

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

MINUTES of a **POLICY COMMITTEE** Meeting of the Board of  
Education Held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011

A **POLICY COMMITTEE** 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. Mr. Gary L. Ottmann, 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 Policy Committee 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 Thursday, March 31, 2011 for advertisement on Saturday, April 2, 2011.

**III. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT

Mrs. Lisa C. Logan-Leach, President  
Mr. Rasheed Abdul-Haqq, Vice President  
Ms. Patricia I. Barksdale  
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell  
Mr. Agurs Linward Cathcart, Jr.  
Mrs. Keisha Edwards  
Mrs. Renata A. Hernandez  
Ms. Katherine Peterson

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Interim Superintendent  
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann  
Mr. Robert Pickett

Mrs. Brenda L. Gilbert, absent

Ms. Barksdale indicated that Mrs. Gilbert, Policy Committee Chair was recently in a car accident and cannot attend tonight's meeting.

No board member had comments or questions on Policy 9401 – Cancellation of Board Meetings – Emergencies.

Dawn Ciccone gave a presentation on Parental Involvement polices, which is required if a district receives Title 1 funds.

One item of concern is child-care as the policy is developed.

Ms. Ciccone spoke favorably of the parental compact language in the policy.

Mr. Cathcart inquired what it would take for PEP to be active again.

Mr. Abdul-Haqq believed that it changed with Dr. Leverett's superintendency and the establishment of LINCC's.

Eric Jones, Pepper Stackhouse and Pam Garcia gave a presentation on social networking.

Ms. Barksdale inquired how the staff would be affected by social networking. Do we need to have discussions with PEA?

Mrs. Hernandez emphasized the charge of the committee was to determine the "viability" of social networking.

Mr. Cathcart asked if we do go to Facebook, will there be an option to post comments.

Eric Jones believes that one of the ways to make a site more interesting is to make it interactive.

Mrs. Logan-Leach advised that the District website should be updated to reflect that the April Business Meeting will be held at PHS in order to honor a number of students.

There was board discussion of recognizing students on a quarterly basis.

Ms. Peterson moved, and seconded by Mrs. Campbell and unanimously approved by the Board, to go into executive session at 7:50 p.m.

Mrs. Edwards moved, seconded by Ms. Peterson and unanimously approved by the Board, to return to the public session of the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Ms. Barksdale moved, seconded by Ms. Peterson and unanimously approved by the Board, adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary  
GLO/bsc