

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

April 13, 2016 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Audrey Lemieux, Doug Smith, Christi Haskell, Cheryl Hull, Mike Cartier, Cindy Arpin, Kathleen Barry, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder; Student Representative; Arrianna Landry

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **ROLL CALL (taken silently by Board secretary)**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the consent agenda.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Minutes of the Meeting of March 9, 2016.
- B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 22, 2016.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. MES Fund Raising Project: Melissa Curran, Grade 3 Teacher, spoke to the board regarding the fund raising project that her students did based on the show Shark Tank. She stated that the students came up with their product, determined how much they would charge for the item and even made a commercial to promote the product. They decided to sell "Fun Fluffy Sticks" which are large marshmallows dipped in chocolate and covered with toppings. They explained to the Board how they were selling the product and showed them the commercial that they produced.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

- A. Resignations, Non-Renewals & Appointments: A letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement was received from Linda Gluck. Ms. Gluck will be retiring as of August 31, 2016.

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

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. Public Forum/Agenda Items: Mr. Brandon Nichols spoke to the Board about the recent competition that the Winter Guard went to in Dayton, Ohio. He said that out of the 120 groups that competed, they held their own but did not make it to the semifinals.
- B. Student Liaisons: Arrianna Landry spoke for the high school and informed the board that the production of the Addams Family will be on May 5, 6 & 7. The fourth quarter began last Friday, and AP exams are being given in the first week of May. She ended by informing everyone that the Soup/Bowl Fundraiser made approximately \$3,000.
- C. Recognition: Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Secretaries & Nurses: Mrs. Lemieux read into record the Proclamation of Appreciation to the staff for the efforts that they put forth all year for the benefit of the schools and students.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Monthly Budget Report & Facilities Update: Mr. Lussier stated that the budget is currently on target for the end of the year. The health insurance account (E-CHIP) is doing very well with a reserve balance of 1.8 million.

Facilities: There was a gas odor detected at Shepard Hill on March 24th. It was determined that there was a crack in one of the appliances in the kitchen. It was repaired and all is fine. The faucets and drains in the bathrooms at Moosup Elementary are beginning to corrode. One of the heating units at Plainfield Memorial needs to be replaced and they are looking for a suitable unit. Radon testing was completed in all of the buildings and all are in acceptable levels.

- B. Bond/Building Committee: Mr. Lussier said that they are expecting a letter from the state giving the district approval to begin the bidding process for Phase II on the roof at Moosup Elementary School.
- C. FY 17 Budget Status: Mr. Di Pietro said that the budget has been presented to the Board of Finance. He noted that the Governor has stated that there will be cuts made to the ECS funding for next year. The Board of Finance will review the information and determine what the next steps will be before it is presented to the Town.

- D. Policies:

Policies to be Reaffirmed:

- 6016 Community Resource Persons – New #6170
- 6035 Weighted Grading – New #6146.1
- 8010 Advertising and Promotion – New #1325

- 8015 Recruiting/Advertising within the Schools – New #1112
- 8030 Name of Facility/School – New #1170

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the reaffirmation of the above policies.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

First Reading of Policy 6010 – Educational Goal Statement

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to forgo the reading of the policy at the meeting and place it on the webpage for review.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Second Reading of Policies:

- 5012.1 Bullying – New #5131.3
- 5053 Pediculosis – New #5141.221
- 5038 Health and Wellness

These policies have been posted on the webpage for the past month to allow for public viewing and questions regarding any concerns with the policies.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the policies after the second reading.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- E. Substitute Teaching Rates: Mr. Di Pietro addressed the concerns of the Board with regard to pay increases for substitutes. The Board asked to see if there was also a way of giving subs that were not previous teachers in the district an increase in pay as well. It was noted that there are several subs that are dedicated to the district and serve us well but that did not previously teach in the system. Mr. Di Pietro suggested that a system be set up to increase pay for those subs that worked beyond 60 days for the district. After that time, they will receive an increase up to \$95/day.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to table the discussion until the next meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Healthy Foods Certification: Mr. Lussier indicated that on an annual basis, the Board must decide whether or not it will implement the Healthy Foods Certification ensuring that all food items sold to students separately from reimbursable meals comply with the

Connecticut Nutrition Standards. The only exception is after school events and sports events.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to submit the Health Foods Certification.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Budget Transfers: Mr. Lussier distributed a table to the board showing the areas of concern within the budget. He said that there are other areas within the budget that are running below what they had been budgeted for and can be transferred to compensate for the overruns. He is not asking for approval at this time, but will have all of the information available for the members at the next meeting for their approval.
- C. Superintendent's Evaluation: Mr. Smith stated that the evaluation of the Superintendent has been distributed to each member. He asked that everyone complete the application and return it by May 11th.
- D. Adopt End of Year Calendar: Mr. Di Pietro said that due to snow days, the last day for students will now be on June 17th. This will be the 180th day. High School Graduation will be set for June 16th and the last day for the staff will be on June 20th due to contractual obligations.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the end of the year calendar and set the graduation date for June 16th.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- E. BOE Approval for Removal of Items in Annex: Mr. Di Pietro said that they are in the process of cleaning out the PHS Annex Storage Facility. He said that although the Board more than a year ago took a vote to qualify items at the Annex of no further value and a public sale was held and items were removed, the accumulation of materials continue to create an unhealthy and unsafe storage area. The Town and WINCO have been contacted and they are prepared to remove all items of waste with metal for their recycling at no cost. The remaining items identified as waste will be removed by Willimantic Waste. Mr. Di Pietro asked for Board approval to begin this process.

MOTION: Ms. Barry motioned to remove all identified and target waste items at the PHS Annex as the items have no value for the school system.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- F. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro said that they had a great time at the NSBA Conference over the weekend. It was a good experience to meet with other board members on a national basis.

9. COMMITTEE AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

Those members that attended the NSBA Conference this past weekend said that it was a great experience. The workshop were very informative and they appreciated the opportunity to converse with board members from across the country.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy St. Amour
Recorder