

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, April 1, 2014

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. Ms. Yolanda Henry, Interim Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 6:45 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 Wednesday, March 26, 2014 for advertisement on Saturday, March 29, 2014.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell, President
Mrs. Keisha Edwards, Vice President
Mrs. Deborah Clarke
Mrs. Jackie Coley
Mr. Alex O. Edache
Mr. Frederick D. Moore, Sr.

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Superintendent
Ms. Yolanda Henry
Mr. Robert Picket, Esq.
Mr. Charles Craig, Esq.
Mr. Nixon Kannah, Esq.

Mrs. Mahogany Hall, absent
Mr. Dorien Hurtt, absent
Ms. Jameelah Surgeon, absent

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Clarke, 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 8:15 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Campbell mentioned some comments concerning the Board Retreat, and how effective it was. She and other Board members were pleased to see several administrators attending. During the Retreat the group(s) highlighted areas of priorities and we refine the goals and strategies of how to achieve our mission. The Board received an overview of the PARCC's testing and an overview of security.

V. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

NONE.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Mrs. Edwards asked if there were any questions regarding the C & I agenda including the walk-on item "H" Intimate Apparel-PAAAS.

The Board voted on items A3 (Penn Relays) and C4 (21st Century Grant) which were time sensitive items.

The C & I agenda was moved to the Business agenda.

Ms. Surgeon asked if there were any questions regarding the Finance agenda.

The Board voted on item 'L' (Out-of-State Conference), which was a time sensitive item.

The Finance agenda was moved to the Business agenda.

Mr. Greg Smith, the District PR person was in attendance to give the Board an update on things he has been working on and to answer concerns /or issues that they may have.

The Board did express some concerns and wanted to highlight the importance of getting the positive PPS messages out by the various different venues we have including show casing our academic achievements, etc. The Board was looking for a "Buzz" or a singular message that would resonate with our community.

Mrs. Campbell informed the public that the Board needed to reconvene in executive session for about 15-20 minutes; however, no action would be taken.

Mrs. Campbell moved and seconded by Mrs. Edwards and unanimously approved by the Board to return to executive session at 9:30 p.m.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE POLICY COMMITTEE

NONE.

VIII. REPORT OF THE CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

A. Field Trips

(1) 2014 University of Pennsylvania Relay Carnival – Philadelphia, PA

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 moved by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Campbell, 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 life. In doing so, it is also committed to providing opportunities for and ensuring that all students and athletes meet the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards and achieve academic and athletic life-long success.

The main objective of the 2014 Penn Relays is to give students an opportunity to compete with other athletes from other school districts and their countries. The students will also meet with college coaches of interest. This experience will broaden their general knowledge of the world.

Twenty-two (22) varsity track team members, consisting of ten (10) girls and twelve (12) boys, along with seven (7) chaperones will attend the 2014 Penn Relays in Philadelphia, PA, April 24-26, 2014.

The girls' team will depart April 24, 2014 at 5:00 pm and return on April 26, 2014 at 7:30 pm. The boys' team will depart April 25, 2014 at 5:00 pm and return on April 26, 2014 at 7:30 pm. All departures are scheduled to leave from Hub Stine Field. Transportation will be provided by the District.

All team members and coaches will stay at the Holiday Inn Philadelphia-Cherry Hill, 2175 West Marlton Pike (Route 70), Cherry Hill, NJ 08002; at a daily rate of 183.99 (tax included).

All expenses including miscellaneous expenses such as food and tolls (for boys and girls track teams will not exceed the total amount of \$5,343.84. The expense breakdown is as follows:

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN		
	Varsity Girls	Varsity Boys
Registration	\$250.00	\$250.00
Lodging	\$1,839.90	\$1,103.94
Food	\$900.00	\$900.00
Tolls	\$50.00	\$50.00
Total	\$3,039.90	\$2,303.94
GRAND TOTAL - \$5,343.84		

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves twenty-two (22) varsity track team members, consisting of ten (10) girls and twelve (12) boys, along with seven (7) chaperones from Plainfield High School to attend the 2014 Penn Relays in Philadelphia, PA, April 24-26, 2014. The total cost will not exceed \$5,343.84. The availability of funds for this item has been verified and will be charged to account 11-000-240000-500T-20-0000 (Athletic Travel).

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

C. Grants

(4) 2014-2015 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Grant Approval for Submission of Application

Strategic Plan Link

Goal 1: Learning Outcomes:

To provide high-quality educational and enrichment programs that will enable students to improve academic achievement, and promote positive behavior and appropriate social interaction with peers and adults.

Goal 2: Human Resources:

To improve the recruitment, retention, development of District staff

Goal 3: Business Practice:

To improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of District school operations

Goal 4: Safe Learning Environment:

To provide a safe, secure, professional and clean environment for students, staff, and community members.

Goal 5: Community & Family Engagement:

To implement activities that promotes parental involvement and provides opportunities for literacy and related educational development to the families of participating students.

The Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Campbell, adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield of Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to submit the following application for federal/state funds to develop and implement a high-quality, out-of-school time services (afterschool and summer) at four (4) school sites including CH Stillman Elementary School, Washington Community School, Hubbard Middle School, and Maxson Middle School. The program services are for a targeted population of no less than three hundred-one (301) students and families for the Five Year Grant Period (9/1/14-8/31/19).

Funding Source	Program Description	Administrator	Amount
New Jersey Department of Education - Office of Student Support Services	The mission of the 21 st CCLC Afterschool and Summer Programs is to provide a safe, well-supervised environment beyond the traditional school day/year in which youth participate in a variety of educational, cultural and recreational activities designed to foster a commitment to life-long learning and promote positive behavior. Each center will offer age-appropriate activities using various curricula areas to address the physical, intellectual and emotional needs of all students. Both programs will provide academic support and enrichment activities aligned to CCSS/NJCCCS in the areas of arts and culture, youth development and parental involvement.	Anna Belin-Pyles	\$550,000

The motion carried on a roll-call vote with Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Coley, Mr. Edache, Mrs. Edwards, and Mr. Moore in favor and none were opposed.

IX. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

L. Out-of-State Travel

Strategic Plan Link

Goal 3: Business Operations

To improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of business operations.

The following is recommended for adoption moved by Mrs. Coley and seconded Mrs. Edwards:

RESOLUTION

The Plainfield Board of Education has determined the opportunity to visit three (3) schools and they are The New Orleans Charter Science & Math High School, The McDonogh School and the Benjamin Franklin School in New Orleans, Louisiana from April 2-3 & 8, 2014 that would be beneficial to the goals of the District and the success of the Board; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education hereby authorizes the following Board Member to visit three (3) schools in New Orleans, Wilma Campbell which is not to exceed \$750.00 and charged to 11-000-230000-580A-01-0000 (Board Travel), and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Member share the information received from the assessment of the schools with the Board and Superintendent.

The motion carried on a roll-call vote with, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Coley, Mr. Edache, Mrs. Edwards, and Mr. Moore in favor and Mrs. Campbell abstained. None were opposed.

Mrs. Campbell moved and seconded by Mr. Moore and unanimously approved by the Board to return to the public session of the meeting at 10:03 p.m.

Mrs. Clarke moved and seconded by Mrs. Edwards and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Recorded by:

Yolanda Henry, Interim Board Secretary
YH/bsc