

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, May 5, 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 6:37 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 Tuesday, April 26, 2015 for advertisement on Saturday, May 2, 2015.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell, President
Mrs. Keisha Edwards, Vice President, arr. @ 7:04 p.m.
Mr. Terrence S Bellamy, Sr.
Mr. John C Campbell
Mrs. Deborah Clarke
Mrs. Jackie Coley
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 Mrs. Clarke seconded by Mrs. Coley 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 6:42 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Work & Study meeting at 8:36 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

NONE.

V. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles informed the Board that she will be hosting an on-site registration for the Central Jersey Arts Charter students (CJAC) on Thursday, May 21, 2015. The school's closing be in June 2015.

PAAAS will be having their production pay on Thursday, May 28, 2015. Gloria Montealegre, PR, will provide the assistance in getting the word out via posters and other media outlets.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles stated there will be new pictures for the Board.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles mentioned PAAAS will be having their Prom on Friday, May 22, 2015 in Bridgewater. Plainfield High School will be having their Prom on Friday, June 12, 2015 and their dance on Friday, May 9, 2015.

The District will be having a job fair on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Administration Building.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles informed the Board that will be recognizing students and the bowling team.

This week is also Teacher Recognition week. There will be a Red Carpet on Friday, May 29, 2015 at PHS.

The Board was concerned with all the events going on in the District and a master calendar would be needed.

Mrs. Johnson-Tucker mentioned that she is working on having one (1) master calendar and that all principals will submit their events and the calendar will notify if there are any conflicts. This calendar should be ready for next school year.

The Board wants the principals to update their website with current pictures, directory, etc.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles informed the Board that students can now register online for their class choices for next school year.

Mr. Ottmann presented the revised 2015-2016 school budget. There were inquiries from the Board pertaining to capital improvements to maintain the buildings; increasing the city school tax levy. Mr. Ottmann explained the allowable 2% cap. The Board agreed to increase the city tax levy which will equate to approximately \$493,000 overall for the District, which is to be allocated for capital improvements projects for the 2015-2016 school year.

To change the law concerning the \$500,000 threshold, the community needs to reach out to their state legislature to advocate to the School Development Authority their concerns.

Mrs. Cardona inquired about the relief to the taxpayer from the last few years. We need to take care of the District employees.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles reiterated that our employees are our concern and we have allotted resources within the PEA contact bargaining unit which is now with the super-conciliator and the parties must again meet on the recommendation in the report. We have also provided a safe environment for our kids as stated in the budget presentation. Our buildings have been overlooked for years and we need to pay attention to this area as well.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

There was discussion on the decline enrollment of pre-k. This program "Wraparound" is no longer funded by the State.

C & I, Finance and HR were moved to the business agenda.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Policies 5141.8, 5141.21 and 6145 will be pulled from the agenda. All others were moved to the business agenda.

VIII. REPORT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Edwards moved the Items A & O and seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion carried on a roll-call vote with nine (9) members in favor and none were opposed.

A. Field Trips

(1) Gateway National Recreation Area – Sandy Hook

Strategic Plan Link

Goal1: Learning Outcomes:

To improve the learning and academic performance of all students in all PPS

The Superintendent of Schools recommends, and I so move, adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

The Plainfield Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all students succeed academically and reach their full potential. In doing so, it is also committed to providing opportunities for and ensuring that all students meet the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, achieve academic, and life-long success.

Thirty-seven (37) 5th grade students and four (4) chaperones from Frederic W. Cook Elementary School will travel to Gateway National Recreation Area, Sandy Hook, New Jersey on Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

There is no cost for admission and transportation will be provided by Amaker and Porterfield. The breakdown is as follows:

Departure / Return Time	Transportation	Admissions	Total Cost
7:30 AM / 2:30 PM	\$575.00	Free	\$575.00

The Gateway National Recreation at Sandy Hook is a seaside symposium that expands learning beyond the classroom with hands-on, marine and environmental education.

This field trip experience will address the following NJCCC Standards, 5.4.6.E.1 - generate a conclusion about energy transfer and circulation by observing a model of convection currents, and 5.4.6.G.1 - illustrate global winds and surface currents through the creation of a world map of global winds and currents that explains the relationship between the two factors.

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves thirty-seven (37) 5th grade students and four (4) chaperones from Frederic W. Cook Elementary to visit the Gateway National Recreation Area in Sandy Hook, NJ - total cost will not exceed \$575.00. The availability of funds for this item has been verified and will be charged to accounts 15-000-27-000-512A-0000 (Field Trip Transportation).

