# SIMSBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

April 27, 2021 Tootin' Hills School Cafeteria

> 6:30 p.m. AGENDA

| I. | CALL | TO | ORD | ER |
|----|------|----|-----|----|
| I. | CALL | 10 | ORD | ER |

- II. PUBLIC AUDIENCE
- III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOE COMMUNICATIONS
- IV. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

| A. | Approval of Minutes of March 23, 2021 Meeting       | EXHIBIT I         |
|----|---|-------------------|
| B. | Personnel   | EXHIBIT II        |
| C. | Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers                 | EXHIBIT III       |
| D. | Approval of 2022-23 School Calendar                 | <b>EXHIBIT IV</b> |
| E. | Adoption of Healthy Food & Beverage 2021-22         | <b>EXHIBIT V</b>  |
| F. | Acceptance of Donation to SHS Baseball Booster Club | <b>EXHIBIT VI</b> |

- V. INFORMATION AND REPORTS
  - A. Tootin' Hills School Program EXHIBIT VII
    B. Quarterly Budget Analysis EXHIBIT VIII
- VI. PUBLIC AUDIENCE
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It is anticipated that the Board of Education will enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

- VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS
  - A. Next Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 11, 2021, BOE Conference Room/Simsbury Public Library

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# TOWN OF SIMSBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

| Record of P  | roceedings Regular Meeting  | March 23, 2021            |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| Ms. Susan S<br>Gymnasium   | Salina called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. in the Central School   |                           |
| Roll Call:   |   |                           |
| <del>-</del>   | resent: Mmes. Susan Salina and Jen Batchelar. Messrs. Todd Burrick, and Brian Watson.   |                           |
| Members al   | bsent: Mmes. Tara Willerup, Lydia Tedone and Sharon Thomas.   |                           |
| Superintend  | nt: Assistant Superintendent Sue Homrok-Lemke, Assistant ent Neil Sullivan, Director of Finance Amy Meriwether, Student ive Shannon Zeilman and Recording Secretary Katie Wilde.  |                           |
| PUBLIC AUI<br>None.  | <u>DIENCE</u>   | Public Audience           |
| Ms. Zeilman<br>brief update<br>week is Equ<br>They can ch<br>have been c | E REPORTS/BOE COMMUNICATIONS  provided an update on activities in the schools. Mr. Watson provided a on the Communications Committee meeting. Ms. Lemke noted that next ity Week at SHS. One hour sessions are offered to students each day. oose from 25 sessions. Ms. Lemke reported that first dose vaccinations ompleted through the Farmington Valley Health District. More than tors have come through the clinics. | Communications            |
| to October 1   | provided an update on the number of distance learners today compared <sup>st</sup> , noting that the number of elementary distance learners has decreased 314. Additional students will return to the classroom after the spring  |                           |
| Ms. Salina p<br>Salina provid<br>Tedone atter                            | rovided a brief CABE legislative update provided by Ms. Tedone. Ms. ded an overview of CABE Day on the Hill which both she and Ms. nded.  |                           |
| RECOMMEN   | NDED ACTIONS  |                           |
| A. Ap  | oproval of Minutes of February 23, 2021   | Approval of<br>Minutes of |
| Mr. Burrick:   | MOVE to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2021 meeting.   | February 23,<br>2021      |
| Mr. Tindall:   | Seconded. So moved.   |                           |
| B. P€  | ersonnel  | Personnel                 |
| Mr. Watson:  | MOVE that the Board of Education accept the retirements of Kathleen Larkum, Sandra Lefebvre, and Ann Ruskino effective June 30, 2021.   |                           |
| Mr. Burrick:   | Seconded. So moved.   |                           |

