

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

MINUTES of an **ORGANIZATION** Meeting of the Board of
Education Held on Tuesday, May 3, 2016

An **ANNUAL ORGANIZATION** Meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Plainfield was held this day in the Plainfield High School Auditorium. 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. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mr. Craig Smith, Board Secretary, and the following action took place:

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. WELCOME

WELCOME to an Annual Organization 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 Star Ledger on Wednesday, April 27 2016, for advertisement on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

III. OATH OF OFFICE - NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

During this evening's meeting, the oath of office was administered by the Honorable Adrian Mapp, Mayor of the City of Plainfield to the following newly elected board members:

Three-year term:	1.	Lynn B. Anderson	2019
	2.	Dorien Hurtt	2019
	3.	Carmencita T. Pile	2019

IV. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Ms. Lynn B. Anderson
Mr. Terrence S. Bellamy, Sr.
Mr. John C. Campbell
Mr. Dorien Hurtt
Mrs. Carletta D. Jeffers
Mrs. Emily E. Morgan
Ms. Carmencita T. Pile
Mr. David M. Rutherford
Mr. Richard Wyatt

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Superintendent
Mr. Craig Smith
Mrs. Lisa Fittipaldi, Esq.
Public

V. ORGANIZATION MEETING

A. Nomination for President were received from board members. No second was required. When nominations were closed, a vote was taken on the nominees in the order of nomination. The first candidate receiving a majority of the votes of those present was declared President

B. Nomination and election of President.

Mrs. Jeffers nominated Mrs. Morgan for President. The nomination passed on a roll-call vote with five members in favor. Mr. Bellamy, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Wyatt was opposed.

C. President Morgan assumed the Chair.

D. Nomination and election of Vice President.

Mrs. Morgan nominated Mr. Hurtt for Vice President. The nomination passed on a roll-call vote with five members in favor. Mr. Bellamy, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Wyatt was opposed.

Mr. Smith moved the nominations be closed.

VI. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Morgan welcomed all newly elected board members and pledged to work together.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles also pledged to work with the board members and the community to serve the students of the Plainfield Public Schools.

VII. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Hon. Adrian Mapp, Mayor of the City of Plainfield congratulated new board members and pledged to work with the Board of Education for the betterment of the citizens and promised to work with the Superintendent of Schools.

Cory Storch, City Council President of the City of Plainfield also congratulated new board members and pledged to work collectively with the Board.

Dr. Anthony Jenkins extended congratulations and warm wishes to new board members and pledged to work with the Board in the capacity as Union President for the Administrators of the District.

Jeanine Branch spoke on PARCC test and suggested a survey to measure the impact of the PARCC test. She expressed hope that the District would exempt students from PARCC.

David Graves congratulated new and current board members.

Eric Jones, PEA President says they expect change and wanted the Board and the administration to listen to its employees and be a partner in the process.

Mr. Hurtt said a formal process for complaints will be implemented and pledged to work with the board.

Ms. Anderson said she was grateful for the support of the people and pledged to work together.

Ms. Pile thanked the public for her election and pledged to work with the board and suggested possibly a different venue for board meetings.

A. Appointment of Board Members to Committee & Other Board Assignments

Committees

Finance

Carmencita Pile

David Rutherford

Human Resources

Emily Morgan

Carmencita Pile

Curriculum & Instruction

Lynn Anderson

PEA Negotiations

Dorien Hurtt

Carmencita Pile

Policy

Carletta Jeffers

Richard Wyatt

Buildings & Grounds

John Campbell

Carletta Jeffers

Long Range Planning

Lynn Anderson

Richard Wyatt

PASA Negotiations

Dorien Hurtt

John Campbell

School/Community Relations

Terrence Bellamy

Richard Wyatt

Board/Council Liaison

Carmencita Pile

Terrence Bellamy

Other Board Assignments – (Delegate/Alternate)

NJSBA Delegates Assembly

Richard Wyatt

Emily Morgan

NJSBA Urban Boards

Terrence Bellamy

Carletta Jeffers

Legislative

Emily Morgan

Information Technology

Dorien Hurtt

Union County Educational Services Commission

Carletta Jeffers

Terrence Bellamy

Union County School Boards Association

Richard Wyatt

Shared Service

Carmencita Pile

Dorien Hurtt

Mr. Hurtt moved and seconded by Mr. Campbell to move all Items except A, G & I as a Consent Agenda. The motion carried on a roll-call vote with nine members in favor and none were opposed.

B. Adoption of Policies

The following is in order for board adoption:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, all Board of Education policies presently in effect be, and are hereby, readopted.

