

PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 10, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

Plainfield High School Library

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

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- The minutes of the Meeting of May 14, 2015.
- The minutes of the Special Meeting of June 3, 2015.

4. COMMUNICATIONS: None Presented.

5. PERSONNEL:

- A. Resignations & Appointments: Mr. Di Pietro stated that Ms. Natasha Hutchinson has been selected to fill the new Assistant Principal/Director of Reading position. The position will serve both Moosup Elementary and Shepard Hill.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the appointment of Natasha Hutchinson to the Assistant Principal/Director of Reading position.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Request for Leave of Absence: Ms. Angela St. George, elementary teacher, will be on maternity leave and is requesting an additional four weeks of unpaid leave.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the additional four weeks for Ms. St. George.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- C. Approval of Individual Contracts: Mr. Di Pietro presented the Board with a list of the employees that hold individual contracts with the district. He said that there were no changes to the contracts other than the pay increases that were noted on the listing. He said that the increases were based on previous contracts that had been settled this past year.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the individual contracts as presented.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

A. Public Forum/Agenda Items:

April Wojcik stated that she is a home daycare provider. The new schedule has her children walking down Black Hill Road to get on the bus. She said that this is a very dangerous road and she also has nine other children in her care that she would need to take with her.

Steve Miller stated that his daughter is being asked to walk .4 of a mile to her bus stop. He said that he walked it himself and it took over nine minutes for him. He noted that his daughter will not be walking this distance to the stop.

Mr. Smith stated that all complaints should be addressed to Mr. Lussier. He is compiling the areas of concern and will look into resolutions if possible.

Lisa Golden presented a letter to Mr. Lussier with her issue.

Emily Chaplin also presented a letter to Mr. Lusser with her concerns.

- B. US News Report: Mr. Di Pietro presented the Board with the article from US News regarding national assessment of high school performance. He was proud to announce the Plainfield High School is among the top 10% in ranking in Connecticut and is ranked 2,230 in the nation.
- C. Presentation - Electric Car: Ryan Saros and Devon Slosek spoke to the board regarding their project. They researched, developed and built an electric car that they used to compete in the state competition. They said that they took 2nd place in their first time racing. The students indicated that it took a whole year to build the car. The entire thing was made in the shop. They said that it was not a race based on speed, but the objective was to see how many laps you can do in an hour. They were able to complete 44 laps.
- D. Student Liaison Report: No student representatives were present at the meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Monthly Budget & Facilities Update: Mr. Lussier stated that the budget is on track for the end of the school year. He said that we will purchase some technology with the overrun from this year's budget. It will allow the district to provide the incoming freshmen with Chromebooks. He said that the legal fees for the year were approximately \$18,000. This is substantially lower than the previous year.

Facilities: The renovation on the gymnasium at Plainfield Central will begin on June 22. The wiring for the new PA system at MES has been run in the building and the vestibule there has been constructed and it is weather tight. They are completing the wiring for lighting and heating. The new security wall at PCS will also begin on June 22.

- B. Building committee/Bond Report: The Building Committee will be meeting this evening in order to award the bid for the roofing job. He noted that the bids came in at approximately 1 million less than what was requested from the state.
- C. Roofing Bid Status: See report on Building Committee above.
- D. BOE Recognition Awards: Mr. Di Pietro presented the Board with the groups that were suggested for recognition this year. He asked the Board which ones they would like to recognize this year. Ms. Barry said that the Building Committee has been very helpful to the school district and should be recognized. The Board also supported the recognition of Jewett City Savings Bank for their continued support of the Arts Programs and to the Lions' Club for their many scholarships and yearly donation of dictionaries to the students.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to recognize Jewett City Savings Bank, the Town Building Committee, and the Lions' Club this year.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Mr. Di Pietro also presented the Board with a Service Recognition Award concept. He said that there are many deserving employees that are not among a specific group such as the teachers or paraprofessionals. He asked the Board if they may want to recognize one employee each year that is deserving of being recognized for going above and beyond their responsibilities.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to establish a Service Recognition Award to an employee not part of the teacher or paraprofessional union.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed with one abstention from Ms. Lemieux.

Mr. Di Pietro suggested that the Board recognize Mr. Andreas Parden for the first Service Recognition Awardee. He said that Andy has gone above and beyond for the district in his role as the Computer Systems Manager.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to make Andy Parden the first recipient of the Service Recognition Award.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed with abstention from Ms. Lemieux.

- E. Second Reading of Policies: Ms. Haskell stated that she was informed that there were difficulties in viewing the policies on the webpage. She asked that it be tabled until the next meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Paraprofessional Contract Approval: Mr. Di Pietro said that he sent the changes to the one-year contract extension to the board. He asked for any questions or concerns with the extension.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the one year contract extension for the Paraprofessionals.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Budget Transfer: None were presented.
- C. Special Education Report: Mr. Klimkiewicz gave a brief overview to the Board about the programs and services that were provided during the school year. He noted that in the elementary schools the PreK classes are supporting more students and grades 2 & 3 are receiving specialized reading interventions. The middle school is supporting all students through SRBI and an increase in Aims Web Reading and Math. He informed the Board that at the high school students are involved in extra curricular activities, are being exited from special education and also attaining honor roll and high honors status. The transition program at the high school has helped 6 of the student get accepted to local colleges.
- D. Grant Approvals: Ms. Cadro presented the Board with the grants that need approval by the Board:

FRC - \$109,500

GAP - \$20,000

After School - \$150,000

Technology - \$50,000

Perkins Innovation - \$16,000

Ms. Cadro also presented the grant to the board for the Kindergarten Attendance. She presented the Board with a resolution that needs to be signed by the Board giving authorization to the Superintendent to sign.

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to authorize the superintendent to make, execute and approve on behalf of the Board of Education any and all contracts and amendments and to execute and approve on behalf of the Plainfield Board of Education a part of or incident to such contracts and amendments effective until otherwise ordered by the Board of Education.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

MOTION: Passed unanimously.

- E. Teacher Evaluation Summary Report: Mr. Di Pietro stated presented the Board with a summary of the evaluations for this year. He said that 193 teachers were evaluated. Of them, 100 were rated Proficient, 93 were Exemplary, and two of them are rated as developing. The two developing teachers both had extensive leaves during the school year and could not complete the evaluation process.

- F. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro said that it was a great year. The district has accomplished many things and is very responsive to the needs of the community. The Honor Cord & Awards Night will take place at PHS on Wednesday evening at 6:00, the PCS Promotion exercises will be in the high school auditorium on Thursday evening at 5:00, and the High School graduation will take place on Friday evening at PHS at 6:00.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to go into executive session at 8:38 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the evaluation of the Superintendent.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to come out of executive session at 8:55 p.m.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to accept the superintendent's evaluation and approve his contract with a 2.5% raise.

SECOND: Ms. Hull

VOTE: Passed with abstentions from Ms. Haskell and Mr. Migneault.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to adjourn at 8:58.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy St. Amour, Recorder