

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**August 9, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mike Cartier, Kathleen Barry, Cheryl Hull, Christi Haskell, Audrey Lemieux, Stephen Boettcher, Jennifer Lussier, Cindy Arpin, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Sterling Representative

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ms. Haskell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **ROLL CALL (taken silently by Board secretary)**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Minutes of the Meeting of June 14, 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2017 meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- None presented.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Resignations, Appointments & Confirmations: Mr. Di Pietro said that five letters were received from staff that have decided to resign or retire at this time.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Genevieve Wakely.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to accept the letter of resignation from Megan Nelson, PC Music Teacher.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Judy Gilkenson with regret and appreciation for her years of service.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to accept the letter of resignation from Bethany.  
SECOND: Ms. Barry  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation from Sierra Suprin, Speech Pathologist.  
SECOND: Mr. Cartier  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Although Mr. Klimkiewicz informed the Board of his resignation at the June meeting, his official letter of resignation was presented to them this month.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation from Mr. Klimkiewicz with regret.  
SECOND: Ms. Lemieux  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The following appointments have been made this summer:

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to confirm the appointments made by the Superintendent.

- Robert Salerno – Music at PCS
- Patrick Slattery – Music at PCS
- Taryn Ricci – Special Education at PMS
- William Treiss – Tech Ed. At PHS
- Melissa Tracy – Guidance Counselor at PCS
- Heather Eighme – Science at PHS
- Katherine Shekleton – Grade 3 at MES
- Nina Zimmitti – Grade 1 at SHE
- Lisa Romasanta – Business Ed at PHS
- Tracy Sullivan – Grade 3 at SHE
- Mark Spalding – Director of Student Services

SECOND: Ms. Barry  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

One additional appointment was made after the monthly packet was distributed. Ms. Necia Stopa will be a part-time Art teacher.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to confirm the appointment of Necia Stopa.  
SECOND: Mr. Cartier  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Central Office Contracts: Mr. Di Pietro presented the Board with contracts for the Business Manager and the Executive Secretary to the Superintendent. He explained that

he is requesting a 2% raise for each of the two years of their contracts with no other changes.

MOTION: Mr. Boettcher moved to approve the 2% annual wage increase for the Business Manager and the Executive Secretary.

SECOND: Ms. Hull

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- C. Request for Leaves of Absence: A letter was received from SHE Pre-K teacher Tara Young requesting four weeks of leave beyond her maternity leave for the purpose of childrearing. She will return to her position on December 11, 2017.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to approve the leave of absence for Tara Young.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

A request was also received from Ms. Jennifer Vocatura for a one-year leave of absence from her teaching position for personal reasons.

MOTION: Mr. Boettcher moved to approve the one year leave request for Jennifer Vocatura.

SECOND: Ms. Hull

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. Public Forum/Agenda Items: As no one came forward, the Chair moved to the next item on the Agenda.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier stated that the 2016-2017 expenditures ended under plan by \$1,885 and the revenues were greater than expected by \$110,010.

He also said that all budget expenditures for the 2017/18 budget have been reconciled for all staffing changes to date. There were no unusual or excessive expenditures for the month of July. He asked that the BOE approve the reconciled budget for 17/18 in the amount of \$35,570,774.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the reconciled 2017/18 budget in the amount of \$35,570,774.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Mr. Lussier said all of our schools have reported that they will be ready for the opening of school. There are still some pending projects that were continue throughout the school year.

- B. Community Recognition Awards: The Board will once again hold its Community Recognition Awards on September 25<sup>th</sup>. This year it has been suggested that First Selectman Paul Sweet be honored along with the Danielson Elks for their contributions and scholarships that they provide to the district.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to honor Mr. Sweet and the Danielson Elks at this years' recognition dinner.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- C. Supplemental Carl Perkins Grant: Mrs. Cadro would like to submit for a Supplemental Carl Perkins grant to enhance our Visual Communications program and courses at PHS. This grant is competitive and could be up to \$50,000.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to apply for the supplemental Carl Perkins Grant.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- D. Policy Revisions – Second Reading: Policy 8003 Community Use of School Facilities and 8020 School Visitors were both displayed on the district webpage for public viewing. There were no questions or concerns brought forward with regard to the changes.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the changes to Policy 8003 Community Use of School Facilities.

SECOND: Mr. Boettcher

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the changes to Policy 8020 School Visitors.

SECOND: Mr. Boettcher

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## 8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Staff Evaluation Summary Results: Mr. Di Pietro said that each year the district is required to provide the Board with a summary of the results of evaluating all certified staff members. Mr. Di Pietro said that out of 205 educators, only five were rated as developing, none were rated below standard, 86 were rated as proficient and, 112 were designated as exemplary.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to accept the summary report of the staff evaluations.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Summer Program Report: Mrs. Cadro said that the Summer School Program was held at Shepard Hill this year and the theme was Amazing Animals. Each classroom also had

the opportunity to explore a classroom sized map of Connecticut and learn a bit about our state.

- C. Summer Discovery Report: Ms. Haskell reported that there were many visitors to the Discovery Bus this summer. Some of the Thursday evenings in the Park were cut short due to inclement weather. The recreation department would like to see the bus pair up with the summer concert series next year.
- D. Calendar Revision 2017-2018: Mr. Di Pietro stated that he is looking for the Board approval to make the half professional day on January 23 to a full professional day.

MOTION: Mr. Boettcher moved to approve the revision to the 2017/2018 school calendar.  
SECOND: Ms. Lemieux  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- E. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Di Pietro reported on the opening of school including an orientation for staff followed by a professional day for teachers and paraprofessionals. Students in Grade K-12 start on Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the first year for All-Day-Kindergarten. Preschool students start on Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Superintendent Di Pietro presented a report on the enrollments and explained that Kindergarten enrollment is the highest it has been in the past five years. It appears that the All-Day- Kindergarten has increased enrollment which may in part be due to the Town Recreation Program Kindergarten being discontinued. Kindergarten enrollment appears to be averaging between 19-21 students per class. Grades 4 & 5 enrollments are averaging between 23-24 students per class. All other grade levels have remained stable with a slight increase at Plainfield High School.

## 9. **STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:**

In order to take advantage of the early registration prices, please notify the superintendent's office if you wish to attend the CABE/CAPSS Conference this year.

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.  
SECOND: Mr. Boettcher  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.