

PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
7:00 P.M.
JUNE 11, 2014

PRESENT: Douglas Smith, Chair; Audrey Lemieux, Kathleen Barry, Cheryl Hull, Peter Migneault, Mike O'Neil, Rob Benoit, Christi Haskell, Cindy Arpin, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ron Lussier, Business Manager; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER: The Chair 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:

MOTION: Mr. Migneault 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 May 14, 2014

B. Minutes of the Meeting of June 2, 2014

4. COMMUNICATIONS:

5. PERSONNEL:

A. **Resignations & Appointments:**

A letter of resignation was received from Megan McBroome of Plainfield Memorial School effective at the end of this school year.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to accept the letter of resignation from Megan McBroome.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

An amendment to a previously submitted resignation was received from Leila Stone. Ms. Stone would like to retire at the end of this present school year.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to approve the revised retirement date from Ms. Stone.

SECOND: Mr. Migneault
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. **Requests for Leave**: The following requests for childrearing leave were presented to the board.

Rebecca Lopes - Four weeks unpaid leave beginning on or about August 27, 2014.
Kimberly Pudvah - Unpaid leave through January 5, 2015.
Kristen Carlage - Unpaid leave through March 2, 2015.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the requests for childrearing leave.
SECOND: Ms. Arpin
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

C. **Intern Position - Leave of Absence**: Mr. Di Pietro informed the Board that he would like to request a partial .4 unpaid leave of absence for Natasha Hutchinson from her reading specialist position for the 2014/2015 school year. He stated that during this .4 leave, Ms. Hutchinson will be assigned as an administrative intern at Shepard Hill Elementary School. He stated that she has earned her administrative degree and would like to gain some practical experience. Due to the increased number of teachers that need to be evaluated at SHE, Ms. Hutchinson will provide added support for supervisor. The remaining .6 FTE time will be providing reading support at Shepard Hill.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the request for the .4 leave of absence for Ms. Hutchinson.
SECOND: Ms. Lemieux
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the .4 intern position for Ms. Hutchinson at Shepard Hill Elementary School.
SECOND: Ms. Lemieux
VOTE: Passed with opposition from Mr. Benoit.

D. **Approval of Individual Contracts**: Mr. Smith stated that the Board was presented with the information for the individual contract at the last meeting for their review.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the individual contracts as presented.
SECOND: Ms. Haskell
VOTE: Passed with abstention from Mr. Benoit.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Benoit stated that he wished to say congratulations to the PHS boys' baseball team. They worked hard and had a great accomplishment this year.

A. **PHS Marching Band**: Ms. Casey Howard spoke to the Board with regard to the band's' trip to Washington DC to march in the Memorial Day Parade. She show a brief PowerPoint presentation to the board along with a video of our students taking part in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier ceremony.

B. **Public Forum/Agenda Items**

Mr. John Haskell - Stated that the Board makes decision that are best for the students of Plainfield. He stated that since the arbitration award for the bus drivers' contract has been given, his daughter-in-law's home information was published on facebook and a rock was thrown at his granddaughters window. He does not believe that personal home information should be published. An email addresses should be enough for them to get there information to a member of the Board.

Wilinda Benoit - Ms. Benoit stated that she is upset because her children have to read in Board minutes that their father is being investigated. She said that she has sent correspondence with concerns and feels that it is disrespectful that no one has ever responded to her emails.

Ruby Lombardy - Ms. Lombardy stated that on Tuesday, June 3rd the town Selectmen voted to uphold the arbitration award on the bus drivers' contract. She stated that the drivers are not wealthy people. These jobs are how they support their families. She said that this contract will cut the wages and benefits of nearly 50 people.

C. **Student Liaison Report**: No students were present at the meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. **Monthly Budget Report & Facilities Update**: Mr. Lussier stated that the budget is still on schedule to close out the end of the year on target. He did not that legal services are still running slightly higher than normal.

He stated that the AT&T has connected all fiber to the schools and now the hub at the high schools needs to be installed.

B. **SHE Roof Award**: Mr. Lussier stated that eight or nine bids were received. Bazinet, LLC was the low bidder and Mr. Lussier suggests that the Board go with this company to put on the new roof at SHE.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the bid award to Bazinet, LLC for the SHE roof.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

C. **Update on Capital Projects**: It is being recommended that the building committee allocate money for the heating systems in the amount of \$150,000. Mr. Di Pietro stated that by moving some of the ball fields at PHS and SHE, they can save quite a bit of money with the parking lot situation at SHE. It was also noted that they are looking to add upper parking at PCS for staff so that the lower parking lot can be used for parent pickup. This is attempt to alleviate some of the traffic concerns at the complex. Mr. Benoit said that he does not feel that will correct the problem. Many of the concerns are with the speed of the traffic.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Grant Approvals**: Ms. Cadro asked the Board for approval for the application of the Primary Project grant in the amount of \$20,000. This grant is used to fund our Guidance Assistance Programs (GAP).

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to approve the Primary Project grant.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. **Nurses' Contract**: Mr. Smith stated that everyone has received a copy of the nurses' contract to review prior to the meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the nurses' contract.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

C. **Budget Transfers**: Mr. Lussier stated that he presented the board with five transfers that need to be approved.

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to approve the transfers as presented.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

D. **Evaluation Results**: Mr. Di Pietro stated that under the new evaluation plan, 92 teachers were evaluated under the new model. Four of those teachers were rated as developing new

teachers. 70 of them were labeled proficient and 18 teachers were rated as exemplary. This data will be sent to the Department of Education in July.

E. **Food Service Bid:** Mr. Lussier stated that Chartwells was the only company to submit a bid for the district food service program.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to approve Chartwells as the school food service provider.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

F. **Superintendent's Report:** End of Year: Mr. Di Pietro review the strategic plan with the Board to review what has been accomplished this year. The following is a list of some of those items:

PUPS program

Common Core & SBAC testing was implemented

Implementation of SAT/PSAT prep test free of charge to students

PD for paraprofessionals for 6 days

New contracts for teachers, secretaries, nurses and bus drivers

92 teachers/administrators were evaluated.

Implementation of IEP Direct

New PASS program was implemented

PACT Committee

Aspen Student Information System was integrated

Website and School Messenger programs were installed

Wireless in PHS, PCS & PMS

Fully implemented ECHiP

SHE Roof bid award

Mr. O'Neil would like to provide the board with a survey for their review that he would like to have the staff complete.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

Mr. Benoit stated that he went to Six Flaggs last Friday with the middle school band. He said that they were given the award for the most professionalism and they should be proud.

He also said that with the state discussing a standardized calendar should we be looking at that next year. Mr. Di Pietro indicated that we already collaborate with EastConn with regard to our calendar. The State will be using the local RESC to develop the calendar.

He also ask how we might make our high school much more presentable to the students so that they choose to attend here rather than other area schools. Mr. Worth indicated that Plainfield

High School has many wonderful programs for the students, however, they cannot provide course such as VoAg or many of the trade programs that the area tech schools have to offer.

Ms. Haskell stated that she will be at the booth during Plainfield Pride Day. She asked that the schools send her any photos or information that they have so that the community can see the wonderful things that happen in our schools.

Mr. Smith said that there was originally a workshop for the board scheduled on July 9th. That will now be a special meeting at 5:00 at the Early Childhood Center.

10: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy St. Amour
Recorder