

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
May 13, 2015  
7:00 p.m.  
Plainfield High School Library

PRESENT: Chair Doug Smith, Mike O'Neil, Christi Haskell, Kathleen Barry, Mike Cartier, Cheryl Hull, Peter Migneault, Cindy Arpin, Audrey Lemieux, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ron Lussier, Business Manager; Kendra Curran, Student Representative; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder

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 the Board Secretary.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda Consisted of:

1. The Minutes of the Meeting of April 8, 2015.
2. Results of Expulsion Hearings on April 23, 2015.

4. **PERSONNEL:**

- A. Acceptance of Resignation for Purpose of Retirement: A letter was received from Lucy Ashmore indicating that she will retire in June at the close of the 2015 school year.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Lucy Ashmore.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

A letter was also received from Ms. Linda Cusson stating that she will retire from her teaching position at the end of this school year.

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Linda Cusson.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Terminations, Resignations & Appointments: Mr. Di Pietro stated that due to reduced enrollments at PHS a mathematics position is being eliminated. Unfortunately, Ms. Elizabeth Ayala will be let go due to a reduction in force. He said that this is necessary by contract, and does not reflect in any way her teaching ability or performance on the job.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to terminate Elizabeth Ayala's contract due to a reduction in force at Plainfield High School.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## 5. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. Penmanship Contest Winners: Mr. Di Pietro stated that there were two winners in each of the elementary schools for the Penmanship Contest. He displayed each of their winning essays and presented each winner with a certificate and a check for \$50 that they will need to sign in cursive in order to cash. The winners were:
- Jake Taylor - MES
  - Kaylee Stillman - MES
  - Lauren Phillips - SHE
  - Asfandyar Ali - SHE
  - Laci Bettencourt - PMS
  - Hailey Sangillo - PMS
- B. Public Forum: As no one came forward, the Chair moved on to the next item on the agenda.
- C. Staff Appreciation (Secretaries, Teachers, Nurses): Mr. Di Pietro took this time to thank the Secretaries, Teachers, and Nurses in the district for their dedication and service to Plainfield Public Schools. Mr. Smith asked Ms. Lemieux to read the proclamation that was prepared for this recognition.
- D. Readiness & FRC Report: Ms. Cadro spoke to the Board to explain the services that are provided by the Readiness Program and the Family Resource Center. She also distributed an information flyer giving greater detail of the programs and their functions.

- E. Student Liaison Report: Miss Curran said that the PIMA pageant will be held on saturday. SBAC testing is going on right at this time. The music program is getting prepared for a trip to New York. The outdoor track team has completed their meets for this spring and the senior assembly was held to go over the up coming events for the end of the year.

## 6. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Monthly Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier stated that we are on target for the end of the school year. We have saved money in the legal fees area this year and have been able to offset some other costs with this money.

Mr. Lussier stated that Moosup Elementary School has the new phone system in place and the paging system is still in progress. Plainfield Central School has had some work started on the new gymnasium. The district has purchased a new dump truck and plow. There was no additional cost to the taxpayer due to the money that was received from the insurance company.. The new library bus was presented to the Board tonight. He also informed the Board that they have acquired a 2007 chevy shuttle bus with a wheel chair lift to provide some transportation locally.

Roof projects - Mr. Lussier said that the framing on the vestibule at Moosup Elementary School began today. It should be completed by June 5. The roofing projects have gone out to bid and will be opened on May 27th. The projects should be completed this summer.

- B. Report on Town Budget Meeting of May 4, 2015: The meeting went very well. As there is no increase to the taxpayers for next year, the vote for the budget will be taken at the Town Meeting on May 18, 2015 at the Town Hall.
- C. Strategic Planning Report: Mr. Di Pietro distributed a copy of the Strategic Plan that was developed by the board. He reviewed it with the Board and discussed the accomplishments that have taken place throughout the year.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. DATTCO Report: Mr. Cliff Gibson from Dattco addressed the Board. He explained the entire process that occurred in order for Dattco to begin bus services for Plainfield at the start of this school year. He acknowledged that there are still some issues and runs that continue to be late. He stated that they have purchased a new routing system and feel that it should alleviate the issues. He asked if the members of the Board could meet on June 3rd to review the new runs they are planning for next year.

- B. Technology Pilots Report: Mr. Bitgood stated that the chromebooks have been great with the freshman class at the high school and they plan to expand it into next year. He said that the technology pilots have also been very effective at the lower grades as well.
- C. BOE Policy Review: Mr. Klimkiewicz stated that policy 5007 - Student Conduct needs to be reaffirmed and will be renumbered to 5131. The Health Assessments & Immunizations policy had some revisions and will be renumbered to 5141.4, and the Student Fund Raising Activities policy had a slight change and will be renumbered to 1324.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the reaffirmation of 5131 and the revisions to 5141.4 and 1324.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The following policies will need to go through their first reading before being approved at the next meeting.

Suicide Prevention Policy - #5141.6

Suspension/Expulsion/Exclusion/Removal of Student - # 5114

Confidentiality of Records and Protection of Childrens Rights - #5125

Section 504 - #3511

MOTION: Mr. Migneault moved to waive the public reading of the policies and post them to the website for review.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- D. Grant Authorization - Perkins: Ms. Cadro said that the grant is for approximately \$25,000 and it is used to support career technical classes at Plainfield High School.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the submission of the Perkins grant.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed Unanimously.

- E. Budget Transfers: Mr. Lussier submitted a list to the Board of the transfers that he would like to make to balance the over expended accounts in the budget.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the transfer in the amount of \$217,419.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- F. BOE Recognition Project: Mr. Di Pietro reminded the Board that they established an annual recognition dinner last year. He said that a few of the names that have been suggested for community recognition are Jewett City Bank, Town Building Committee, the PACT Committee and the Lions' Club. He said that he is not suggesting that these organizations be the one's recognized, but asked for input if any Board members thought there were others worthy of being recognized. It will be discussed at a future time to determine who will be chosen.
- G. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro stated that the Discovery Bus was here this evening for everyone to see. He said that presently there are over 2000 books inside that have been donated by Savers. This bus will travel through the town during the summer for students to borrow a book and at time listen to a storyteller. The bus has been donated by Dattco. Mr. Di Pietro also said that the Plainfield Memorial School concert will be held on May 20th and the high school concert on May 21st. On May 29th the Big Nozzo Puppet Show will be in the district. They will also perform a concert that evening at the High School.

**8. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:**

None Presented.

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to go into executive session at 8:40 to discuss the Paraprofessional contract

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Haskell

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy St. Amour  
Recording Secretary

