

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, August 10, 2010

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. Mr. Gary L. Ottmann, 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 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 Tuesday, August 3, 2010 for advertisement on Friday, August 6, 2010.

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
Mr. Brenda Gilbert
Mrs. Renata A. Hernandez
Ms. Katherine Peterson

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Interim Superintendent
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann
Mr. Robert Pickett, Esq.
Mr. Charles Craig, Esq.
Ms. Lauren Craig, Esq.

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Barksdale, seconded by Mr. Cathcart, 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 adjourned 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 6:36 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

The Relay for Life Committee has sent a very nice report on their recent event at Hub Stine Field. It has raised over \$33,000.

Mr. Abdul-Haqq had requested that he be released from his two liaison schools. Mrs. Hernandez has offered to accept Evergreen School as a liaison.

Mrs. Logan-Leach thanked the Board Retreat Committee for their hard work.

September 7, 2010 will be a policy meeting as well as a meeting to finalize unfinished business from the Board retreat on goal setting, etc., objectives and mission.

Mrs. Barksdale indicated that notes from the retreat should be provided to the Board prior to the September 7th meeting. The Board agreed to revisit retreat issues at that time.

Mrs. Logan-Leach also thanked the Ad-Hoc Committee that met on behalf of BOAACD.

VI. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles indicated moving BOAACD will save approximately \$600,000. They will also gain the use of a gymnasium. It's a very aggressive timeline in preparing both sites that will be affected by the move. She indicated that every student/guardian was advised of the meeting last week to discuss the relocation. If the Board approves the move, there will be a communication going out to all students/guardians again.

Mrs. Hernandez thinks it's important to refer to the BOAACD space as the "lower level" not the basement.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles also reviewed the district's proposed revised student code of conduct handbook.

Mrs. Logan-Leach indicated that a meeting is scheduled for August 25th with a large number of stakeholders to discuss the Joe Black field. Mrs. Campbell was looking for the Board to agree on a completion date of Spring, 2011.

Mr. Pickett indicated that he will be providing the Board secretary with language that says minutes "although not approved are an actual reflection of what transpired".

Mrs. Barksdale expressed concern with the recent legal opinion that all work & study meetings can now be business meetings. How does this impact policy or administrative actions?

Mr. Pickett emphasized that it's important for the public to know if it's a work & study or a business meeting.

VII. DISCUSSION

Ms. Cooper gave an overview of the need for planned professional development activities in the District.

Mrs. Hernandez questioned if other programs have been looked at.

Mr. Ottmann reviewed plans for solar panel installations. The Board wanted more information on projected savings. The Board wants the County Project Coordinator to make a presentation to the full board.

VIII. REMARKS OF BOARD/SCHOOL LIAISONS

Ms. Barksdale gave an update on activities scheduled for Clinton School.

Mrs. Edwards moved, seconded by Ms. Barksdale and unanimously approved by the Board, return to executive session of the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Mrs. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mrs. Hernandez and unanimously approved by the Board, to return to the public session of the meeting at 10:50 p.m.

Mrs. Edwards moved, seconded by Mrs. Hernandez and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary
GLO/bsc