

Trumbull Public Schools
Trumbull, Connecticut
Trumbull Board of Education Policy Committee
Regular Meeting – September 10, 2014
Long Hill Administration Building Assembly Room

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

Members present:

Loretta Chory, Chair, BOE member
Dr. Linda Paslov, Central Office Administration
Rosemary Seaman, BOE member
Jane Kluspes, TEA Representative
Rita Ciarmella, Administrative Assistant

Members absent:

Susan LaFrance, BOE member
Patricia Frillici, TAA Rep

Guests:

Dr. Michael McGrath

Observers: Vicki Tesoro, Cindy Katske, Scot Kerr, Ann Eisdorfer

Agenda Item I—Preliminary Business

- A. Introduction—The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. Mrs. Chory conveyed that Agenda Item IV-B would be moved up on the agenda at this time.
- B. Correspondence—Mrs. Chory shared that she had received a letter from PTSA Council President Scot Kerr with regard to membership on the committee and meeting time. Mrs. Ciarmella shared that she received a letter from Jennifer Mottolese expressing her interest in becoming a member of the committee.
- C. Public Participation—Cindy Katske conveyed that she sent a letter to Mrs. Chory expressing her interest in becoming a member of the committee.

Agenda Item II—Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes 8/13/14 meeting—By unanimous consent of members present at the meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Item III—Reports

- A. Board Meetings—Mrs. Chory conveyed the Board met on August 19th and September 2nd for regular meetings. The Management of Food Allergies at School and Trumbull Board of Education Policy Committee policies were presented to the Board for a second reading and were approved on August 19th. Also presented for a first reading on August 19th were Length of School Day and School Year and Allotment of Time, Grades K-5. Also two policies were rescinded on August 19th, Policy Advisory Committee and Policy on Policy. Mrs. Chory commented that the Board will meet on September 16th and October 7th.

Agenda Item IV—Policy Review/Discussion

- A. Parent/Community Members for Policy Committee—Mrs. Chory shared information on seeking parent/community membership for this Committee. She suggested that a message be sent to parents through the Trumbull Public Schools’ (TPS) messaging system and a news release be sent to the Trumbull Times. Also suggested was posting the news release on the TPS and Town of Trumbull websites. Discussion ensued regarding the process of appointing parent/community members to the committee and changing the meeting time from 5:30 p.m. to a later start time. It was noted that the Board of Education approves appointment of committee members and that the press release and notice to parents be sent out as soon as possible. It is hoped that potential members could be brought to the Board for approval at their October 7th meeting.

- B. School Assignments for High Density Housing Developments, Policy Code 5112 (taken out of order)—Assistant Superintendent Dr. McGrath shared the background and reasoning for the need for this policy. In May 2014, the Board of Education adopted a redistricting plan which moved students residing at The Eaves from Frenchtown to Middlebrook School. At that time, the Board recommended that the Policy Committee develop a policy to address future housing developments. The intention is to create the policy so the Board has the authority to assign students from developments that are considered “high density” as defined by the Town to a school that has adequate resources available. Such a policy will reduce the need for any future redistricting due to overcrowding. The redistricting consultants from Milone and McBroom, who conducted an elementary enrollment study last year, recommended the Board develop such a policy for this purpose. This policy will be presented to the Board for a first reading on September 16th.

- C. Length of School Day and School Year—This policy was presented to the Board for a first reading on August 19th. As there were no Board or Committee changes, this policy will be presented for a second reading on September 16th.

- D. Allotment of Time, Grades K-5—This policy was presented to the Board for a first reading on August 19th. As there were no Board or Committee changes, this policy will be presented for a second reading on September 16th.

- E. Audit Committee of the Board of Education—Mrs. Chory reviewed the Policy Overview and the reasons for the establishment of this committee. She shared that membership should include one Board member, the Town Internal Auditor, and community members who have expertise in financial and operational auditing. Discussion ensued regarding the composition of membership, who would develop/write the policy, and types of audits. Mrs. Chory asked for information from CAGE if available and that Dr. Cialfi be given a copy of the Policy Overview which she will discuss with him. She also suggested that Mr. O’Keefe, Buildings/Facilities Director Mark Deming, and Technology Manager Jeff Hackett assist in policy development. This item is continued for discussion at the next meeting.

- F. Attendance Policy Grades K-8—Dr. Paslov shared that it was brought to her attention that this policy was last updated in December 1997. Since then, State Statutes have

changed which impact this policy. It was noted that the high school attendance policy has been revised a number of times to reflect State Statutes and that this policy should link to the high school policy. Dr. Paslov conveyed that she is working on this policy with elementary and middle school principals and will bring a first draft to the committee at a future meeting.

- G. Interscholastic Athletics—It was noted that this policy, along with Interscholastic Athletic Tryouts and Pay to Participate, need to be updated to reflect Board action on the elimination of the mandatory insurance fee. Discussion ensued regarding language changes and the need to have Athletic Director Michael King and Business Manager Sean O’Keefe review these policies. These policies are continued for discussion and may be put forward to the Board for a first reading on October 7th.
- H. Interscholastic Athletic Tryouts—see Agenda IV-G.
- I. Pay to Participate— see Agenda IV-G.

At this time, Dr. Paslov shared that high school graduation requirements have changed due to the Grade 10 CAPT testing being replaced with SBAC assessments. She commented that Trumbull High School Performance Standards Requirements for Graduation policy needs to be updated to reflect this change. She will present a Policy Overview at a future meeting.

Adjournment

The next meeting for PAC will take place October 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.