

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, June 14, 2011

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 6:54 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 Thursday, May 29, 2011 for advertisement on Saturday, June 4, 2011.

**III. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT

Mrs. Renata A. Hernandez, President  
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell, Vice President  
Mr. Rasheed Abdul-Haqq  
Ms. Patricia I. Barksdale  
Mr. Alex O. Edache  
Mrs. Brenda Gilbert  
Mr. Dorien Hurtt  
Ms. Jameelah Surgeon, arr. @ 7:45 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Interim Superintendent  
Ms. Caryn Cooper (Public Only)  
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann  
Mr. Robert Pickett, Esq.  
Mr. Charles Craig, Esq.

Mrs. Lisa C. Logan-Leach, absent

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Hurtt, 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 6:55 p.m.**

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 8:05 p.m.

#### IV. DONALDSON HEARING

Mr. Pickett advised the public that Dr. Bilal has requested that his Donaldson Hearing be conducted in public and that he will give given 15 minutes for his presentation.

A number of speakers spoke in support of Dr. Bilal and Dr. Bilal reviewed his performance data for PHS. He requested the Board to make their decision based on the data that he presented.

Mr. Hurtt moved for a 15 minute extension for Dr. Bilal and seconded by Mr. Abdul-Haqq.

Dr. Bilal wants to be treated like every other employee.

Ms. Barksdale had a question about school visits and whether they were performed at PHS. Dr. Bilal indicated that there were two (2) visits during the year.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles gave administration's rationale for Dr. Bilal's non-renewal.

#### V. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Hernandez reviewed the "scorecard" that she had mentioned previously dealing with Board member performance.

The Board members will rate the Board as a whole, not themselves individually.

Mrs. Campbell questioned what the "value add" of doing this scorecard.

Mrs. Hernandez feels it is important for board members to report out each month on school liaison activities.

The Board reviewed C&I, Finance and Policy Committee agendas and moved them to the business agenda.

Mrs. Campbell questioned if we were doing a celebration for the Robotics Team. It's scheduled for June 20, 2011.

Mrs. Campbell moved, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and unanimously approved by the Board, to return to executive session of the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

VI. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

NONE

VII. REMARKS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

NONE

Mrs. Campbell moved, seconded by Mr. Hurtt and unanimously approved by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 a.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary  
GLO/bsc