Cancellation of

Ms. Batchelar: MOVE that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Brianna Lovot effective April 8, 2021. Mr. Watson: Seconded. So moved. Approval of C. Approval of Revised 2021-22 Public School Budget Revised 2021-22 School Mr. Curtis stated that after receiving new insurance information, the BOE budget presentation to the BOF included a budget increase of 1.85% which is less than what Budget the BOE adopted at 2.12%. Mr. Burrick: MOVE that the Board of Education adopt the revised 2021-22 Public School budget in the amount of \$73,643,930 which represents an increase of \$1,335,455 or 1.85%. Ms. Batchelar: Seconded. So moved. Approval of D. Approval of Revised 2021-22 School Calendar Revised 2021-22 School Ms. Lemke reviewed changes to next year's school calendar due to the lateness of Labor Day in 2021. The school year will start on September 1 and the first 3 days will Calendar be early release days for students in order to transition from the current school year. Ms. Batchelar:MOVE to adopt the revised 2021-22 school calendar as presented. Mr. Watson: Seconded. So moved. Approval of E. Approval of Policy Revisions **Policy Revisions** Mr. Tindall: MOVE to adopt the revised Board of Education policies, as noted, effective March 23, 2021. Mr. Burrick: Seconded. So moved. F. Appointment to The Suffield Regional Agriscience Center Consulting Appointment to Suffield Committee Regional Mr. Burrick: MOVE that the Simsbury Board of Education appoint Simsbury resident Agriscience Mr. Joseph Slattery as a member of the Suffield Regional Agriscience Center Consulting Center Consulting. Committee Mr. Tindall: Seconded. So moved. Acceptance of G. Acceptance of Donation to SHS Fencing Club Donation to SHS Ms. Batchelar: MOVE that the proposed gift of \$2,500 from the Cordani family be Fencina Club approved. Mr. Burrick: Seconded. So moved.

H. Cancellation of April 13, 2021 Regular Meeting

Ms. Batchelar:MOVE to cancel the Board of Education meeting scheduled on April 13, 2021.

April 13, 2021 BOE Meeting

Mr. Watson: Seconded. So moved.

### **INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

#### A. Central School Program – Understanding Equity

Central School
Program –
Understanding
Equity

Ms. Hennessy introduced those who will be speaking this evening: Spanish teacher Diane Tobio, grade 6 teacher Heather Donlon, grade 5 teacher Moira Honyotski, and students Adam Kelly, Maggie Peterson, and Daniela Sanetti.

Ms. Hennessy stated the school's approach to Black History Month was related to our social/emotional wellbeing and equity work. Ms. Tobio spoke about her personal reflection and shared the work students completed for the book *The ABCs of Black History*. As part of the Black History Museum project, Ms. Donlon stated that her class selected late civil rights activist Congressman John Lewis. Paraeducator Sharon Strong facilitated a Google Meet with her aunt who was a friend of John Lewis.

Adam Kelly spoke about learning things about John Lewis that weren't included in the book and his importance to our world and where we are today. Maggie Peterson stated that learning about different people contributes to us having equality. Daniela Sanetti stated that every day the class was able to see different slideshows from different projects. He noted that what they learned about John Lewis made him feel like a real person.

Ms. Honyotski spoke about the compassion, resilience and passions around equity that became obvious after Black History Month. Ms. Hennessy played a video of Central School staff reciting the district's equity statement.

## B. Latimer Lane Renovation Project

Mr. Sullivan spoke about the work being done to communicate this project with the public and the work of the Communications Committee. He noted the informational flyer that has been created and the website being put together. Mike Luzietti, Latimer Lane School Principal, pointed out the pressing needs at the school including addressing core spaces, the lack of large spaces and accessibility issues. He presented a video on the condition of the school to the board.

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the communication plan for the project and the steps necessary for producing a grant application that will be due to the state June 30 if the project is approved at referendum. He explained the roles of Tecton Architects, the school district and the town in the grant process.

# **PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

None

**ADJOURNMENT** 

Mr. Burrick: MOVE to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Latimer Lane Renovation Project

**Public Audience** 

Adjournment

|                                   |                                    | Page 4 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| Ms. Batchelar:Seconded. So moved. |                                    |        |
| Jennifer Batchelar<br>Secretary   | Katie Wilde<br>Recording Secretary |        |

MEMORANDUM TO:

Members of the Board of Education

FROM: DATE: Matthew T. Curtis April 27, 2021

RE:

Personnel Recommendations

#### I. Retirements

## Marilyn Cannata

Assignment

Music, Henry James

Simsbury Exp

33 years

Effective

June 30, 2021

#### **Margaret Griffin**

Assignment

Elementary Teacher, Squadron Line

Simsbury Exp

29 years

Effective

June 30, 2021

#### **BOARD MOTION:**

"MOVE that the Board of Education accept the retirements of Marilyn Cannata and Margaret Griffin effective June 30, 2021."

