

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – May 19, 2009
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, Chairman
- M. Ward, Vice Chairman
- J. Tyborowski, Secretary
- L. Chory, Board Member
- D. Herbst, Board Member
- L. King, Board Member
- L. Labella, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:12 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, spoke regarding the Transportation Policy for Kindergarten students who attend Trumbull Loves Children on a part-time basis and thanked the Board for adding this issue to their June 16, 2009 Board agenda and urged them to revisit the current policy. Madelaine Fromageot, 76 Golden Hill Road, expressed concerns about mold being present in Hillcrest Middle School where her son is a student and asked for mold testing to be done at the school. Doreen Philben, 26 Cornfield Road, expressed concerns about limiting enrollment for the Regional Center of the Arts (RCA) due to budgetary constraints, and suggested that all parents be assessed a fee so that students requesting RCA could attend. Renee Graham, 117 Beardsley Parkway, also spoke in behalf of the Board fully supporting all students wishing to attend RCA. Maryellen Lamay, 50 Turkey Meadow Road, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to District staff for introducing a SRBI (Scientific Research Based Intervention) reading program, *Foundations*, initiative, which has significantly helped her child progress in school.

At this time, Mr. Wright recognized the following people: Alexander Rich, THS 12th grader for being named a semi-finalist for the Presidential Scholarship Award; Ava Gallo, Daniels Farm 5th grader, for her TAG project, “Diabetes Day” whereby she raised awareness of the disease in children and collected \$300 in donations for the American Diabetes Association; Trumbull High Robotics team, who placed 3rd among 20 teams in their recent competition in New York; and Dr. Cialfi, for founding the ACE Foundation, which promotes and funds academic competitions. He also noted that the planetarium at Hillcrest Middle School will be open June 4th for two sessions for the community.

- D. Recognition – CABA Leadership Awards—The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABA) annually recognizes student achievement on the local Board level. This year’s recipients are 12th graders, Daniel Connolly and Shelby Flynn.

Agenda Item II – Personnel

- A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Labella) to accept the resignation of Barbara Napolitano, kindergarten teacher at Daniels Farm School since September 1966, retiring effective June 30, 2009. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes- Regular Meeting –5/5/09 – By unanimous consent of members present and voting at the May 5, 2009 meeting, the above noted minutes were approved.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Items IV B, Summer Reading Lists, followed by V A, Approval THS Trip/Ireland, Wales, England, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports (out of order)

- B. Summer Reading Lists – Mr. Kunschafft introduced this item to the Board. Mrs. Buckingham, representing the elementary level, Mrs. Ryan, representing the middle school level, and Mrs. Spillane and Mr. Bracksieck, representing the high school level, reviewed their respective summer reading list and the background as to how the list evolved. A discussion ensued. These lists will be made available on Trumbull’s website.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- A. Approval/THS Trip to Ireland, Wales, England—Ms. Guadagnoli and Mrs. Rubano reviewed a proposed trip to England and Ireland which will focus on various aspects of different cultures. Students will have the opportunity to enhance their studies by drawing connections between our history and the development of western civilization. Discussion ensued. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to approve the trip to Ireland, Wales, and England as outlined with such approval contingent upon parent(s)/ guardian signing a waiver relieving the school district of any financial obligations due to trip cancellations for any reasons. Vote: unanimous in favor.

It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Items VI A 1 and 2, Policies, Second Reading/Approval, Drug Free Workplace and Student Network/Internet, out of order. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business (out of order)

- A. Policies – Second Reading/Approval
1. Drug Free Workplace – Policy Code 4118.231/GB – Mr. Karpowich reviewed the changes made to the policy and noted after the attorney’s review and discussion of the policy, the word *arrest* was removed. A brief discussion ensued. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to approve this policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
 2. Student Network/Internet – Policy Code 6141/IAA – Mr. Karpowich reviewed revisions to the policy. It was moved (Labella) seconded (Tyborowski) to approve this policy as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- B. Approval/Financial Reports – Mr. Sirico, Business Administrator, reviewed each of the Financial Reports for the ten months ended April 30, 2009. He noted that monies not yet spent are mostly for salaries of coaches, mentors, teacher stipends, transportation, and supplies. It was further noted that by the end of the year, the Board may have approximately \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 in unspent funds. Discussion ensued. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Ward) to approve the Board of Education Expense Report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward)

seconded (Chory) to approve the Grant Expense Report as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (King) to approve the Consolidated Financial Statement as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

- C. Approval/Finance Committee of the Board of Education Transfers – Finance Subcommittee of the Board of Education members met for a regular meeting on May 5, 2009. The Committee reviewed all transfers for the month of April, and two transfers - # 662X and 673X - met the criteria for approval by the full Board. (662x to go to Anticipated Surplus account to fund Jane Ryan Roof Capital project, previously approved by BOF to be put into BOE operating fund, then BOF decided it should be in a capital project account outside of BOE operating budget). (673X additional funds required for HVAC repairs) Following discussion, it was moved (Labella) seconded (Herbst) to approve the transfers as noted. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports

A. Oral Reports –

1. Teacher Board Representative – Mrs. Ference noted that this is the time of year where student achievements, both academic and extra curricular, are celebrated. Teachers are reviewing student’s progress for the year. She also commented that the *Foundations* reading program has been well received by staff, students and parents.
2. Student Board Representatives – Christopher Romano reported that Trumbull High’s Fed Challenge and Robotics teams did well in their recent competitions. He also noted that AP Exams have been completed. He further noted that many colleges are no longer accepting credit for AP courses and ECE (Early College Experience) courses are becoming more widely accepted by colleges.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- B. RCA Placement Revisited – Mr. Iassogna noted at our previous meeting, the Board voted to fund 31 returning students to the program. Since that meeting, it was determined after lengthy discussions with CES and the CT State Department of Education, all such part-time magnet programs fall under the recently revised regulations of CT General Statute, Substitute House Bill No. 5869, Public Act No. 08-152, which is the same one that applies to our Agriscience program. It was noted that Trumbull must enroll a minimum of 35 students for the 2009-10 school year, a figure computed utilizing the State formula, which reflects an average of three (3) previous years’ enrollment. For 2009-10, 46 students across the four grade levels are seeking to attend RCA, which is 11 above the minimum requirement of 35 students. In an effort to have all students enrolled this current year continue to attend, the Superintendent recommended the following: (1) Enroll the 31 returning students (9 seniors, 7 juniors, 15 sophomores) and (2) Fill remaining 4 slots from the 15 incoming freshmen via lottery system with funding the additional students coming from the Student Activity Account for a one time only supplement. It was further noted that in future years, the minimum of 35 students will be incorporated in the Board’s operating budget. Discussion ensued. It was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Chory) to approve sending all returning RCA students deemed eligible to attend by RCA to the 2009-10 program and for the remaining openings up to 35 students to be filled by a lottery open to students in all grade levels who wish to attend, and to provide ancillary services, including transportation, to any student who pays tuition to attend the program with the understanding that tuition students are not included in average attendance figures. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item VII – Receive & File

These items were received and filed.

Adjournment

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