

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 Monday, March 4, 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. Mr. Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 6:35 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 27, 2013 for advertisement on Friday, March 1, 2013.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Keisha Edwards, Vice President  
Mrs. Jackie Coley  
Mr. Alex O. Edache  
Ms. Mahogany Hendricks, arr. @ 6:45 p.m.  
Mrs. Renata Hernandez, arr. @ 6:50 p.m.  
Mr. Dorien Hurtt, arr. @ 8:00 p.m.  
Mr. Frederick D. Moore, Sr.  
Ms. Jameelah Surgeon

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Superintendent  
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann  
Mr. Robert Pickett, Esq., arr. @ 6:35 p.m.  
Mr. Charles Craig, Esq., arr. @ 6:35 p.m.

Mrs. Wilma Campbell, excused

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Surgeon seconded by Mrs. Edwards, 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 6:36 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of its Work & Study meeting at 7:55 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Edwards indicated that Mrs. Campbell has some obligations and could not be present tonight.

V. REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

NONE.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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

Mrs. Hernandez inquired about the dress code policy. Mr. Ottmann indicated that Mrs. Campbell requested sample policies from other districts. Since Mrs. Campbell wasn't present tonight, the Board postponed the discussion.

**VII. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**D. Adoption of Preliminary Budget for the 2013 – 2014 School Year**

The Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Ms. Surgeon, and seconded by Mr. Hurtt adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, that the tentative budget be approved for the 2013 – 2014 school year using the 2013 – 2014 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:

	<b><u>General Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Special Revenues</u></b>	<b><u>Debt Service</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
2013 – 14 Total Appropriations	\$147,839,677.00	\$25,916,724.00	\$2,362,784.00	\$176,119,185.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$125,108,677.00	\$25,916,724.00	\$1,153,365.00	\$152,178,766.00
Taxes to be raised	\$22,731,000.00	- 0 -	\$1,209,418.00	\$23,940,418.00

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 the Plainfield High School on March 26, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2013 – 2014 school year.

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with eight members in favor and none were opposed.

F. **Approval of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying (HIB) Investigation Decisions**

**Strategic Plan Link:**

**Goal 4: Safe Learning Environment**

**To provide a safe, secure, professional, and clean environment for students, staff, and members of the community.**

The Superintendent of Schools recommends and moved by Ms. Surgeon, and seconded by Mr. Hurtt adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent is required to report all alleged Harassment/ Intimidation/Bullying (HIB) incidents to the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15c,

The Superintendent has provided the Board of Education with the results of the investigations of all alleged HIB incidents reported to the Superintendent as of February 27, 2013.

The Board of Education has had an opportunity to review and ask questions relative to the HIB incident reports submitted; therefore,

**RESOLVED**, that the Plainfield Board of Education hereby accepts and affirms the determinations made by the Superintendent, Building Principals, District's Bullying Coordinator, and School Anti-Bullying Specialists on the incident report submitted regarding the HIB investigations #45 through #49.

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with eight members in favor and none were opposed.

Mrs. Hernandez moved and seconded by Ms. Surgeon and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary  
GLO/bsc