

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 Tuesday, October 10, 2017

A **SPECIAL 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, Acting Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 6:40 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 Tuesday, September 26, 2017 to be advertised on Saturday, September 30, 2017.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

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

Mr. Dorien Hurtt, absent  
Mr. David M. Rutherford, absent

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Morgan welcomed all and our guest speaker Ms. Gwen Thornton, NJ School Boards Association Representative.

She stated the Board is concern about the budget and wanted to be more involved in the budget process this year.

V. PUBLIC REMARKS

David Graves inquired about the meeting being held tonight and when the three (3) new board members will be sworn in January 2018?

Mrs. Morgan stated the Board wants to be proactive.

Mrs. Morgan introduced Ms. Gwen Thornton.

Ms. Thornton mentioned that tonight would be more of a conversational piece and questions/answer.

Ms. Thornton presented an overview of the budget process. She spoke about the Statement of Assurance, long-range facility plan, the 2% levy cap, etc.

She also mentioned that a district should have strategic plan with goals, which drives your budget.

When preparing the budget, there are items to consider, i.e. expansion of share services, purchasing coop., seek other funding source, staffing leveling, inflation, equity in spending, equip replacement, transportation, technologies, special education, and professional development costs. Districts should examine these areas with all stakeholders.

It is all about the communication relationship between the stakeholders and the District.

Ms. Pile moved and seconded by Ms. Anderson and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting 9:00 p.m.

Reported by,

Yolanda Koon, Acting Board Secretary  
YK/bsc