

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, December 3, 2013

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 6:50 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 Monday, November 25, 2013 for advertisement on Saturday, November 30, 2013.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Keisha Edwards, Vice President  
Mr. Alex O. Edache  
Ms. Mahogany Hendricks  
Mr. Frederick D. Moore, Sr.  
Ms. Jameelah Surgeon

Mrs. Wilma Campbell, absent  
Mrs. Jackie Coley, absent  
Mrs. Renata Hernandez, absent  
Mr. Dorien Hurtt, absent

ALSO PRESENT

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

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Edwards seconded by Mr. Moore, 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 6:51 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Work & Study meeting at 8:04 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

NONE.

V. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

NONE.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**C&I**

The C & I agenda was moved to the Business meeting with the exception of item # 15 and # 13 was pulled.

This item #15 and a walk-on(same trip was pulled Nov 19th) was reintroduced and motioned, voted and passed. The event is for this Friday in Eatontown, NJ.

The Pa trip was amended (reduction in cost) and moved to Business meeting.

**FINANCE**

The Finance agenda was moved to Business Meeting. There was one walk-on item.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy was moved to Business Meeting. There were no questions from the Board or public.

VIII. PRESENTATION

Mr. Walter Howard, Pillar College briefly spoke about an opportunity to bring Pillar College to the Plainfield Board of Education. Mr. Howard is looking for support and partnership in the near future. Mrs. Belin-Pyles asked for him to make an appointment so that she can fully understand what would be offered and if it in the best interest for Plainfield Public Schools as well as for the Community. Their Headquarters are in Newark and they have a satellite campus in Somerset, NJ.

**X. REPORT OF THE CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

**(15) Reading & Writing Grounded in Informational Text – Eatontown, NJ**

**Strategic Plan Link:**

**Goal 2: Human Resources**

To improve the recruitment, retention and development of District staff

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

**RESOLUTION**

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. Therefore, it has provided the Superintendent of Schools the authority to employ non-administrative and administrative staff members to participate in out of district Professional Development opportunities.

Anthony Jenkins, Principal of Washington Community School along with 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, Cristina Crowell and Roychele Jones, will attend the Common Core & PARCC Training on Friday, December 6, 2013 at the Eatontown Sheraton in Eatontown, NJ.

In addition, the following District Administrators will also attend the training: Assistant Superintendent – Margaret R. Morales, Supervisor of Science and Instructional Technology – Jean Gordon, Hubbard Principal – Kwame Asante, Vice Principal of Special Education – Antoinette Adams, Maxson Principal – Reginald Davenport, and PHS Vice Principal – Kevin Stansbury.

The NJAFPA will offer its 2013 Winter Training Institute. This is an event filled with some of the top speakers and presenters in the nation as well as high ranking officials of the New Jersey Department of Education. The event is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2013 at the Eatontown Sheraton in Eatontown, NJ. The Winter Training Institute will begin with Keynote Speaker Dr. Pedro Noguera, Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education at New York University. This training is designed to help educators understand that closing the achievement gap requires focus on more than just raising test scores. Attendees can expect to take away a wealth of practical information to be used in their districts. This is an event that should be attended by all senior administration for districts statewide.

The cost of the workshop is \$149.00 per person, for a total cost not to exceed \$1,341.00

**RESOLVED**, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves Anthony Jenkins, Margaret Morales, Jean Gordon, Kwame Asante, Antoinette Adams, Reginald Davenport, Kevin Stansbury, Cristina Crowell and Roychele Jones, to attend the Common Core & PARCC Training on Friday, December 6, 2013 at the Eatontown Sheraton in Eatontown, NJ, for a total cost not to exceed \$1,341.00. The availability of funds for this item has been verified and will be charged to the following accounts: 15-000-221000-320A-21-0000 (Purchased Prof-Education) for Washington School; 20-278-520000-930A-39-0000 (T2A Carryover) for Margaret Morales, Dr. Jean Gordon, Kwame Asante and Dr. Reginald Davenport, 20-251-200000-500A-32-0000 (IDEA Conf/Workshop) for Antoinette Adams, 15-190-100001-320A-25-0000 (PHS Professional Services) for Kevin Stansbury.

**XI. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Ms. Surgeon moved Items H & I as a consent agenda, seconded by Mrs. Edwards. The motion passed on a roll-call vote with Mr. Edache, Mrs. Edwards, Ms. Hendricks, Mr. Moore and Ms. Surgeon in favor. None were opposed.

**H. Designation of Bank Signatures**

**Strategic Plan Link:**

**Goal 3: Business Practices**

**To improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of business operations.**

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

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, that the Plainfield Board of Education authorizes the following staff as official signatories on checks and drafts for the Student Activity Funds:

<b><u>Administrator</u></b>	<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	<b><u>School</u></b>
Reginald Davenport	Diana Ortiz	Maxson

**I. Out-of-District Travel**

**Strategic Plan Link**

**Goal 3: Business Operations**

**To improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of business operations.**

The following is recommended by adoption:

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves Wilma Campbell to attend the NJAFPA Winter Training Institute on Friday, December 6, 2013 in Eatontown, NJ at a cost of \$149.00. The availability of funds for this item has been verified and will be charged to account 11-000-230000-580A-01-0000 (Board Travel).

Mr. Moore moved and seconded by Ms. Surgeon and unanimously approved by the Board to return to the public session of the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Ms. Surgeon moved and seconded by Mr. Moore and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Recorded by:

Yolanda Henry, Interim Board Secretary  
YH/bsc