O. FY 2016 Action Plans/School Improvement Plans/Schoolwide Plans

Strategic Plan Link

Goal 1: Learning Outcomes:

To improve the learning and academic performance of all students in all PPS

Goal 2: Human Resources:

To improve the recruitment, retention and development of District staff

The Superintendent of Schools recommends, and I so move, 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, schools and students. The Plainfield Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all students succeed academically and reach their full potential in life. In doing so, it is also committed to providing opportunities for and insuring that all students meet the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and achieve academic and life-long success.

No Child Left Behind requires that certificated staff or school leadership team members participate in the development and compilation of School Plans for the 2015-2016 school year. Professional development will include review of FY15 plans, FY 2016 Schoolwide Plan and School Improvement Plan templates, data analysis and instructional strategies to promote student achievement.

Staff will be compensated at a rate of \$28.00 per hour, not to exceed seventeen (17) hours or \$476.00 per person.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the completion of Schoolwide Plans and School Improvement Plans – not to exceed \$476.00 per staff member. The availability of funds for this item has been verified and will be charged to FY 2015 NCLB Title IIA account 20-271-200000-110D-26-0000 (TIIA Stipends).

IX. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Rutherford moved the Items D, E, H & I and seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion carried on a roll-call vote with eight (8) members in favor. Mrs. Clarke in favor of all, but abstained on Item D. None were opposed.

D. Adoption of the Budget for the 2015 – 2016 School Year

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Board of Education is required to certify a local tax levy for the support of the public schools, and

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Board of Education took action at its March 17, 2015 Business Meeting to adopt a budget for the purpose of advertising, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education took action at the public hearing to reduce the FY15-16 proposed budget by \$4,300,000.00, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education adopts the following budget and certifies the amount of \$23,143,293.00 as the general fund Local Tax Levy.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
2015 – 16 Total Appropriations	\$156,476,424.00	\$285,065,537.00	\$2,398,962.00	\$183,940,923.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$133,333,131.00	\$ 25,065,537.00	\$1,171,024.00	\$159,569,692.00
Taxes to be Raised	\$ 23,143,293.00	\$ 25,065,537.00	\$1,227,938.00	\$ 24,371,231.00

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with Mr. Bellamy, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Coley, Mrs. Jeffers, Mr. Moore and Mr. Rutherford in favor. Mrs. Clarke abstained and none were opposed.

E. Out-of-District Travel

The following is recommended for adoption moved by Mr. Rutherford and seconded by Mr. Bellamy:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves Jackie Coley and Carletta Jeffers to attend the Special Education workshop, on Saturday, April 25, 2015 in Princeton, NJ at cost not to exceed \$225.00 each. The availability of funds for this item has been verified and will be charged to account 11-000-230000-580A-01-000 (Board Travel).

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with Mr. Bellamy, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Clarke Mr. Moore and Mr. Rutherford in favor. Mrs. Coley and Mrs. Jeffers abstained and none were opposed.

H. Out-of-District Travel

The following is recommended for adoption moved by Mr. Rutherford and seconded by Mr. Moore:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves John Campbell to attend the Mandatory Board Member Training for Governance I: New Board Member Orientation, on Saturday, June 6, 2015 in Jackson, New Jersey. This training is provided under the School District Accountability Act at no cost to the District.

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with Mr. Bellamy, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Coley, Mrs. Jeffers, Mr. Moore and Mr. Rutherford in favor. Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Campbell abstained and none were opposed.

I. CUBE Summer Issues Seminar

The following is recommended for adoption moved by Mr. Rutherford and seconded by Mr. Moore:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Board of Education has determined that the CUBE Summer Issues Seminar in Savannah, GA on July 22 – 25, 2015 is vital and necessary to the goals of the District and the success of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the specific focus of the conference is the learning opportunities for all children; how to make quality and equitable education to all and important role that leadership can play in addressing systemic inequities in schools, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education hereby authorizes John Campbell and Wilma Campbell to attend the conference, which is not to exceed \$3,000.00 and charged to 11-000-230000-580A-01-0000 (Board Travel), and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Members share the information received from the conference with the Board.

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with Mr. Bellamy, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Coley, Mrs. Jeffers, Mr. Moore and Mr. Rutherford in favor. Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Campbell abstained and none were opposed.

Mr. Moore moved and seconded by Mr. Bellamy and unanimously approved by the Board to return to executive session at 10:32 p.m.

Mr. Moore moved and seconded by Mr. Bellamy and unanimously approved by the Board to return to the public session of the meeting at 11:00 p.m.

Mr. Moore moved and seconded by Mr. Bellamy and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 p.m.

Reported by,

Yolanda Koon, Interim Board Secretary
YK/bsc