

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF PLAINFIELD
IN UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES of a **SPECIAL BUSINESS** Meeting of the Board of
Education Held on Tuesday, March 1, 2011

A **SPECIAL BUSINESS** 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 the District's website. The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Mr. Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary, and the following action took place:

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. WELCOME

WELCOME to a Special Business 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 February 24, 2011 for advertisement on Saturday, February 26, 2011.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Lisa C. Logan-Leach, President
Mr. Rasheed Abdul-Haqq, Vice President , arr. 8:45 p.m.
Ms. Patricia Barksdale
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell
Mr. Agurs Linward Cathcart, Jr., left @ 10:50 p.m.
Mrs. Brenda L. Gilbert
Mrs. Renata Hernandez, arr. @ 6:50 p.m.
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.
Mr. Gaylan Medley, Esq.

Mrs. Keisha Edwards, absent

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Peterson seconded by Mrs. Campbell, 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 6:40 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Business Meeting at 7:55 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Logan-Leach indicated that a draft invitation for the "State of the Schools" meeting has been distributed.

V. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles indicated that the "State of the Schools" is scheduled for March 3, 2011.

VI. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

NONE.

VII. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Gilbert asked for board discussion of the proposed policy for cancellation of board meetings emergencies.

Ms. Barksdale thought language needed to be added for clarification and Mr. Pickett suggested language to address concerns.

The Board also reviewed policy 4119.26 Social Networking. Mrs. Hernandez indicated the survey committee that was reviewing the policy expected to appear before the Board at 6:30 p.m. and could not wait until 8:00 tonight. It would be beneficial if they could report back to the Board at a later date.

If more people are involved in drafting the policy, it will be easier for the policy to be carried out.

Dawn Ciccone and Lindsay Council reviewed policy 1200 Participation by the Public.

There have been community concerns about parent involvement, especially Title I, and required parent activities.

Mrs. Council inquired how we hold parents accountable for their part of the school parent contract.

Gwen Thornton from NJSBA advised that a public school district cannot mandate parental involvement.

The Board will discuss both social network and parental involvement policies again at the April Policy meeting.

Ms. Barksdale moved, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and unanimously approved by the Board, return to executive session 9:25 p.m.

Mrs. Campbell moved, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and unanimously approved by the Board, return to the public session of the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

XIII. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Campbell moved Finance as a Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Cathcart. The motion carried on a roll-call vote with eight members in favor of all and none were opposed.

A. Adoption of Preliminary Budget for the 2011 – 2012 School Year

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the tentative budget be approved for the 2011 – 2012 school year using the 2011 – 2012 state aid figures and that the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
2011 – 12 Total Expenditures	\$127,222,336.00	\$24,315,800.00	\$2,366,488.00	\$153,904,624.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$104,936,541.00	\$24,315,800.00	\$1,349,164.00	\$130,601,505.00
Taxes to be raised	\$22,285,795.00	- 0 -	\$1,017,324.00	\$23,303,119.00

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Courier News in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at Plainfield High School on March 29, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

B. Machine Ballot Question

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that there should be raised for General Funds \$22,285,795.00 for the ensuing school year 2011 – 12.

C. Drawing for Ballot Position

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

RESOLUTION

Recommend the Board of Education hold the drawing for ballot positions for the April 27, 2011 annual school board election on Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the Administration Building Auditorium located at 1200 Myrtle Avenue.

XIV. REPORT OF HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

A. Termination of Staff Member PULLED

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

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the termination of a staff member whose name is on file with the Board Secretary.

(A roll-call and an affirmative vote of 5 board members are required for passage.)

Ms. Peterson moved, seconded by Ms. Barksdale and unanimously approved by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary
GLO/bsc