

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**December 21, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mike Cartier, Kathleen Barry, Christi Haskell, Audrey Lemieux, Stephen Boettcher, Matthew Radant, Peggy Bourey, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager

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. **TEAM OF ONE IN WRESTLING:**

A student at PHS would like to compete in wrestling. As Plainfield does not have a team, he would train and compete with Killingly High School representing Plainfield. He will be responsible for transportation and costs.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the request for a Team of One in Wrestling.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

4. **BOE FINALIZATION OF PROGRAM REDUCTIONS TO MEET THE BOF REQUIRED BUDGET CUTS:**

Mr. Di Pietro explained that the net reduction from the final passed budget plus the Governor's holdback was \$2,032,814. The BOF appropriated \$1 million against it, reducing the figure to \$1,032,814. The BOE cut (up to) \$614,571, bringing the balance down to \$418,243. Last night, the BOF appropriated \$343,453 to the education budget, further reducing the deficit to \$74,790.

This remaining \$74,790 reduction will need to be made up by the BOE. The following cuts are being suggested to meet this obligation:

- Reducing \$50,000 from health costs based on staff reductions
- Reducing \$15,000 from substitutes based on trends
- Reducing \$5,000 from field trips, most of which are paid by parents & PTO's
- Recovering \$10,000 from participant fees at events formerly directed to activity funds.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to approve up to \$80,000 in suggested cuts as presented.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Ms. Haskell opened the floor for comments from the public.

Mr. Lorange spoke with regard to the elimination of late busses. He asked the board to consider the fact that there are many students that would not be able to participate in afterschool activities without these services. He also said that he believes the students are able to get around the blocks that are put up on the internet for certain social websites. He feels that the money that is spent to enforce this could be used for other things.

Ms. Lugauskas asked the Board to consider how some of the cuts are effecting the younger students in the district.

Kimberly Fields asked that the Board consider Pay to Play for sports in Plainfield as other district are doing.

Ms. Haskell extended her appreciation to the Board of Finance for authorizing that the stabilization grant be applied to offset the cuts required by the Board of Education.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**SECOND:** Mr. Cartier

**VOTE:** Passed unanimously.