

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

**January 8, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Douglas Smith, Chair; Ron Benoit, Cheryl Hull, Cynthia Arpin, Audrey Lemieux, Kathleen Barry, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder; Alexandra Thomas, Student Representative

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** 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: Ms. Barry 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 December 11, 2013.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mr. Smith stated that he had received a discrimination complaint. He has turned it over to CIRMA as they will be handling the complaint.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Killingly Regional Agricultural Representative Appointment: Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Brad Bourque is the representative from Plainfield. He spoke to the Board last month regarding the VoAg Program. He is requesting to be reappointed for another term on the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to appoint Mr. Bourque to the Killingly Regional Agricultural Committee.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Resignations & Appointments: Mr. Di Pietro stated that after completing the interviews for the position of Special Education Supervisor, Ms. Augusta Gilberti has been chosen to replace Ms. Anne Landry. Mr. Di Pietro informed the Board that they had the opportunity to review her credentials that were provided with the packet this month.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to approve the appointment of August Gilberti to the position of Special Education Supervisor.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

C. Contract Ratification – Dispatchers: Mr. Di Pietro stated that he provided the Board with an update of the changes to the contract and asked the Board to approve the new agreement.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to approve the Dispatchers' contract.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. Public Forum: As no one came forward, the chair moved to the next item on the agenda.
- B. Student Liaison Reports: Alexandra stated that the winter sports season has begun and the students at the high school will be taking their exams next week.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Monthly Budget, Facilities Report and Legal Services Update: Mr. Lussier stated that there are no changes to the budget. We are still set to end the year on target.

Legal Services: The legal services are slightly higher than expected at this point.

Facilities: The new phone system at the ECC building has been installed and it appears to be working very well.

- B. Capital Improvement Bond Update: Mr. Di Pietro stated that he plans to meet with Mr. Sweet to discuss the next steps in the bond process now that it has been approved by the voters. He said that even though the bond has been approved, there still needs to be a five year capital plan on file with the town. Mr. Di Pietro presented the Board with the plan. He noted that those items marked with a #1 are included in the bond and those with a #2 will be scheduled in the 2015 budget.

MOTION: Mr. Benoit moved to approve the Five-Year Capital Plan as presented.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- C. Workers' Compensation Claims Update: Mr. Di Pietro stated that the information provided to the board shows the number of open claims that we currently have. He noted that as of the today, two of the more substantial claims have been settled and those employees have tendered their resignations. He noted that CIRMA has initiated training and our claims are running lower than they have in the past.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2014/2015 Budget Development Process: Mr. Di Pietro stated that they Board will meet with the administration on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at the Early Childhood Center to begin the development process of the budget. Mr. Di Pietro asked the members of the board to review their goals that he provided for them and make any additions or subtractions to the list. He felt this would be a good tool for development of next year's budget. Ms. Arpin asked if Career Readiness could be included on the list. She did not want the Board to lose sight of that goal. It was also suggested that the high school bring back some basic life skills for students. (i.e. resume building, checkbook, etc.)
- B. Curriculum Adoptions: History: Mr. Smith stated that the Curriculum Committee will meet on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 to discuss the changes to the History Curriculum.

C. Policy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Title IX: Ms. Barry read the Title IX policy into the record.

MOTION: Ms. Arpin moved to approve the Title IX policy.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

D. Strategic Plan: Mr. Di Pietro reviewed the Strategic Plan with the Board. He said the district utilized a broad community engagement to establish the six long range goals. He said that the Board change to the sequence of Math and English courses at PHS resulted in gains of 18% to 23% in students reading goal on State testing. The Board also made a commitment to early childhood with the start of universal preschool.

E. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro stated that the district has been working hard to make a conversion to a new student data management system. He said that Aspen will be active and running at the end of January.

## 9. **STANDING COMMITTEE AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS**

- There will be a special meeting of the Board on January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the ECC.
- The Policy committee will meet on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at the ECC.
- The Curriculum Committee will meet on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 at the ECC.
- The Administration and Board will meet on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at the ECC to begin the budget planning process.

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn at 7:57 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy St. Amour  
Recorder