C. Designation of Official Publications

The following is in order for board adoption:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Courier-News, Bridgewater, New Jersey is hereby designated the official publication of the Board of Education during the period beginning May 4, 2016 and ending at the Board's next organization meeting, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Star Ledger be designated by the Board of Education to receive official notices of board of education meetings as required by law, during the period May 4, 2016 and ending at the Board's next organization meeting.

D. Courses of Study, Textbook List and Curricula Guides

The following is in order for board adoption:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, all Plainfield Board of Education courses of study, textbook list and curriculum guides previously approved and in effect be, and are hereby readopted for 2016 – 2017 fiscal year.

E. Appointment of Representatives Requesting Federal and State Funds

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that Anna Belin-Pyles, Superintendent of Schools and Gary L. Ottmann, School Business Administrator for the Plainfield Board of Education or their designees, be designated as the Board's agents to request state and federal funds under the existing State and Federal Laws for the period from the date of this Organization Meeting to the Board Organization Meeting in the next calendar year.

F. Parliamentary Procedures

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education adopts the Roberts Rules of Order as the official procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings and appoint the board secretary and board attorney to act as the parliamentarians for the 2016 – 2017 school year.

G. Open Public Meetings Act**PULLED**

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education, pursuant to chapter 231, PAL (Open Public Meetings Act) does hereby proclaim the public meetings of the board of education will be held in the Plainfield High School Auditorium, 950 Park Avenue, at 8:00 p.m. as set forth below unless indicated otherwise, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purpose of the Regular Meetings shall be the normal conduct of business of the board of education and any other items brought to the Board's attention by the Board Members, Board Attorney, Superintendent and Business Administrator/Board Secretary, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Plainfield Board of Education does hereby designate the Courier-News and Star Ledger as official newspapers to receive notices of meetings; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that notices of meetings of the Board of Education will be posted in the Plainfield Board of Education Administration Office and posted on the District website, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education reserves the right to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time to discuss such matters that may be considered in closed session. However, the Board will first adopt a resolution stating the general nature of the subject to be discussed, and, as precisely as possible, the time and circumstances under which disclosure to the public will be made; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board shall require the public to address its concerns and comments during Privilege of the Floor only and the Board and Public shall follow these procedures pertaining to public participation at Board Meetings:

Any individual desiring to speak shall give his or her name, address, and the group, if any, that is represented.

The presentation shall be as brief as possible but no more than five (5) minutes per individual.

FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board vests in its president, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual if he/she shall speak out of turn or who seeks to speak at a time other than Privilege of the Floor.

be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education will meet on the following dates:

<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>* Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Policy Committee	1 st Tues.ea.mo.	PHS Conf.	8:00 p.m.
Personnel/Exec. Ses.	1 st Tues.ea.mo.	PHS Conf.	6:30 p.m.
Curric. & Instr.	1 st Tues.ea.mo.	PHS Conf.	8:00 p.m.
Finance Committee	1 st Tues.ea.mo.	PHS Conf.	8:00 p.m.
Bldgs. & Grds. Cmte	1 st Tues.ea.mo.	PHS Conf.	8:00 p.m.
BUSINESS MEETING	3rd Tues.ea.mo.	PHS Auditorium	8:00 p.m.

(EACH OF THESE MEETINGS MAY INCLUDE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF MATTERS THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION)

H. Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2016 – 2017

The following is in order for board adoption:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board Members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board Members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$1,000.00 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1st through June 30th); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out-of-District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out-of-District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursement in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$110,959.00 for all staff and board members.

I. Code of Ethics

The following is in order for board adoption moved by Mr. Hurtt and seconded by Mr. Campbell:

RESOLUTION

The Plainfield Board of Education members had the required Board of Ethics Training session as required under N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:30

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey School Boards Association "Code of Ethics" shall be considered the official Code of Ethics of the Plainfield Board of Education:

A. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

B. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.

C. I will confine my board action to policymaking, planning and appraisal and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

D. I will behave toward my fellow board members with the respect due their office--demonstrating courtesy, decorum and fair play at all public meetings and in all public statements.

E. I will refrain from inappropriate conduct in public meetings and in making public statements, refraining from any disparagement of my fellow board members or others on a personal, social, racial or religious basis.

F. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.

G. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board.

H. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

I. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.

J. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator.

K. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

L. I will refer all complaints to the Chief School Administrator and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

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

Mr. Hurtt moved and seconded by Mr. Bellamy and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Reported by,

Craig Smith, Board Secretary
CS/bsc