

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – June 3, 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. King, Board Member (8:10 p.m.)
L. Labella, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

- A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 6:35 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.
- D. Recognition (out of order)– 1. Tenure Teachers – the following staff members were recognized and commended for attaining tenure status with the Trumbull Board of Education: Paula Antunes, Barbara Arango, James Barbato, Crystal Bogos, Jean Caminiti, Angela Caron, Carmen Castedo, Michelle Cretella, Stephanie Domanick, Kathleen Durand, Leigh Gabriel, Matthew Greaves, Laura Guadagnoli, Matthew Holmgren, Janet Horton, Scott Kaminski, Damon Lewis, Cathy Lobdell, Floria Mallozzi, Maureen Mas, Meg McGovern, Todd Miller, Kelly Nash, Jenny Ogrodnick, Eric Paradis, Bree Ann Prezioso, John Rosco, Maria Sansone, Sonali Singh, Kristen Thompson, Stephen Tobitsch, Diane Toscano, Robert Tremaglio, Keri Van Valen, Marissa Van Growski, Diana Ward, Melissa West and Trevor Youngberg.
- C. Comments and Questions (out of order) – Co-PTSA President Vicki Tesoro, 133 Beechwood Avenue, shared that parents were pleased with the restoration of some sports due to increased participation fees, and queried if the Board would also consider discussion of fees for club participation.
- Durham School Services bus drivers Anthony Elliano, Dom Ortiz, Clarence Marsala and John Santos spoke in support of keeping Durham as related to this evening’s bus contract award agenda item.
- B. Correspondence (out of order) – There was no correspondence this evening.
- D. Recognition - 2. PAC Representatives – Barrett Fisher and Cayla Cantafio were recognized and commended for serving for the past two years as Student Representatives to the Policy Advisory Committee. 3. Teacher Board Representative – Hillcrest teacher Robert Pitzschler, who is retiring, was recognized and commended for his many years of service to the Board of Education in this capacity. 4. Student Board Representatives – Lauren Dahlin and Jameson Cherilus were recognized and commended for their outstanding service as Student Board Representatives for the 2007-08 school year.

Agenda Item II - Personnel

- A. Personnel – It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Tyborowski) to accept the resignation of Mary Ellen Foster, kindergarten teacher at Tashua School since August 2003, resigning effective July 11, 2008; Susan Gallant, (.5) Social Worker at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2007, resigning effective July 11, 2008; Jacqueline Hennessey, Evelyn Montagnino, library/media specialist at Daniels Farm School since January 1972, retiring effective June 30, 2008. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting –5/20/08 –By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Item IV - Reports

- A. THS Renovation Update – As Mrs. King, who is giving this report, will return from the Agriscience FFA Awards Assembly later in the meeting, this item will be moved to the end of the agenda.

Agenda Item V – New Business

- A. Approval/THS Trip to Mexico – The Social Studies, Foreign Language and Science Departments at Trumbull High School are requesting approval for a trip to Mexico from February 12-21. This proposal would provide an interdisciplinary experience and allow students to immerse themselves in the culture of Mexico. Current Board policy states that no trips are allowed to foreign countries other than Canada; however, this policy is under consideration by PAC. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (Tyborowski) to waive current policy and approve the trip 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 reason. Vote: unanimous in favor.
- B. Approval/THS Trip to Italy – Trumbull High School Latin and Italian teachers are proposing a trip to Italy from April 9-18 for their foreign language students to enrich their vocabulary and promote global diversity. Current Board policy states that no trips are allowed to foreign countries other than Canada; however, this policy is under consideration by PAC. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (Tyborowski) to waive current policy and approve the trip 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 reason. Vote: unanimous in favor.
- C. Approval/New PAC Member – This item was tabled until a future meeting.
- D. Policies – First Reading – 1. Websites, Policy Code: IAB/6141.322 – This policy was revised to address requests by outside groups; continuity among schools; schools linking back to the district website; procedures for posting requests; and changes in the Directory Information policy. A discussion ensued.
- E. Approval/Bus Contract Award – The administration issued an RFP for student transportation services. Three vendors submitted bids, with First Student forwarding the lowest bid. Following discussion, it was moved (Tyborowski) seconded (Labella) to approve First Student for our student transportation services effective July 1, 2008. Vote: unanimous in favor. Mr. Iassogna noted that although First Student came in as lowest bidder, that cost is still more than was projected for the 2008-09 budget; therefore, the Board must find an approximate \$220,000.

- F. Approval/Attorney RFP – The administration issued an RFP for legal representation services. Nine firms submitted bids, with Bercham, Moses and Devlin (primarily Floyd Dugas) forwarding the lowest bid. Following discussion, it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to approve Bercham, Moses and Devlin as our legal service provider. Vote: 6 in favor (Wright, Ward, Tyborowski, Chory, Herbst, Labella) 1 abstention (King). Motion passes.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Policies – Second Reading – 1. Interscholastic Athletic Policy, Policy Code: IGDJ/6145.2 – A lengthy discussion ensued that included academic qualifications to participate in athletics and eighth grade academic qualifications to participate in high school sports. It was recommended that on Page 4 of 25, number 6 under Regulations, the fourth line read “*credit toward graduation of four (4) Carnegie Units of work the previous spring for which ...*” In an effort to expedite this policy for use for the upcoming year, it was moved (Ward) seconded (King) to approve this policy with the above recommendation providing the policy return in the near future for a larger discussion. Vote: unanimous in favor.
2. Professional Scholarship/Ownership Policy, Policy Code: GCQBA/4132.1 – This policy was presented for a first reading on March 4, and PAC revised the policy to address the Board’s concerns at that meeting. Following discussion, it was moved (Ward) seconded (King) to approve the policy as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.
3. Student Teachers, Policy Code: LEAA/4122 – This policy was presented for a first reading on April 22 and the Board recommended minor changes in wording. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Herbst) to approve this policy as presented. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports (out of order)

- A. THS Renovation Update – Mrs. King, as Board representative on the Trumbull High School Building Committee, reported that JCJ/Wiles have been chosen as the architects and O&G as construction managers. Mrs. King noted that the project is moving along and that they are hopeful to break ground next summer.

Agenda Item VII - Other

Mrs. Labella referred back to Mrs. Tesoro’s comment regarding participation fees for clubs. Mr. Iassogna noted that on the upcoming agenda a projected financial update will be presented where this topic can be included in the discussion.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 8:48 p.m.