

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – January 30, 2007
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:

Members absent:

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

D. Cassidy, 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 reported this evening.

C. Comments and Questions – There were no comments or questions this evening.

D. Recognition – The Trumbull All-Town Orchestra, under the direction of Jennifer Winschel and Matt Holmgren, the Trumbull All-Town Orchestra performed the Star Spangled Banner as well as two other selections for the enjoyment of the audience. This orchestra, which was created last winter, consists of the best of both Hillcrest and Madison string students.

Agenda Item II - Personnel

A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (King) to approve the resignation of Nicole Choiniere-Kroeker, library media specialist at Middlebrook School since August 1999, resigning effective February 16, 2007; and Hillary Creto, grade 5 teacher at Daniels Farm School since August 2005, resigning effective February 23, 2007. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

A. Approval/Minutes –Regular Meeting – Unanimous consent was requested (Wright) to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2007 Board of Education meeting. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Tyborowski) to amend the minutes to include the wording “Several Board members expressed concerns regarding school security and what our expectations are for the security assessment.” This was discussed under the Plant Capital Projects Update Agenda Item at the January 16 meeting. Vote: unanimous in favor. By unanimous consent, the Board moved to approve the minutes as amended.

B. Approval/Financial Reports – Following a discussion, it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Tyborowski) to approve the Financial Reports as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports

- A. Public Act 06-63 Update – At its August 1, 2006 meeting, the Board of Education voted to voluntarily participate in the new Public Act 06-63 Concerning Healthy Foods and Beverages in Schools, and receive \$.10 from the Connecticut State Department of Education per meal sold. At the suggestion of the Superintendent, the impact of this act be reviewed at mid year, since by participating, an overall negative impact of approximately \$250,000 due to a possible decline in cafeteria sales could also be realized. This evening, Mrs. Betty Sinko, Food Services Director, reported that when a comparison of lunch counts, a la cart sales and deposits from the four months of September – December in the 2005-06 school year and those of the 2006-07 school year was done, overall participation had gone well. Mrs. Sinko reported that students have generally accepted the new regulations, and several new lunch ideas and recipes were being tested. The impact of this act will continue to be monitored, and a follow up report will be given to the Board. Student Board member Casey Gardiner shared that there are still some concerns regarding portion size and taste of some of the lower fat, healthier foods.
- B. Physical Fitness Report – After reviewing the district’s Strategic School Profiles at a previous meeting, the Board requested follow-up information on the Connecticut Physical Assessments component of that report. Diane Mayo, Team Leader of the K-12 Physical Education teachers, explained what is involved with this assessment, how the fitness tests are scored, comparison scores between Trumbull and neighboring districts, and plans for future growth. A lengthy discussion ensued.
- C. TAG Report – Amy Williams, Team Leader of the TAG Program, provided a Power Point presentation status of the TAG and Enrichment programs which included a summary of the progress of the TAG teachers toward their 2005-06 program goals of curriculum/instruction alignment and TAG identification. A revised identification procedure, changes made to the program schedule, and a highlight of the four TAG academies were reviewed. Mrs. Williams noted that through collaboration with Trumbull’s K-5 Science Program Leader Floria Mallozzi, Yale Peabody Museum has partnered with TAG to enhance the TAG Science Academy. A discussion ensued.
- D. Grant Proposals – Dr. Minotti shared two proposed \$10,000 grants with the Board; the Nutrition and Fitness for Life grant, written by Mrs. Sinko, Mrs. Karwoski, Mrs. Norcel, Mrs. Doris (parent) and Dr. Minotti, which helps to strengthen the Nutrition/Physical Activity programs for grade two students; and the School-to-Career Partnership grant, written by Mr. Annick and Dr. Minotti, which provides additional resources in collaboration with the Town of Trumbull Business Education Initiative.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- A. Trumbull High School Auditorium Renovation Visit – As Mrs. Cassidy was to present this item and was absent from the meeting this evening, it was moved (Labella) seconded (Ward) to table this item to a future meeting. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Policies – Second Reading/Approval – Use of Breathalyzers, Policy Code JJJ – This policy was presented to the Board for a first reading and no changes were recommended by the Board. PAC and the administration included wording to address retesting of students after they are admitted to a function. Mr. Lippman presented the policy this evening and a discussion ensued regarding re-administering the breathalyzer test. It was moved (Labella) seconded (Herbst) to table this policy pending legal review. Vote: unanimous in favor

Agenda Item VII – Other

Mr. Iassogna noted that February 13 is the only scheduled Board meeting for next month.

Mr. Wright noted that he and Dr. Minotti inducted the first group of National Junior Honor Society students at Madison, a practice which has been observed at Hillcrest; the middle schools have their own We the People teams assuring that this tradition of excellence will continue in high school; and that academic competition in the Trumbull school system is alive, well and expanding.

Many thanks was given to the PTA Council for sponsoring the high school renovation forum.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session 9:30 p.m.