#### II. Resignation

#### JoAnna Beernaert

Assignment

Music Teacher, Latimer Lane/Tootin' Hills

Simsbury Exp

17 year

Effective

June 30, 2021

#### **BOARD MOTION:**

"MOVE that the Board of Education accept the resignation of JoAnna Beernaert effective June 30, 2021."

#### III. Child Rearing Leaves of Absence

Melissa Leonard has requested a part-time (.4 FTE), non-salaried, guaranteed leave of absence for the 2021-22 school year effective August 30, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Jenna Nalband has requested a full time, non-salaried, guaranteed leave of absence for the 2021-22 school year effective August 30, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that these leaves be granted with guaranteed, full-time positions upon their return.

#### Melissa Leonard

Assignment

Math Teacher, Simsbury High School

Simsbury Exp

8 years

Effective

August 30, 2021

# Jenna Nalband

Assignment

Science Teacher, Simsbury High School

Simsbury Exp

5 years

Effective

August 30, 2021

# **BOARD MOTION:**

"MOVE that the Board of Education approve the requests for non-salaried, guaranteed leaves of absence for Melissa Leonard and Jenna Nalband effective August 30, 2021 – June 30, 2022."

MTC:cdf

MEMORANDUM TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Matthew T. Curtis

Superintendent of Schools

DATE: April 27, 2021

RE: Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers

In accordance with Section 10-151 of the Connecticut General Statutes, local Boards of Education must vote to non-renew <u>prior to May 1</u> the contracts of any non-tenured teachers whose positions are influenced by declining enrollment, program changes and teachers returning from guaranteed leave. Neil Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, has met personally with the teachers who are being recommended for non-renewal to inform them of the Board's anticipated action and the reason for the non-renewal of their teaching contracts. Therefore, in my capacity as Superintendent of Schools, I am recommending that the Board of Education non-renew the teaching contracts of the following teachers at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.

#### **Board Motion:**

"Move that the contract of employment of the following staff member be non-renewed effective June 30, 2021, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise such person(s) in writing of this action."

Adam Colagrossi Math, Simsbury High School

Justin Farrell Music, Central School Kyrstin Giliberto Distance, Grade 3

Christina Gundlach Math, Henry James Memorial School Kevin Huhn Music, Tootin' Hills/Latimer Lane

Kelsey Marconis Distance, Grade 4

Ryan Martin Physical Education, Squadron Line (.33 of 1.0 contract)

Agnieszka Petlik Distance, Grade 1

Tisa Platt Art, Squadron (.33 of 1.0 contract)

Kennedy Quirk Kindergarten, Latimer Lane Brianna Simonetti Kindergarten, Latimer Lane

MTC:cdf

TO:

Members of the Board of Education

FROM:

Matthew Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

DATE:

April 27, 2021

RE:

2022-23 School Calendar

This calendar was prepared in accordance with state law guidelines, BOE school calendar established policies, SEA contractual working days, and the ad-hoc 2009 Calendar Advisory Committee's recommendations. The state legislature has removed their requirement of school districts to follow a regional school calendar. Nevertheless we have kept the April recess during the second full week in April as have many of our neighboring districts. The calendar presented this evening includes the required 180 days of instruction.

The administration is recommending that the Board review and adopt the 2022-2023 calendar as presented.

"MOVE to adopt the 2022-23 school calendar as presented."

MTC:kdw



# **Simsbury Public Schools** Calendar 2022-23

|    | A  | UGU | ST |   |   | S | SEP | ГЕМ | BEF | 7  |    | OC | TOB | ER |    |    | VOV | EM | BER | 1  |
|----|----|-----|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| M  | T  | W   | Т  | F | N | 1 | T   | W   | T   | F  | M  | T  | W   | T  | F  | M  | T   | W  | T   | F  |
|    |    |     |    |   |   |   |     |     | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5   | 6  | 7  |    | 1   | 2  | 3   | 4  |
|    |    |     |    |   |   |   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12  | 13 | 14 | 7  | 8   | 9  | 10  | 11 |
|    |    |     |    |   | 1 |   | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19  | 20 | 21 | 14 | 15  | 16 | 17  | 18 |
|    |    |     |    |   | 1 | 9 | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26  | 27 | 28 | 21 | 22  | 23 | 24  | 25 |
| 20 | 30 | 31* |    |   | 2 | 6 | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30 | 31 |    |     |    |    | 28 | 29  | 30 |     |    |

