

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, March 8, 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 6:45 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, February 24, 2011 for advertisement on Saturday, February 26, 2011.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Lisa Logan-Leach, President
Mr. Rasheed Abdul-Haqq, Vice President
Ms. Patricia I. Barksdale
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell
Mr. Brenda Gilbert
Mrs. Renata A. Hernandez
Ms. Katherine Peterson

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.
Ms. Lauren Craig, Esq.

Mr. Agurs Linward Cathcart, Jr., absent
Mrs. Keisha Edwards, absent

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Barksdale, seconded by Mrs. Logan-Leach, 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 6:46 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Logan-Leach welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting as well as those who attended last week's "State of the District" event.

She also reviewed Sodexo's upcoming "Sports and Nutrition Fair" scheduled for March 30, 2011.

V. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles was impressed with last week's turn-out at the "State of the District".

VI. REMARKS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

The Board reviewed the C & I agenda and there were a number of questions related to professional development as well as field trips.

The Board reviewed the Finance agenda. Mrs. Campbell indicated that the treasurer of school monies has retired and asked what is the current status of the position. Mr. Ottmann indicated that the position is now optional and administration will make a recommendation on its status next month.

The Board reviewed policy 9401 and moved it to the Business agenda.

Ms. Barksdale moved, seconded by Mrs. Hernandez and unanimously approved by the Board, to return to executive session at 8:50 p.m.

Mrs. Campbell moved, seconded by Ms. Barksdale and unanimously approved by the Board, to return to the public at 9:25 p.m.

Mrs. Belin-Pyles spoke briefly about the FY12 budget and that there will be a full discussion of the proposed budget reduction on March 15, 2011. We have been meeting with both bargaining units to identify possible areas of reduction.

Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Hernandez have volunteered to be on the negotiations committee.

Ms. Barksdale moved, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and unanimously approved by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary
GLO/bsc