

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

MINUTES of a **SPECIAL 2017-18 Budget Public Hearing Meeting**
Of the Board of Education held on Monday, May 8, 2017

A **SPECIAL 2017 – 2018 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING** MEETING of the Plainfield Board of Education of the City of Plainfield was held this day in the Plainfield High School cafetorium. 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 6:35 p.m. and the following action took place:

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. WELCOME

WELCOME to a SPECIAL 2017-18 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING 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 Tuesday, April 25, 2017 to be advertised on Saturday, April 29, 2017.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Debra Sheard, Acting Superintendent
Mr. Phil Stern, Esq.
Mrs. Yolanda Koon

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Pile and seconded by Mr. Bellamy 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 exist:

The Board of Education adjourned into its Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Special meeting at 8:28 p.m.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Morgan opened by welcoming all and apologized for the lateness.

VIII. REMARKS FROM THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Sheard mentioned the various events that have occurred since the last meeting.

Dr. Sheard and Mr. Ottmann did a presentation on the budget.

IX. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

David Graves stated he is very concerned about the District approved the travel expense plan for \$132,000.00. He asked the Board "are you still going out for an Interim Superintendent?" And we hope that you renew Dr. Sheard as the Assist. Superintendent.

A board member mentioned that he was in favor of Dr. Sheard; however, the Board's desire is to seek an Interim.

Teri Slaughter-Cabell questioned a few positions like clerk of the works, the plumber, etc. explaining these positions and why we need them. She stated that this is a waste and don't want to see anything taking away from our students.

Eric Jones, PEA President, inquired if there was a timeline on the capital projects.

Sam Cooper inquired about the status of the voucher \ waiver from the Commissioner of Education and if additional charter applications have been submitted.

Board member(s) mentioned the 504 Madison project and was it in the long range plan.

Teri Slaughter-Cabell inquired if the Long Range Plan can be OPRA'd.

Eric Jones inquired if the budget is voted down what is the ramifications?

Mr. Ottmann stated the original budget would go into effect (which included TA's, Security Officers, Guidance, Social Workers, etc.).

A Board member stated for the record that Dr. Sheard has and is doing a great job.

X. REPORT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

A. Administrative Appointment

Strategic Plan Link:

Goal 2: Human Resources

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

The Acting Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Mrs. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Bellamy for adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Board of Education recognizes that a highly qualified, competent, skilled, and dedicated workforce is essential to the success of the District and the students.

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the reappointment of Dr. Debra Sheard as Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services for the 2017-2018 school year, effective July 1, 2017, at a salary and upon terms and conditions to be agreed upon between the Board and Dr. Sheard, and subject to the approval of the Union County Executive Superintendent of Schools.

The motion failed on a roll-call vote with Ms. Anderson, Mr. Hurtt, Ms. Pile and Mr. Wyatt in favor. Mr. Bellamy, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Jeffers and Mrs. Morgan opposed. Mr. Rutherford recused himself.

XI. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Pile moved Items A & B and seconded by Mr. Hurtt. The motion carried on a roll-call vote with nine members in favor. None were opposed.

A. Adoption of the Budget for the 2017 – 2018 School Year

The Acting Superintendent of Schools recommends, and I so move, 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 15, 2017 Preliminary Budget Meeting to adopt a budget for the purpose of advertising, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education took action at the public hearing to modify the FY17 – 18 proposed budget by \$2,000,000.00, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education adopts the following budget and certifies the amount of \$24,781,400 as the general fund Local Tax Levy.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
2017 – 18 Total Appropriations	\$163,587,361	\$25,663,070	\$2,401,832	\$191,652,263
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$138,805,961	\$25,663,070	\$1,172,426	\$165,641,457
Taxes to be raised	\$ 24,781,400	-0-	\$1,229,406	\$ 26,010,806

B. Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2017 – 2018

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.2, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A;23A-7.1 et seq., now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves establishing a maximum travel expenditure amount of \$132,904.00 for the 2017 – 2018 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the (current school year) is \$110,959.00, of which \$59,404.30 has been spent and \$8,350.48 is encumbered to date.

Mr. Wyatt moved and seconded by Mr. Bellamy and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Reported by,

Yolanda Koon, Interim Board Secretary
YK/bsc