|    | DECEMBER |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----|----------|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| M  | T        | W  | T  | F  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|    |          |    | 1  | 2  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5  | 6        | 7  | 8  | 9  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | 13       | 14 | 15 | 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19 | 20       | 21 | 22 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26 | 27       | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|    | JA | NUA | RY |    |
|----|----|-----|----|----|
| M  | T  | W   | T  | F  |
| 2  | 3  | 4   | 5  | 6  |
| 9  | 10 | 11  | 12 | 13 |
| 16 | 17 | 18  | 19 | 20 |
| 23 | 24 | 25  | 26 | 27 |
| 30 | 31 |     |    |    |

|    | FEB | RU | ARY |    |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| M  | T   | W  | T   | F  |
|    |     | 1  | 2   | 3  |
| 6  | 7   | 8  | 9   | 10 |
| 13 | 14  | 15 | 16  | 17 |
| 20 | 21  | 22 | 23  | 24 |
| 27 | 28  |    |     |    |

|    | M  | ARC | H  |    |
|----|----|-----|----|----|
| M  | T  | W   | T  | F  |
|    |    | 1   | 2  | 3  |
| 6  | 7  | 8   | 9  | 10 |
| 13 | 14 | 15  | 16 | 17 |
| 20 | 21 | 22  | 23 | 24 |
| 27 | 28 | 29  | 30 | 31 |

|    | APRIL |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |
|----|-------|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| M  | Т     | W  | T  | F  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3  | 4     | 5  | 6  | 7  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | 11    | 12 | 13 | 14 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 18    | 19 | 20 | 21 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 | 25    | 26 | 27 | 28 |  |  |  |  |  |
|    |       |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |

|    |    | MAY | 7  |    |
|----|----|-----|----|----|
| M  | Т  | W   | Т  | F  |
| 1  | 2  | 3   | 4  | 5  |
| 8  | 9  | 10  | 11 | 12 |
| 15 | 16 | 17  | 18 | 19 |
| 22 | 23 | 24  | 25 | 26 |
| 29 | 30 | 31  |    |    |

| JUNE |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| M    | T  | W  | T  | F  |  |  |  |  |  |
|      |    |    | 1  | 2  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5    | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12** | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19   | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26   | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |  |  |  |  |

\*First Day of School

\*\*School will close for the year upon completion of the 180<sup>th</sup> student school day.



School Holiday/Vacation/Full Day Professional Development

# School Holiday/Vacation/Full Day Professional Development

| August 31*     | Students' First Day            | January 16     | MLK Day                  |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| September 5    | Labor Day                      | February 20-21 | Winter Recess            |
| September 26   | Rosh Hashanah                  | March 17       | Professional Development |
| October 5      | Yom Kippur                     | April 7        | Good Friday              |
| October 10     | Columbus Day                   | April 10-14    | Spring Recess            |
| November 8     | Election Day/Prof. Development | May 29         | Memorial Day             |
| November 24-25 | Thanksgiving Recess            | June 12**      | Students' Last Day       |

Thanksgiving Recess November 24-25

**Holiday Recess** Dec. 26 - Jan. 2

<sup>\*\*</sup> Subject to change if needed to make-up for inclement weather days.

## SIMSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2022-23 INFORMATION K-12

#### REGULAR DAY SCHOOL HOURS

| 7:32 a.m. – 2:10 p.m.<br>7:32 a.m. – 2:10 p.m.                          |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 8:15 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.<br>8:15 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.                          |  |  |
| 8:15 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.<br>8:15 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.<br>8:15 a.m. – 2:50 p.m. |  |  |
| 8:45 a.m. – 3:20 p.m.   |  |  |
|   |  |  |

EARLY DISMISSAL SCHOOL HOURS (Professional Development, Elementary Report Card Conferences, day before Thanksgiving and last day of school)

# Secondary 7-12 early dismissal time

Simsbury High/Henry James 11:15 a.m.

