, Dr. Tremaglio, Trumbull High Principal, conveyed that the THS musical, *The Wiz*, garnered four awards at the annual Connecticut High School Musical Theatre Awards Ceremony, held the previous evening at the Palace Theatre in Waterbury. Students from the musical performed at the program along with many students from Connecticut high schools involved in theatre arts programs.

Agenda Item IV—Reports

- A. 2012-13 Facility Review/Utilization Report—Mr. Iassogna conveyed that the Board has had previous discussions regarding the more efficient use of school facilities and possible grade reconfiguration in an effort to achieve cost savings. In an effort to further review the utilization of classrooms/facilities, he employed Wayne Verderber of Applied Data Services who had done previous work for the Board in February 2010. Mr. Verderber’s Facility Review/Utilization report [contained in Board packet of 6/5/12] focused on the most efficient use of the District’s school facilities with particular emphasis on current and projected enrollments for grades K through 8 and space availability, including the feasibility of a possible school reconfiguration. Mr. Verderber reviewed and presented two scenarios for “surgical” redistricting which would involve students from Booth Hill and Frenchtown Schools moving to Middlebrook School. He conveyed that shifting students for the 2012-13 school year would ease the tight classroom issues at Booth Hill and Frenchtown; however, if the Board chose not to act on this initiative, the situation should resolve itself within two years due to declining enrollment. He also presented information on grade reconfiguration, i.e. K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 or K-4, 5-8, and 9-12. Mr. Verderber offered the following recommendations: surgically redistrict students per Scenario 2 for the 2012-13 school year to achieve balanced enrollments which would involve some disruption to students and staff; or wait until enrollments decline over the next two years. He suggested that since it was already June, it would be best to delay any decision on surgical shifting for the 2012-13 school year as it would be disruptive to students and parents at this late date. Mr. Verderber also did not support any grade restructuring at this time since this initiative needs more in depth investigation with regard to cost

savings and educational value. Superintendent Iassogna noted that he did not support any action be taken at this time. Discussion ensued including lack of rooms for music classes resulting in “music on a cart” at Booth Hill School; surgical shifting of students from Booth Hill and Frenchtown Schools to Middlebrook School at this time; revisiting shifting of students for the 2013-14 school year depending upon enrollment projections and during budget discussions for 2013-14; and grade reconfiguration. It was the consensus of the Board to delay any action on surgical shifting of students at this time.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

There was no Old Business this evening.

Agenda Item VII – Other

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 9:35 p.m.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Special Meeting – June 6, 2012
Agriscience/Biotechnology Center
Plant Science Classroom

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Agriscience/Biotechnology Center for a Special Meeting.

Members present:

Members absent:

S. Wright, Chairperson
D. Herbst, Vice Chairperson
T. Kelly, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member
R. Seaman, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:25 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.
- B. Correspondence – There was no correspondence this evening.

At this time, Superintendent Iassogna shared his experience with the Future Farmers of America (FFA) awards ceremony which took place just prior to the meeting. He noted that the ceremony was excellent and showcased student work/accomplishments in the Agriscience program.

Agenda Item II – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Financial Reports as of 5/31/12 – Due to time constraints, the following financial reports were not available for discussion/approval: Consolidated Financial Statement, Board of Education (BOE) Programs Detail, Expendable Trust Detail, and Student Activity Detail. Mr. Sirico briefly reviewed the reports. Discussion ensued regarding the following accounts: Salaries Other; Medical Waivers; Textbooks; Professional Development; Curriculum Writing, and Classroom Supplies. Also discussed were unspent monies, which at this time, is approximately \$1,300,000. It was noted that \$875,000 of those monies have already been reserved for Full Day Kindergarten which will be deposited into a non-lapsing account established by the Town for the exclusive use of the Board of Education. Further discussion continued regarding ECS and ERRB funds, and monies not yet encumbered which will be spent during June. It was predicted that approximately \$125,000 to a possible \$300,000 could be available in unspent monies. Mr. Iassogna reviewed three scenarios for the unspent monies: return all monies to the Town; spend all the monies on needed items; or spend some and return the balance to the Town. Chairman Wright conveyed that he would like to meet with Town officials to discuss this item before Board action. It was the consensus of the Board to meet again on June 13, 2012 to take action on possible unspent monies for 2011-12. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to accept the Board of Education Expense Report for the 11 months ended 5/31/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Mr. Wright noted that since Connecticut was approved for the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) waiver, there would be more flexibility for cities/towns' use of Title I funds. Discussion involved the following grants: Perkins with most monies to be spent by June 30, 2012; Partnership for Success whose monies can be carried over into the following year; and Team Mentor which will be spent by June 30, 2012. It was moved (Ward)

seconded (Labella) to accept the Grant Expense Report for the 11 months ended 5/31/12 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III—Reports

There were no reports this evening.

