

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 8, 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 7:00 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, June 2, 2010 for advertisement on Friday, June 4, 2010.

**III. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT

Mrs. Lisa C. Logan-Leach., President  
Mr. Rasheed Abdul-Haqq, Vice President  
Ms. Patricia I. Barksdale, arr. 7:50  
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell  
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. Terry Ridley, Esq.

Mr. Agurs Linward Cathcart, absent

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Peterson, 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 7:01 p.m.**

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

#### IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Logan-Leach indicated the senior's scholarship program was recently held. A surprise scholarship will be awarded on June 10, 2010 in the amount of \$40,000 to a PHS student by the Ronald McDonald Foundation.

The District science fair was held on June 7, 2010. The Family Success Center will hold an open house on June 12, 2010.

The 21 Century held their end of year showcase event tonight.

#### V. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

One June 10, 2010 the board will co-sponsor with the City a forum on gang violence at PHS. Mrs. Belin-Pyles reviewed the various summer programs that will be offered this year.

She also indicated that Caryn Cooper has been appointed Interim Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services.

We also have appointed Yvonne Breauxsaus as acting principal at Barlow School.

#### VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Ms. Barksdale indicated that Board members held a meeting to plan for the upcoming board retreat.

Some board members attended a "gang awareness" seminar. It was an excellent activity that embraced student concerns.

Mrs. Logan-Leach recently met with the PASA executive board as required in their contract.

#### VII REMARKS OF BOARD/SCHOOL LIAISONS

Mrs. Edwards recently attended a production of Alice and Wonderland at Cook School. She will also be attending an event at Barlow.

Mrs. Campbell participated in career day at Woodland School as well as at Hubbard and Emerson. The science fair was also very impressive.

Mrs. Hernandez was at field day at Hub Stine. She also received a phone call from "Angels in Action" which was resolved.

Mr. Abdul-Haqq has been speaking with Dr. Bilal and Ms. Hembree about an after school culinary program. Also, because of the size of PHS, he doesn't feel that he can be a liaison to Evergreen School.

Ms. Barksdale doesn't have a report but she encouraged students to be well rested and ready for their final exams.

Mrs. Logan-Leach indicated that a community person suggested that student liaisons be able to ask questions on agenda items. Perhaps this can be a discussion item at the board retreat.

She also requested for Sodexo to give an update on food services in the district on June 22, 1010.

The Board moved C & I and Finance to the business meeting.

Mrs. Logan-Leach indicated next week's special meeting will deal with primarily a review of the proposals received for legal services.

There was a discussion on the process for board review of legal RFP's.

Also there was a discussion of possible use of local vendors. There was a district form that was developed a number of years ago for local vendors.

Ms. Barksdale moved, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and unanimously approved by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary  
GLO/bsc