## Elementary early dismissal times

| Central School       | 12:00 p.m. |
|----------------------|------------|
| Latimer Lane School  | 12:00 p.m. |
| Tariffville School   | 12:00 p.m. |
| Tootin' Hills School | 12:00 p.m. |
| Squadron Line School | 12:30 p.m. |

In the event of an early closing due to inclement weather or other emergency reasons the above early release schedule will be followed in all grades. Lunch will be served at all elementary schools on early release days (PD, Report Card Conferences and weather-related early release).

Announcements will be listed on the following stations: Television Stations: Channel 3 WFSB; Channel 8 WTNH; Channel 30 WVIT Emergency closing information is also posted on the <u>SPS website</u>

## REFERENCE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| Central School       | 860-658-4732 | Henry James Memorial School | 860-651-3341 |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Latimer Lane School  | 860-658-4774 | Simsbury High School        | 860-658-0451 |
| Squadron Line School | 860-658-2251 | Board of Education Office   | 860-651-3361 |
| Tariffville School   | 860-658-5825 | Special Services Department | 860-658-3873 |
| Tootin' Hills School | 860-658-7629 | Salter's Express Company    | 860-651-3311 |

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

RE: Healthy Food and Beverages in Schools (Public Act 06-63)

DATE: April 27, 2021

Public Act 06-63, <u>An Act Concerning Healthy Food and Beverages in Schools</u>, directs the Connecticut State Department of Education to develop and publish nutrition standards for food items offered for sale to students at schools. The Act further provides funding to National School Lunch Program participants including each local and regional board of education that <u>annually certifies compliance with these nutrition standards</u>. In order to receive additional funding, the local board of education must certify that all food items sold to students separately from a reimbursable breakfast or lunch will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards. These items include food offered for sale to students at all times, in all schools, and from all sources, including, but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises.

The Connecticut Nutrition Standards focus on limiting fat, saturated fat, trans fat, sugars and sodium, moderating portion sizes, and promoting increased intake of fruits, vegetables and whole grains. They were developed by a committee representing a broad range of stakeholders, including a pediatrician, dieticians; food service directors and state health organizations and associations.

The administration is recommending the Board of Education adopt the following motions:

"Move that pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Simsbury Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdictions, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school store, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups."

"MOVE that pursuant to Sections <u>10-215f</u> of the C.G.S., the Simsbury Board of Education hereby will <u>allow the sale to students of food items</u> that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition <u>Standards provided that the following conditions are met</u>: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the food sales."

"MOVE that the Simsbury Board of Education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the C.G.S. provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The "school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the food sales."

TO:

Members of the Board of Education

FROM:

Matthew Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

DATE:

April 27, 2021

RE:

Gift to the Simsbury Public Schools / Baseball Boosters

In keeping with the Board of Education Policy 2311, Gifts from the Public, Board approval is required for any gift to the school system which exceeds \$1,500.

The administration is requesting Board of Education approval of a gift to the SHS Baseball Boosters from David and Sherry Cordani of \$5,000 to be used to for outside activities and uniforms.

"MOVE that the proposed gift of \$5,000 from the Cordani Family be approved."

/cm

MEMORANDUM TO:

Members of the Board of Education

FROM:

Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

DATE:

April 27, 2021

RE:

Tootin' Hills School - Social Emotional Learning

One of the four tenets of our district reopening plan is social emotional learning. An elementary social emotional learning team was established this summer and was integral in setting the framework for this work in our district, with ultimate positive impact for our students. Under the direction of Nancy Forsberg, Supervisor of Special Education Instruction, teachers, school social workers, and school psychologists met to identify the best resources, determine a plan for the upcoming school year, and agree on commitments.

Through direct lessons, celebrations, and daily practices, the social-emotional wellbeing of our students has been consistently addressed throughout the pandemic. Focusing on the concepts of warm welcomes, engaging strategies and opportunistic endings, our staff has worked tirelessly to ensure students have what they need in order to learn. The use of SEL screenings, conversations and planning in PLCs, the incorporation of 'soft starts', the addition of an SEL instructional block, and staff professional development has allowed Tootin' Hills staff to make social emotional learning a true focus of student success.

