BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF PLAINFIELD
IN UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES of a **WORK & STUDY** Meeting of the Board of
Education Held on Tuesday, February 3, 2015

A **WORK & STUDY** Meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Plainfield was held this day in the Plainfield High School Conference Room. Notice had been provided to Board members and to the Courier-News, Star Ledger, Public Library, City Clerk, Plainfield Police Department, and posted in all Plainfield Public Schools and on the Plainfield Public Schools' website. Mrs. Yolanda Koon, Interim Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. and the following action took place:

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. WELCOME

WELCOME to a Work & Study Meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Plainfield. Members hope you will find the meeting interesting and informative. We thank you for taking the time to attend. Please be advised that this and all meetings of the Board are open to the media and public, consistent with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (Ch. 231 Laws of 1975), and that advance notice required therein has been provided to the Courier News and the Star Ledger on Monday, January 26, 2015 for advertisement on Saturday, January 31, 2015.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell, President
Mrs. Keisha Edwards, Vice President
Mr. Terrence S. Bellamy, Sr.
Mrs. Deborah Clarke
Mrs. Jackie Coley
Mrs. Mahogany Hall
Mrs. Carletta D. Jeffers
Mr. Frederick D. Moore, Sr.
Mr. David M. Rutherford

ALSO PRESENT
Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Superintendent
Mrs. Yolanda Koon
Mrs. Lisa Fittipaldi, Esq.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Edwards, and unanimously approved by the Board:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- Personnel
- Legal

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

The Board of Education adjourned into its Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Work & Study meeting at 8:20 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Campbell acknowledged February is Black History month and that we need to give honor for those civil rights activist as they have paved the way for some of the privileges we have today. The Board is excited to see what activities are scheduled for this month.

Mrs. Campbell attended an event that Somerset held. It was called a "Read-On". This program allowed students and others to showcase their talents like poetry, essays, oral presentations, dine/dialog/discuss and it brought the community together on important topics.

Mr. Bellamy, Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Hall will be tasked with putting something together.

V. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles gave the Board an update on the PARCC's devices. She mentioned that there have been several changes with the specifications and that all schools have been given their devices with the exception of PHS, they are scheduled to receive theirs next week.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles has been in constant communication with Pearson's on the testing information. She also informed the Board that as a contingency plan, the District will have 1,200 Samsung chrome books on-site just in case; and over 4, 000 devices have been deployed out to the entire district.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles would like to recognize the Lady Cardinals and Vikings at the business meeting next week. The 300 club will be recognized at another time, maybe in March. She also mentioned that there was a luncheon given to the members of the 300 club.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles informed the Board that our children will be tested from March – May on several levels with different tests. Also, priority schools have additional testing that must be conducted.

The Board wanted to try and have the public portion of the Business Meeting held in the cafeteria on February 17, 2015 to see if this is a feasible venue.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Human Resources, C & I and Finance, were moved to business agenda.

The Board wanted to know the formula, if one existed, on the number of chaperones for students on field trips i.e. 1 chaperone to 10 students, etc.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Board would like to revisit the policies on travel, employee handbook/accidents and electronic devices.

The Board allowed a community member to speak about a MKL event she attended and how much she enjoyed it and it was amazing and delightful. There will be an educational program at the Public Library on February 25, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a panel of four (4) to discuss youth issues in our community.

VIII. REMARKS FROM THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Mr. Moore gave an update on the Hub Stine Complex and other projects going on in the District. He also informed the Board that they would like to have a community meeting on Hub Stine, tentatively scheduled for February 24, 2015 and information regarding this will be forthcoming. The architects may be asked to speak with the Board prior to the community meeting.

Mr. Moore wanted to thank Mr. Welch for a fine job during the winter storm. The schools walk ways, and parking lots were all clear.

The Board inquired when the Jefferson's students would be returning to the 1200 Myrtle Ave., building.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles stated she is expecting the students to return their building. The 504 Madison Ave., building is a possibility. She will look at various option for Central Office.

IX. REPORT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

"The Board of Education of the City of Plainfield reaffirms its commitment to ensure that the district provides equal employment opportunities regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, ancestry, national origin, handicap and social or economic status…"

It is the policy of this district to provide, through a positive and effective affirmative action program equal opportunities for employment, retention, and advancement of all people.

The equal employment objective for the Board of Education calls for achieving full utilization of minorities and women, and handicapped persons at all levels of management and non-management and by job classification; to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or age; and to have a work environment free of discrimination.

A. Contractual Appointments

Strategic Plan Link:
Goal 2: Human Resources
To improve the recruitment, retention, and development of district staff.

The Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Moore for the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

The Plainfield Board of Education recognizes that a highly qualified, competent, skilled and dedicated workforce is essential in the success of the District and students. Therefore, it has provided the Superintendent of Schools the authority to employ non-administrative and administrative staff members between the Business meeting of the Board of Education and next succeeding meeting of the Human Resource Committee.

The individuals listed have been verified by the Superintendent of Schools as qualified pursuant to the NJ Administrative Code, Statute 6A:9-1.1, which "sets forth the rules governing preparation, licensure, and professional development of those educators required by their positions to be certified". The Superintendent, in this item has used his authority.

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the employment of the following individuals subject to the requirements contained in Ch. 116,P.L. 1986 and upon verification of experience.

	Name/Certification	Effective	Salary	Assignment	Replacing	Position
			Pro-rated			Codes
1.	Robert A. Davis Jr. School 1 ounselor	02/04/15 - 06/30/15	$55,847.00	Maxson	S. Idrobo	PEAT-842
4.	Nicole Harris Replacement Teacher	02/04/15 - 06/30/15	$52,597.00	Evergreen	M. Lucarelli	PEAT-871
2.	Carey Krause Teacher Assistant	02/04/15 - 06/30/15	$26,312.00	PHS	R. Blackman	PEAA-046
3.	Brunilda Solano Replacement Teacher	02/04/15 - 06/30/15	$52,597.00	Evergreen	C. Soterzano	PEAT-773
5.	Rohan Bourne Security Officer	02/04/15 - 06/30/15	$34,475.00	Emerson	T. Bratton	PEAG-871

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with nine members in favor and none were opposed.

X. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

F. University of Medicine and Dentistry of N.J. Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Strategic Plan Link:
Goal 3: Business Practices
To improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of business operations.

The Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Mr. Rutherford and seconded by Mrs. Hall for the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

Numerous studies have shown the benefits of offering an employee assistance program, and the Plainfield Board of Education, the Plainfield Education Association and the Plainfield Association of School Administrators have discussed the need for such a program during negotiations, and the University Behavioral HealthCare Employee Assistance Program has the expertise to provide such services, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the appointment of the University Behavioral HealthCare Employee Assistance Program to provide an employee assistance program at a prorated fee for the 2014 – 2015 SY in the amount of $9,533.35 and an additional $700.00 per individual assessment as needed.

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with nine members in favor and none were opposed.

Mr. Moore moved and seconded by Mrs. Clarke and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Reported by,

Yolanda Koon, Interim Board Secretary
YK/bsc