

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

**May 10, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

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

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 April 12, 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2017 meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 24, 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2017 meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- **CABE Leadership Awards:** Four students were brought forward to the Board for being chosen to receive the CABE Student Leadership Award. Aidan Nottage and Lia Duval from Plainfield Central School and Mariah Faison and Samuel Zurowski from the Plainfield High School.
- **Invention Convention:** Ms. Abbie O'Brien from Plainfield Memorial School has been chosen the state winner from her Cozy Collar idea at the Invention Convention. She will now go on to the National Competition. Ms. O'Brien showed her invention to the Board and explained how it works.
- Ms. Haskell read a letter from Mr. Douglas Smith, stating that he is resigning from his position on the Board of Education, effective May 10, 2017.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Resignations & Appointments: Mr. Di Pietro said that four letters were received from staff that have decided to resign for the purpose of retirement at the end of this school year.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Melanie Ericson with regret and appreciation for her years of service.

SECOND: Ms. Hull

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

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

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Jean Stamato Signor 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 for the purpose of retirement from Robert Drapcho with regret and appreciation for his years of service.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. Parent Presentation – Augmentative Devices: Ms. Renee Toper spoke to the board regarding communication devices that are a great benefit to non-verbal students. She had many devices available for the members of the board to try and also presented a brief Prezi Presentation showing the benefits of these devices and how they can make a difference in the education of these children.
- B. Public Forum/Agenda Items: William Hammond spoke to the Board with regard to his Eagle Scout project. He said that he would like to work on the area of the shed by the teachers' parking lot. He said that it is often a mud pit. He would like to install pavers so that people can walk by and access the shed without stepping in the mud. There would be no cost to the district and he would provide all the labor.
- C. PHS Student Liaison Report: Arrianna Landry said that the NHS Induction will take place tomorrow evening. There will be a Junior Class car wash on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Senior Class trip will be on June 5<sup>th</sup> and the AP biology and anatomy classes will have a trip to the Mystic Aquarium this month.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier stated his projections show that the district should end this school year with approximately \$30,000 remaining in the budget. He also noted that due to fewer employees enrolled in the health insurance, we will not have to contribute as much money into the fund this year.

Mr. Lussier said that there is an issue with the sewer line at PMS due to some trees growing into the pipes. The issue will be taken care of when school is out of session for the summer.

Mr. Lussier said that he has prepared some transfers that will be needed to balance the budget. He would like to transfer \$160,000 from several accounts that are under run to cover the over runs in the special education accounts.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the transfers.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. FY 2018 Budget Status: The budget for the 2018 fiscal year will go to a vote on Monday, May 15. The polls will be open from 12:00 – 8:00 p.m. in all four towns.

C. Special Education Audit Report: Mr. Klimkiewicz and Ms. Gilberti review the recent special education audit that was performed on the district. He said that the purpose of the audit is to make sure that our resources are utilized effectively and efficiently, to make sure that students are receiving educational benefit from the programs and services that we offer, and to see that the communication with stakeholders is effective in meeting student needs. To gather the information a review of 18 student IEPs was performed, 4 in-depth reviews of student programs, 32 classroom observations, input from 54 stakeholders, 3 parent focus group interview sessions, a parent survey, and 38 Plainfield staff interviews were performed. Based on this information, the following commendations and recommendations were given:

Commendations:

- Consistently meets IDEA compliance
- Special Education works closely with a parent group to evaluate program
- District access additional revenue – tuition/Medicaid
- School climates are positive and helpful
- Plainfield worked with SERC for professional training
- District accessed outside consultant to improve ILP
- Moosup demonstrates strong SRBI model
- Sp. Ed. Office requested audit and committed to improve

Recommendations:

- Utilize more effective instructional and inclusive practices
- Build capacity to address Autism and Behavior population
- Re-allocate and build additional resources
- Develop and Monitor effective process such as SRBI
- Increase and improve communication

## 8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approval of Perkins Grant: Ms. Cadro stated that the Perkins grant provides funding for technology education, home economics and some business courses. This year the grant should provide funding in the amount of \$26,206.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to approve the application for the Perkins grant.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Summer Lunch Program: Mr. Lussier said that he need the Boards' approval to continue to provide the summer lunch program as they have in the past. He said that the program has served an estimated 435 individuals on a daily basis for the past two years. He said that the lunches will be served at the Early Childhood Center, Shepard Hill, Plainfield Community Park, Sterling Community School and the Sterling Recreation.

MOTON: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve Plainfield's participation in the Summer Lunch Program.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously

- C. Chartwell's Contract Amendment: Mr. Lussier said that this is considered Amendment #1 to the existing agreement that was entered into with Chartwell's on July 1, 2016. This amendment will be submitted to the state for their review and approval to extend the contract for the next school year.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the amendment to enter into the second year of the five year contract with Chartwells.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- D. Dattco Emergency Transport: Mr. Di Pietro said that this agreement with Dattco is to set a rate that will be charged should there be an emergency in which students need to be evacuated from the schools.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to approve the agreement with Dattco for emergency transport.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- E. BOE Consideration for Dental Insurance: the district has the opportunity to switch its dental coverage from Anthem to Cigna. By making the switch into the ECHIP program, it will save 13% in costs. All unions that are affected by the dental insurance have been contacted and agree to the change.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to change the dental insurance from Anthem to Cigna.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

F. Policy Second Readings: Mr. Klimkiewicz stated that the policies have been on the webpage for the past two months. He has not received any requests for changes.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to dispense with the reading of the policies.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the following policies:

- 7005 Asbestos Awareness & Hazardous Communications
- 3541.1 Bus Camera Policy
- 6172.1 Title I Parent Complaint Procedure
- 6172 Use of Title I Funds

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

G. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro said that he would waive his report this month and allowed Mr. Klimkiewicz to share some good news. Mr. Klimkiewicz said that he will sadly be leaving Plainfield Schools at the end of the school year to take a position with the State Department at the Special Education Bureau Chief. He thanked everyone for the support that they have given him during his time here in Plainfield.

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

Ms. Haskell stated that she attended the production of Mary Poppins and said that it was phenomenal and was amazed at the talent.

Ms. Barry said that she attended the Manners Luncheon at Moosup Elementary School and had a wonderful time.

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.