This evening, Principal Anjanette Belmonte, 3rd Grade Teacher Lisa Jacobs, and School Social Worker Haley Rice, will highlight how the social emotional learning lives each and every day at Tootin' Hills School.

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

RE: Financial Report/Quarterly Budget Analysis

DATE: April 27, 2021

Below is the third quarter budget analysis of the Simsbury Public Schools for fiscal year 2020-21.

#### Revenues

Summary of the District's State grant awards:

- Open Choice Academic and Social Support Funding is used to promote academic and social success for students
  participating in the Hartford Region Choice program. Simsbury was awarded \$186,625 in the current fiscal year, an
  increase of \$7,025 compared to the prior fiscal year. In April, the district was notified of an additional award of \$7,000
  to be utilized by June 30, 2021.
- Open Choice Attendance & Early Learning Funding is used to support salaries and benefits for 7 FTE certified staff, tutors, magnet school tuitions, additional Choice student supports, equipment and preschool development.
   Simsbury was awarded \$1,543,932 in the current fiscal year, a decrease of \$67,672 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- <u>Special Education Placements & Excess Cost</u> Funding is provided to reimburse the District for special education costs in excess of 4.5 times the cost of educating a regular education student. The final award is \$1,874,527, an increase of \$233,944 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- Adult Education Funding to support Connecticut mandated adult education programs administered by the District's Department of Continuing Education. Simsbury has not received its current year award from the State as of yet. The current year preliminary award is \$14,852, a decrease of \$775 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- <u>Private School Health Services</u> Funding to support private school health services provided by the District's health services staff as required by Connecticut statute. The current year award is \$18,709, an increase of \$2,080 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- <u>Talent Development (TEAM)</u> Funding provides partial reimbursement for TEAM mentor stipends. The current year award is \$4,302, a decrease of \$713 compared to the prior fiscal year.

Summary of the District's Federal grant awards:

- <u>Title I Improving Basic Programs</u> Funding is used to pay for tutor costs as well as instructional materials and
  equipment. Simsbury was awarded \$129,167 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$12,062 compared to the prior
  fiscal year.
- <u>Title II Part A Teacher Quality</u> Funding is used to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and provide professional development to teachers and principals. Simsbury was awarded \$63,354 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$595 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- <u>Title III Part A English Language Acquisition</u> Funding is used to assist students whose native language is other than English in order to obtain English proficiency and literacy. Simsbury was awarded \$8,395 in the current fiscal year, a decrease of \$679 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- <u>Title IV, Part A Student Support & Academic Enrichment</u> Funding is used to (1) provide all students with access to a well-rounded education, (2) improve school conditions for student learning and (3) improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students. Simsbury was awarded \$10,000 in the current fiscal year. No change from prior year funding.
- <u>IDEA Part B and Pre-School</u> Funding is used to support the education of identified students; salaries for teaching and support staff, outside consulting, transportation, tuition, instructional supplies and equipment. Simsbury was awarded \$1,045,565 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$35,306 compared to the prior fiscal year.

- <u>Carl Perkins</u> Funding is used to develop the academic, career and technical skills of secondary students who elect
  to enroll in career and technical education programs. Specific expenditures supported by the grant include substitute
  coverage for professional development, student transportation and equipment. Simsbury was awarded \$31,696 in the
  current fiscal year, an increase of \$1,307 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- <u>Coronavirus Relief (CRF)/ESSER</u> Funding was provided for Coronavirus related expenditures which included technology (Chrome Books, webcams with microphones and Bluetooth speakers), salaries (custodial floaters) and supplies and equipment (desks and shields, tent rentals and PPE supplies). To date, the district has been awarded \$906,378.
- Medicaid School Based Child Health Program Connecticut Statute mandates the district's participation in the Medicaid School Based Child Health Program. Net reimbursements are approximately \$20,000 annually.

Summary of the District's private grant awards:

 <u>Confucius Classrooms</u> – Funding is awarded through the Asia Society for instructional and professional development costs related to the learning of Chinese culture and language. Simsbury was awarded \$10,000 in the current fiscal year. No change from prior year funding.

