

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, February 9, 2010

A **WORK & STUDY** Meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Plainfield was held this day in the Plainfield Board of Education Administration Building, auditorium. 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 6:50 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 Wednesday, February 3, 2010 for advertisement on Friday, February 5, 2010.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mr. Agurs Linward Cathcart, Jr., @ 7:35 pm.
Mr. Martin P. Cox, Vice President
Ms. Patricia I. Barksdale
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell, left @ 9:15 pm
Ms. Sandra L. Chambers
Mr. Christian Estevez
Mrs. Brenda L. Gilbert
Ms. Katherine Peterson

Mrs. Lisa C. Logan-Leach, absent

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Steve Gallon III, Superintendent
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann
Mr. Terry Ridley, Esq.

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

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 7:59 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Cathcart indicated that Gwen Thornton from NJSBA is present tonight to talk about three (3) topics.

V. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gallon reported that Stillman School students collected and donated over \$700 for support services for the relief efforts in Haiti.

Schools will be closed tomorrow due to the impending snowstorm.

Harvest Radio and the District will be broadcasting live items in the very near future.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

On February 18, 2010 at Clinton School there will be a 4th ward community meeting.

VII. PRESENTATION

Gwen Thornton gave a presentation on Board Roles and Responsibilities, Budget and the Superintendent's Evaluation Process.

Ms. Thornton indicated board members who are "conflicted" may not evaluate the CSA.

She also explained "the doctrine of necessity" which permits all board members to evaluate.

Both Mr. Ridley and Ms. Thornton emphasized the obligation of board members to evaluate the CSA.

Ms. Thornton indicated that there is very little data to share relative to the FY11 budget. However, some of the cap waivers may go away. The turnaround time from the date of state aid notification until the public hearing is very narrow. The Board should develop "talking points" about the budget.

Maria Pellum inquired if a board member chooses not to evaluate the CSA, is that information public. Ms. Thornton said that it is not.

Mr. Estevez moved, seconded by Mr. Cox and unanimously approved by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary

GLO/bsc