Agenda Item IV—New Business

- A. **Healthy Food Certification Renewal**—In accordance with CT General Statute 10-215f, local Boards of Education must annually certify if the schools in their district will or will not participate in the Healthy Foods Program. Administration monitored the program, and last year recommended non-participation in the program. Again this year, it is recommended to continue non-participation in the program as participation has a negative impact on school fundraising efforts. It was moved (Chory) seconded (Ward) to continue with non-participation in the Act Concerning Healthy Foods and Beverages in Schools for the 2012-13 school year. Vote: unanimous in favor. Discussion ensued regarding guidelines for participation in the “Healthy Foods” act and Food Services Director Betty Sinko noted that while Trumbull does not participate, she has instituted most of the guidelines in the meals/foods served to students. Mrs. Sinko conveyed that she has promoted several programs to encourage healthy eating habits for students and meets regularly with a high school student group on ways to improve the quality of foods served. Also discussed were the fundraisers that would be impacted due to participation in the “Healthy Foods” act. She further noted that due to the economy, she was not recommending a lunch price increase for 2012-13 and also conveyed that the number of students receiving free/reduced lunches increased substantially for 2011-12 with approximately 500 students receiving the benefit. Also discussed was the need and costs involved to provide a breakfast program for all students (Trumbull High currently serves breakfast). Mr. Ward commended Mrs. Sinko for running an excellent food service program.
- B. **Beverage Sale Approval**-- In compliance with State Statute GCS 10-221q, Boards of Education must address allowing the sale of beverages on school premises that are not on the State’s approved list. Conditions that must be met include: the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; the sale is at the location of the event; and products are not sold from a vending machine or school store. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to approve the sale of beverage items after school and/or at school events and activities contingent upon the three conditions as described above. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V – Old Business

- A. **Policy/Second Reading High School Attendance, Policy Code 5113**—Mr. Wright conveyed that he would like to table this agenda item as the Connecticut State Board of Education, of which he is a member, has been charged by the State to develop a definition for excused/unexcused absences by June 30, 2012. The State Board of Education is scheduled to meet on June 27th to decide this issue and Mr. Wright stated that he would like the policy to reflect State Statute; the concern being that the policy would have to be changed to reflect State Statute and parents may receive misinformation with regard to the policy if approved at this time. It was noted this policy has come before the Board in February and May. Board input was received and incorporated into the policy. Other changes reflect clarification of Section 504 and Individualized Health Care Plans and their impact on student attendance. Discussion ensued regarding the policy’s main focus which is on student attendance and loss of credit, not truancy, which is addressed by Connecticut State Statute 10-198a (referenced in this policy). Further discussion ensued regarding whether to approve the policy at this time as Trumbull High administration would like to have it placed in their Student Handbook which must go to print within the week so that it would be available for students when they return to school in August. Mr. Iassogna recommended that the Board approve the policy at this time and have it so

noted in the Student Handbook and on the Trumbull Public Schools' website that the policy is contingent upon the State Statute regarding excused/unexcused absences and may need to be updated to reflect that State Statute. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to move the policy forward as suggested by the Superintendent. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Seaman) to approve High School Attendance, Policy Code 5113 as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. Mrs. Labella thanked John Evans and Nick Banks, THS teachers who facilitated changes in the high school attendance policy, for their efforts in promoting a positive policy that encourages regular student attendance. She further noted that some items in this policy could be incorporated in the attendance policy for students in grades K to 8.

Agenda Item VI – Personnel

It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to move into Executive Session to conduct an interview with a candidate for the position of Business Office Manager and invite the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent to participate. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Executive Session began at 8:45 p.m. It was moved (Chory) seconded (Herbst) to come out of Executive Session at 10:36 p.m. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

It was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to adjourn the Public Session. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Report to the Board of Education
Special Meeting – June 20, 2012

Mr. Iassogna

Agenda Item – IV-A

Approval – Utilization of 2011-12 Unspent Monies

At our Special Meeting of the Board of Education on June 6, 2012, an update on the amount of potential unspent monies was received. At that time, Mr. Sirico estimated (in addition to the \$875,000 earmarked for Board use from Connecticut State Statute 10-248a) that monies in the range of \$125,000 to \$300,000 also would be available.

The Board of Education asked the Superintendent to examine potential uses of these unspent monies and recommend area(s) to allocate these funds. Possibilities reviewed include:

- A one-time elimination of Pay to Participate fees (\$200,000);
- Offering of a middle school and/or elementary breakfast opportunity;
- Contributing toward construction of the Trumbull High School concession stand;
- Funding some low-cost Board facility projects already included in the 5-Year Capital Projects Plan;
- Purchasing technology equipment, particularly items that already are in the bond proposal currently being moved forward at the Town level.

Since several of these possibilities involve Town/Board projects, Board Chair Steve Wright and the Superintendent met with First Selectman Timothy Herbst and Town Council Chair Carl Massaro to review use of these unspent monies.

Following a review and analysis of the many components of this initiative, the Superintendent is recommending the

utilization of these unspent monies as follows:

- Purchase with remaining unspent monies (beyond the 1%) needed technology equipment, primarily to replace 12 year old computers that already are incorporated in the Board of Education 3-Year Technology Plan request that has been forwarded to the Town.

Administrative Recommendation:

Approve utilization of remaining unspent monies (above the 1% from Connecticut State Statute 10-248a) for the purpose of purchasing technology equipment, primarily computers, included in the 3-Year State mandated Technology Plan.