#### **Expenditures**

|                          | 2020-21        |                  | 2019-20          | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------|---------|
| General Fund             | Revised Budget | YTD Expenditures | YTD Expenditures | % Spent | % Spent |
| General Control          | 2,220,471.50   | 1,649,088.50     | 1,686,966.89     | 74.27%  | 78.20%  |
| Instruction              | 44,569,600.00  | 30,474,920.40    | 29,619,036.68    | 68.38%  | 67.64%  |
| Health Services          | 727,844.00     | 517,013.57       | 506,210.33       | 71.03%  | 71.56%  |
| Pupil Transportation     | 2,796,777.00   | 2,004,466.78     | 1,825,919.46     | 71.67%  | 66.58%  |
| Operation of Plant       | 4,828,154.00   | 3,824,747.07     | 3,596,047.70     | 79.22%  | 77.00%  |
| Maint of Plant/Equipment | 1,276,522.00   | 1,042,153.66     | 1,091,367.00     | 81.64%  | 85.50%  |
| Insurance/Pension        | 13,594,883.00  | 10,949,422.66    | 10,559,610.04    | 80.54%  | 79.81%  |
| Food Services            | 8,895.50       | 6,879.60         | 6,433.00         | 77.34%  | 75.02%  |
| Student Body Activities  | 688,084.00     | 362,075.12       | 383,827.19       | 52.62%  | 56.60%  |
| Community Services       | 32,563.00      | 1,083.95         | 15,273.20        | 3.33%   | 46.90%  |
| Equipment-New/Replace    | 147,680.00     | 163,122.43       | 198,680.00       | 110.46% | 100.00% |
| Out of District Tuition  | 1,417,000.00   | 298,215.07       | 712,812.71       | 21.05%  | 51.21%  |
| Total Public Budget      | 72,308,474.00  | 51,293,188.81    | 50,202,184.20    | 70.94%  | 70.83%  |

General Control —An implemented spending freeze and a re-structuring of Business Office staff have reduced the rate of spending compared to the prior year.

<u>Instruction</u> – Increased expenditures are mainly related to the hiring of 5 teachers to support distance learning needs.

<u>Transportation</u> – Increased transportation costs are a result of a re-negotiated contract with Salter's to help support their operations in the summer months. Due to the impact of COVID-19, decrease in costs related to athletics and summer transportation will help offset the increased cost.

Operation of Plant – Increased expenditures are a direct result of COVID-19. There were additional purchases for plexiglass, cleaning and sanitizing supplies, custodial overtime and the hiring of 3 additional custodians.

<u>Insurance/Pension</u> – Increased expenditures are due to increased health insurance rates and a larger defined benefit pension payment in the current year compared to the prior year. All increases were anticipated and in accordance with budget.

<u>Student Body Activities/Community Services</u> – Decreased expenditure are a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic which has caused the cancellation of extracurricular activities and programs.

<u>Equipment – New/Replace</u> – Equipment purchases are showing over budget due to COVID-19. Additional equipment purchases were made in the current year to accommodate remote learning.

Out of District Tuition – Decrease in expenditures is due to the timing of vendor payments. As previously reported a deficit in this category is projected because of unanticipated outplacement costs. The district has received additional excess cost reimbursement due to an increase in the uncapped entitlement threshold from 70.89% in prior year to 80.31% in the current year which will help offset the anticipated deficit. Based on preliminary estimates, we expecting a deficit of about \$200,000.

Enrollment Comparison 2020-21 to 2019-20

|       | Actual    | Actual    |            |
|-------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Grade | 10/1/2020 | 10/1/2019 | Difference |
| K-6   | 2018      | 2038      | -20        |
| 7-8   | 633       | 633       | 0          |
| 9-12  | 1309      | 1354      | -45        |
| Total | 3960      | 4025      | -65        |

Staffing Comparison (FTE)

|                            | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Certified Teaching Staff   | 377.67  | 370.45  |
| Certified Administrators   | 18.00   | 18.00   |
| Custodial/Maintenance      | 41.00   | 38.00   |
| Nurses                     | 10.67   | 10.67   |
| Clerical/Paraprofessionals | 150.89  | 146.48  |
| Unaffiliated               | 45.56   | 46.99   |
| Tutors                     | 11.11   | 13.65   |
| Total                      | 654.90  | 644.24  |