

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

MINUTES of a **SPECIAL** Meeting of the Board of
Education Held on Monday, August 28, 2017

A **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Plainfield 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, Acting Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the following action took place:

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. WELCOME

WELCOME to a SPECIAL MEETING of the Plainfield Board of Education. Members hope you will find the meeting interesting and informative. We thank you for taking the time to attend. Please be advised 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 the advance notice required therein has been provided to the Courier News and Star Ledger on Wednesday, August 23, 2017 to be advertised on Saturday, August 26, 2017.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Emily E. Morgan, President
Mr. Dorien Hurtt, Vice President
Ms. Lynn B. Anderson
Mr. John C. Campbell, arr. @ 6:53 p.m.
Mrs. Carletta D. Jeffers
Ms. Carmencita T. Pile
Mr. David M. Rutherford, arr. @ 6:45 p.m.
Mr. Richard Wyatt

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Caryn D. Cooper, Acting Superintendent
Mr. Phil Stern, Esq.
Mrs. Yolanda Koon

Mr. Terrence S. Bellamy, Sr., absent

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Pile and seconded by Mr. Wyatt 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 and 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 6:41 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Special Meeting at 8:16 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Morgan welcomed the crowd and noted that the NJQSAC results were in and that Dr. Cooper will provide the information pertaining to it.

V. REMARKS FROM THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Cooper mentioned the success of the Ice Cream Social, which provided services to assist parents and children for a successful new year.

VI. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

NONE.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC

David Graves, inquired about the interim superintendent position. He mentioned that it was said an Interim Superintendent would be in place by the opening of school.

Eric Jones, PEA president inquired about the status of the various essential positions; which included interim superintendent, assistant superintendent, director of human resources, vice principal for Hubbard school and secretary at Maxson school.

Teri Slaughter-Cabell, mentioned she is always speaking about the clocks not having the correct or same time and can't believe it but today, both clocks are reading the same time. She also mentioned the status of the interim superintendent in place before the beginning of school.

Dr. Cooper stated that they had received numerous of resumes for Director of Human Resources, however, they all were not strong candidates.

Mr. Hurtt thanked Dr. Bowen for his time and service over the last few months. We appreciate what he's done in the time he had. The crowd and the Board applauded.

Mr. Wyatt requested an explanation for the public the process for student to attend the STEM program at Maxson school. He also mentioned the usage of the football fields, since Siedler field is not ready.

VIII. REPORT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Mrs. Morgan moved Human Resources agenda, seconded by Mr. Wyatt. The motion carried on a roll-call vote with eight members in favor. None were opposed.

“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 Acting 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 and students. Therefore, it has provided the Acting 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 Acting 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 Acting Superintendent, in this item has used his authority.

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

	<u>Name/Certification</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Salary</u> <u>Pro-rated</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Replacing</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Codes</u>
1.	Escurra, Cesar Spanish Teacher	09/01/17-06/30/18	\$73,960.00	PHS	D. Cera	PEAT-491
2.	Mike, Hisa Replacement Teacher	09/01/17-06/30/18	\$60,410.00	Jefferson	D. Smith	PEAT-684
3.	Vassell, Tamara Math Teacher	09/05/17-06/30/18	\$73,960.00	Hubbard	A. Peters	PEAT-342

(A roll-call and an affirmative vote of 5 board members are required for passage.)

B. Reappointment of District Personnel 2017-2018

Strategic Plan Link:

Goal 2: Human Resources

To improve the recruitment, retention, and development of district staff.

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the following staff member to be recalled for the 2017 – 2018 school year. (Salaries are on file with the Business Office).

<u>Position Code</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Positon</u>	<u>Location</u>
PEAT-815	Nichoela Lynton	Elementary Teacher	Evergreen School

(A roll-call and an affirmative vote of 5 board members are required for passage.)

C. Resignations

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education accepts the following resignations:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Yrs. In District</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
1.	Balzer, Stephen	Social Studied Teacher/PAAAS	3 months	Personal	10/23/17
2.	Diaz, Nataly	Bilingual/Bicultural Teacher/Jefferson	5	Personal	08/23/17
3.	Solomon, Najla	Vice Principal/Hubbard	3	Personal	08/31/17

D. Leaves of Absence

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the following leaves of absence:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
1.	Alexander, Kia	Social Worker/Cook	10/26/17-12/07/17 Medical
2.	Kaminsky, Lindsey	Math Teacher/Maxson	10/18/17- 03/26/18 Medical/FMLA
3.	LaPine, Jessica	Music Teacher	10/14/17- 01/21/18 Medical

*denotes extension/update to existing leave

IX. REPORT OF THE CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

A. Permission to Participate in Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

Strategic Plan Link

Goal 1: Learning Outcomes:

To improve the learning and academic performance of all students

Goal 5: Community and Family Engagement:

To actively engage families and communities in a meaningful, structured, and productive manner that promotes learning and cooperation.

The Acting Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Ms. Anderson seconded by Ms. Pile for adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, a Plainfield resident, requesting permission for his home-schooled 9th grade son, to participate in the Plainfield High School Boys Soccer Team.

WHEREAS, the parent has provided the necessary documentation – proof of residency, birth certificate, letter to building administrator, and academic eligibility to the Acting Superintendent.

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves permission for home-schooled, Plainfield resident, to participate in the Plainfield High School Boys Soccer Team; with the understanding that the school and the District reserve the right to rescind this permission allowance if it conflicts with the best interest of the District.

The motion carried on a roll-call vote with eight members in favor. None were opposed.

Mrs. Jeffers moved and seconded by Mr. Campbell and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Reported by,

Yolanda Koon, Acting Board Secretary
YK/bsc