

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

November 18, 2015 7:00 P.M.

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He proceeded to turn the meeting over to the Superintendent for the Election of Officers.
2. **ROLL CALL (taken silently by Board secretary)**
3. **ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:**

The Superintendent opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board Chair.

Ms. Haskell moved to nominate Douglas Smith for Chair.
Mr. Cartier seconded the motion.

The Superintendent closed the nominations and a vote was taken. Mr. Smith received nine votes. Mr. Smith assumed the position of Board Chair and the meeting was turned over to him.

Mr. Smith opened the nominations for Vice Chair.

Ms. Hull moved to nominate Ms. Haskell as Vice Chair.
Ms. Lemieux seconded the motion.

Ms. Arpin moved to nominate Ms. Barry as Vice Chair.
Mr. Cartier seconded the motion.

The Chair closed the nominations and a vote was taken. Ms. Haskell was appointed as Vice Chair with six of the nine votes.

Mr. Smith opened the nominations for Board Secretary.

Ms. Haskell nominated Ms. Lemieux for Board Secretary.
Ms. Arpin seconded the motion.

Mr. Smith closed the nomination and took a vote. Ms. Lemieux is elected the new Board Secretary with a unanimous vote.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

A. Minutes of the Meeting of October 14, 2015.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS:** None Presented.

6. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Resignations & Appointments: Mr. Kenneth Phaiah has submitted his letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective December 31, 2015. Mr. Phaiah has taught math in the district for over 30 years.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to accept the resignation of Kenneth Phaiah with regret.

SECOND: Mr. Migneault

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

7. **PUBLIC FORUM:** Mr. Di Pietro introduced Mr. Robert Riley. Mr. Riley was Plainfield's Teacher of the Year and also the first teacher from Plainfield to make it as a finalist at the State level. Mr. Riley spoke to the Board with regard to how proud he is for this honor and presented his plaque to Mr. Worth and Plainfield High School.

A. PHS Band Recognition: Ms. Howard along with the band Drum Major and Brass Captain spoke to the Board regarding the awards and recognitions that they have received. This year the band has won both State and New England championships and placed 7th in the Nationals.

B. Student Liaison: Ms. Arrianna Landry, new student representative, stated that SAT day was on October 14th and the PSAT testing will be in December. This Friday and Saturday will be the production of Anne Frank in the high school auditorium. The football team will end their season on Thanksgiving Day against Griswold.

C. MES Presentation: Ms. Lugauskas spoke to the board about a project that was completed at Moosup Elementary School. She said that the students were to invent a product to be sold at the Fall Festival. The winning project was able to make a commercial to promote their product and produce it to sell at the festival. The money that was raised from the sale of the product was put into the activity fund.

D. Public Forum: Ms. Tandy Carignan, Brian Stevenson and Carrie LaRoche spoke to the Board about the proposed schedule change for next year. They feel that an AB schedule will have a negative impact on the students at the high school. They would like to present their own ideas for a new schedule that they feel would be more beneficial to the students. Mr. Smith stated that they need to give this information to Mr. Worth by next

week for review. Ms. Mary Landry, parent, also spoke with regard to the present schedule and indicated that she does not feel that it is helpful to struggling students.

8. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Monthly Budget Report & Facilities Update: Mr. Lussier stated that there is no change to the appropriation; however there are some areas of concern. Mr. Di Pietro expanded on this matter by stating that there is a discrepancy with the workers' compensation insurance. He noted that when the bus garage was eliminated last year, CIRMA reimbursed the district \$180,000 due to the drop in liability. However, this year they raised the rate back up. He said that he is negotiations with them to reduce this fee. He also said that two buses were eliminated from routes with DATTCO this year, but the rate has gone up. He said that they are in a conversation with DATTCO to find out where the discrepancy is.

Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier stated that all of the building walkthroughs have been completed. He will have a full report for the board next month.

- B. Building Committee Status Report: Mr. Lussier said that all roofs are now complete and warranty documents have been received. Final payments have been made to the contractors. The next phase of abatement work at Moosup Elementary will go out to bid in early January.
- C. Second Reading: Search & Seizure (5145.12): Mr. Smith indicated that the policy was posted on the website for the past month for review. He has not received any concerns.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the second reading of Policy 5145.12 Search & Seizure.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- D. Strategic Dialog: A date of December 12th has been chosen. The Board will meet at the PHS Library Media Center for their conversation with regard to the Strategic Plan for the district. Breakfast will be available at 8:30 and the meeting will begin at 9:00.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Board of Education 2016 Calendar: Mr. Smith said that a calendar had been provided for the Board. It reflects the second Wednesday of each month with the exception of July.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the 2016 calendar of meetings.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Course Adoptions: Mrs. Cadro said that there were seven courses that need to be adopted. A brief summary of each course was provided for the Board. She is looking for approval of the following curricula:

1. CP Marketing
2. CP Economics & Business Law
3. American Studies
4. Meteorology
5. Honors Integrated Science
6. World Philosophy & Ethics
7. Honors Non-fiction Literature

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the new curricula.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

C. Superintendent Report: Mr. Di Pietro said that he will be bringing forward to the Board next month the information regarding a Health Occupation course at PHS. He will also be discussing World Languages at Plainfield Central School and how they will configure the course. He closed by informing the Board that discussion regarding a new schedule at PHS began 3 years ago due to the lack of continuity in the core subjects. He said that many of the faculty came together a year ago to present at 7 period drop schedule. This option would provide fewer classes that would be available for the students to take. He said that many of the surrounding districts successfully use an AB schedule at their high schools.

10. COMMITTEE AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

Mr. Smith reminded the members of the Board that the CABE/CAPSS Convention will be held on Friday.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy St. Amour
Recorder